Google Maps Lab - Getting your Locations / GPS Waypoints into Google Maps
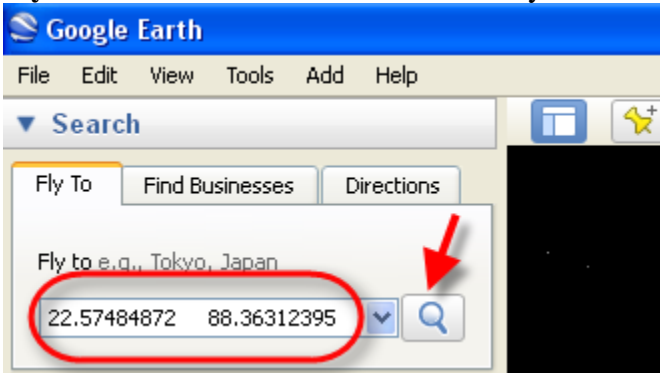
This tutorial explains how to create placemarks based on latitude and longitude in Google Maps. Because Google Maps makes it a bit difficult to enter latitude and longitude coordinates directly, we will first create them in Google Earth, then import these placemarks into Google Maps.
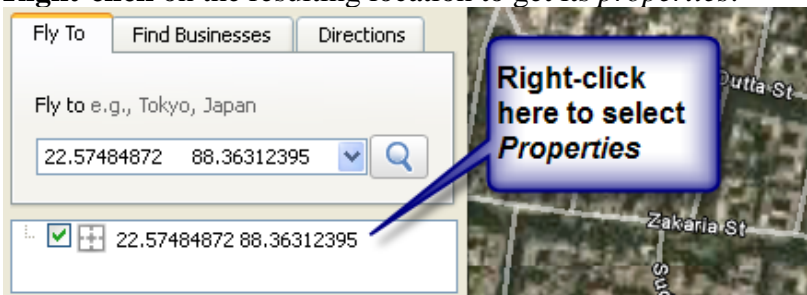
Links

- Professor Manjapra's South Asian Urban History Picasa Web Site: http://picasaweb.google.com/kkmanjapra/SouthAsianUrbanHistory
- Google Maps: http://maps.google.com
- Google Maps tutorial: http://earth.google.com/outreach/tutorial_mymaps.html
- Professor Manjapra's GPS points for images: *S:\classes\Hist175\Kolkata and Dhaka Waypoints.xls*

Putting GPS Waypoints / Lat/Long Coordinates into Google Earth
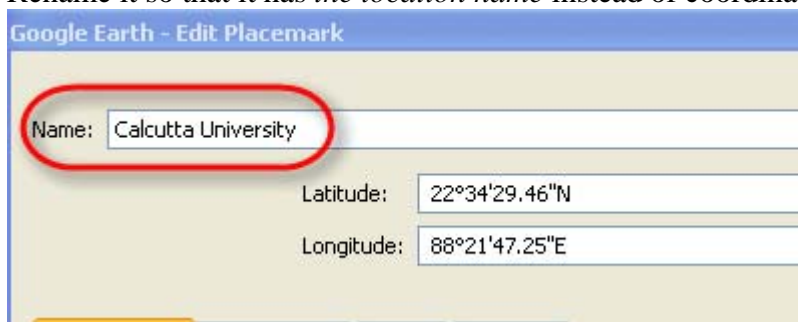
1. Open Google Earth
2. Type or copy/paste the latitude and longitude of the first location into the Google Earth **Fly To** box and click the **Search** icon as you see below
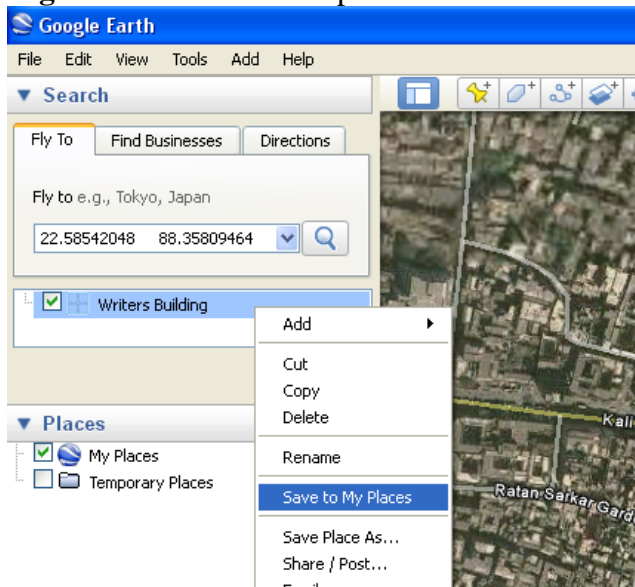

3. Examine the location and check to see if it looks correct
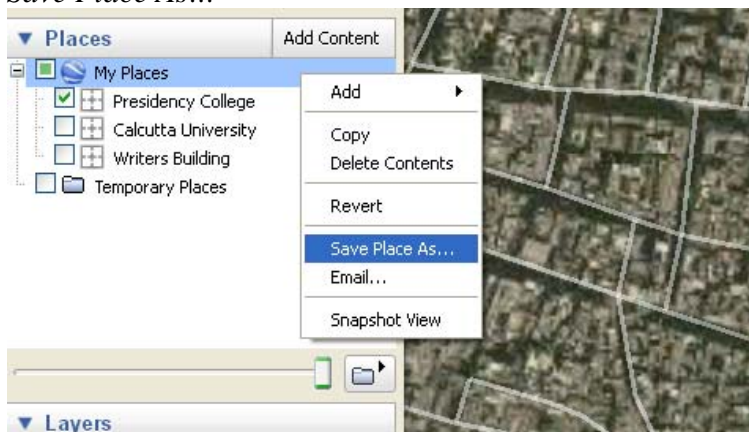4. **Right-click** on the resulting location to get its *properties*:

5. Rename it so that it has *the location name* instead of coordinates:

6. You may type or copy your description in here if you like, or wait to do this in Google Maps – press **OK** when done
7. **Right click** on the edited placemark and choose **Save to My Places**:

8. Now repeat steps 2-8 for your other locations
9. When you have *all three locations* in *My Places*, **right-click on My Places** and choose *Save Place As…*

10. Save this file with an appropriate name (e.g., *History175_Group4*) – in the GIS lab put it on your H: drive

Importing Google Earth GPS Waypoints / Locations into Google Maps

1. Start *Google Maps* (http://maps.google.com)
2. Go to **My Maps**
3. If you don't already have a project map, *create a new map* for your project (otherwise, click on your existing map and choose *Edit*) – give your map an appropriate *Title* and *Description* – we also recommend you choose **Unlisted**:

4. Click on **Import** (see above)
5. *Browse* for your Google Earth .kmz file (on the H: drive in the lab) and then choose *Upload from File*:

6. You now should have all three locations in Google Maps – you can now edit each in turn, adding the required photos, videos, descriptions, etc.

For help with most of those tasks, see the Google Maps tutorial:
http://earth.google.com/outreach/tutorial_mymaps.html

For instructions to embed photos from Picasa, see the next section.

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Embedding photos from Picasa into Google Maps Placemarks

You need to follow these directions (not the tutorial) to embed photos from Picasa into Google Maps Placemarks. *IMPORTANT: These instructions assume you are using the **Mozilla Firefox** web browser.*

Here is the Picasa link for the South Asian Urban History Picasa Album
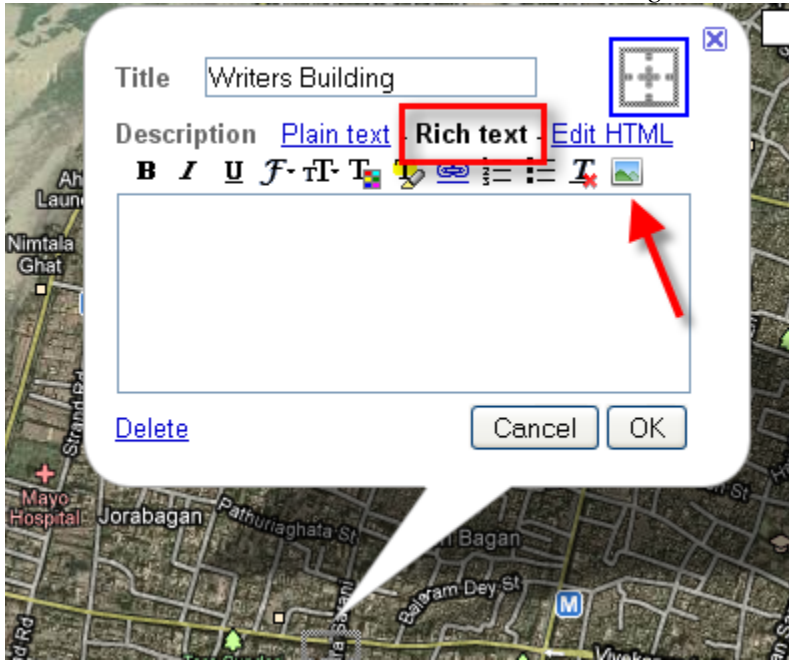http://picasaweb.google.com/kkmanjapra/SouthAsianUrbanHistory

1. In the **Picasa Album**, find the image you want to embed (hint: you can use the Edit-Find feature to do this) and click on it to view it larger.
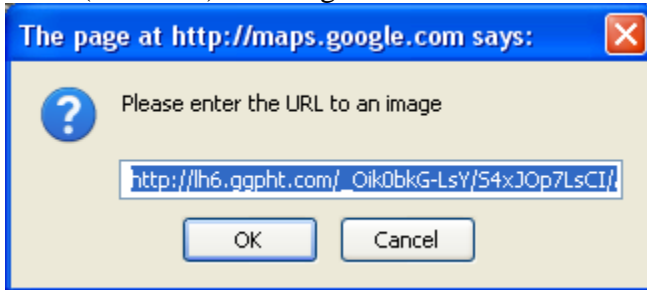2. *Right click* on the image and choose **Copy Image Location**

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3. Go back to *Google Maps*
4. Click on the placemark where you want the image to go – this will open up the placemark's editing interface

5. Click on **Rich Text** and then click on the *Add Image Icon*:

6. Paste (CTRL-V) the image's URL location into the resulting box and press OK:

7. Press OK again in the Placemark editing interface once the photo appears.

Note: if you are using Internet Explorer instead of Mozilla Firefox for your web browser, to get the Picasa image location URL you need to right click on the image and choose Properties. Then in the Properties display, highlight and copy the Address (URL) information. This can then be pasted into the Google Earth placemark as described above.