

Project GIS 1

Due Date: February 16

Purpose

The objective of this project is to start you off exploring maps and features in a GIS. You will use Google Earth (GE), and possibly other sources, to find out some facts and infer information from clues you find.

Problem

Answer the following questions; you may wish to read them all before proceeding. While other electronic sources may be used, all answers must be shown in GE, including all written descriptions, etc, unless stated otherwise. Thus, be sure to save all of the items properly (specific directions below) as you're going along.

1. In Google Earth, create a new folder called *lastNameGIS1* under My Places. For example, in my case, the folder would be called *GousieGIS1*¹. Store all of the pertinent items found below in this folder, **in the same order as the steps below**. This folder is what you will ultimately turn in electronically.
2. Find Tauperlitz, Germany. Place and label a marker at the original town hall at the intersection of Hofer Weg and Schulstrasse (on the N side). What is its geographic location?
3. Find Hofer Weg 17, my aunt's house. Place a marker at the house there and label it "Aunt Hanni."
4. Similarly, find my uncle's house. It's the most easterly house on Waldsteinweg. Note that the street name changes at the northern end of the street. Place a marker on the house and label it "Uncle Max."
5. What's the closest his property comes to the (man-made) lake, in meters, approximately? Save the line you use to compute this.
6. What is the name of the lake?
7. Find a walking route from Aunt Hanni's house to Uncle Max's. We would normally walk the entire length of Birkenweg, then cross the stream, go through the playground, by the grocery store, and then Neutauperlitzer Strasse to the house. Create such a path. What is the mileage? Compare this to the similar walking route you make in Google Maps.
8. Uncle Hans used to swim the length of the lake. How many meters long is the lake if he were to swim in the middle? Note that an Olympic-size pool is 50 meters long. Save the path that you used to compute this.
9. Hof is the nearby city. Put a placemark "City of Hof" at Hof, and in the notes for the placemark type in the population. Also in the notes, write the name of the city near Norton that has a similar population size.

¹This will look like a file named *GousieGIS1.kmz* in Windows/Mac.

10. My uncle and I used to walk from his house (“Aunt Hanni”) to the west, by the old soccer field, through some fields, through some woods, by a water tower, and then to a cliff area where we would get a great view of Hof. Draw and save the most likely path. Put a placemark near the cliff area called “Cliff” and note the elevation. What is the vertical drop from there to the road below?
11. The area near the cliff described above is much different now than it was when I was a boy. In the “Cliff” placemark, explain what (likely) happened to the woods.
12. Put a placemaker by the botanical gardens in Hof. Label it “Gardens”.
13. Find the Bismarckturm. Put a placemaker and label it “Turm”. Explain what this location is. I believe it is the only building in Hof with a GE feature. What feature is it?
14. My parents were married at St. Marien Kirche in Hof. Put a placemaker at the church and label it “Church.” Write the answers to the following in the placemark.
 - (a) What street is the church on?
 - (b) What religion is practiced at that church?
 - (c) In what direction is the church oriented?
 - (d) What does “Altstadt” mean?
 - (e) What is somewhat unique about the street in front of the church?
 - (f) What item that kids find fun is directly in front of the church?

Still in GE, find and save a nice picture of the church.

15. During the latter stages of WWII, my mother was shot at from an American fighter plane while she worked in the fields in Tauperlitz in the area that is now the lake. The area also sustained several stray bomb blasts. Put a placemaker by the lake called “WWII” and write what the Americans were attempting to bomb near this area and explain why this was an important target. *Hint: there were no industries of any major strategic value in the area.*

Submitting

Put a placemaker somewhere in Tauperlitz called “Honor Code” where you write and electronically “sign” the Wheaton Honor Code. Save your folder.

Email your completed .kmz file to me at mgousie@wheatonma.edu before midnight on the due date. Also send the image of the church if not included in the file above.