

PRESERVING EARLY 20TH CENTURY MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING ON PORTLAND'S EASTSIDE:

USING DENSITY ANALYSIS AND SPATIAL AUTOCORRELATION IN ARCGIS FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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Portland's eastside neighborhoods contain a significant amount of historic early 20th century apartment buildings.

Most of the inner ring neighborhoods that contain these buildings lack any formal historic designation or conservation district protections.

The purpose of this study is to determine if the distribution of these buildings in northeast and southeast Portland could allow for new historic conservation districts.

This required searching for areas with high concentrations of historic multi-family buildings.



DATA

Metro RLIS Data

- Tax Lot Shapefiles
- City Boundary Shapefiles
- Neighborhood Shapefiles
- Census Block Shapefiles
- Streets Shapefiles

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Website

- Historic and Conservation District Boundaries
(Digitized in ArcMap using Editor)

METHODOLOGY

Isolate Eastside Metro RLIS Data



Create Point Data for Historic Multi-Family Buildings



Run Kernel and Point Density Analyses for Point Data



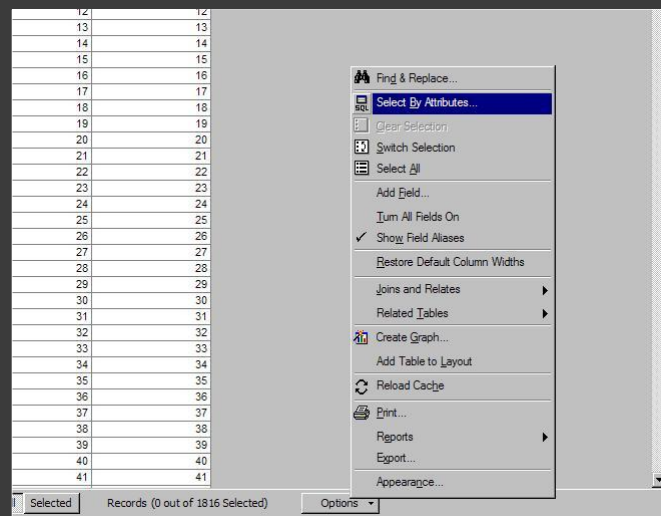
Run Spatial Autocorrelation tests based on point data at neighborhood and census block levels

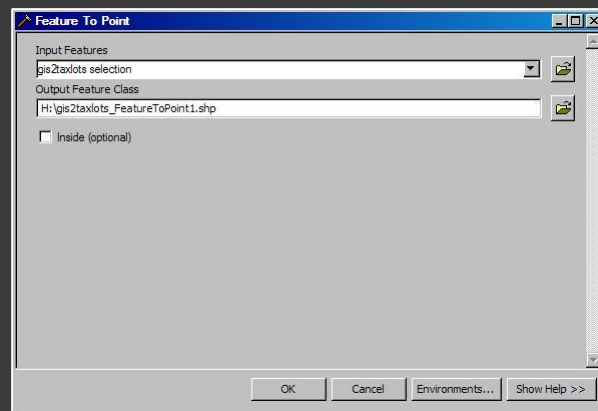


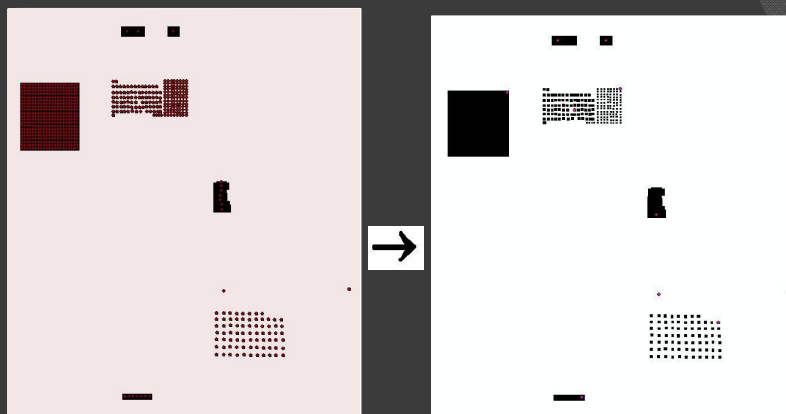
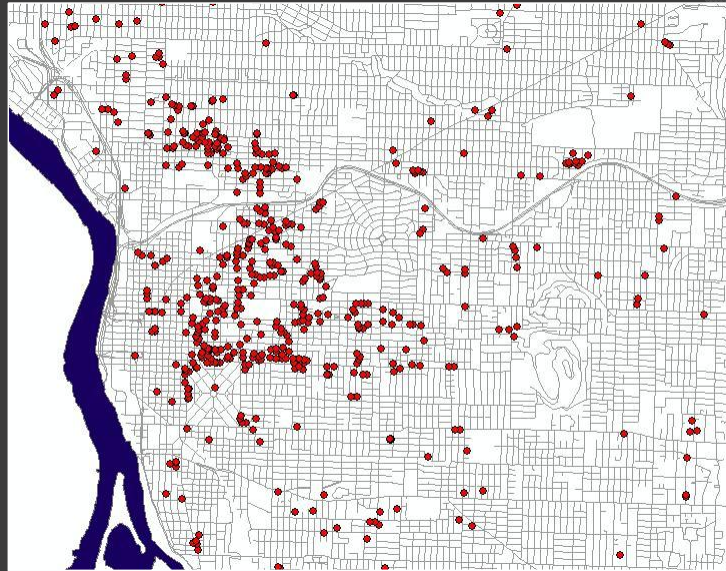
Produce Maps showing Distributions, Densities and Spatial Autocorrelation of Historic Multi-Family Buildings



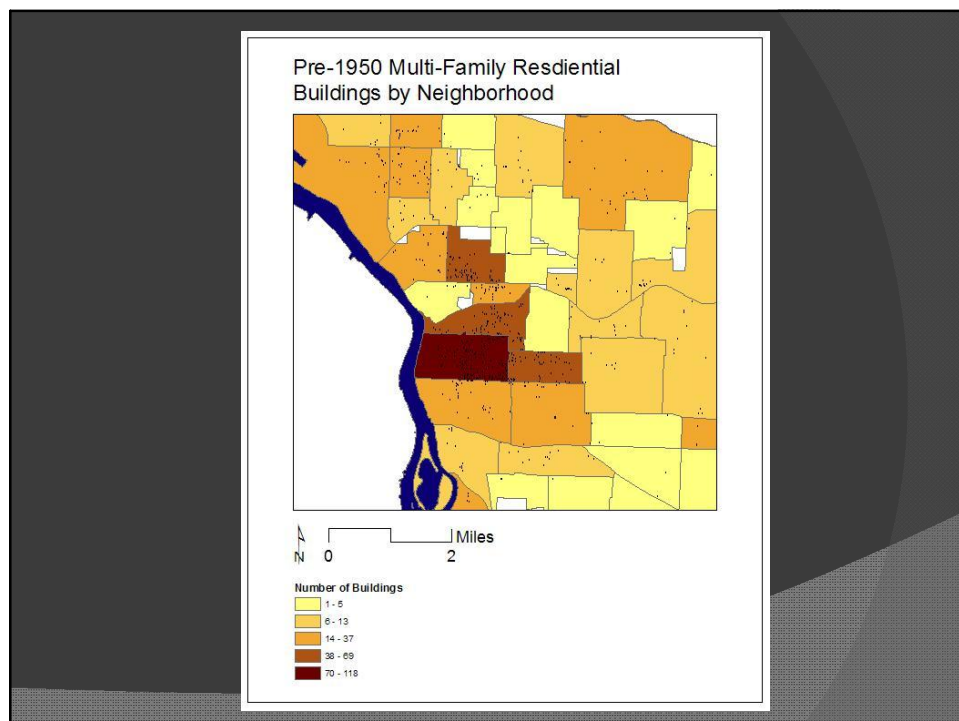
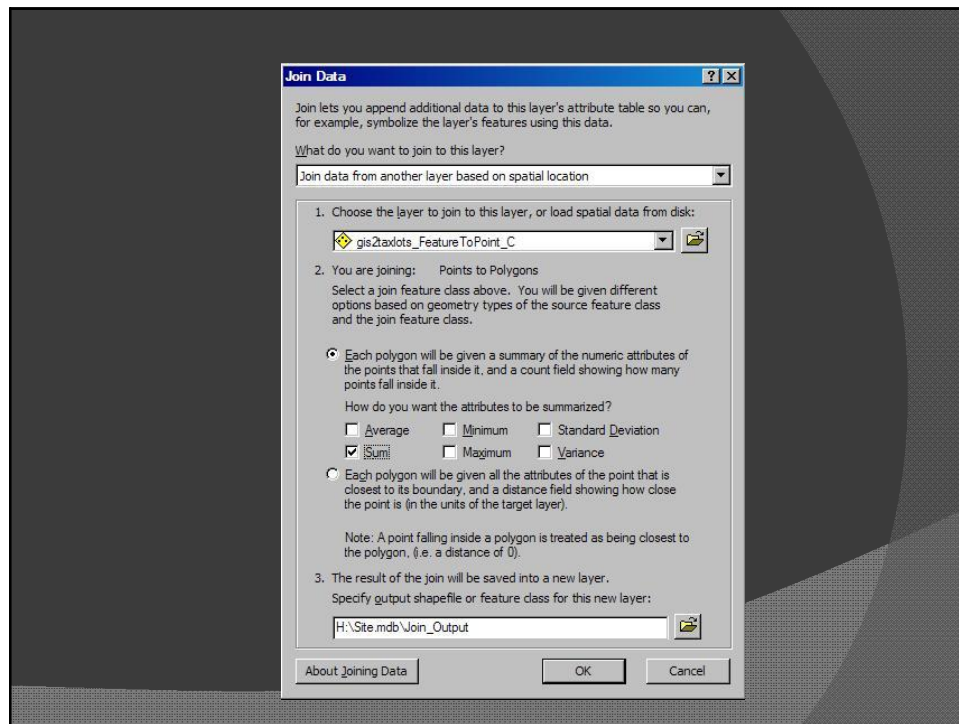
Recommend Areas that would be suitable for historic designation based on density and clustering of historic multi-family buildings



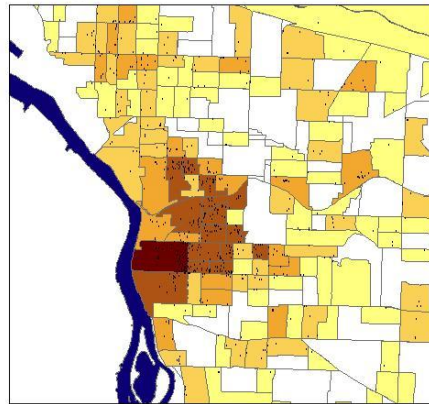




Because historic buildings that had undergone conversion to condominiums contained multiple tax lots, excess point data had to be removed from the map to run density analyses.



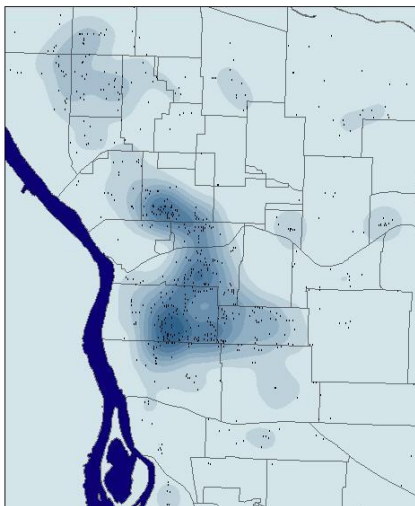
Pre-1950 Multi-Family Residential
Buildings by Census Block



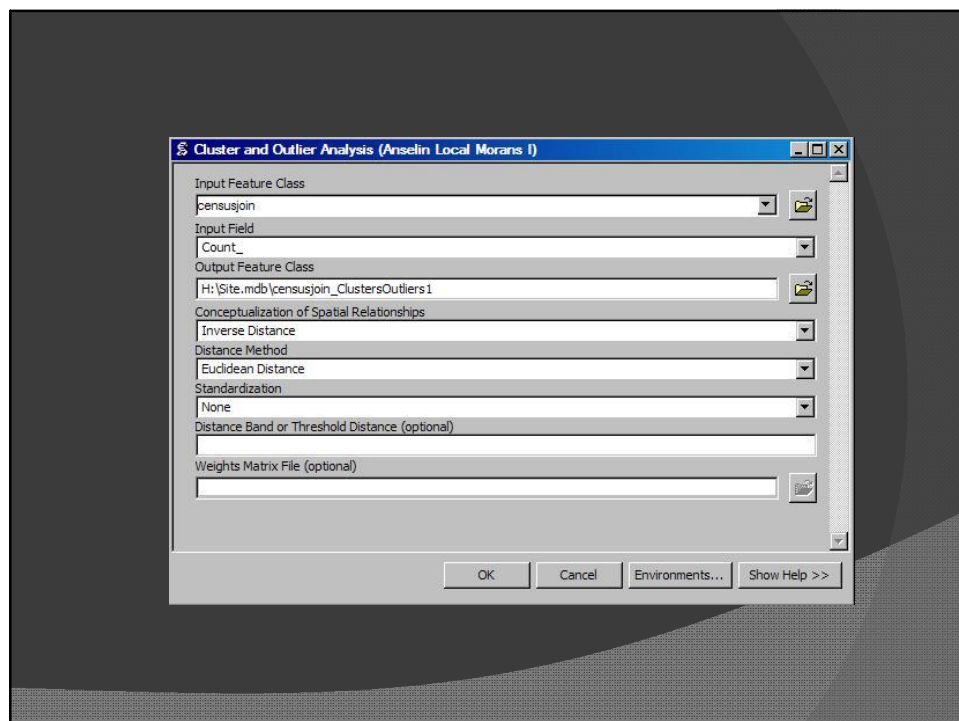
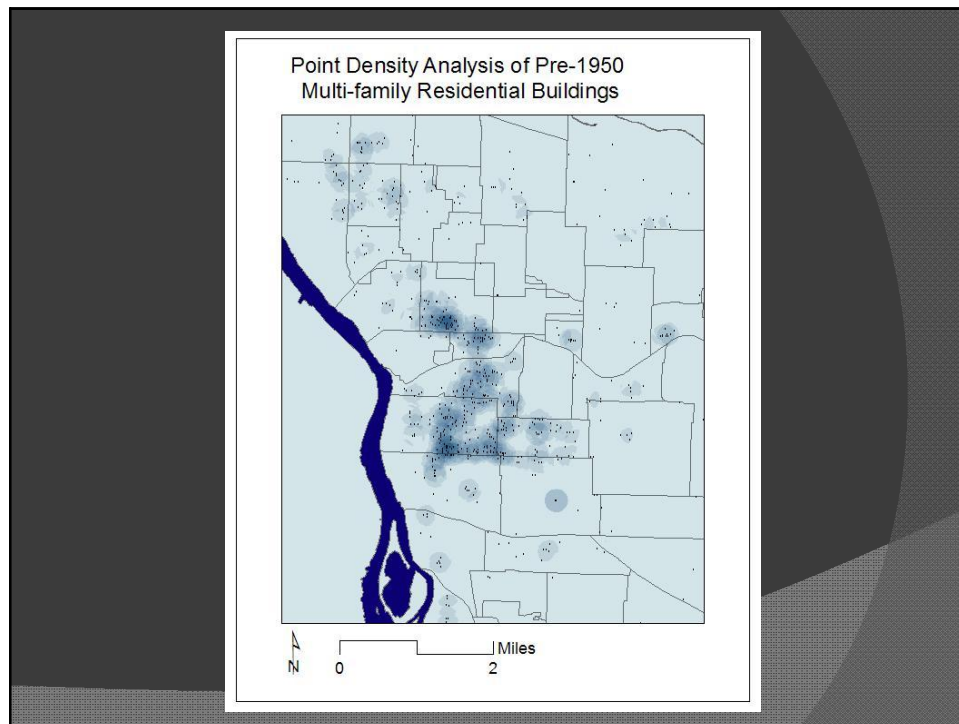
N 0 2 Miles

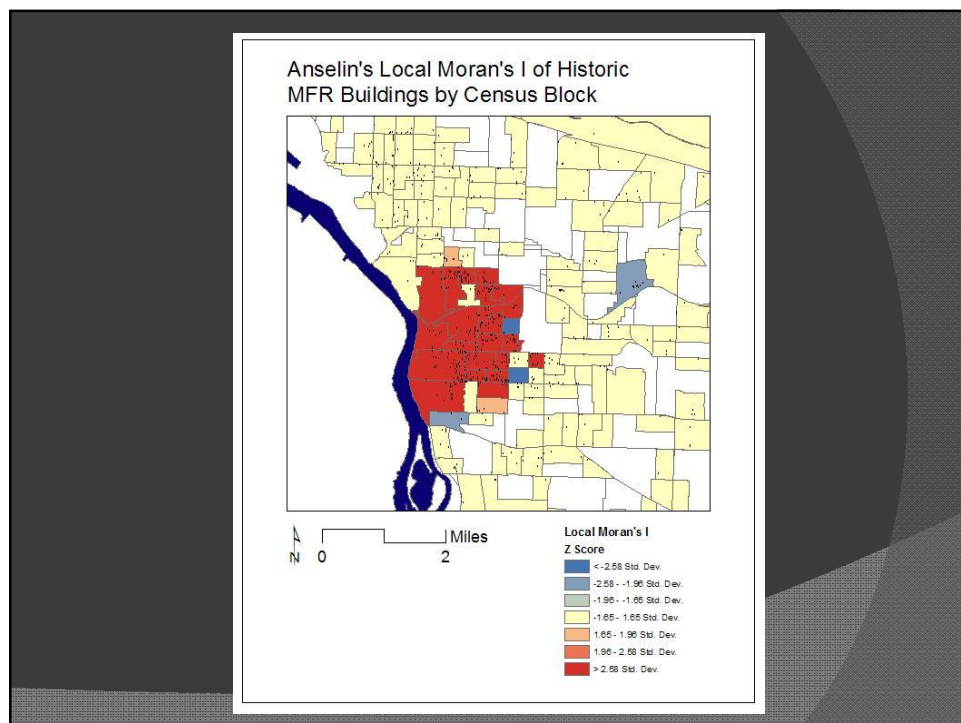
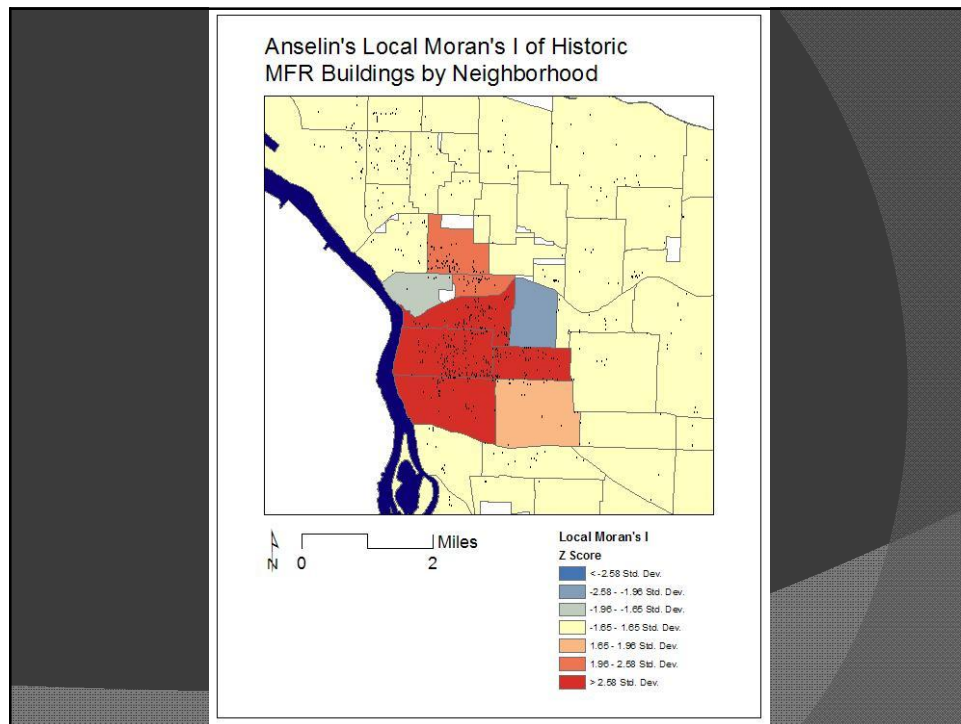
Number of Buildings
1 - 2
3 - 5
6 - 10
11 - 22
23 - 41

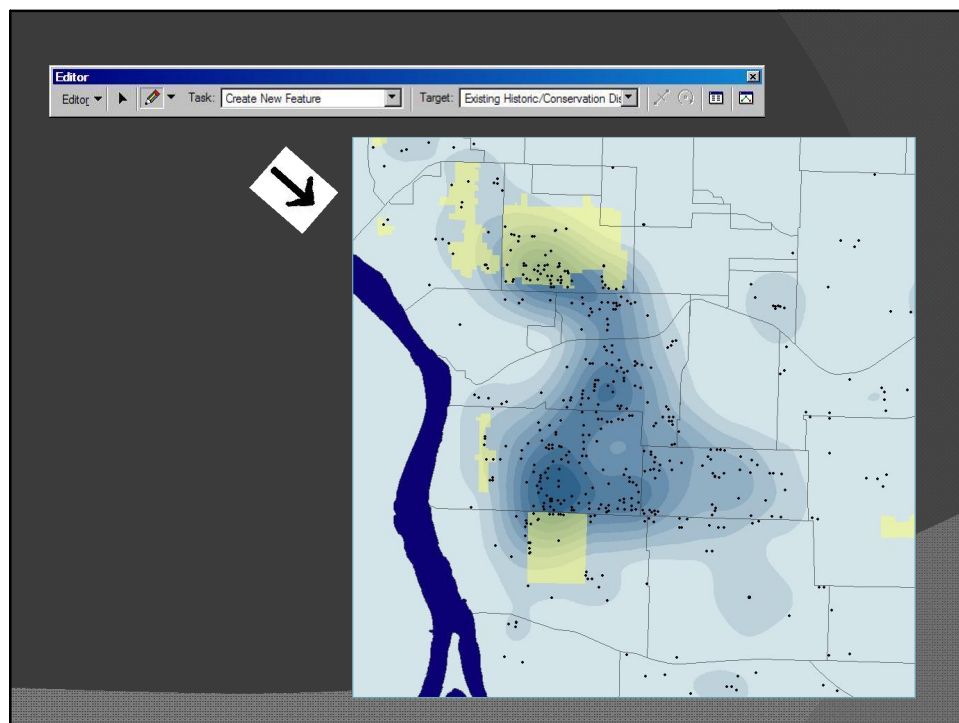
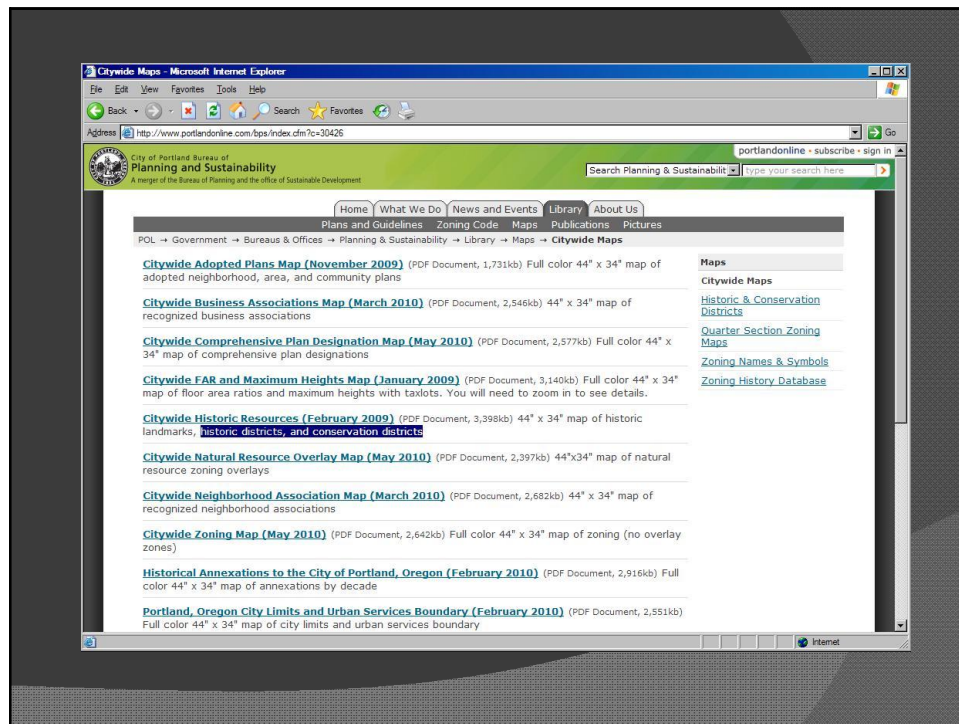
Kernel Density Analysis of Pre-1950
Multi-family Residential Buildings

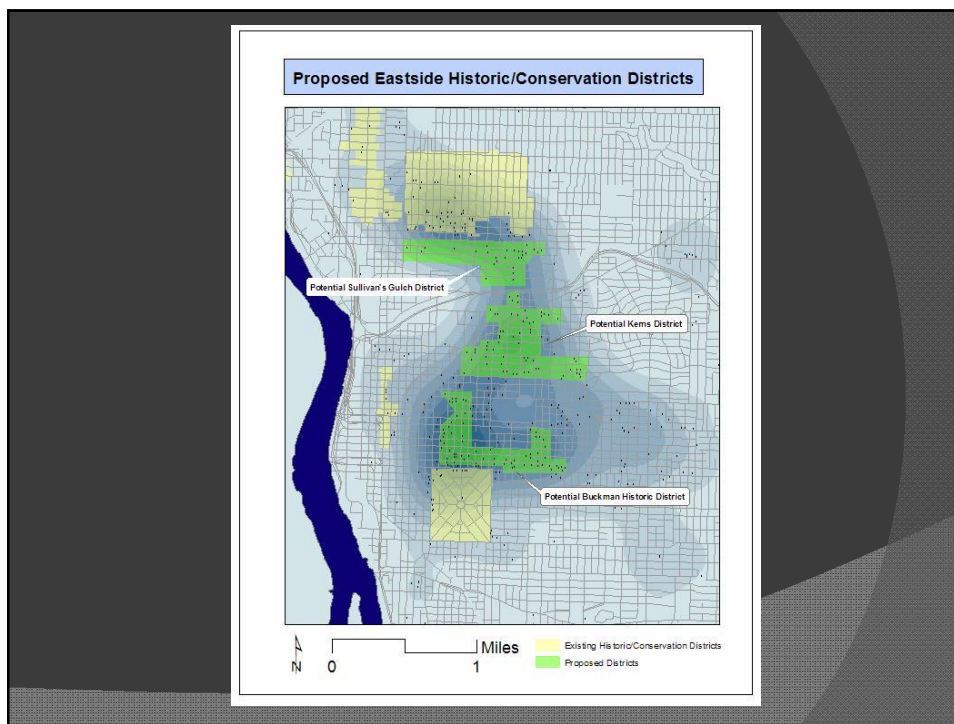


N 0 2 Miles









CONCLUSIONS

- Buckman, Kerns, and Sullivan's Gulch had the highest neighborhood concentrations of Pre-1950 Multi-Family Residential buildings.
- Pre-1950 MFR buildings on Portland's Eastside exhibit positive spatial autocorrelation in specific neighborhoods, which reduces the amount of area required to contain them in a single historic/conservation district.



CHALLENGES

- Limited Availability of shapefiles on buildings themselves or on historic districts.
- Digitizing data in Editor.
- Choosing scale for Spatial Analysis (census blocks vs neighborhoods, etc.)
- Choosing boundaries for proposed districts.



TOOLS USED

Clip Metro Datasets

(to Eastside Portland boundaries)

Search Tax Lots by Attribute

('YEARBUILT' > 1851 AND 'YEARBUILT' <= 1950 AND 'LANDUSE' = MFR)

Create New Layer from selected attributes

Feature to Point tool

(Tax Lots Selection)

Editor tool

(Erase excess points and Digitize Historic District outlines)

Spatial Join

(Census Blocks and Neighborhoods to Tax Lot points)

Kernel Density tool

(Historic MFR Point Data)

Point Density tool

(Historic MFR Point Data)

Anselin's Local Moran's I

(Measure Spatial Autocorrelation of point data in census blocks and neighborhoods)



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?