

Project Methodology

The following tables contain general descriptions of the methods used to collect the data for the study. They also contain a justification for the method, the method's limitations, the solutions to the limitations and data presentation.

1. Residential Decay

Method used

Walk the area and score the zone using the residential decay worksheet.

Justification

This survey will be carried out to compare the physical state of the buildings and surroundings of La Mina and The Forum. This survey will show me the quality of the housing along the transect line and therefore illustrate to me the respective quality of life that the residents have. Housing is one of the factors in the Calvert – Henderson Project.

Limitations and Solutions

- This is a subjective study; therefore it is only my perception of the area that is being recorded.
- It could also be difficult to judge the actual quality of the area, due to my background. At first I may be shocked by the quality of a medium area, and score that area with low marks, however there might be an even worse area further along the transect line. The solution to this is that I will walk the transect line first looking at the area before actually recording the results, as to get a wider perspective of the zone.
- Representative zones may not illustrate the general characteristics of the actual area studied.

Data Presentation

I am going to present my collected data in

- Tables
- Bar Charts
- Line Graphs

2. Environmental Decay

Method used

Walk the area and score the zone using the environmental decay worksheet.

Justification

The survey will include all of the characteristics which will help me to judge the environmental quality of the zone. The survey will also indirectly give me evidence of the type of people that are living in the area. The survey will also show me to some extent how successful the government's plans have been.

Limitations and Solutions

- This is again a subjective study {as above}.
- It could also be difficult to judge the actual quality of the area, due to my background. At first I may be shocked by the quality of a medium area, and score that area with low marks, however there might be an even worse area further along the transect line. The solution to this is that I will walk the transect line first looking at the area before actually recording the results, as to get a wider perspective of the zone.
- Representative zones may not illustrate the general characteristics of the actual area studied.

Data Presentation

I am going to present my collected data in

- Tables
- Bar Charts
- Line Graphs

3. Index of Services & Amenities

Method used

Walk the representative area and record the number of services and amenities in the zone.

Justification

This survey will illustrate the amount of services and amenities in the representative area I am studying. This will in turn identify the amount of gentrification in the zone, due to the different types of amenities there are.

Limitations and Solutions

- The time of day may obscure my results as many businesses in Barcelona (and Spain) close between the hours of 13.30 and 17.00 for the 'siesta' period. Therefore, I will be unable to identify services between these hours, as the shutters will be pulled down and each will look identical. My solution to this is to take the results at different times throughout the day.
- Many gentrified cafes, bars and restaurants generally open between the hours of 20.00 until 2.00 or 3.00 and may be shut during the hours that I am completing my study.

Data Presentation

I am going to present my collected data in

- Tables
- Pie Charts

4. Social Inclusion Index

Method used

I plan to stay in one area for a period of 5 minutes and record the amount of social inclusion (groups of 2 or more) that pass by me within a 20m radius. I will carry this survey out in 10 different locations with varying distances from the new 'Rambla'.

Justification

The people count will illustrate to me the amount of community inclusion that is taking place throughout the area of La Mina, and whether the new 'Rambla' is making any impact on the amount of people socialising.

Limitations and Solutions

- The time of day may again obscure my results as at different times during the day there may be different people on the street, this again can be explained by the 'siesta' period.
- This unfortunately is not a representative study as due to the time scales and the safety in the area I was unable to do that
- I was also lacking a population index, so I will be unable to determine whether there were more number of different aged people than others etc.

Data Presentation

I am going to present my collected data in

- Tables
- Social Inclusion Graph

5. Location of Government Services and Renewal Programs

Method used

Walk the whole of the La Mina area and record the number and location of government investment.

Justification

This survey will show me the location of the government services and investment, so I will be able to see whether the input is purely superficial or whether the investment is a genuine attempt to better the area.

Limitations and Solutions

- Some services, like businesses, maybe shut during certain times of the day. This will again obscure my results due to the same reasons as above.
- Some investment may also just be planned but still not completed; therefore I cannot be certain of the full amount of planned investment.
- Services may also be situated on upper floor levels, making identification harder.

Data Presentation

I am going to present my collected data in

- Annotated map of area

6. Secondary Data

Method used

Collect data, such as maps, census data and so on from the internet and books. Also, visit information centres and offices around the area to collect information.

Justification

Studying the secondary data for the area will show me the condition of the area, the type of people and their economic background. The information will also give me a wider range of results which would be either too dangerous to record myself or impossible due to the time restriction of the study days.

Limitations and Solutions

- The data which I have may well be out of date. Therefore, the data I collect may obscure the final evaluation that I make as I might base a conclusion on out of date information. As a solution to this, I have obtained the most recent data, which is the best I can do.

Data Presentation

I am going to present my collected data in

- Maps
- Photos etc.

Data Collection Techniques

The following tables show the two types of Data Collection Methods I will use to collect my data. The tables contain the method used, the justification for the method and the limitations and solutions.

1. Transect Line (Residential & Environmental Surveys)

Method used

I designed my belt transect so that it stretched across both La Mina and the area surrounding The Forum. At 100m intervals along the transect line I will complete both a residential survey sheet and an environmental one.

Justification

I have chosen to use this method of analysis as it will hopefully produce a gradient of change across the transect line. If this happens it illustrates that the government have put more effort into renewing the areas closer to The Forum. The method also avoids bias due to systematic sampling.

Limitations and Solutions

- The areas that I take my results from may not represent the actual areas.
- The zone may fall inside a building or over an inaccessible area. To solve this, I will take use the area closest to my zone.

2. Representative Quadrats

Method used

I have chosen 3 quadrats that convey the 3 representative areas, one in New La Mina, and one in Old La Mina with the last one in the shopping complex adjacent to The Forum. I will then walk the areas recording the Services and Amenities in the area.

Justification

I have chosen to use this method as it will display to me, firstly the difference between The Forum and La Mina and secondly analyse the potential gentrification of the areas. The method helps to improve the reliability of the results through stratifying the sample.

Limitations and Solutions

- The quadrat is only a small sample of the actual area.
- I may overlook certain services at first floor level due to the positioning of them.

1. **Residential Decay** – this survey is aimed at determining the physical state of the buildings in the area between The Forum and La Mina.

Index of Residential Decay

At each of the sampling locations carry out the following survey. Use a 50 metre street section, **BOTH** sides of the road. As this is a subjective survey it should always be completed by the same person.

Location:

	Much	Some	Little	None
Deterioration of walls	0	1	3	5
Part peeling	0	1	2	3
Broken glass in windows	0	1	3	7
Structural damage e.g. settling cracks	0	3	6	11
Rotting timber	0	2	4	8
Broken gutters, etc.	0	1	3	7

Score	Physical condition of buildings
33 - 41	Good/excellent
23 - 32	Satisfactory
14 - 22	Generally unsatisfactory. May be bad in specific parts
5 - 13	Action needed in very near future to improve structure
Below 5	Need to demolish or rebuild

FINAL TOTAL

This table was supplied by the teacher. The marks given to each criterion are designated taking into consideration the relative importance. For example, 'part peeling' is a purely superficial criterion and so is worth only 3 points. 'Structural damage' which is obviously a far more serious aspect and affects the safety of the building is worth 11 points. The higher the total score, the better the residential quality.

2. Environmental Survey – this survey helps to analyse the environmental state of the 10 zones.

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY

Location:

Method: Record data for a 100 metre section **BOTH** sides of the street at the sampling location. As this is a subjective survey it should always be completed by the same person.

Feature	Score	Feature	Score
Landscape quality Trees and well-kept grassed spaces. 8 Few trees and/or unkept grassed spaces 4 No trees or grassed spaces. 0		Noise Normal residential standard - quiet 5 Above residential standard - with some noise 2 Main street standard - very noisy 0	
Derelict (waste) land None 10 Small area 4 Large area 0		Air pollution No offensive smells or obvious air pollution 10 Offensive smells and/or obvious air pollution 0	
Litter/vandalism No litter, no vandalism 8 Some litter or vandalism 4 Very untidy, much vandalism 0		Access to Recreational Amenities Nearby Park visible 4 Some street seating, but no visible Park 2 No street seating or visible Parks 0	
Industrial work shop premises All residential properties 10 Some work shops 5 Mainly industrial work shops 0		Traffic flow Normal residential traffic 6 Above normal residential traffic 3 Heavy vehicles and through traffic 0	
Total Points:			

The higher the total scores for the environmental quality, the better the site's quality.

Figure 3 is an example of the poor environmental quality in an area of Old La Mina



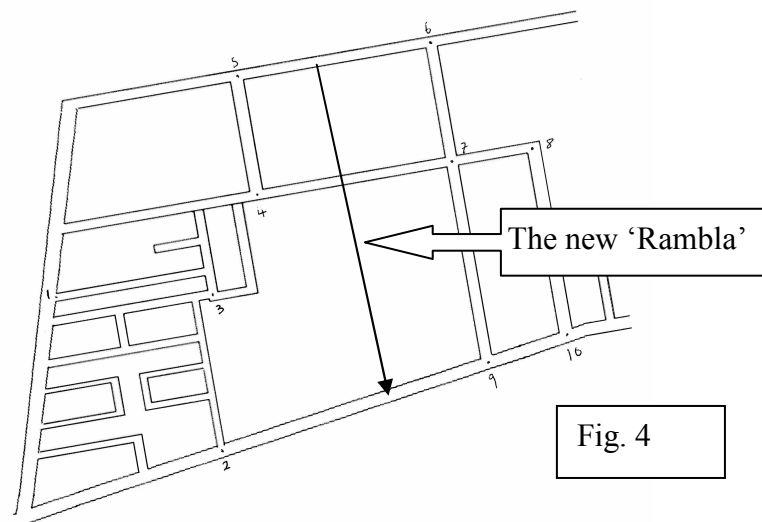
Fig. 3

3. Index of Services and Amenities – this survey illustrates in the particular areas the number of different types of services etc.

Type of Service	The Forum	Old La Mina	New La Mina
<i>Gentrified Services</i>			
<i>Local Services</i>			
<i>Communal Services</i>			
<i>Financial Services</i>			
<i>Immigrant Services</i>			
<i>Parking</i>			
<i>Services for Poverty (Evangelical Church etc)</i>			
<i>workshops etc</i>			

I designed my own sheet to record the services etc in the 3 different areas. My teacher had one already but it did not fully fulfil my requirements. For this reason I made my own so I can see exactly what I am looking for. I chose the above types of services as it would give me a good indication of what there actually is throughout the community. I also put in 'Gentrified Services' as a way to illustrate the extent of the community's gentrification.

4. People Count – this will illustrate the amount of people who are socialising together around the new 'Rambla'.



The above map is a street plan of the La Mina area. I made it myself as there was not a good street plan to be found anywhere. There are 10 points annotated on it illustrating the points at which I took my people count. The site for the new 'Rambla' is also annotated to see whether it has influenced the amount of social inclusion in the area.

5. Location of Government Services and Renewal Programs – to illustrate the extent of the urban renewal schemes.

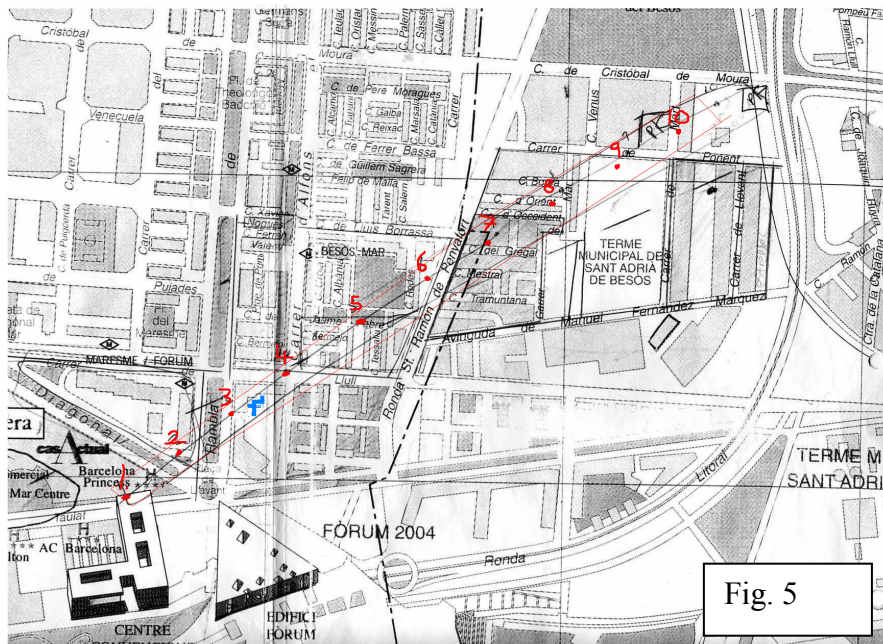
I could not use any survey sheets to record this data. Therefore I had to obtain a map of the area and annotate works that are in progress and the proposed ones. This would then show me whether the investment was purely superficial or genuine.

6. Secondary Data – illustrating the type of people in the area, and there social, educational and economic standings.

I collected the data from the internet and out of certain books. During my research I have used the websites www.geographyfieldwork.com and www.bcn.es to gather census information and general information on the La Mina area.

I will now illustrate my transect line and my three quadrats, that will help me to record my results.

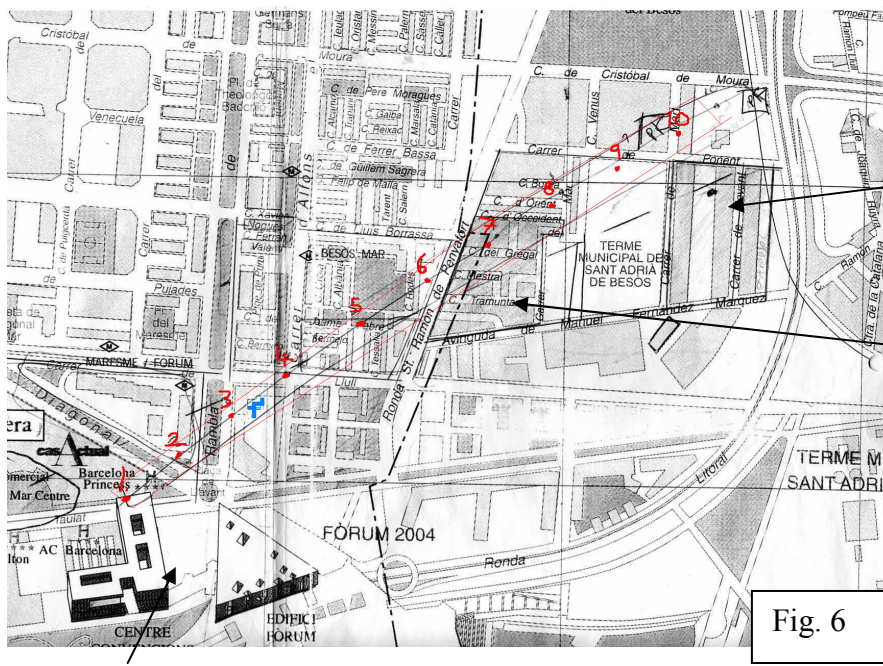
1. Transect Line – I will use this to take the results for residential and environmental quality.



The transect line has ten points marked on it each at 100 metre intervals. The line stretches from outside of The Forum complex right across Old La Mina and into New La Mina. I imagine I will record a declining gradient of results as I more from point to point, starting at number 1.

Fig. 5

2. Quadrats – I will use these to record the number of services and amenities in Old La Mina, New La Mina and the Diagonal Mar Shopping Complex, the shopping complex is part of the Forum and I have chosen to use it as it has numerous services available. The map is of Old La Mina and New la Mina, the quadrat for next to The Forum will just be the Shopping centre



New Mina

Old Mina

The Forum

Fig. 6