precisely

Parcel Boundaries

Product Guide

Version 2021.09.0

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1 – Getting Started

In this section

Introduction

Documents, maps, and other information that depicts rights and interests in property provide the foundation for decision-making in communications, utilities, insurance, and government applications. When parcel information is maintained in a geographic information system (GIS), it can be integrated into an information workflow that is easily shared and accessed within and between departments and organizations.

Precisely's parcel data sets the highest standard for accuracy and spatial analysis. Precisely's parcel datasets empower businesses to analyze data geographically and make correct decisions based on property boundaries. With flexibility to integrate into most software systems, Precisely's geocoding and spatial modules have long set the standard for geocoding accuracy, spatial analysis, and speed.

Parcel Boundary Overview

Unlike simple points used in addressing, parcel boundary data helps communication providers, utilities, and insurance companies map and analyze property characteristics across an entire area of interest. Parcel data also enables sophisticated spatial analyses, including proximity, overlay, and buffer zone operations. Companies that use parcel data in their daily operations realize new ways to enhance capabilities, improve services, and reduce operating costs by:

- Overlaying parcel data with satellite imagery to assess damage following catastrophic events

- Accurately locating retail and site properties for sale, and learning more about surrounding geographies

- Determining potential flood, wildfire, or other risk hazards when providing insurance premium pricing

- Aligning service territories to parcel boundaries in order to define service areas more accurately

- Improving the accuracy of tax jurisdiction assignments

- Managing assets across multiple properties without physical mailing addresses (meters, transformers, cell towers, etc.)

- Defining which customers are serviced by a particular power grid in order to respond more efficiently
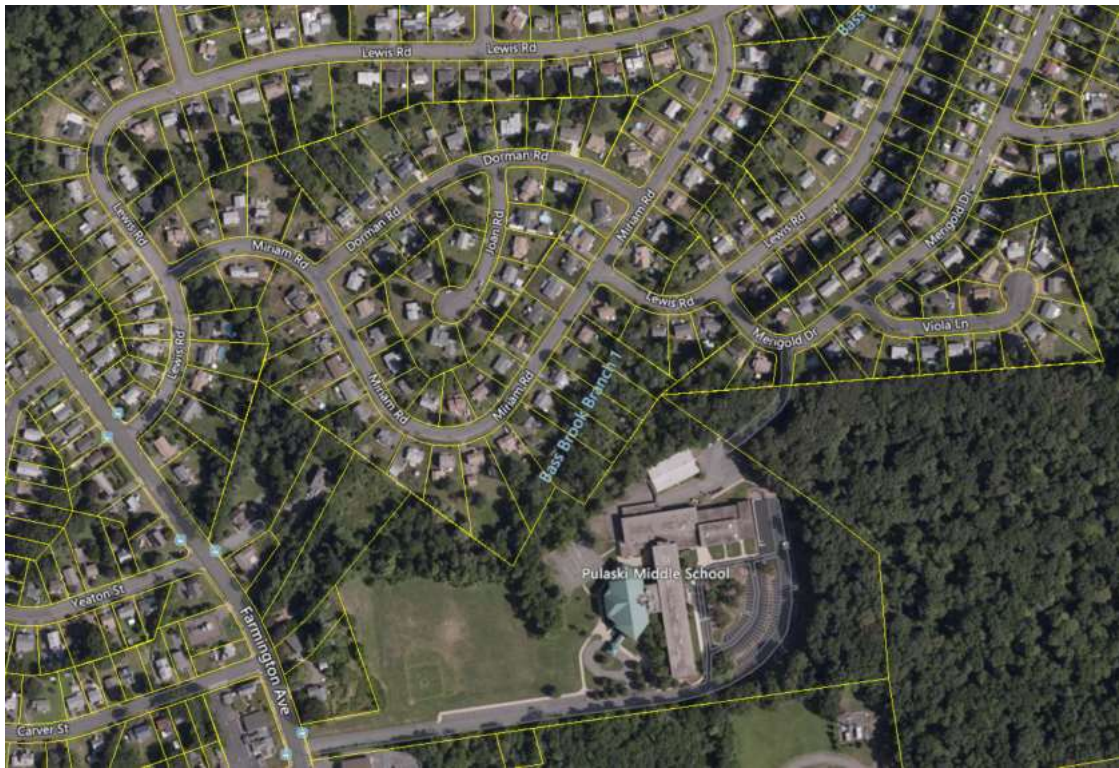
Figure 1 - Parcel data with aerial imagery – New Britain, CT

Product Specifications

Coverage	United States
Geography Level	State
Scale	1:24,000
Coordinates	Latitude/longitude (in decimal degrees)
Projection	WGS84
Update Frequency	Quarterly
Character Encoding	UTF-8
File Formats	Esri Shapefile (SHP) MapInfo Extended TAB

File Names

In extended TAB format, Parcel Boundaries is delivered as a statewide package.

In Shapefile format, Parcel Boundaries is delivered in county files and is available as a statewide package.

The naming convention used in Parcel Boundaries **parcels_aabbb.shp** and **parcel_addresses_aabbb.shp**, where *aabbb* represents a combination of state (*aa*) and county (*bbb*) FIPS codes.

Parcel Boundary County
parcels_aabbb.dbf
parcels_aabbb.prj
parcels_aabbb.shp
parcels_aabbb.shx

Document Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this document:

Text Style	Significance
Underlined	Emphasis
Italics	Document or chapter titles, or references to specific text
Bold	Field or file name references in text
Underlined bold	Commands or actions
`Typewriter font, shaded background`	Keyboard input or screen output

Field Names in Schema Tables

Field names in schema tables are documented in upper-case letters. The appearance of field names in the actual product may differ from this convention.

2 – Data Schema

In this section

Parcel Boundaries Table Structure

Parcel Boundaries contains two tables for each dataset – the parcel objects table and the parcel addresses table. Using both tables together provides access to polygon geometry and all parcel attributes.

Table Friendly Name	Table Name
Parcel Objects	**parcels_aabbb**
Parcel Addresses	**parcels_addresses_aabbb**

Object and Address Linking

The parcel objects and parcel addresses tables can be joined using the **PRCLID** field.

Parcel Objects Table

Field Name	Data Type (Length)	Description
PRCLID	CHAR (12)	Unique feature ID for boundary record. Also primary key for this table. Use this field to join to the **Parcel Addresses** table.
FIPS	CHAR (5)	Combination of state (first two digits) and county (second three digits) FIPS codes in which the parcel is located
GEOID	CHAR (15)	Geography ID; 15-digit ID from TIGER Block (state FIPS, county FIPS, census tract, block group, and block)
TAX_APN	VARCHAR (40)	Formatted assessor's parcel number (APN) or parcel identification number. An arbitrary parcel identifier assigned by the assessing agency to simplify identification and expedite the location or parcels. Format and composition vary widely. Leading zeros or spaces may be used to maintain format integrity. May be reformatted if necessary to match the jurisdiction's display format.
AREA	DECIMAL (11,3)	Parcel area in square feet, rounded to nearest square foot. Max area is 967,730,679,493 square feet.
LON	DECIMAL (11,6)	Parcel location longitude (WGS84). Calculated from parcel geometry so that the resulting coordinate is inside the parcel.
LAT	DECIMAL (9,6)	Parcel location latitude (WGS84). Calculated from parcel geometry so that the resulting coordinate is inside the parcel.
ELEVATION	INTEGER	Elevation of parcel coordinate corresponding to **LAT** and **LON**, in feet

Parcel Addresses Table

Field Name	Data Type (Length)	Description
ADDRID	INTEGER	Address ID; primary key for this table
PRCLID	CHAR (12)	Unique feature ID for boundary record. Use this field to join to the **Parcel Objects** table.
PBKEY	CHAR (12)	Unique ID for addressable location. Also referred to as the PreciselyID.
PAR_PBKEY	CHAR (12)	Parent PreciselyID for the primary street address. Applicable only if record contains a secondary address (apt., unit, suite, etc.).
PROP_APN	VARCHAR (45)	This field associates the **TAX_APN** to the address. If there is more than one address to a parcel, the value of this field will represent the **TAX_APN** with an appended sequence number. Use this field to link Parcel Boundaries to Precisely's Property Attributes products.
FIPS	CHAR (5)	State and county FIPS codes in which the parcel is located
ADDRESS	VARCHAR (71)	Formatted first line of the property's physical address. Consists of address number, pre-directional, street name, street type, and post-directional.
UNIT_DES	VARCHAR (11)	Unit designator – apt., unit, etc.
UNIT_NUM	VARCHAR (11)	Unit number
CITY	VARCHAR (30)	City in which parcel is located
STATE	CHAR (2)	State abbreviation
POSTCODE	CHAR (5)	5-digit ZIP Code
PLUS4	CHAR (4)	ZIP+4 extension

Product Feedback and Support

Contact our Support team (software.support@precisely.com) for product support and additional product information. You can also submit your innovative ideas or comment on existing submissions in a way that is visible to all participants via our Support site (https://support.precisely.com). This site also includes information about our complete portfolio of Data products.

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