Introduction to Mexico City
Introduction

Mexico City:

Contemporary form of urbanization

Uneven geographical development

Low income housing pushed back to the periphery of the city

Studio Subject
Introduction

Mexico City:

Historical Analysis

1979 Volcker Shock is the start of

Earthquake

1985 Earthquake shatters belief in

Neoliberalism

1979 Volcker Shock is the start of

Neoliberal Influence on Mexico

The government
Introduction

Mexico City: Morphological Analysis

1985-2008

Capital concentrates in the center, growth happens outside the Districto Federal border outwards mostly to the north in the periphery along important highways.

Most of the west part of the city, most of the capital concentrations in the center.
Mexico City: Introduction

Morphological Analysis

Population 4 million (unofficial)

Location marked in red

Inmunicyality of Ecatepec with the

[ Morphological Analysis ]

Introduction Mexico City:
1940-1966

Growth to Ecatepec

Further on to the US.

Industry starts to settle along an important highway connecting the northern part of Mexico and

Introduction Mexico City:

[Morphological Analysis]
Introduction

Mexico City: Morphological Analysis

1966-1985

Growth to Ecatepec

Industry develops further

Low-income housing accompanies industry
Introduction

Mexico City:

[Morphological Analysis]

1985-2009

Growth of Ecatepec

Low-income housing

Gated communities

Wild wild west characteristics

1985-2009

[Map]
Introduction

Mexico City:

Morphological Analysis

Location Interventions:

Gated Community of Las Americas

[Location Interventions: Multinational Capital]
Private housing developments

6RFLDOKRXVLQJDVDKLJKSUR¿W

business

Large highly capitalized developers

Illusion of safety

Reduces density of urban life

Introduction Mexico City:

[Morphological Analysis]

Social housing as a high-profit business

Private housing developments
Grid-planned self-build housing reduces density of urban life. Lack of planning can lead to infrastructural complications. Check out urban life Grid-planned self-build housing.

**Introduction: Mexico City**

[Morphological Analysis]
The private housing development surface 3.7 ha dwellings 436 density 99 dw/ha

Grid-planned self-build housing
surface 2 ha dwellings 120 density 60 dw/ha

Introduction Mexico City:

- Grid-planned self-build: 5152 HA - 27%
- Housing developments: 1417 HA - 8%
1. Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

2. Making Wastelands Productive: Urban voids created by large-scale infrastructure

3. Alternative Urbanities: Wastelands left by de-industrialization
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Urban analysis
The area of intervention

Urban analysis
Countering social and spatial segregation
Reconnecting the Social
The general ambition of the project is to reconnect two disconnected urban areas: economic, cultural and spatial reintegration to define the strategies for socio-eco-reconnection.

The family from the Americas community of Jardines de Morelos preparing for posada.
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

The Wall of Las Americas

Urban analysis

Map of the area: dividing wall

Sketch showing the two sides of the wall. By Taufan
Countering social and spatial segregation

Reconnecting the Social:

The pedestrian openings stay always open allowing everyone to enter and leave Las Americas without control, leaving the pedestrian openings stay always

[Urban analysis]

Countering social and spatial segregation
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Urban analysis

The commercial activity is concentrated at the pedestrian openings of the wall from the side of Jardines de Morelos. The dwellers of Las Americas make holes into the wall for starting up small shops. Commercial activity also changes the homogenous urban scene inside the commercial activity at the pedestrian openings of the wall.

Map of the area: commercial activity in Las Americas.
Reconnecting the Social:

Countering social and spatial segregation

Urban analysis

The commercial activity is accompanied by the growth of families, and partly by requirements put forth partly by needs of economic activity. Need by the process of densification caused on the both sides of the wall caused part of economic activity and partly by requirements put forth by needs of economic activity.
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Urban analysis

For our project proposals we choose the area which represents the generic urban condition along the wall of Las Americas. Between the two urban fabrics there is a small square with a church - the only public building along the strip. For the initial intervention we think that the presence of the square will be an additional supporting factor for economic interchange between the possibilities of socio-cultural and urban condition along the wall of Las Americas. Urban analysis and spatial segregation for our project proposals we choose.
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Urban analysis

Panorama of the square

Map of the area: project site

Square with two sides of the wall
To achieve the general ambition of the project we think it is necessary for the both sides of the wall.

We aim to create the spatial frameworks which could facilitate collective relation per certain area.

With densification we don't mean simply increasing built floor or population density for both sides of the wall.

To achieve the general ambition of the project we think it is necessary to find alternative legal economic and spatial models of densification.
Reconnecting the Social:
Countering social and spatial segregation

Site Analysis Las Americas

Housing is normal for both sides of the wall.
The main characteristic of this kind of housing is that it is uncontrolled and based on the private initiative.

The strategies are not site specific. We propose the schemes for collective rehousing at the wall.

The process of denunciation of the wall, where housing is normal for both sides of the wall, is an example of how these strategies can be applied.
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation [Jardines de Morelos]
Potential spaces for intervention:

- Empty plots within the urban blocks
- Buildings in bad condition
- Buildings with the potential of adding extra floor

Reconnecting the Social:

Countering social and spatial segregation

Facade of one of the blocks of Jardines de Morelos showing its composition and different conditions for intervention.
Existing:
- Area of the block (private): 4,600m²
- Area of built footprint: 3,000m²
- Area of unbuilt land (private): 1,550m²
- Dwellings per block: 30
- Inhabitants per block: 120 persons
- Average house space: 150m²

Proposed:
- Area of the block (private): 4,600m²
- Area of built footprint: 1,350m²
- Area of unbuilt land (comunal): 3,450m²
- Dwellings per block: 60
- Inhabitants per block: 240 persons
- Average house space: 80m²

Reconnecting the Social:
Countering social and spatial segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Axonometric drawing of the Jardines de Morelos block with different temporalities
[Jardines de Morelos]

Urban design principles:

- Adjustment to the land parcels of
- Organic and smaller multifamily
- Possibility of sharing stairs and
- Communal space against private
- Orgamized buildings

Middle building: A+A
- Gross area - 180m²
- Net area - 144m²
- Interior stairs - 7m²
- Private terrace - 22m²
- Area for extension - 66m²
- Communal passage - 22m²

Corner building:
- Gross area - 180m²
- Net area - 136m²
- Interior stairs - 3.5m²
- Private terrace - 11m²
- Area for extension - 33m²
- Commercial space - 36m²
- Commercial terrace - 22m²

Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation
Reconnecting the Social:
Countering social and spatial segregation

Unit design principles:

3RVVLELOLW\RIDGGLWLRQÀRRUVSDFH
Possibility of dividing the unit for renting or splitting the family.

SRVVLELOLW\RIFRQYHUWLQJJURXQGÀRRU
in commercial space

Type A
- gross area: 90m²
- nett area: 64m²
- interior stairs: 3.5m²
- terrace: 11m²
- area for extension: 33m²
- communal passage: 11m²

Type B
- gross area: 45m²
- nett area: 36m²
- area for extension: 11m²
- communal passage: 11m²

Type A
- possibility of converting ground floor
- possibility of converting for commercial space
- possibility of renting or splitting the family
- possibility of dividing the unit for addition of floor space

Unit design principles:

Jardines de morelos
Countering social and spatial segregation
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Reconnecting the Social: Countering Social and Spatial Segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Jardines de Morelos
Countering social and spatial segregation
Reconnecting the Social
Section

Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

[Jardines de Morelos]
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation [Jardines de Morelos]
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

[Diagram of a building plan]
Reconnecting the Social:
Countering social and spatial segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

[Jardines de Morelos]
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

[Jardines de Morelos]
Reconnecting the Social:
Countering spatial and social segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Soil substitution in dense urban areas.

Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

[Jardines de Morelos]
Installations and stability walls

Reconnecting the Social:
Countering social and spatial segregation

Jardines de Morelos
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

[Wall covering] Jardines de Morelos
Roof Structure

Jardines de Morelos

Countering Social and Spatial Segregation

Reconnecting the Social...
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation [Jardines de morelos]
Reconnecting the Social: Countering social and spatial segregation

Jardines de Morelos