# Annotate Tool

The Annotate tool provides quick access to basic sketching actions directly from the View window toolbar. The annotate tool allows you to draw lines, polygons, rectangles, circles, and text with full control of colors, line/border weights, and fonts. Your annotation layer is automatically saved in a temporary CAD object in a default location (see box) or you can save it to a specified Project File for later use. You can also save the annotation layer as a KML file.
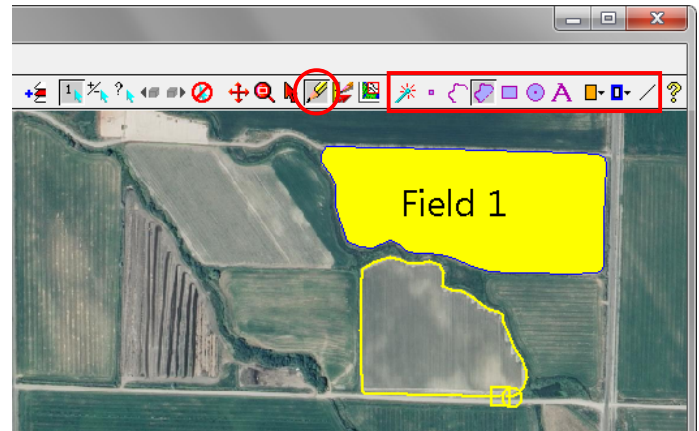
When the Annotate tool is activated, icon buttons are added to the right end of the View window toolbar so you can choose the drawing mode (see illustration to the right; you may need to resize the View window so it is wide enough to show all of the icon buttons). When you choose a drawing mode, one or more additional icon buttons also appear to the right of the drawing mode buttons to provide options for that mode, such as color, line or border weight, and font.

Each of the drawing modes uses a standard graphical tool that is also used in the GeoToolbox, Editor, and other TNT processes that provide drawing tools. After drawing an element (or placing text), and making any needed adjustments, press the right mouse-button to add the element to the sketch.

The Text mode allows you to place text annotations using a specified font, text color, and optional outline color. Use the Font button to choose from any installed font; the ToolTip for this button shows the name of the currently-selected font. The size of the text can be adjusted interactively using the tool graphic. Text annotations change size on screen as you zoom in/out, whereas line/border widths do not change with zoom scale.

The Annotate toolbar also includes an Action / Settings button that opens a menu. The *Delete Last Annotation* option deletes the last element you added to the current annotation layer. The *Clear Drawing Tool* option clears the current tool graphic. Use the *Open* option to open an existing saved sketch object for modification. Use the *Save to* option to save the current sketch layer as a CAD object in a new or existing Project File using the standard Select Objects dialog. Use the *Save as KML* option to save the sketch as a KML file that can be displayed in Google Earth or added to a Google Maps or Open Layers geomashup. The *Line Mode* radio buttons let you choose between Draw and Stretch modes for the line and polygon modes.

The Sketch mode in the GeoToolbox provides additional capabilities, including more drawing shape choices (ellipse, arc-wedge, arc, arc-chord, and regular polygons), more styling options (line patterns and fill patterns), and the option to attach attributes to the elements as they are added to the

sketch. For more information about sketching using the GeoToolbox, see the tutorial booklet entitled *Sketching and Measuring*.



Action / Settings, Line, Rectangle, Text, Point, Polygon, Circle

Option for Points — Point Color

Options for Lines — Line Color, Line Weight

Delete Last Annotation
Clear Drawing Tool <Esc>
Open...
Save to...
Save as KML...
Line Mode
◉ Draw
◯ Stretch

Options for Polygon, Rectangle, and Circle
Border Color — Fill Color, Border Weight

Options for Text
Outline Color — Text Color, Font

Line / Border Weight

The color buttons provide a dropdown menu with color picker, transparency slider, and checkbox options specific to the graphic. The *More* option opens the standard Choose Color window for additional color definition options.

The Annotate tool automatically saves each annotation layer as a CAD object in a Project File in a default location specific to your operation system (see below). The file is named by date and time in the form YYYYMMDD_HHMMSS. The last 100 sketch files are retained, with each file stored for at least 10 days. Although you can open annotation CAD objects from these temporary files, it is best to use the Save to option for annotation layers you wish to reuse so they are saved in a permanent Project File in a location of your choice.

**Windows:**
c:\Users\[username]\Documents\MicroImages\Sketches\

**Mac:**
/Users/[username]/MicroImages/Sketches