

## 6.1 Aerial photography

There are three main types of aerial photography used for urban design project.

**Vertical photographs** are taken immediately above the subject area from an aircraft using a special camera used for mapping and survey purposes. Taken at low altitude using high resolution film, they can capture great detail of planting, buildings and surfaces. It is usually possible to scale from the photographs.



*Vertical aerial photography – Courtesy of Cities Revealed®*

**Oblique photographs** are taken at a distance from the subject area to provide an overall visual impression of an area. They are usually flown specifically for the project, to provide the information and background needed to produce a composite image of the site, including proposals. Unlike vertical photographs, they provide an indication of topography and the relative height of buildings. They are more difficult to scale from due to perspective.



*Oblique aerial photography – Courtesy of Airphoto®*