

TNTmap

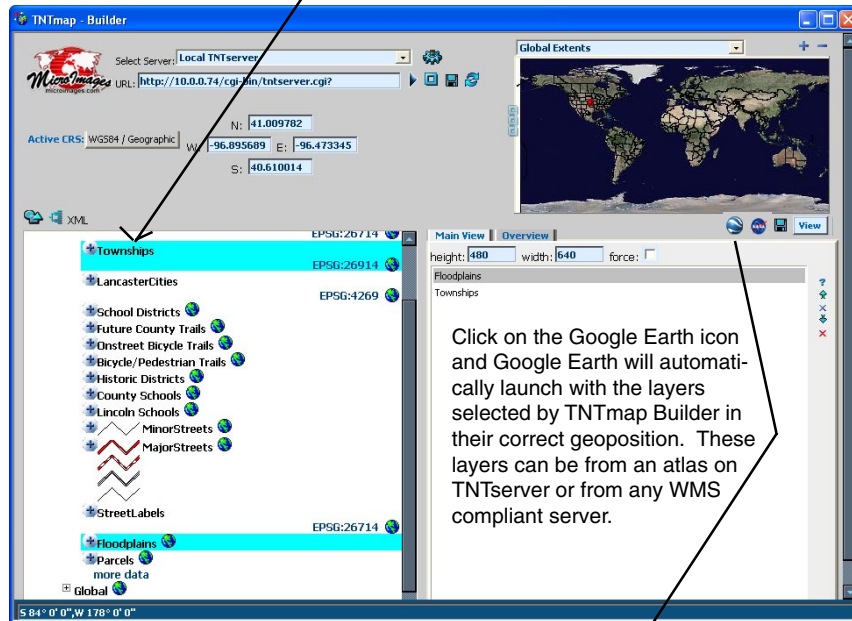
Using Google Earth as a Client

Google Earth uses geodata defined in Keyhole Markup Language (KML). These KML (*.kml) and geodata files can be on the computer using Google Earth or acquired over a network. Each KML file can define layers containing a wide variety of geographic data that is used as ground or screen overlays. If a suitable raster file is accompanied by a co-named KML file, it is used as a local layer in Google Earth.

The raster and KML file used by Google Earth can be acquired from any Internet, intranet, or VPN site that can provide them in an appropriate format. TNTmap Builder can be used to locate and reference an image on a Web Map Service (WMS) compliant site, create a KML file for it, and launch Google Earth to fetch it for use as an overlay.



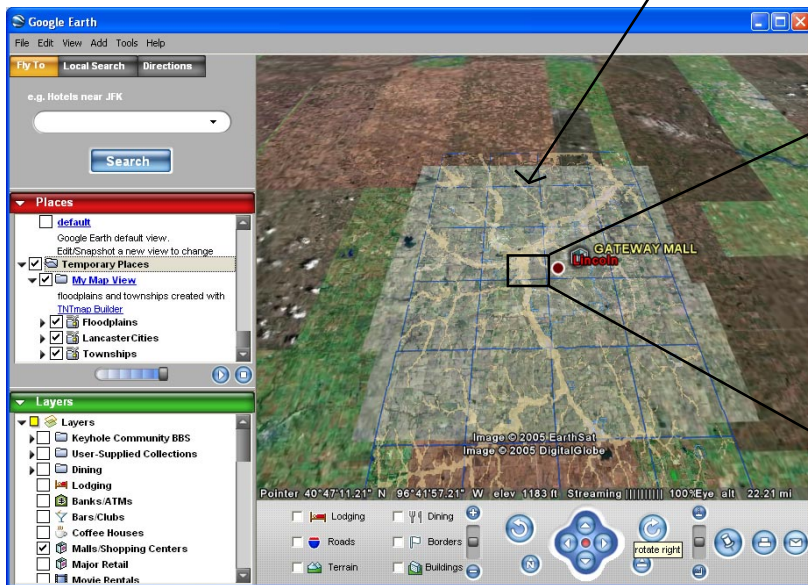
TNTmap Builder can retrieve layers from any WMS compliant server for display in TNTmap View, Google Earth, or World Wind.



TNTmap Builder can locate and browse the geodata layers and associated metadata offered by any WMS including TNT-server. It can select and add these layers to the Main View panel for use in TNTmap Viewer. Alternatively, as illustrated, you can use the Google Earth icon to launch that application to view these layers. TNTmap builds a descriptive KML file

for these layers and launches your Google Earth application to use it along with a reference as to where and how to fetch these layers. This is all automatic and in a few seconds Google Earth opens, moves its view to this local area, fetches each of these layers from their original site, and overlays them on its reference imagery. You can then manipulate Google Earth just as you normally would but with these added layers.

Google Earth requires that the raster defined by the co-named KML file be in GIF, TIFF, PNG, or JPEG format. It also requires that the raster coordinates represent WGS84 latitude and longitude in decimal degrees with an optional altitude above mean sea level. TNTmap Builder provides this kind of information for the rasters published by any Web Map Service. Rasters acquired from a TNTserver meet these requirements for any atlas composite view or individual atlas layer. That layers acquired from a TNTserver meet these requirements is illustrated here using a transparent PNG overlay acquired from the vector floodplain and township layers in the Lincoln Property Viewer atlas published by a TNTserver.



Floodplain and township boundaries from TNTserver via TNTmap displayed over Google Earth image of Lincoln, Nebraska. Note the partial transparency of the floodplain polygons.