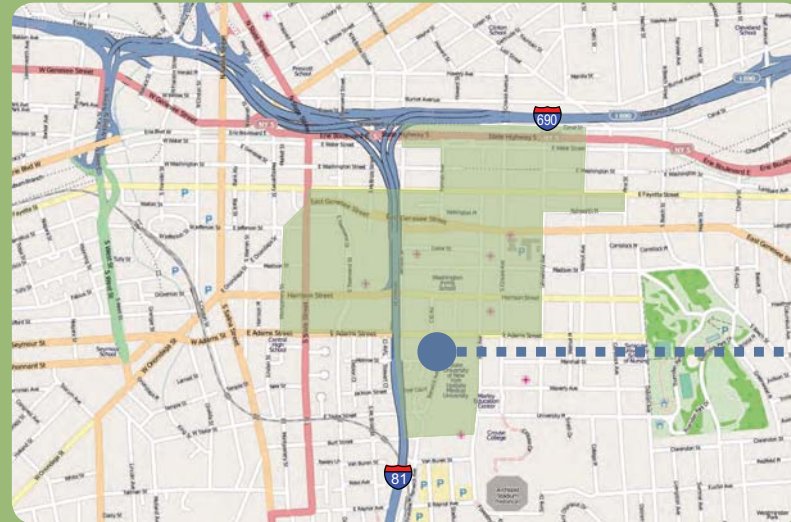


# I-81 and the 15th Ward



Syracuse, like many cities, experienced controversy around the locations of the highways built during this era. In Syracuse, the controversy involved a variety of concerns including environmental protection, historical and neighborhood preservation, race, and class.

I-81 is often cited as the primary force in the loss of the 15th Ward neighborhood. However, it is important to understand that I-81 is only part of the story.



15th Ward



In 1963, Syracuse Mayor William F. Walsh began a major urban renewal effort in the 15th Ward that displaced 1,300 residents and would ultimately make way for a museum, a new police headquarters, a state hospital, a middle-income housing complex and the I-81 viaduct.\*