#### CHAPTER IV

# RESULTS: MEXICO, PUEBLA, GUANAJUATO

Because this study was performed in two parts, separated by a period of time, and becajse some of the techniques employed differed from one study to the other, the results are presented in two chapters. Mexico, Puebla, and Guanajuato are treated in this chapter, and San Cristobal las Casas in Chapter V. We utilized a 5% "cutoff" in graphic image designation, i.e. no element mentioned by fewer than 5% of the respondents is shown on the maps.

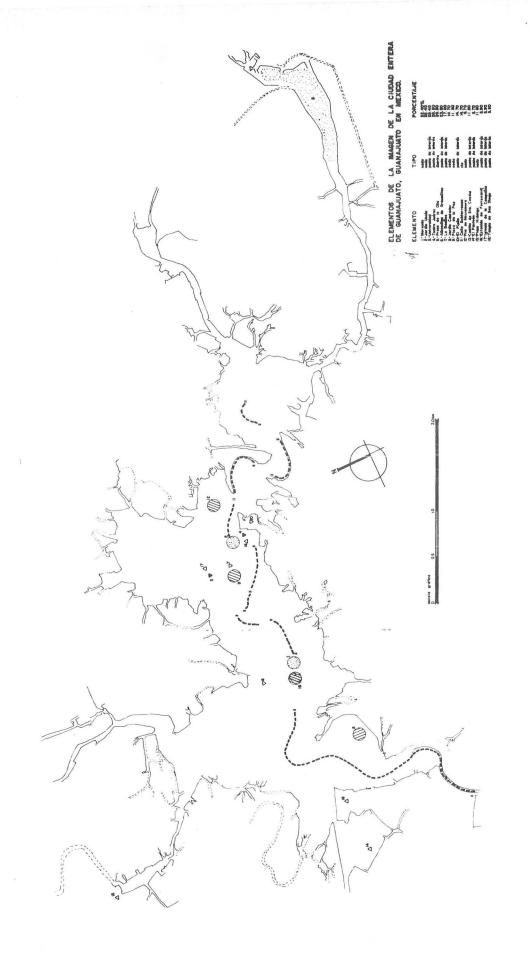
### Point imagery Guanajuato and Puebla

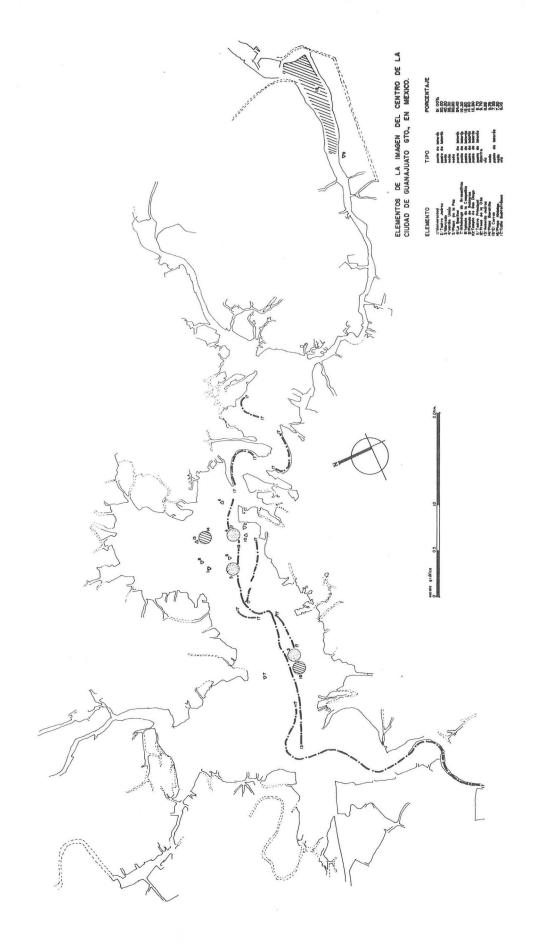
"Point images" of the city and center of Guanajuato are presented in Figures 10 and 11.

Partly because they have been drawn on the same outline map, the two seem, at first, almost indistinguishable. In fact, the image of Guanajuato's center is "tighter", but very slightly so, than the image of the city as a whole. La Presa de la Olla - a feature decidedly removed from the geographical center of the city - appears in both images although mentioned three times more often as part of the city than of the center. Taking the ten most frequently cited elements in each map together, we see that the first four are identical in both maps, although cited in different order. Of all the elements indicated, only one could be classified as other than a landmark or node: La Presa de la Olla, again. Taken as wholes, the most significant overall characteristic of the two images appears to be their linear ordering, along the roughly parallel Calle Subterranea and Avenida Juarez (together, the two major one-way thoroughfares traversing the city).

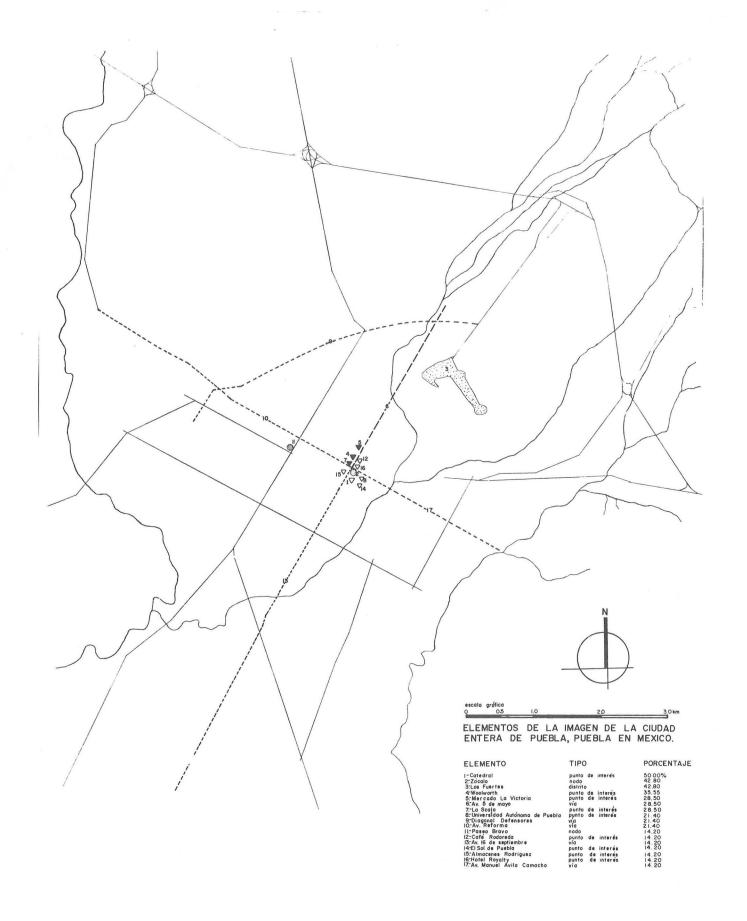
Puebla represents totally different images. Both "city" and "center" maps show a tight clustering of imageable points about the central Plaza. Although several path names are mentioned, these are all resolvable into the two major axes of the city, plus an important bypass. Three of the four elements mentioned are common to the two images; of particular interest is the fact that "Woolworth" occupies position #4 in both - is this a symbol of the progress that Puebla is now longing for? Paths figure only slightly more prominently in the first ten elements of the Puebla image than in Guanajuato, the majority of the elements mentioned

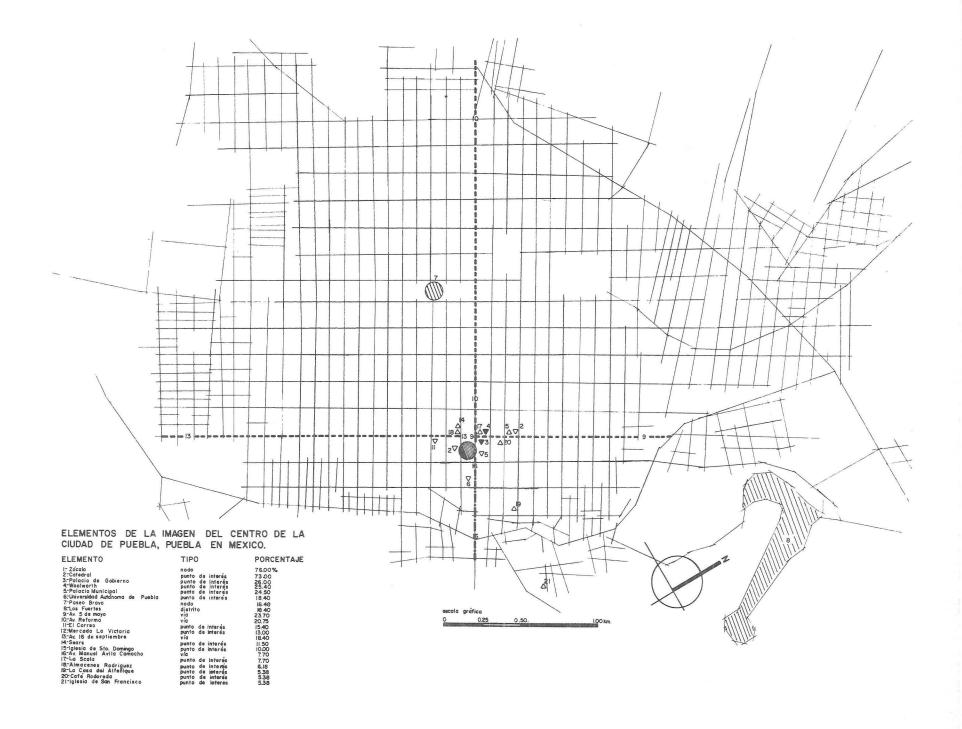
Figures 10 and 11. Point imagery of Guanajuato, City and Center





Figures 12 and 13. Point imagery of Puebla, City and Center





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being classifiable, again, into landmarks or nodes.

# Point imagery: Mexico:

The point image maps of Mexico and its center consider both verbal and graphic responses. In most cases, the percentage of respondents associated with a given element represents the higher percentage – either verbal or graphic – recorded.  $^{\rm l}$  On the composite map of Mexico, however, two lists of elements are presented separately. Ordinal numbers referring to one of the lists are underlined for easy discrimination.

The characteristics of Mexico portrayed in imagery are clearly distinct from those of Puebla and Guanajuato. First, the city and center are decidedly different in extent. Second, none of the maps of Puebla and Guanajuato contain more than one element classifiable as a district, while as many as 15 appear on the map of Mexico - a fact partly attributable, of course, to the very much larger size of the capital, which, hence, has many more localities classifiable as districts. Third, the elements of Mexico, as we have classified them, are more evenly distributed over four of the five categories suggested by Lynch. Fourth, the elements are more evenly spread over the city in Mexico than in Guanajuato, and much more so than in Puebla. This is somewhat less true of the Center. In Puebla the major landmarks and nodes are distributed along a short segment of the continuous Avenide 5 de Mayo - 16 de Septiembre. Many more paths are indicated in Mexico's image, but the major landmarks and nodes are also distributed along a single path, the continuous Av. Reforma - Juarez - Madero. Four of the five most frequently mentioned elements of the city and center coincide.

The Mexico sample was sufficiently large that it could be divided along several dimensions. Two of these dimensions yielded roughly equal numbers in the two halves when the sample was split: socio-economic level and residential location.

Dividing by socio-economic level yielded the maps shown in Figures 16 and 18 for the city and center images of the upper socio-economic level, and Figures 17 and 19 for the lower.

### Socio-Economic Level.

Of the five most frequently indicated elements in the city maps, four are again identical for both socio-economic levels. The Cathedral which occupies position "4" in the upper stratum is No. 18 in the lower;

Figure 14. Point imagery of the entire city of Mexico, all subjects.

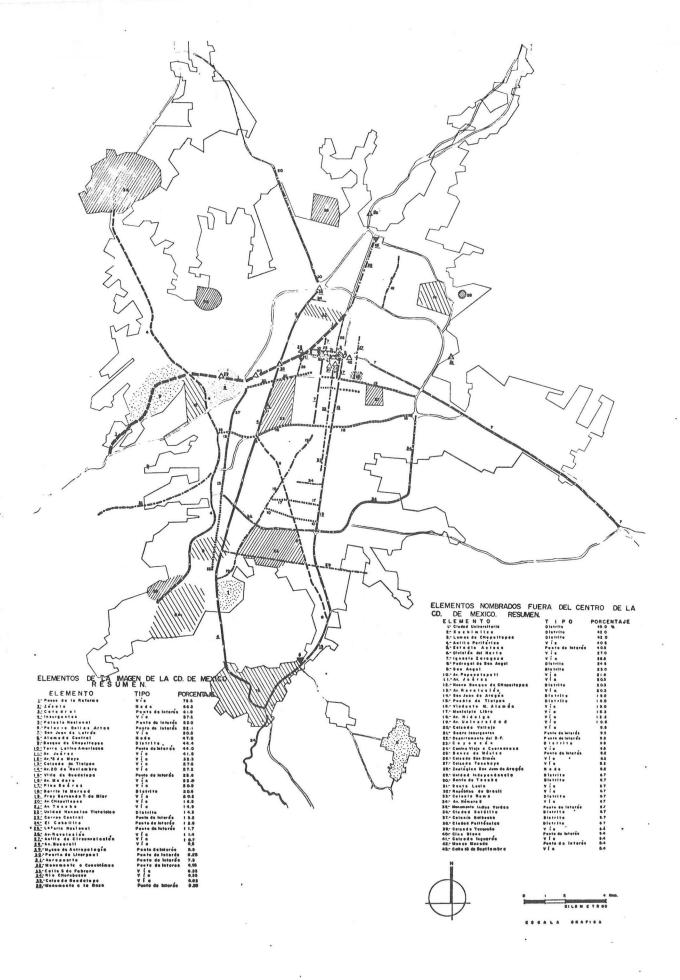
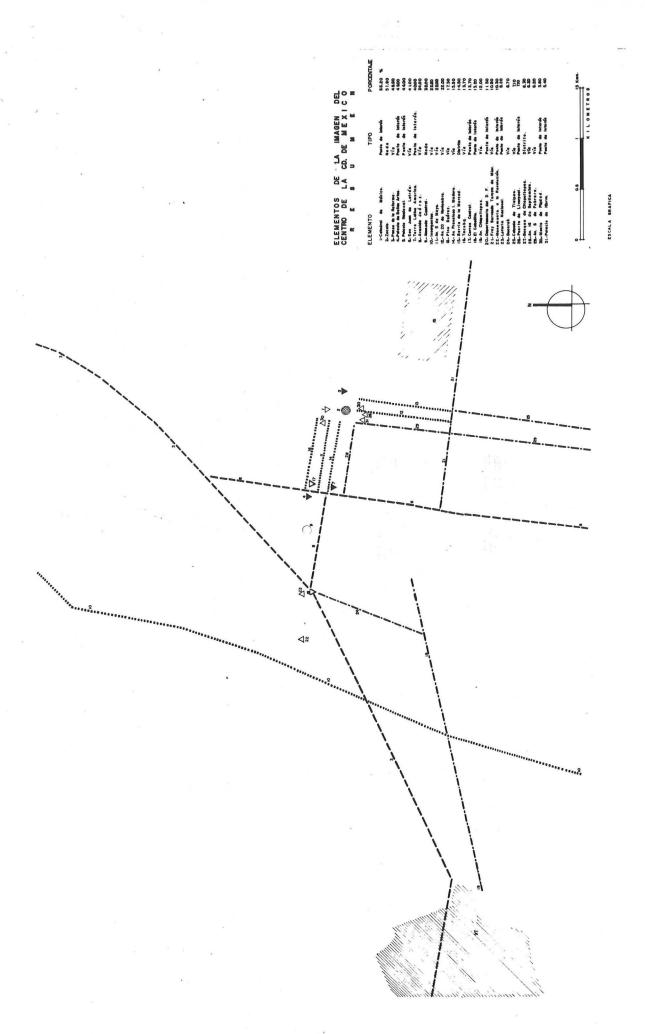
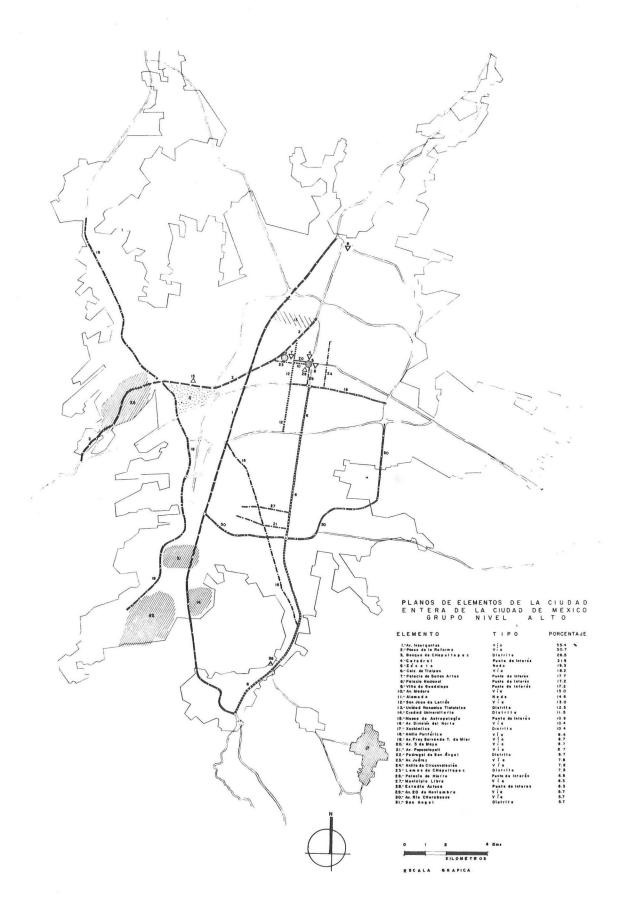
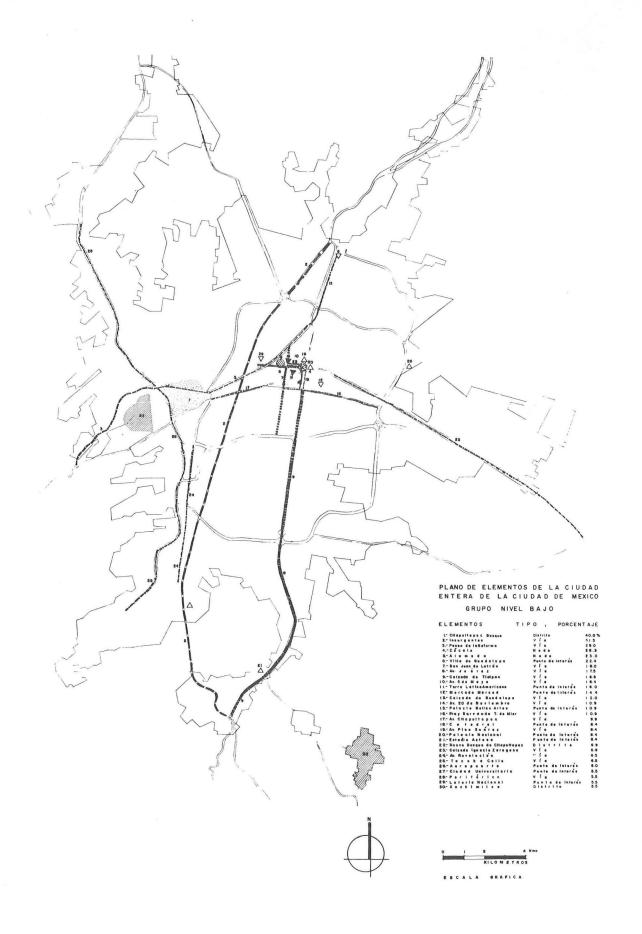


Figure 15. Point imagery of the center of Mexico, all subjects.

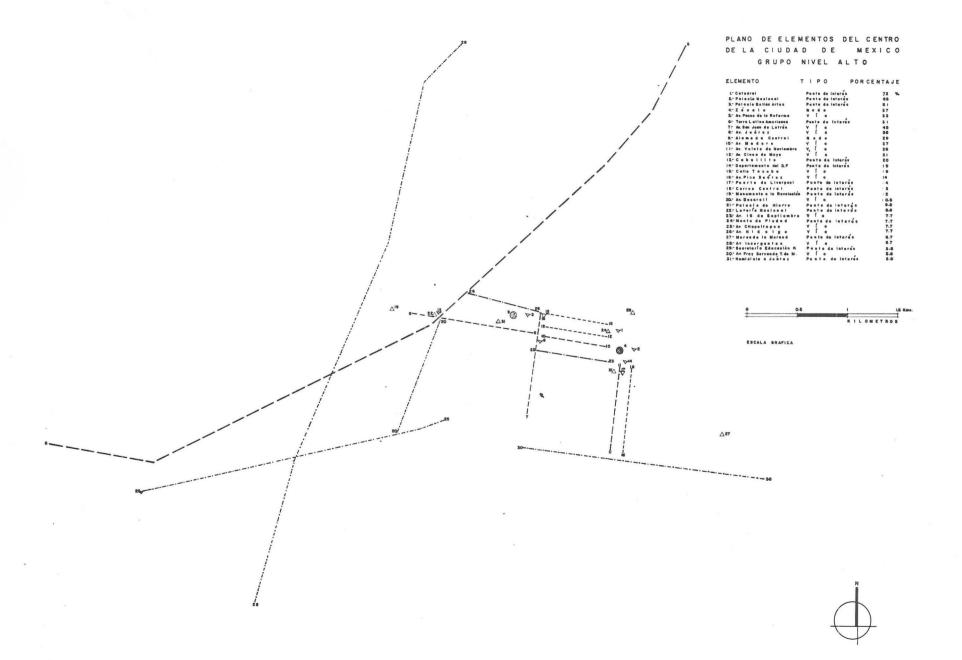


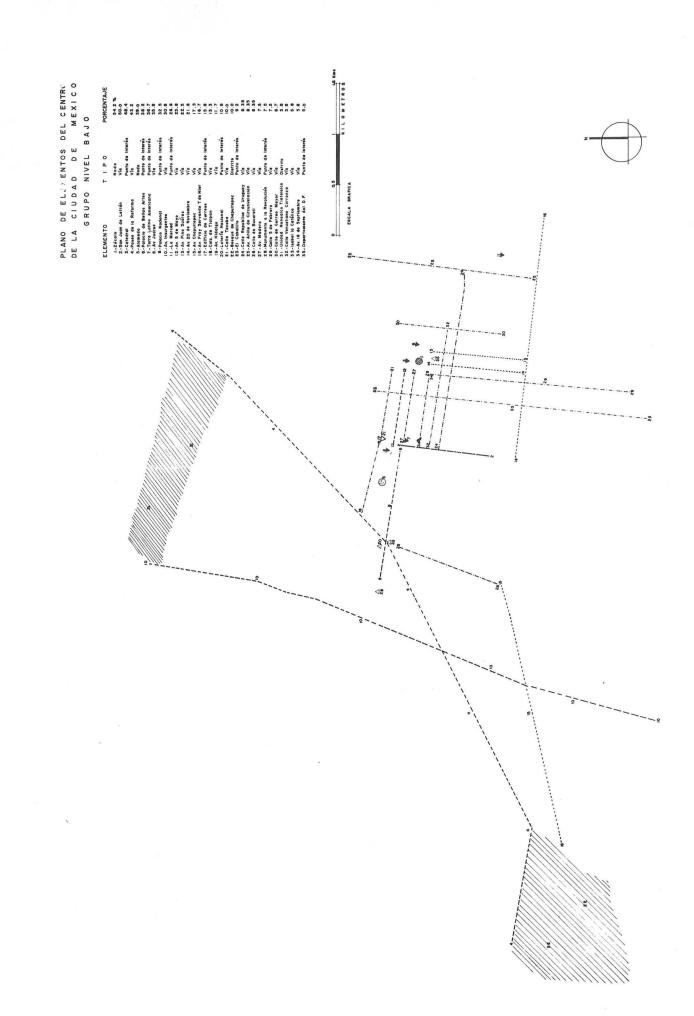
Figures 16 and 17. Point imagery of the entire city of Mexico, with subjects divided into high and low socio-economic levels.





Figures 18 and 19. Point imagery of the center of Mexico, with subjects divided into high and low socio-economic levels.





the Alameda which occupies position "5" in the lower is No. 11 in the upper. We have no explanation for this. It is interesting to note that Chapultepec Park which is No. 1 for the lower levels is still No. 3 for the upper; there is, therefore, no indication in the image of the city of the hypothesized lower class "takeover" of the park.

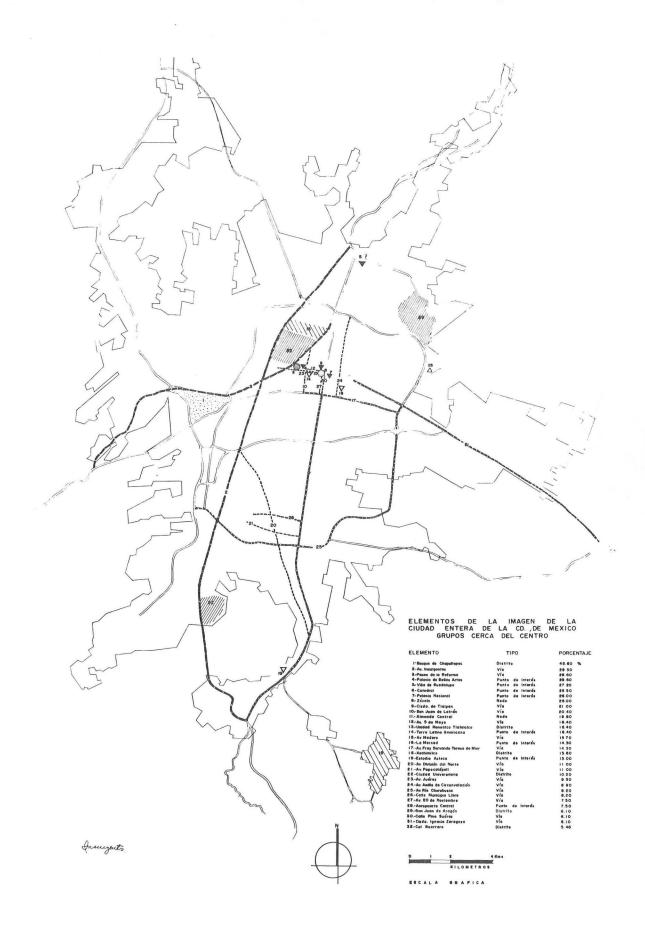
An almost equal number of elements were cited by both groups and a precisely equal number, (15), of paths. Apparently, the fact that members of the lower classes less frequently drive cars does not decrease the significance of the city's street names for them. There are, however, a few elements of interest that appear on one map and not in the other. Unidad Nonoalco-Tlalteloco, a middle-caass "renewal" of a formerly lower class area is indicated only in the nivel alto image, as are University City, and the upper-class Pedregal - San Angel areas. The area east of Avenida Pino Suarez, still predominantly lower class, displays three significant non-path elements in the lower class map (other than Villa Guadelupe) and only one in the "upper."

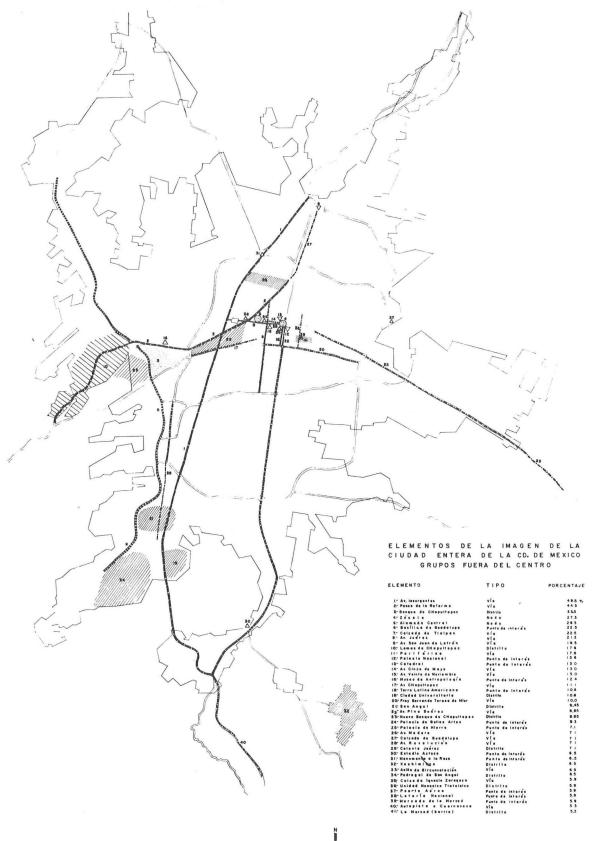
As to the images of the center, these differ in three major respects: first, more elements (paths and landmarks) are indicated east of Avenida Pino Suarez by the lower levels. Second, Chapultepec Park, which was high on the list of elements for both groups in city imagers, drops markedly in frequency as an element in the lower-class map of the center, and disappears altogether among the upper-class respondents. Inexplicably, Unidad Nonoalco - Tlalteloco, which was significant to upper-class responof the city is significant to lower-class respondents as an dents as pa element of the center. Not quite so inapplicable is the fact that the lower class image of the center contains more elements and half again as many paths as the upper. If one recognizes the area north of Calle Republica de Uruguay and east of Pino Suarez as a part of the conceptual Center but an area now avoided by "la gente buena," this result seems reasonable. Similarly, the thoroughfares are important to pedestrians engaged in commerce and marketing, but a nightmare for motor vehicles. Many residents regardless of class, are likely to avoid trying to take private automobiles into the center during much of the day. Thus, the fact that one does not possess an automobile ought not to decrease one's familiarity with the path system in the traditional center. That public surface transportation is extremely crowded and moves at a crawl means that much of the local traffic moves on foot - an experimental leveller of socio-economic differences.

### Residential location

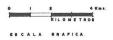
Examing the city maps of México, the first impression is that respondents living far from the center of the city have somewhat "larger" images of the city (including more elements outside a two-mile radius of the Zócalo) than do respondents living close to the center. The total number of items indicated with sufficient frequency to be included in the map is

Figures 20 and 21. Point imagery of the entire city of Mexico, with subjects divided by place of residence (central or peripheral).

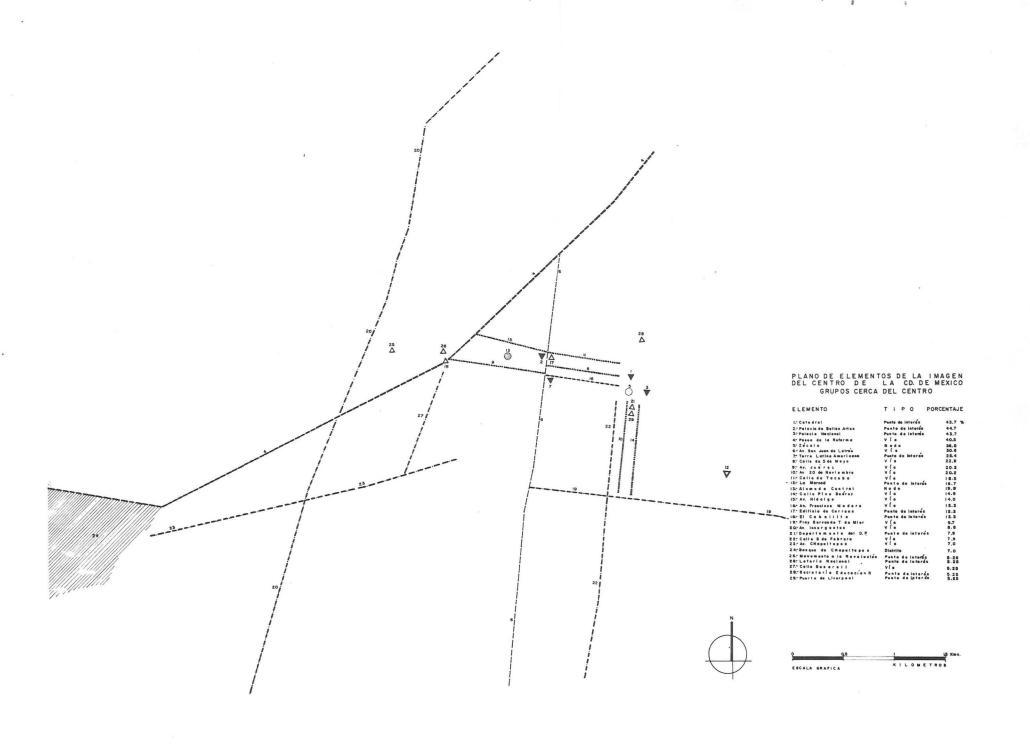


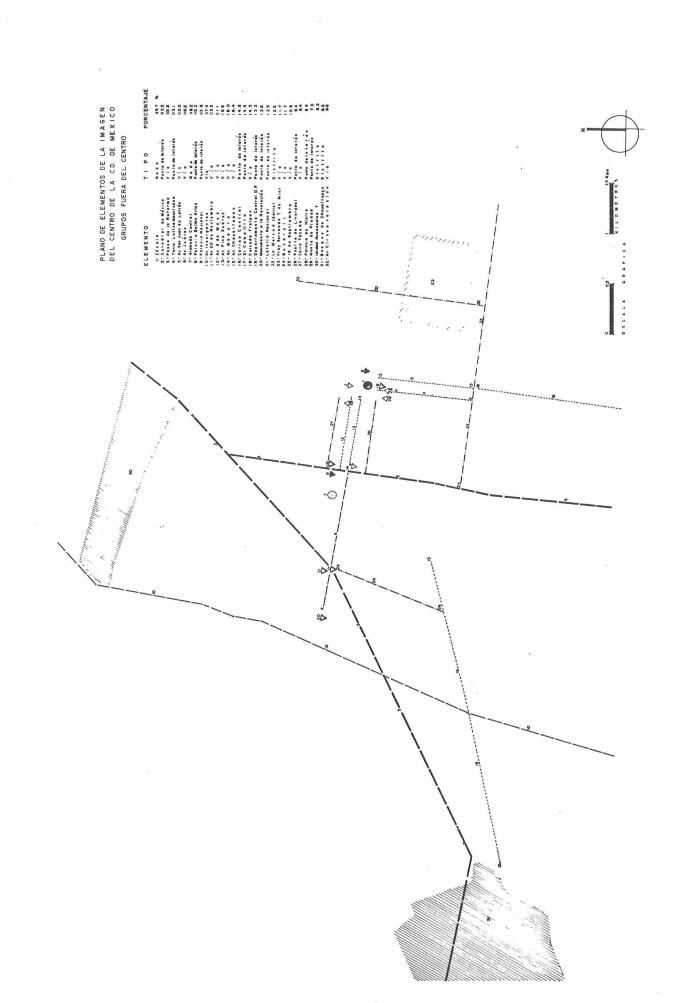






Figures 22 and 23. Point imagery of the center of Mexico, with subjects divided by place of residence (central or peripheral).





also larger for subjects outside the center.

One might expect that groups living in the suburbs would have a somewhat less detailed image of the center than those living closer. This is not the case; in fact, slightly the contrary. If knowledge of the center indicates the "pull" or relative significance of the center for any individual it is clearly just as attractive or important to those living "far out" as to shose close in."

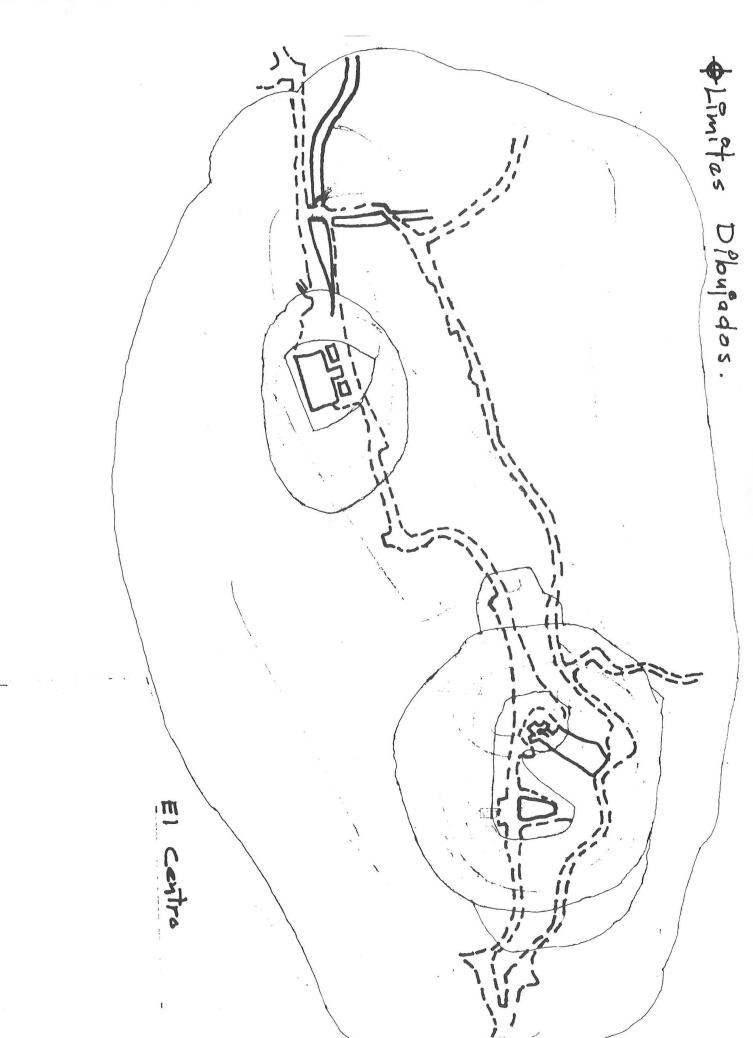
## Boundaries.

By combining all of the drawn and named boundaries (some interviewees indicated the names of bordering streets or depicted boundaries in some other way) for a given place (city, center, or colonia) on a single composite map, it was possible to construct "exterior" and "interior" envelopes indicating the largest and smallest areas that the place drawn was considered to encompass. These might be called the minimal and maximal conceptual extents of the place; in presenting the composite drawings of these places in Chapter V, we will term them exterior and interior. The exterior is the outside area - the union - by mathematical analogy - included by all the boundaries drawn or otherwise indicated. It is the area that at least one respondent feels is part of the place. The interior intersection - represents that area which all respondents feel is part of the place depicted; in this sense, it is in fact the "heart" of the district. Two maps of Guanajuato, one of the entire city and the other of El Centro, are presented as Figures 24 and 25 to show how a number of drawn boundaries are combined on a single outline map.

Recently, there has been considerable speculation on the number of centers a city has, the extent of the center(s) and its location (or their locations). Some planners have asked whether Guanajuato has one or two centers. Our study revealed three centers and two central areas; one contains a "double center," which, like a double star (if the reader will excuse the analogy from astronomy) is apparent only when the observer takes a close look. With reference to the map of the city of Guanajuato in Chapter II (recall that South is at the top) and the frontispiece, it seemed reasonable to ask "what is it that differentiates the western central area from the eastern, i.e. why two central areas?"

Informal observation of the behavior of Guanajuato's residents indicates that the eastern center, el Jardin de la Union, is in fact the communications center of the city as well as a transportation node. When telephones are sparse and street addresses unreliable, the best way to contact a person is often to meet him at some well-known location - el Jardin in the case of Guanajuato - and to go from there to one of the several cafes that surround this plaza. Since the Teatro Juarez is there, it is also a cultural center. Some economic exchange takes place, but very much less than in the western central area, where the market is located.

Figure 24. Drawn boundaries of the center of Guanajuato, combined on a single map.



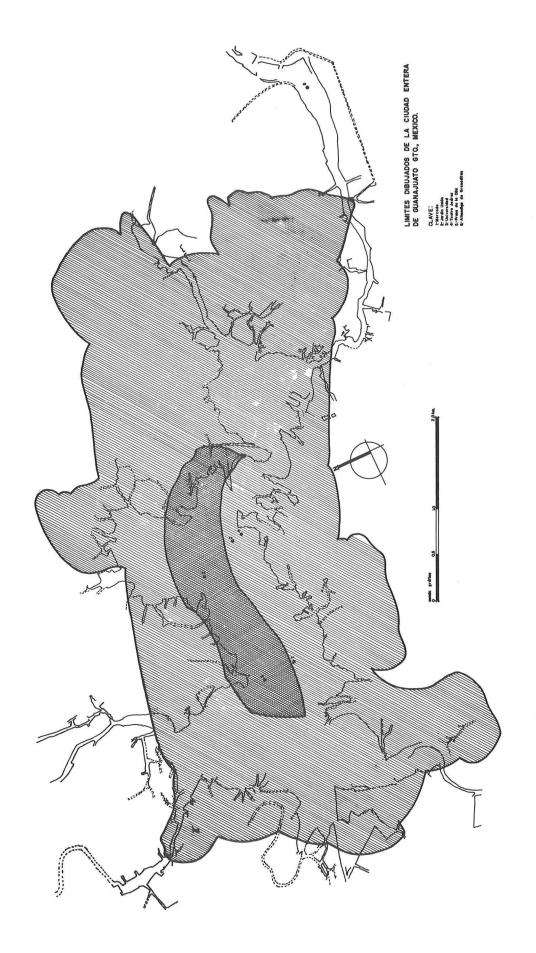
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Figure 25. Envelopes of the center of Guanajuato and its "hearts".



Figure 26. Envelope of the city of Guanajuato and its heart.



Under what conditions do multi-centered cities occur in Latin America? At this stage of investigation we can do no more than hypothesize. It is customary to view cities in Latin America as possessing a single dominant center, a view in accord with what Philip II set out to accomplish. But in cities such as Guanajuato, constructed within a topographical context that made it impossible to follow the Code of Philip II, no "focus" was possible. As the object image maps clearly show, a single axis is dominant. Further, it is a walkable city - indeed, it is difficult to negotiate other than on foot - and easy communication among several "bulges" along the axis is therefore possible. The socio-cultural center is thus conceptually separated from the marketing center, but the physical barriers between the two are minimal, and whatever convenience the separation affords outweigh the apparently minimal inconvenience of "commuting" from one to the other.

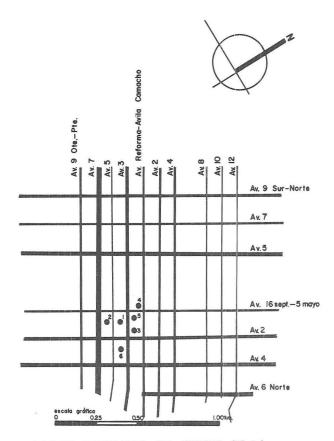
Examing the "drawn limits" of the conceptual center(s) and the conceptual city of Guanajuato makes apparent the discrepancy between the extents of the exteriors (or envelopes) and the interiors (or hearts). But, while the "hearts" of the central limits map very nicely enclose the features we would normally suppose to be of central importance — the market and the <u>Jardin de la Union — Teatro Juarez</u> unit — the city limits map places these just outside the heart. Why the empirical results fail to confirm intuition, and why the "center hearts" are not included with the conceptual "city hearts" are unanswered questions.

Ideally, what we would have liked to obtain were graphically and verbally described boundaries of México, Puebla, and Guanajuato, and of the center and the entire city in each case. What we in fact obtained were graphic descriptions of the boundaries of Guanajuato (center and city), graphic and verbal descriptions of the center of México, and verbal descriptions of the center of Puebla. In only five of the twelve categories of boundary description we hoped to obtain were the numbers of subjects sufficient to yield reasonably reliable results. To a degree, this reflects the perceived difficulty of this part of the inventory; subjects simply found the "boundary" questions hard ones to answer.

For the purpose of mapping verbal responses, termed "named boundaries" or "named limits," the following convention was adopted: since all named limits were streets, the thickness or multiplicity of lines indicating streets represented the number of persons naming that street as a boundary.

The boundedness of Puebla's center, indicates some agreement concerning what streets bound the center to the northwest, southwest, and southeast, but no agreement concerning a boundary to the northeast. Of the boundaries, Avenida 7 Oriente-Poniente, which bounds the Cathedral to the southwest, appears the most clearly defined. It is somewhat easier to extract an "envelope" than a "heart" from a map like this; part of the problem is that when a place or feature is named, it is difficult to determine what part of the place or feature bearing that name is to be included as a boundary.

Figure 27 Summary of verbal responses limiting the Center of Puebla.



LIMITES NOMBRADOS DEL CENTRO DE LA CIUDAD DE PUEBLA PUE., MEXICO.

CLAVE: In Zócalo 2-Catedral 3-Palacio de Gobierno 4-Woolworth 5-Palacio Municipal 6-Universidad

The same problem exists with the named boundaries of Mexico's center, shown in Figures 28 and 29. The differences in the relative darkness of lines in the two figures results from different total numbers of subjects who responded to the question. There seems to be considerable agreement between the two groups regarding possibilities for conceptual bounds of the center, the main difference being the heavy inclusion of Paseo de la Reforma by subjects living far from the center, and its exclusion by subjects living close to the center. However, the subjects living close to the center, taken as an aggregate, seems to have defined at least two centers: one, historical, traditional Centro, including the Cathedral and the Zocalo, and another between San Juan de Letran and Avenida Insurgentes. Both of these appear clearly bounded to the north, west, and east, and not nearly so clearly bounded to the south. Even the center which includes the historic Centro has the Cathedral and Zocalo adjacent to its northeast corner. These results appear to lend further support to the hypothesis that the center of Mexico is, at least conceptually, moving to the west, in line with the emergence of the Zona Rosa as an important commercial, social, and cultural area. Comparing figures 28, 29, and 30, we see that the maps of aggregated named boundaries seem to agree fairly well with the map of aggregated drawn boundaries.

# Point and area imagery: two colonias of México

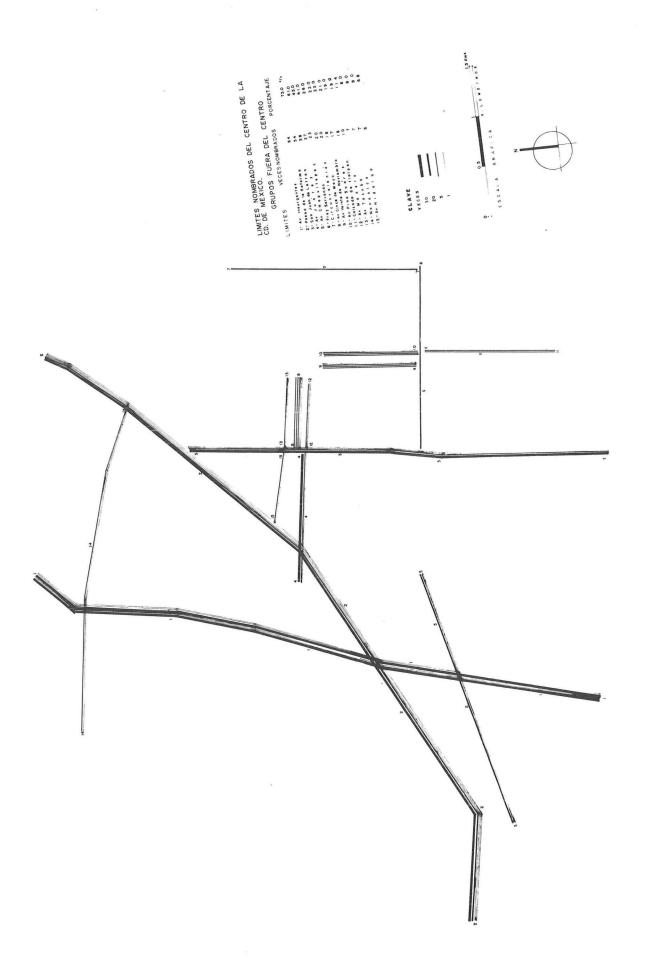
Imagery data was gathered on all 19 colonias in which interviews were conducted, but the results of only two such surveys are presented here as examples. At least four features illustrated by these examples are worthy of note. First, they demonstrate that it is possible to obtain fairly detailed imagery data for relatively small non-central subsectors (in proportionate area) of cities. Second, as with cities and their centers, non-central sub-areas - at least in México - demonstrate marked discrepancies between the extents of the "envelopes" and "hearts" of their composite areal imagery, showing lack of agreement concerning the boundaries of the colonia. Third, as the comparison of these two colonias shows, it is possible for a colonia to be conceptually monocentric, as Villa Guadalupe, or multi-centered, as Tlalpan. Fourth, difference in the hierarchical importance of various morphological features is possible between colonias, even within a single city. Paths and barriers are more evident in Tlalpan than in Villa Guadalupe.

Why did we obtain these results in these two instances? While these sectors were chosen for illustration, they do not represent extremes, but at least two relationships between intuitive observation and imagery are especially strong. Villa Guadalupe, an otherwise rather undifferentiated area, contains a group of buildings which, taken together, represent what is probably the most important shrine in all of the Republic. Hence, one would expect and in fact obtain a monocentric area image. Most of the streets are narrow, however; they vary greatly in length and change direction

frequently. In terms of street pattern, therefore,  $\underline{\text{Villa Guadalupe}}$  is not a legible area.  $\underline{\text{Tlalpan}}$ , in many respects an equally undifferentiated area is at a higher socio-economic level. But the streets of  $\underline{\text{Tlalpan}}$  are wider than in  $\underline{\text{Villa Guadalupe}}$  and somewhat more regular in pattern.

While certain striking results of the México - Puebla - Guanajuato study have been outlined here, we have reserved a fuller discussion of them, together with the San Cristobal findings, for Chapter VI.

Figures 28 and 29. Summary of verbal responses limiting the center of Mexico



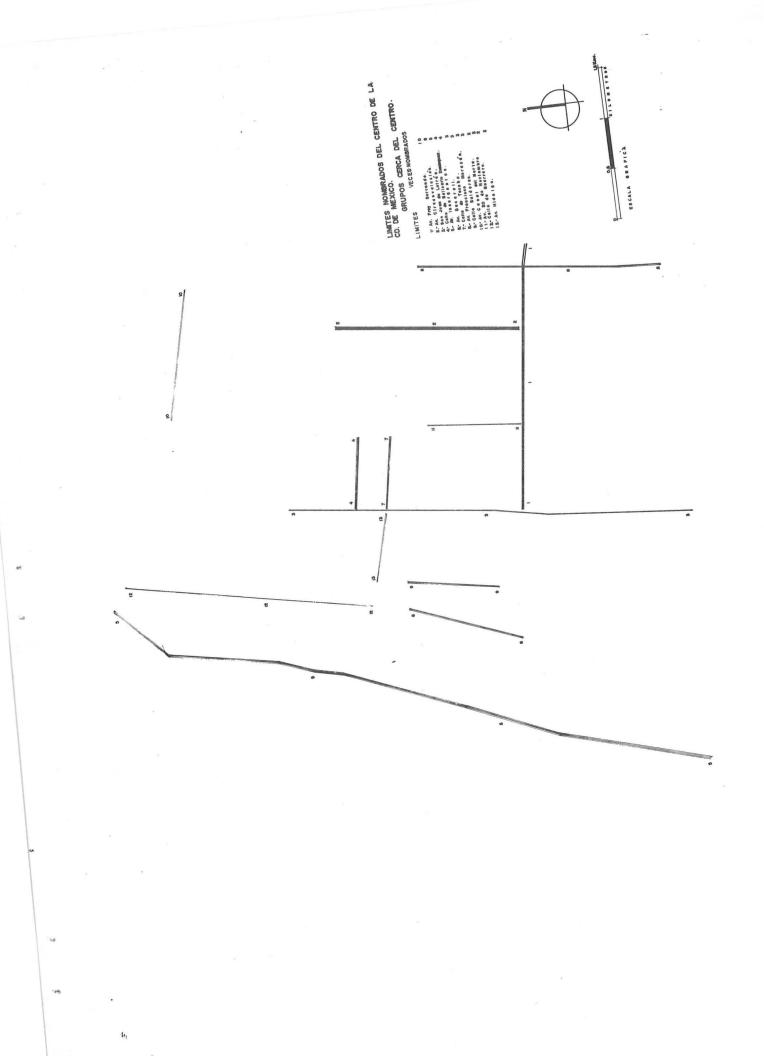
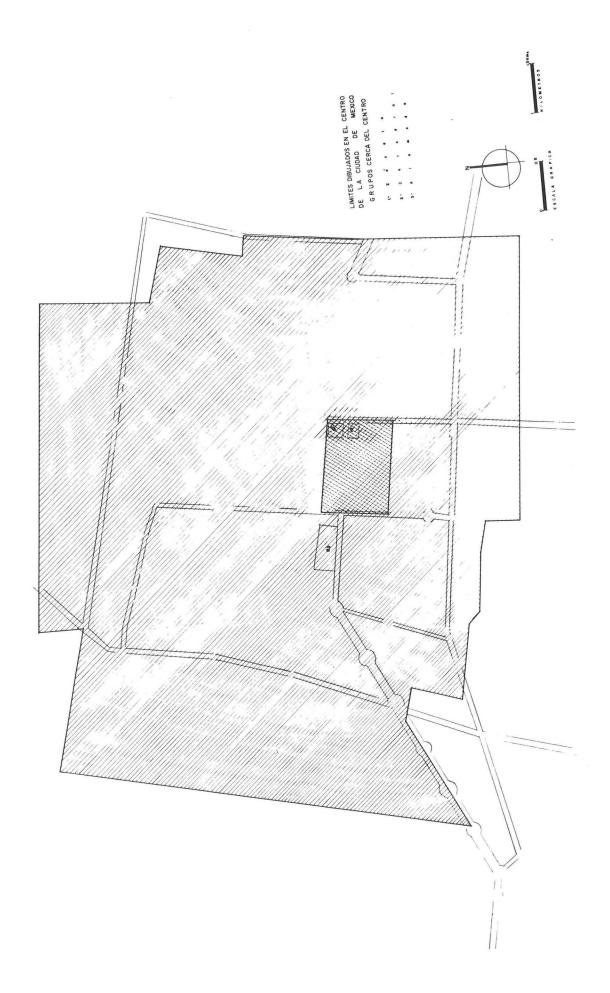
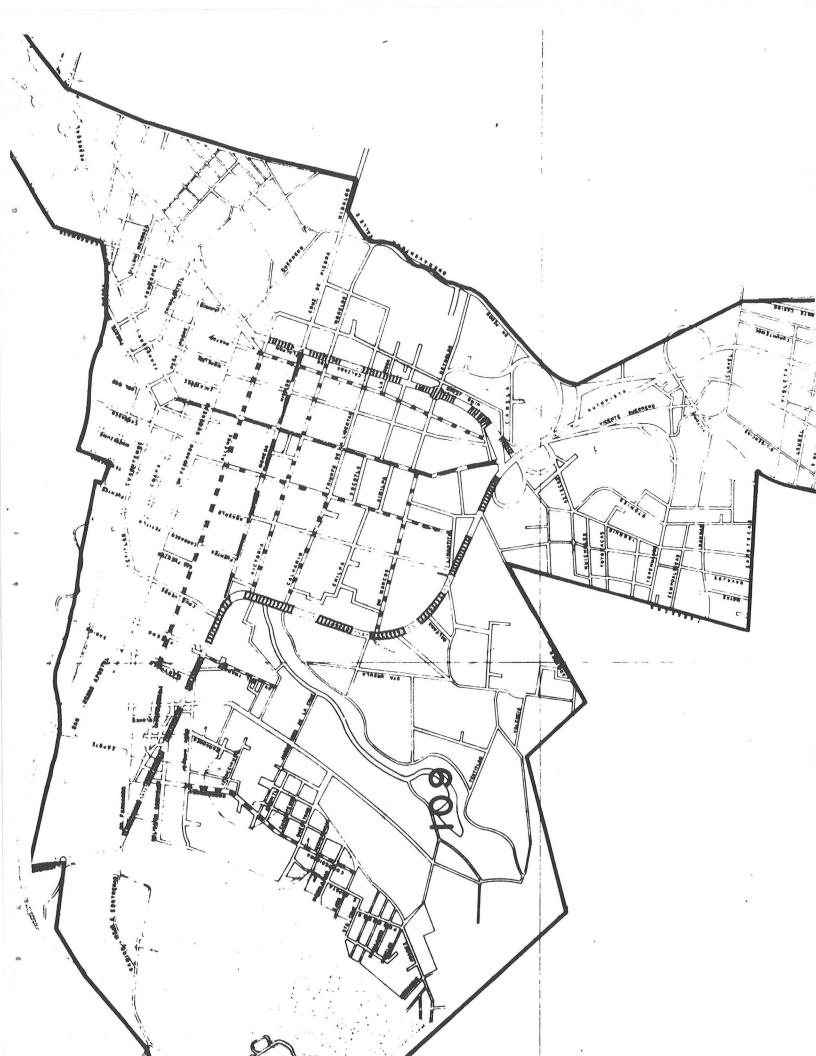
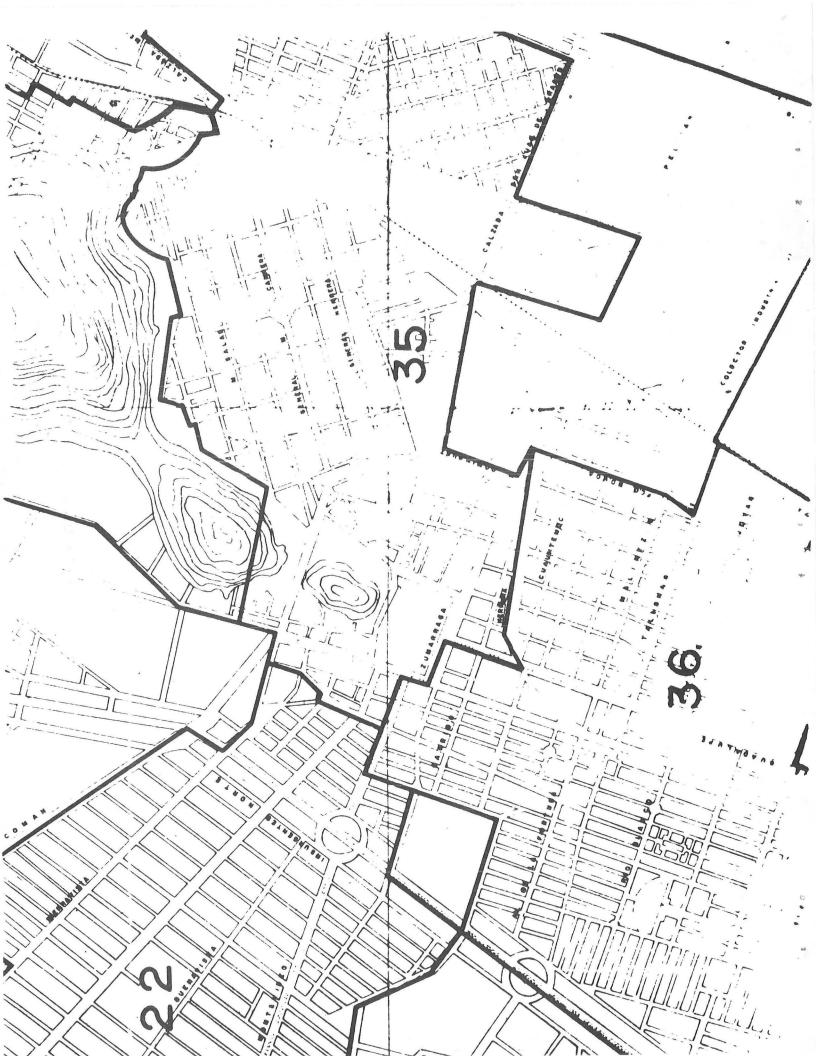


Figure 30. Envelope of the center of Mexico and its "heart" produced from drawn boundaries.

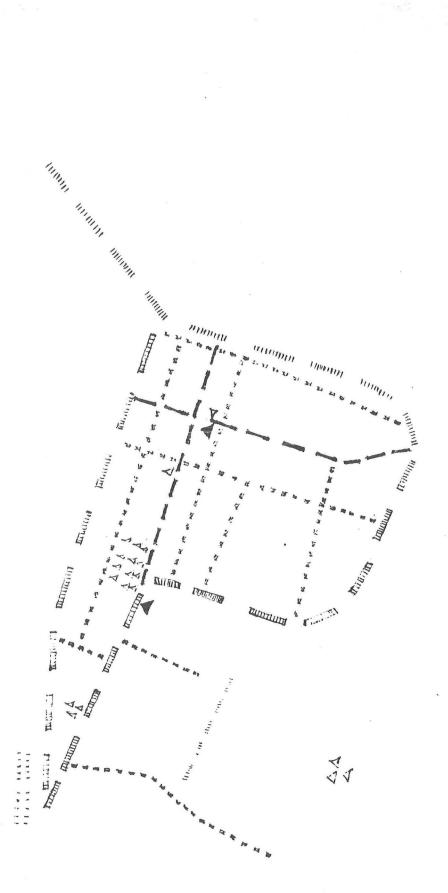


Figures 31 and 32. Maps of Tlalpan Sector and Villa Guadalupe Sector, México.

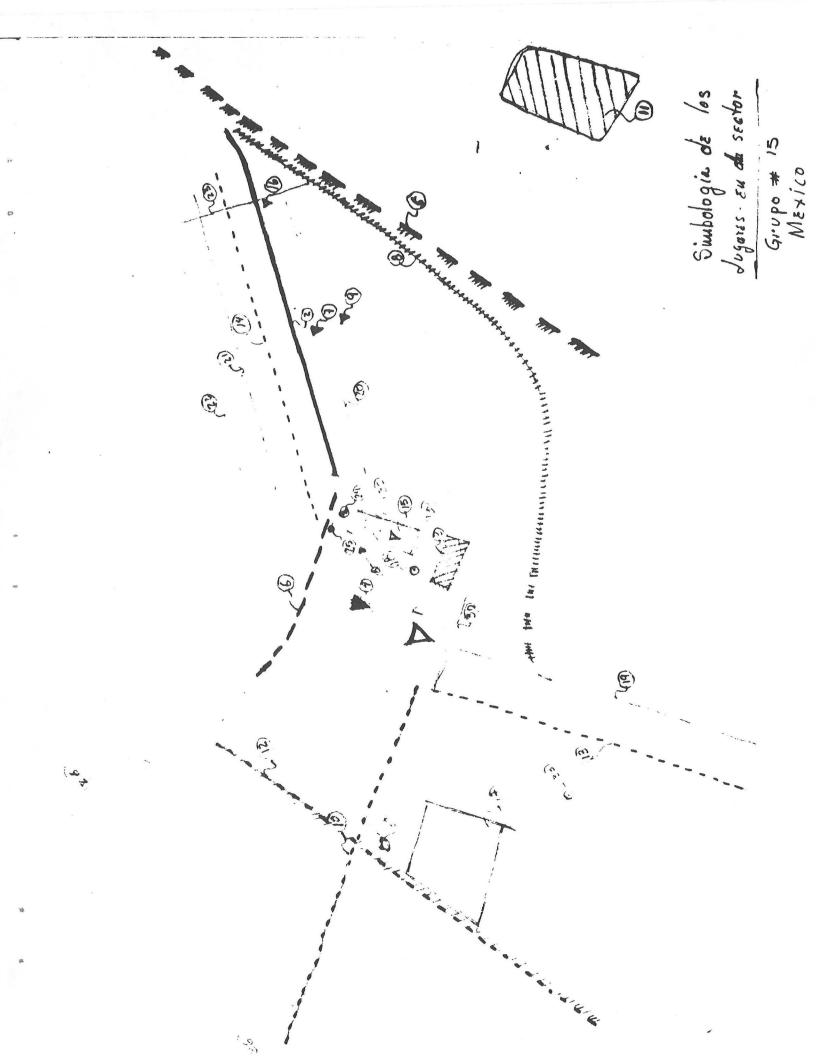




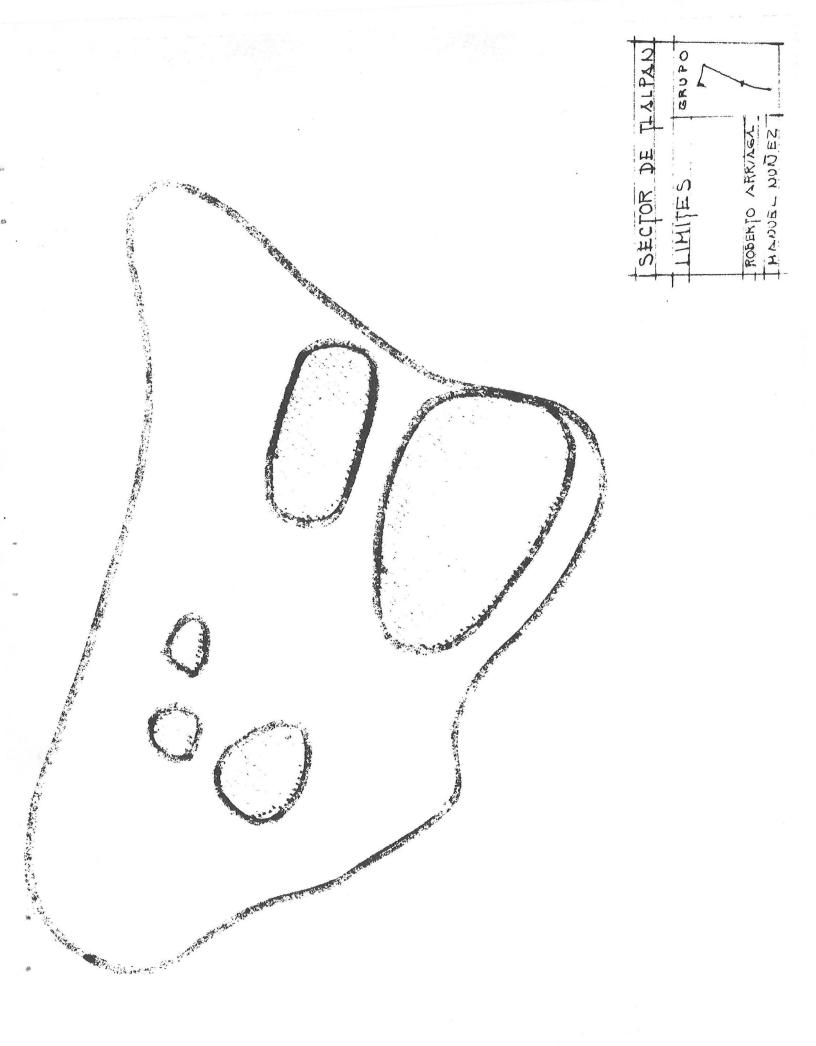
Figures 33 and 34. Point imagery, Tlalpan Sector and Villa Guadalupe Sector, Mexico.



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Figures 35 and 36. Area imagery (boundedness), Tlalpan Sector and Villa Guadalupe Sector, Mexico.



Plano de los limites de sela sector.
Grupo = 15
Mexico