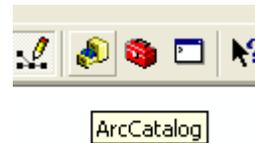


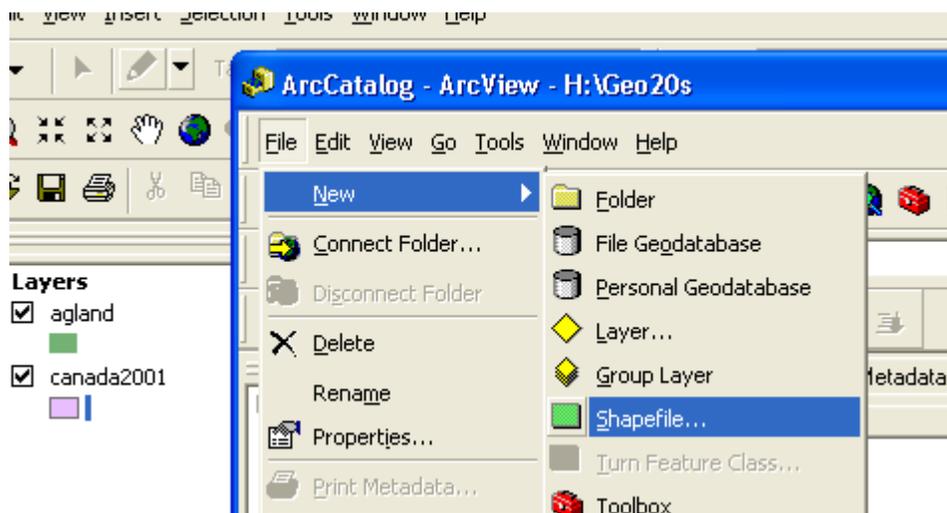
Creating a New Layer by Digitizing Theme/Layer in ArcGIS 9.x

Creating a new layer through digitizing allows the user to create a new shapefile for a desired theme for which there is currently no data available. For example, you may wish to show the major areas of agricultural land in Canada. Digitizing allows you to create a theme layer of agricultural land to overlay onto a base map of Canada. In this example, you would already have created a map of Canada.

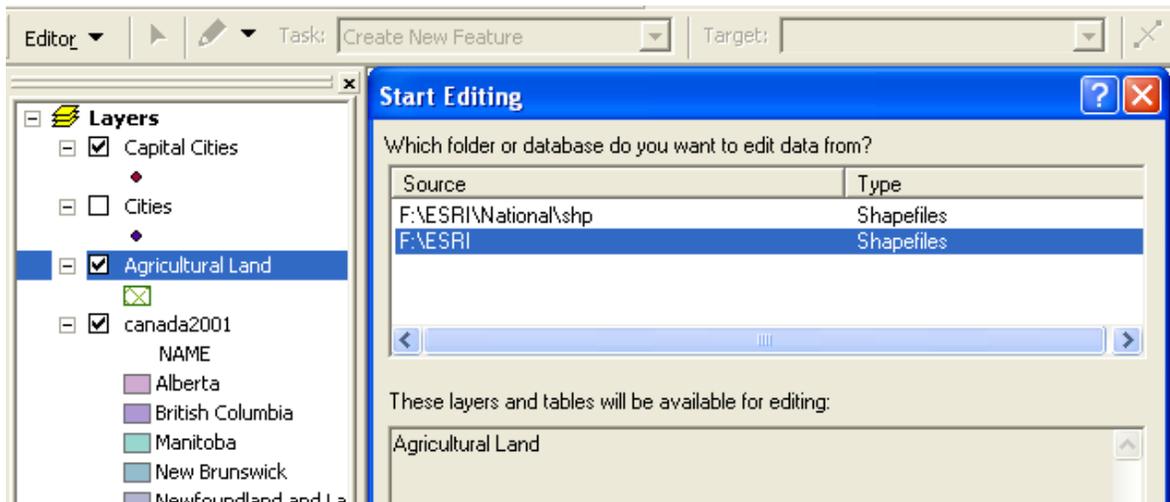
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1. Open **ArcCatalog**. (yellow filing cabinet on toolbar)
2. The ArcCatalog dialogue displays. Check the **Location** indicator to select a drive and folder that you have access to for saving and retrieving data
3. In the ArcCatalog dialogue, go **File** → **New** → **Shapefile** and the **Create New Shapefile** dialog displays.
4. In the **Create New Shapefile** dialog, type in an appropriate **Name** (Agricultural Land) and select the **Feature Type** (polygon). Click **OK** and your new shapefile will appear in the ArcCatalog contents tab.

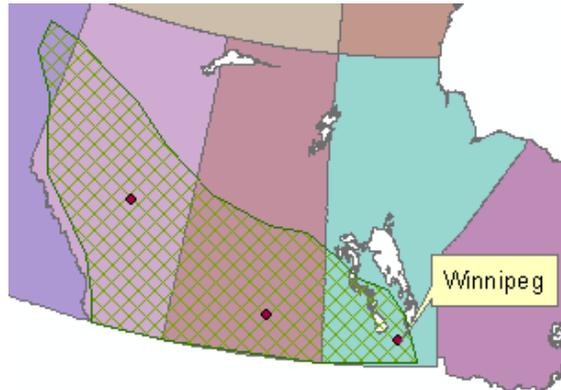


5. **Optional:** If you wish to add a new **Field** (or Fields) in the **Attribute Table** of your new layer, this is the time to create it while you are still in ArcCatalog. For example, you may wish to create a Field to enter the number of Hectares. Double click on the new shapefile (Agricultural Land) in the ArcCatalog contents tab and enter an appropriate name (Hectares) under **Field Name** and in the **Data Type** field, enter the appropriate data type (integer, in this case).
6. Close **ArcCatalog** and return to your **Data View** in ArcMap
7. Using the **Add Data** button  add your newly created shapefile (e.g. Agricultural Land) from the location where you saved it to the Data View (map Table of Contents).
8. Now go **Editor** (on toolbar) → **Start Editing** → and navigate through the menu to choose the shapefile that you want to edit (in this case, Agricultural Land).

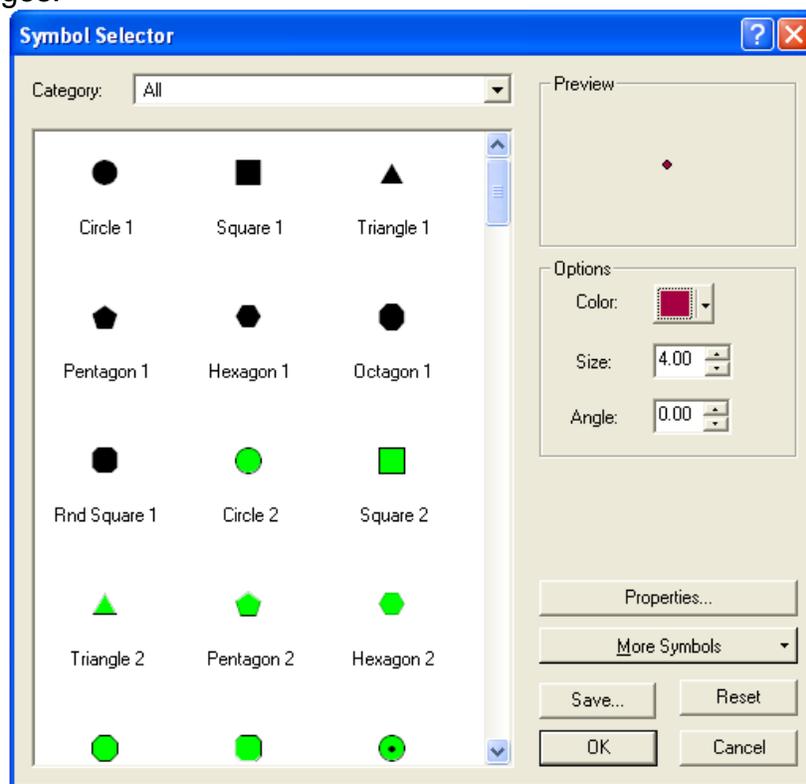


9. Use the **Sketch Tool** (pencil on toolbar) to draw your new layer. As you are drawing, click once to change direction and click twice to close the polygon.





10. Once you have completed the polygon, go **Editor** → **Stop Editing** → **Save Edits**. You may also save edits as you go **Editor** → **Save Edits**.
11. The new layer (Agricultural Land) now becomes part of your map project.
12. You can change the symbol colour for Agricultural Land if you wish. In the **Table of Contents**, double click on the symbol you want to change, and the **Symbol Selector** dialog displays allowing you to make the desired changes.



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