

Economic Geography Research Group

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Social well being, urban planning and spatial justice

Montserrat Pallares-Barbera, Antònia Casellas

mpallares@cga.harvard.edu

CERDÀ AND BARCELONA. OPTIMAL LOCATION OF SERVICES AND URBAN PLANNING

Montserrat Pallares-Barbera, Anna Badia, Jordi Duch

Parts of the talk

- Spatial well being, urban planning
- Case study, the Cerdà's urban expansion of Barcelona done in 1860; his proposal included schools, markets, parks and hospitals

OUR OBJECTIVES

- We want to get further elements to incorporate in planning practices
- We want to study the distribution of well being over the space
- Our working hypotheses are the following:
 - Cerdà's proposal for the expansion of Barcelona had the aim to improve the population living standards
 - He used normative urbanism as a redistribution tool
 - He emphasize the access of population to services as an important mechanism of improving social well being

quality of life and social well being

- quality of life and the relationship between people and their everyday urban environments

awareness and concerns

from politicians
from social organizations
from individuals

key role of the city

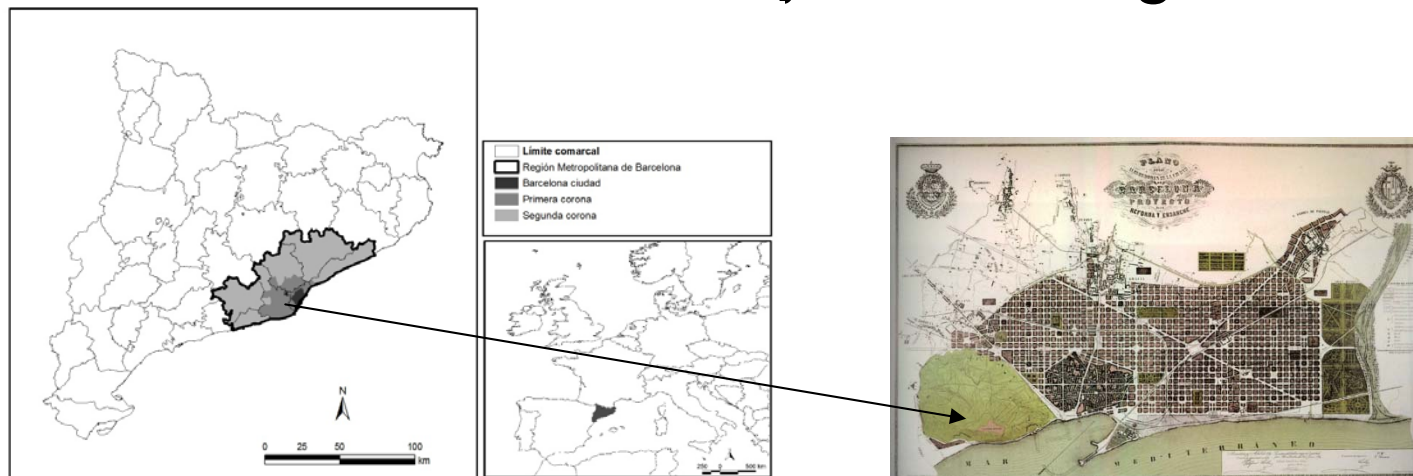
concentrating the majority of population of the world
container of institutions and they are close to civil
groups and everyday life
adapting bodies in new conditions requiring social
integration, culture and economic development (Le
Gale's, 2002)

spatial well being

- ‘who gets welfare and where do they get it?’
- Well being has a geographical context, and it varies with location
- Well being is not a simple concept
 - form in which people live
 - type of urbanism in a city
- Externalities: individual and social well being
- Efficient distribution of service-to-people
- Locational advantage and disadvantage

actions

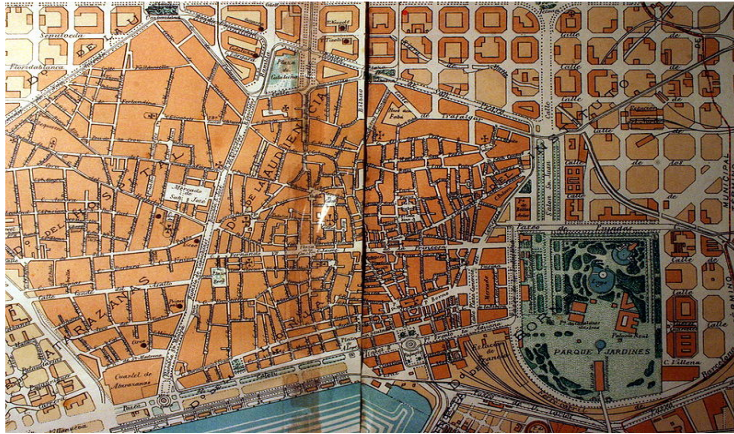
- **Need to advance – Looking for key masters**
 - analysis of Cerdà's Plan could have a contribution to this way of thinking



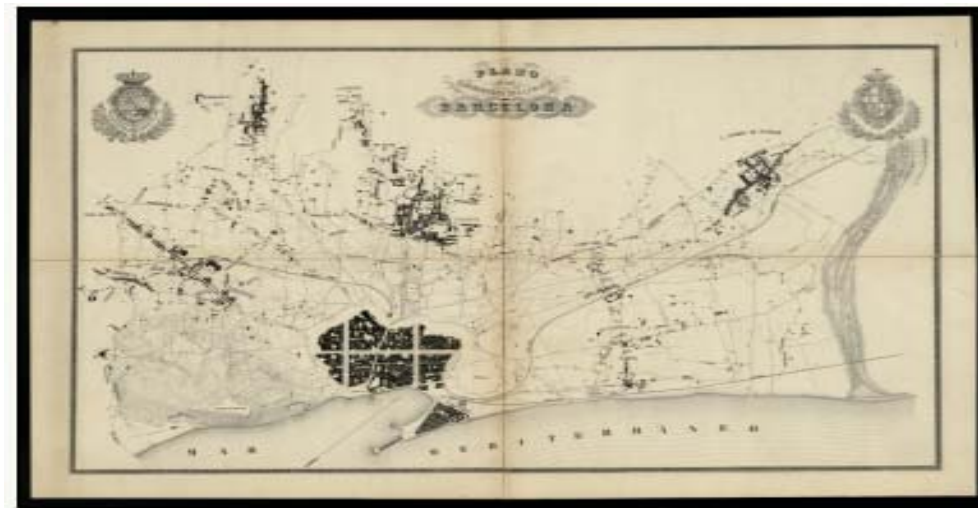
BASIC FACTS ABOUT BARCELONA 1860: a boiling pot

- Increasing population
- 182 factories, 54272 workers (41% women) (Cerdà 1869, p. 206)
- Workers' strikes 1855 (Engels, Toynbee p. 118)
- “The wall” a political reason
- Plagues
- 802 inhab/ha

Barcelona's Old City



Topographic map of Barcelona 1958

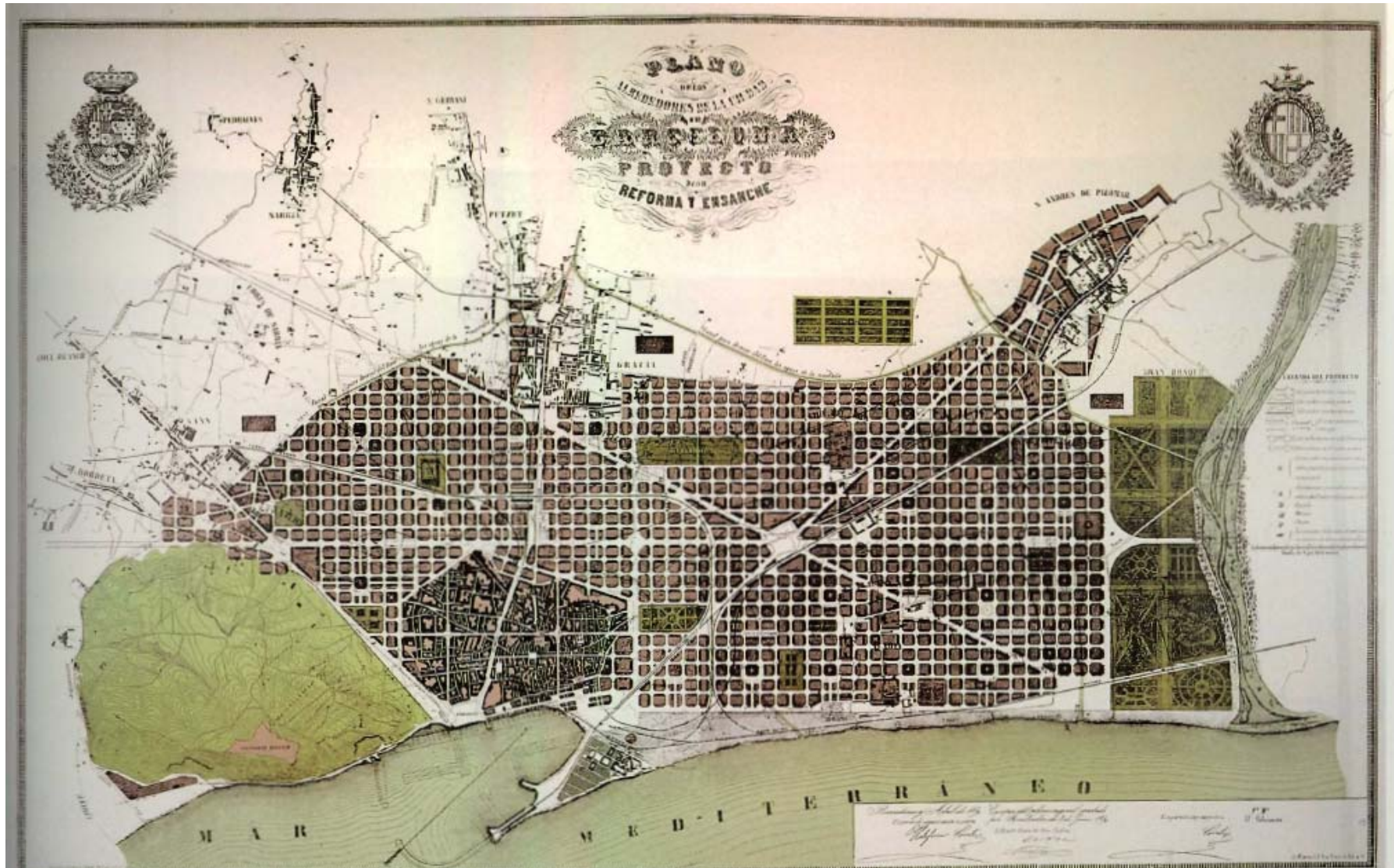


THE DIAGNOSIS

Cerdà and the Old City. the unbearable urban density

- “social philosophy and the urbanization concept” (started in 1849 p. 9); “la idea urbanizadora”
- “Monograph about statistics of the working class of Barcelona” (1856): living conditions
- “social statistics” as action tool
 - Density 822 inhab/ha; 11.44 sq m/person; 183,877 inhabitants (Garriga i Roca 1857-1858)
 - Mortality as dependent variable
 - food intake
 - family budget
 - working conditions

Cerdà's Map of Urban Expansion of Barcelona 1861



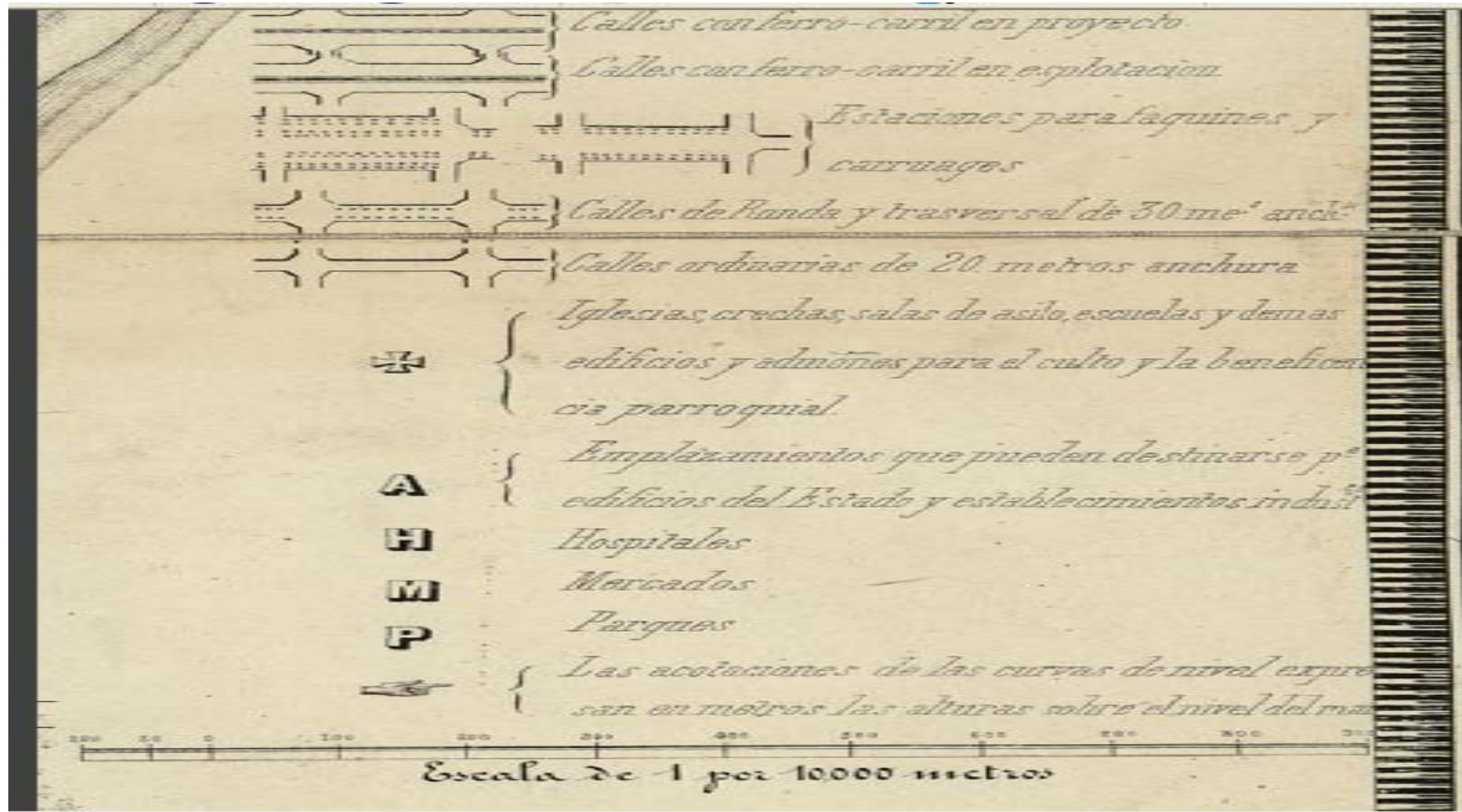
Source. MAP 1991, p. 458.

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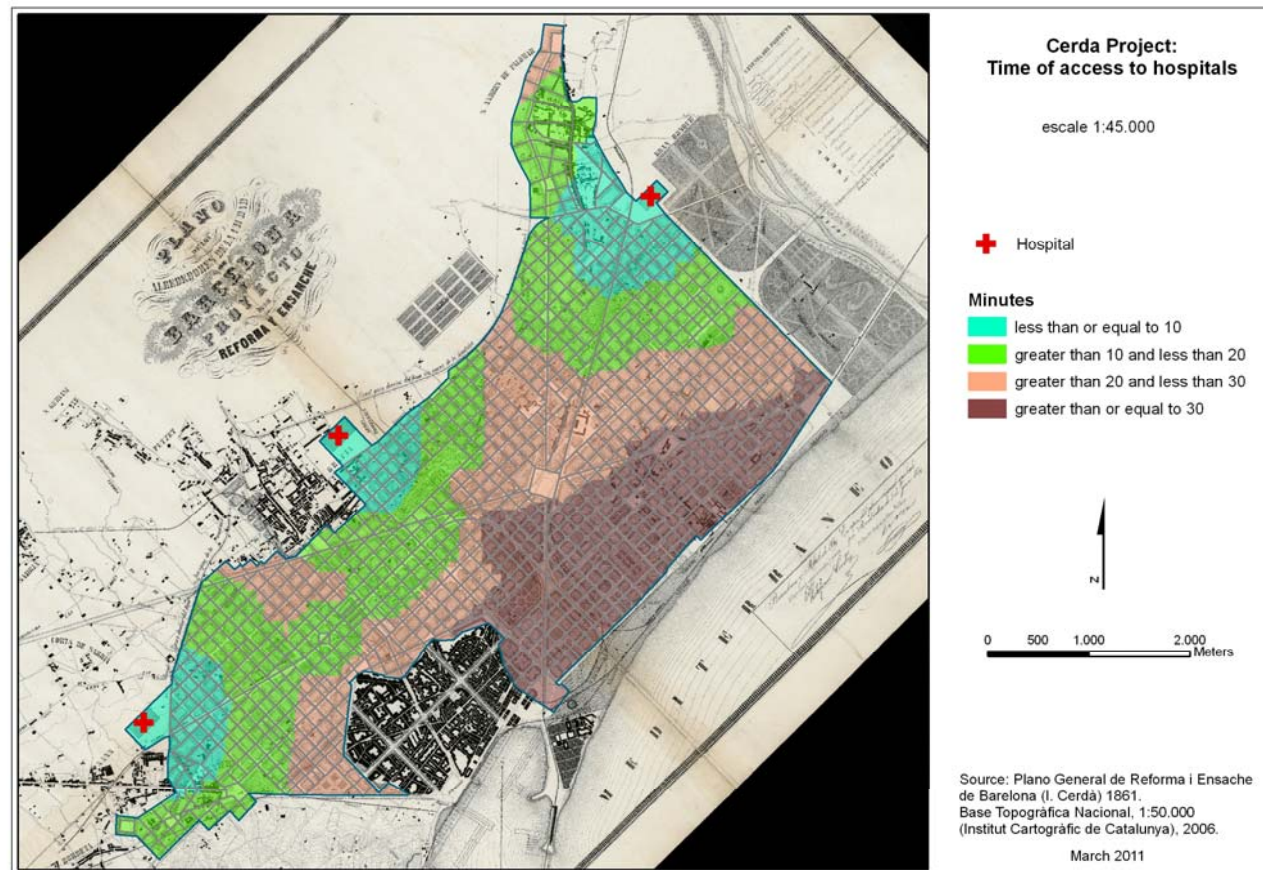
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Autònoma de Barcelona

decision and space

Cerdà's Map legend

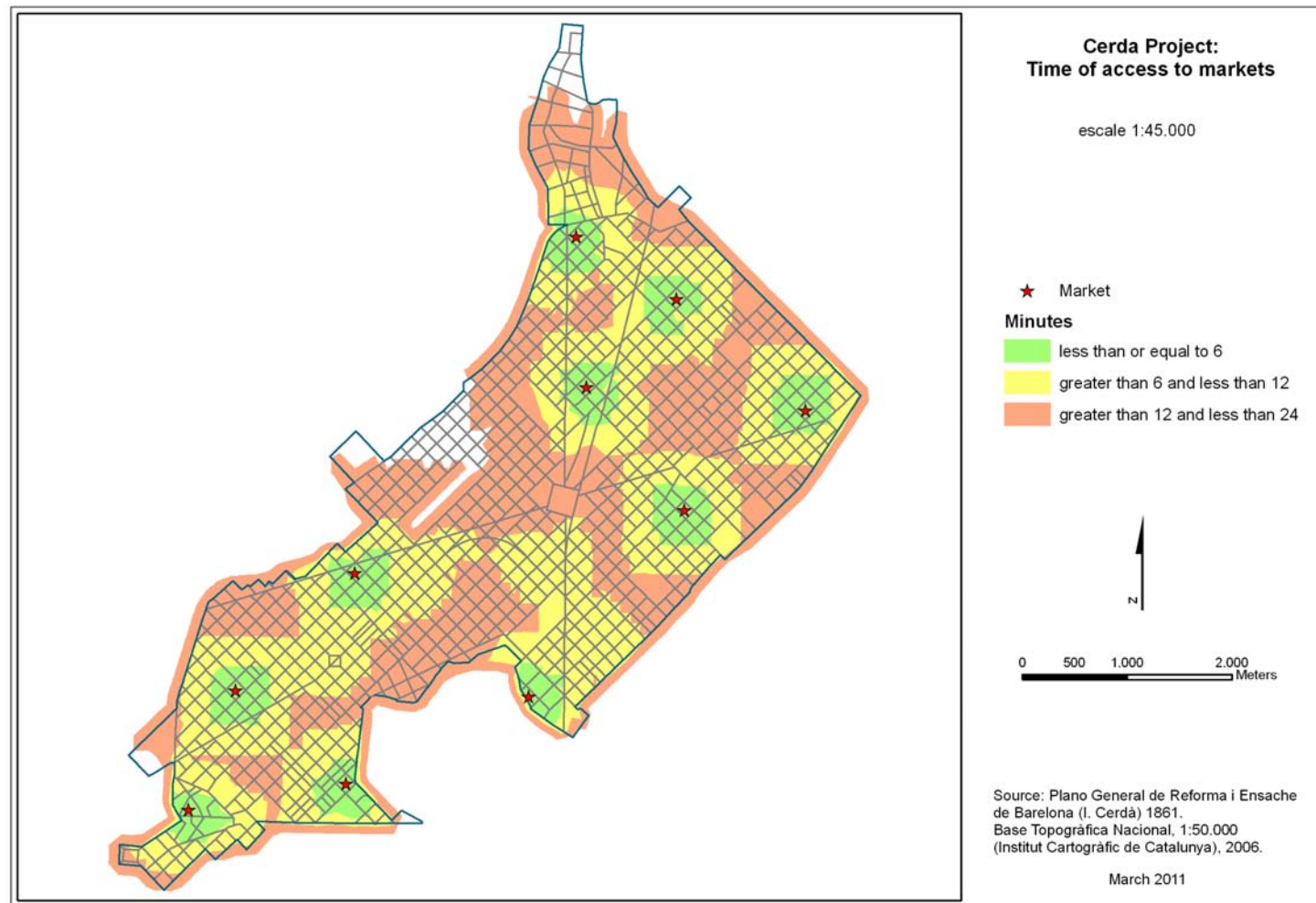


on spatial well being and spatial justice



Spatial analysis: hospital service areas

Spatial analysis: market service areas



results expected

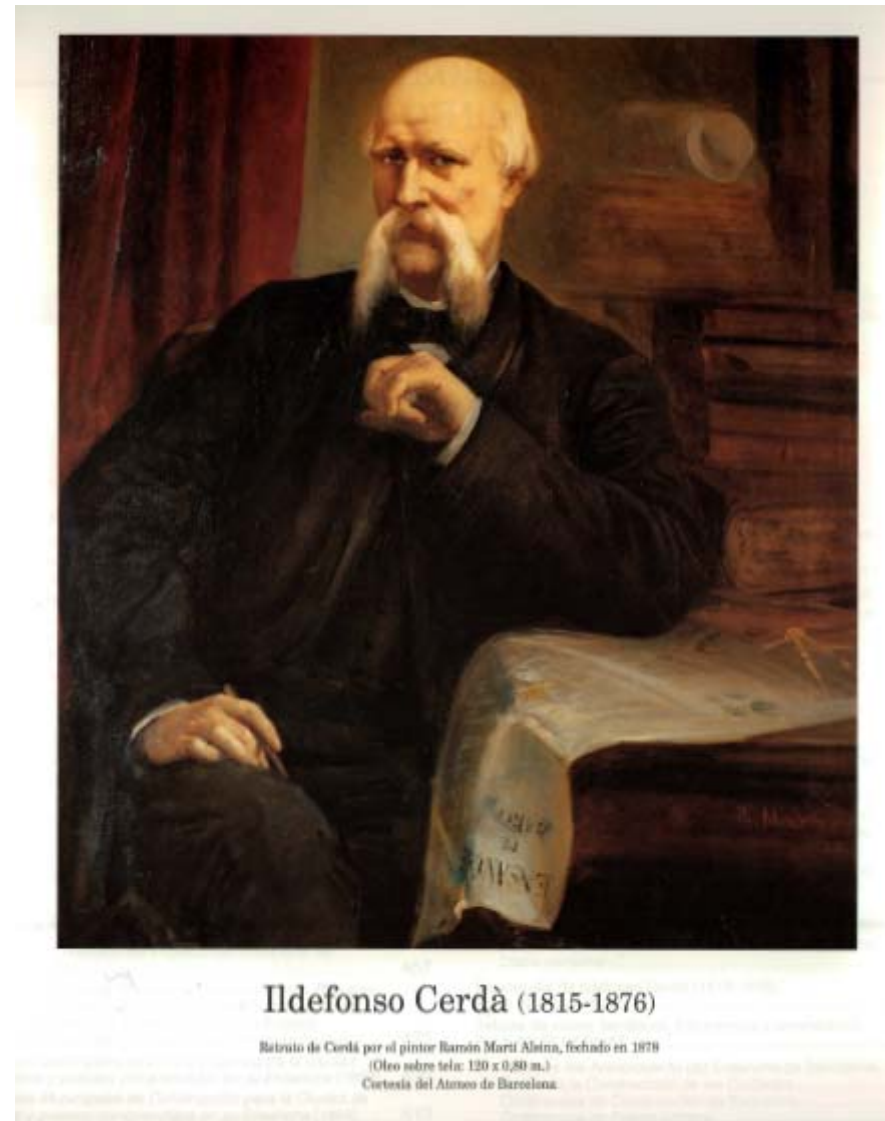
- best practice guidance
- factors in leveling social welfare
- quality of life
- to construct the future policy initiators
- to help asking the right questions concerning urban well being and provision of needs

Q&A

- **Contacts:**
- Economic Geography Research Group
- www.economicgeography.eu.com
- mpallares@cga.harvard.edu
- montserrat.pallares@uab.cat



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Geography Dept Universitat
Autònoma de Barcelona