

## Explanation of “Air Photos”

Prior to satellite navigation aids such as GPS geologists would often use aerial (“Air”) photographs to literally pin point the location that a sample was taken from.

Here is a worked example (Rock register book 2)

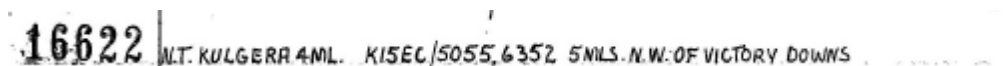


Figure 1 - Original Register Entry

Reg No.	Box No.	Country	State / Territory	Map Sheet	Locality description	Photo Run	Photo Point
16622	1580	Australia	Northern Territory	Kulgera	5 Miles N.W. of Victory Downs	K15EC/5055	6352

Figure 2 - Proposed coding entry

Figure 1 indicates that the sample was:

1. Taken from within the Northern Territory - “*NT*” (Australia is assumed in this case)
2. Somewhere within the area covered by Kulgera 4 miles to an inch map – “*KULGERA 4ML*”
3. Roughly 5 Miles North West of Victory Downs (probably the homestead) – “*5 MILS N.W. of Victory Downs*”

In order to really nail down where the sample was taken from (given that the location may be critical) the geologist would push a pin (literally pin point) through the aerial photo. He would then turn the photo over and annotate the relevant pin hole with a reference number (in this case “6352”).

During the 1900s Australia undertook a number of initiatives to aerially photograph Australia. In the case of the area covered by the Kulgera map sheet (sourced from Geoscience Australia Website)

## Archive of Aerial Photography - Flight Line Diagrams

Look at diagram for the full range of information. This table is a summary only.

1:250K Map Number: SG5305		1:250K Map Name: KULGERA			
Flight Path Name	Date	State	Colour or B&W	Approx Scale	Focal Length/Camera
KULGERA	Jul-85	NT	B&W	1:80900	RC 10 87.98mm
EBENEZER	Jun-84	NT	COLOUR	1:27000	RC 10 151.55mm
ERLDUNDA	Jun-84	NT	COLOUR	1:27000	RC 10 151.55mm
KULGERA	Nov-71	NT	COLOUR	1:78000	RC 10
KULGERA	Jun-50	NT	B&W	1:50000	K17
KULGERA	May-45	NT	B&W	unknown	K17

Return to the [map of Australia](#) or use your browser to go back to the last screen.

Figure 3 - Aerial Photography information (Sourced - Geoscience Australia Website)

In the case of our specific example the series is the one taken in June 1950.

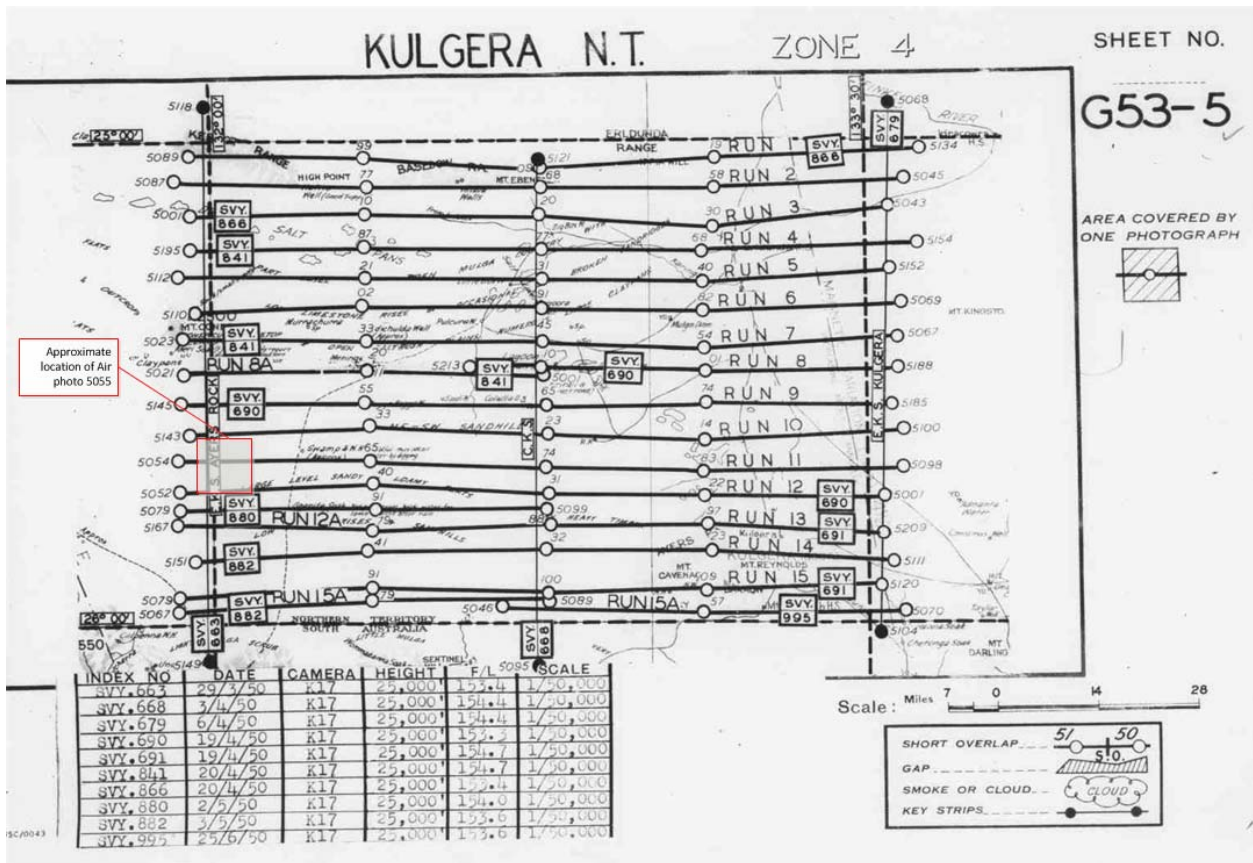


Figure 4 - Aerial Photos Kulgera NT area (Sourced - Geoscience Australia Website)

Each photo covers an area of approximately 7 miles square (approx. 11.3km). The approximate area that we are interested in is indicated in red. (Figure 4)



Figure 5 - Aerial Photograph Kulgera (Sourced - Geoscience Australia)

Geologists and management systems are not perfect and unfortunately I was not able to locate the actual annotated photo for this example.

In the event that we are not able to locate the actual pin hole the sample will be given a location as accurately as we can with a noted accuracy that takes account of things like missing aerial photos.