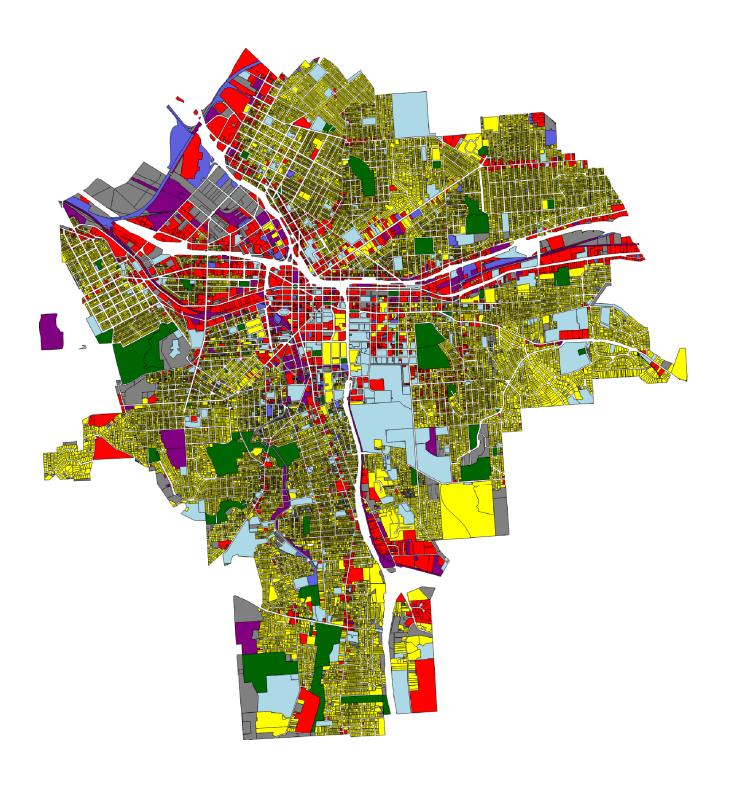
C: Tax parcels, centroids, and multi-ring buffers

Tax parcels:

City of Syracuse

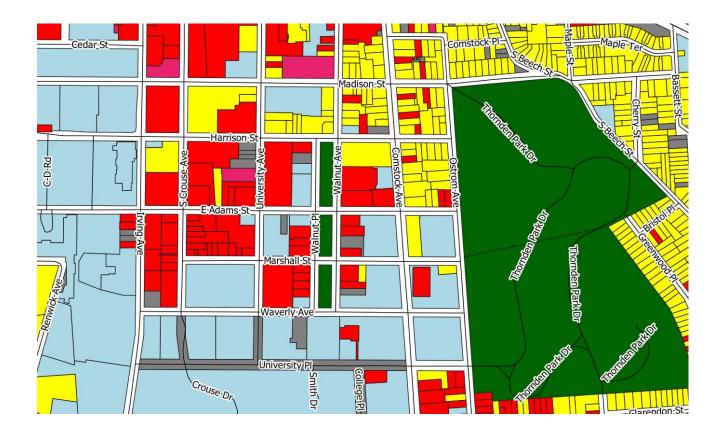
- polygons for all tax parcels
- color-coded by land use

Color	Use	Color	Use
Yellow	= Residential	Light blue	= Public service
Gray	= Vacant	Purple	= Industrial & utility
Red	= Commercial	Dark green	= Parks & open space



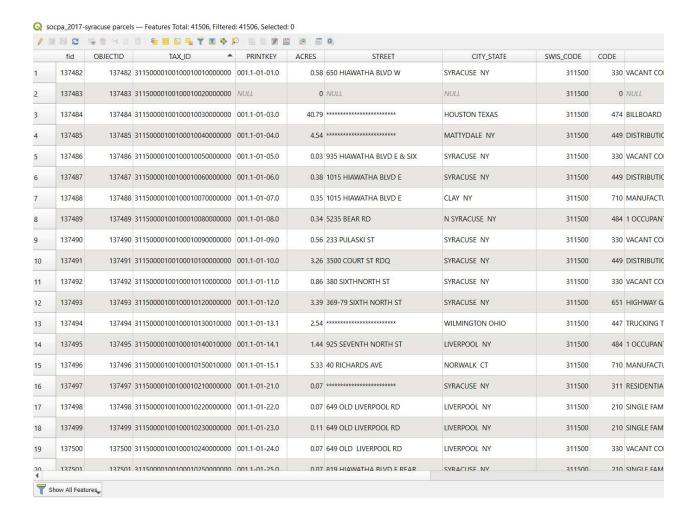
Zooming in on Marshall Street area:

• Street layer added for clarity



Extensive attributes:

- Two dozen in the local file
- Even more in the NYS file



Centroids:

Centroid: mean position of all points in a geometric feature

Intuition: point where the shape would balance

Centroids for Marshall Street parcels



Centroids: single point per feature

- Smaller file size than full polygons
- Often available when polygons are not (e.g., NYS tax data)
- Faster and easier to work with in some situations

Best applications:

- Most parcels are small
- Within-parcel precision not needed

Less useful applications:

- Many parcels are large
- Need location within parcel, such as buildings vs. floodplain

Multi-ring buffers:

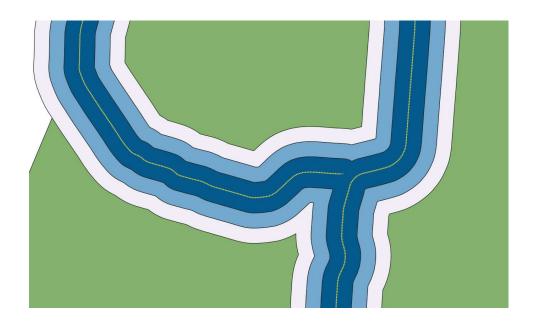
Concentric buffers at increasing radii

Interstates in Erie County:

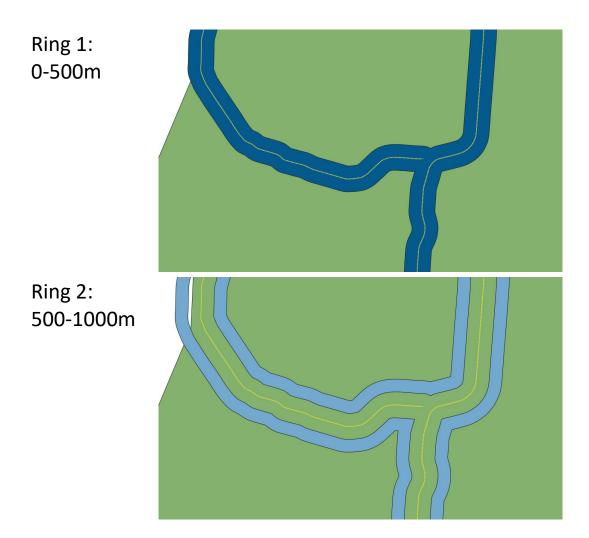
- Three buffers with 500 m width
- Radii are 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m



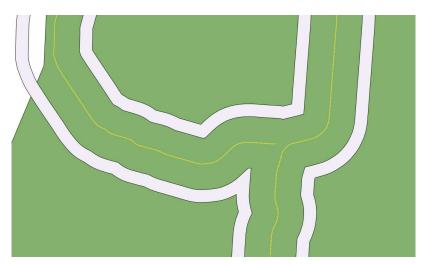
Zooming in:



Rings are concentric, not overlapping:



Ring 3: 1000-1500m



• Ring layer attributes: ring id, radius

Spatial join of rings onto parcels:

- New attributes for each parcel: ring id, radius
- Can compare characteristics by zone
- E.g., could color by id or distance

