

# Latin American City



# History

- Were founded in 1500
- Founders: Spanish or Portuguese conquerors
- First development was finished about 1600
- Almost every metropole was founded back then
- Latin American city:
  - Cities in South America and Central America
  - People speak Spanish or Portuguese



## Characteristics

- Based on the Portuguese or Spanish city model
- Chessboard pattern
- Attached to environment (f.e. mountains)
- There is a plaza in the middle of the city
- Central Business District around the plaza
- Slums
- Marginal districts

# Central Business District

- Most important district
- Center of all Latin American cities
- Best employment opportunities
- Commercial and entertainment hubs



# Commercial spine and Elite Residential Sector

commercial spine :

- extension of the CBD
- home to many commercial and industrial applications

Elite Residential Sector :

- Upper and upper middle class lives there
- museums, restaurants, parks, theaters and zoos



# Structural change

- Since the 19th century
- Commercialism
- Environmental problems
  - Rich people move out of the city into "gated communities"
- Big, old houses get used by poor people
  - Slums are created ("favelas")
- Cheap houses (conventillos) are formed
- Other slums at the margin of the city



An aerial photograph of Lima, Peru, showing a dense urban landscape. The city is built on a valley floor, with a river winding through it. A multi-lane highway runs along the right side of the image. The sky is clear and blue. A large, semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing text.

# Typical example: Lima

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- 10.800.000 inhabitants
  - Capital of Peru
  - Next to the Andes, the Pacific Ocean
  - Old town belongs to the UNESCO world heritage site
    - From the colonial times
    - Inhabited by several Amerindian groups
  - Located near mountains



# Construction of Lima



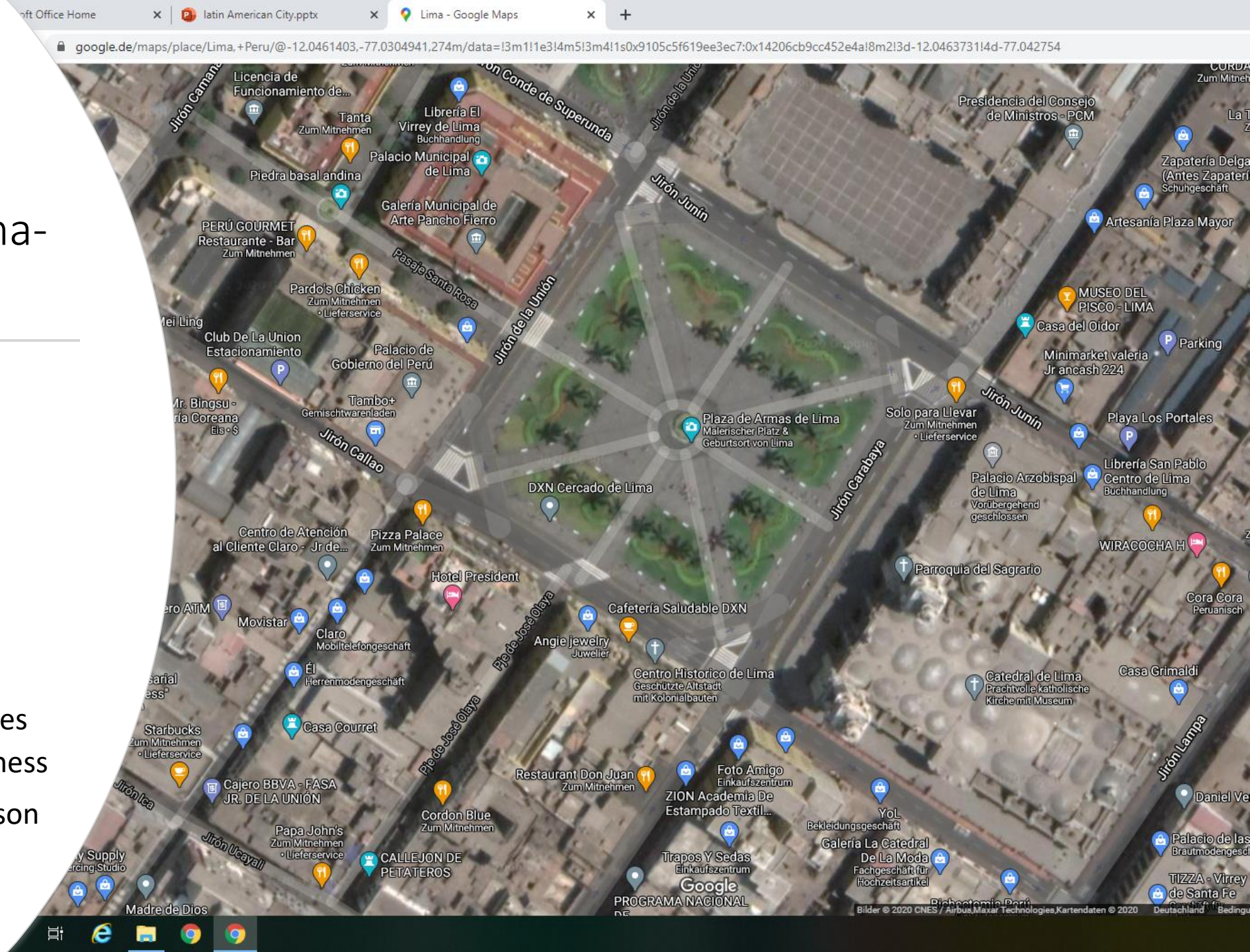
# Construction of Lima- The Plaza

- Historical center
  - Plaza de Armas de Lima
- Special ambience in contrast to North American cities
- Very focused on the centre
  - Many restaurants
  - Shopping centres
  - Cathedrals
  - Castles
  - Town hall



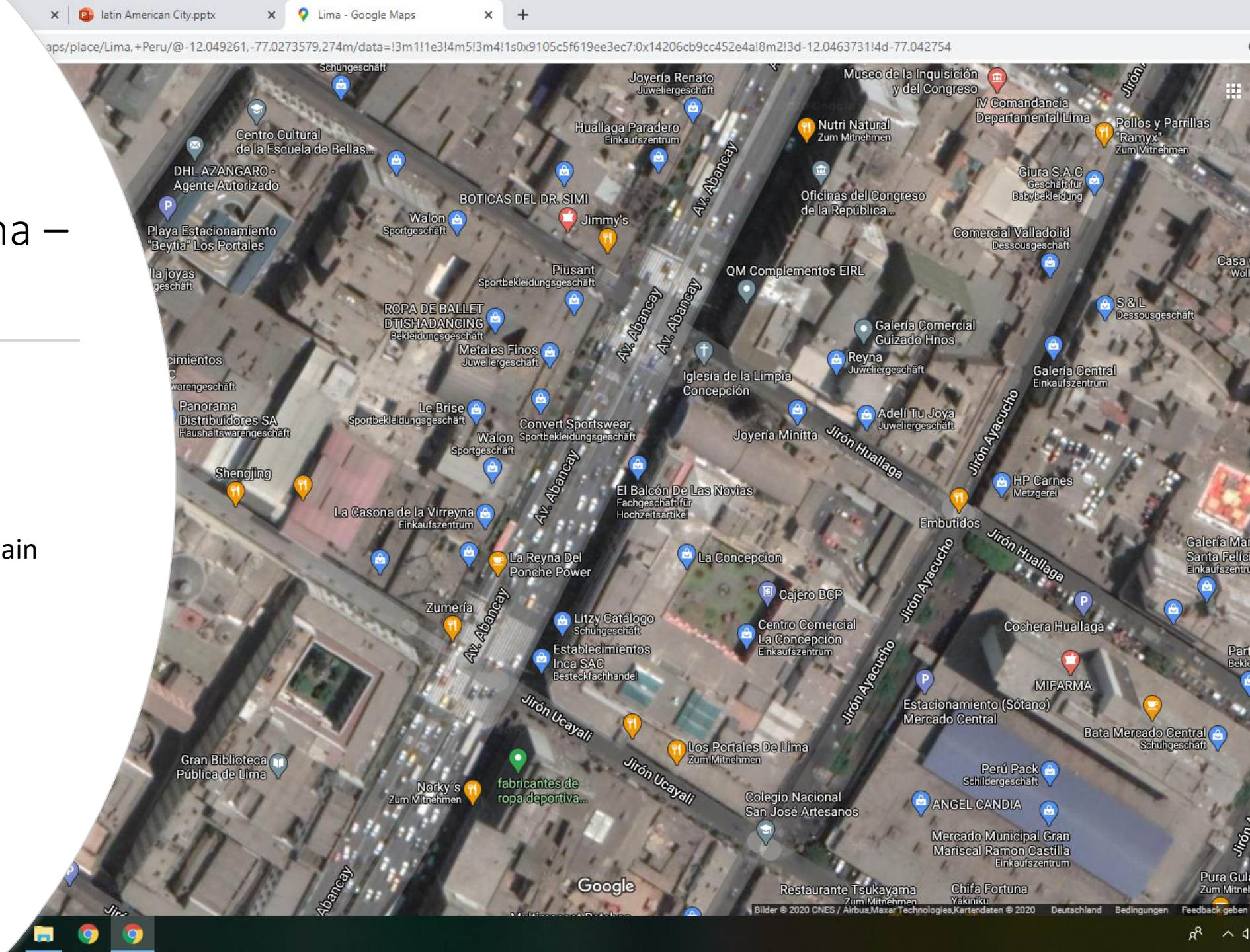
# Construction of Lima- the CBD

- Around the plaza
- Main area of the city
  - Many restaurants
  - Shopping centres
  - Cathedrals
  - Castles
- High focus on this area
  - Many working places
  - Important for business
- More luxury in comparison to other districts



# Construction of Lima – the new CBD's

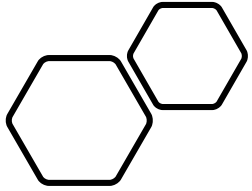
- Formed in the closer past
- Often near main streets
- Smaller than the main CBD
- The same functions as the main CBD
  - Shopping centres
  - restaurants



# Construction of Lima – Patio houses

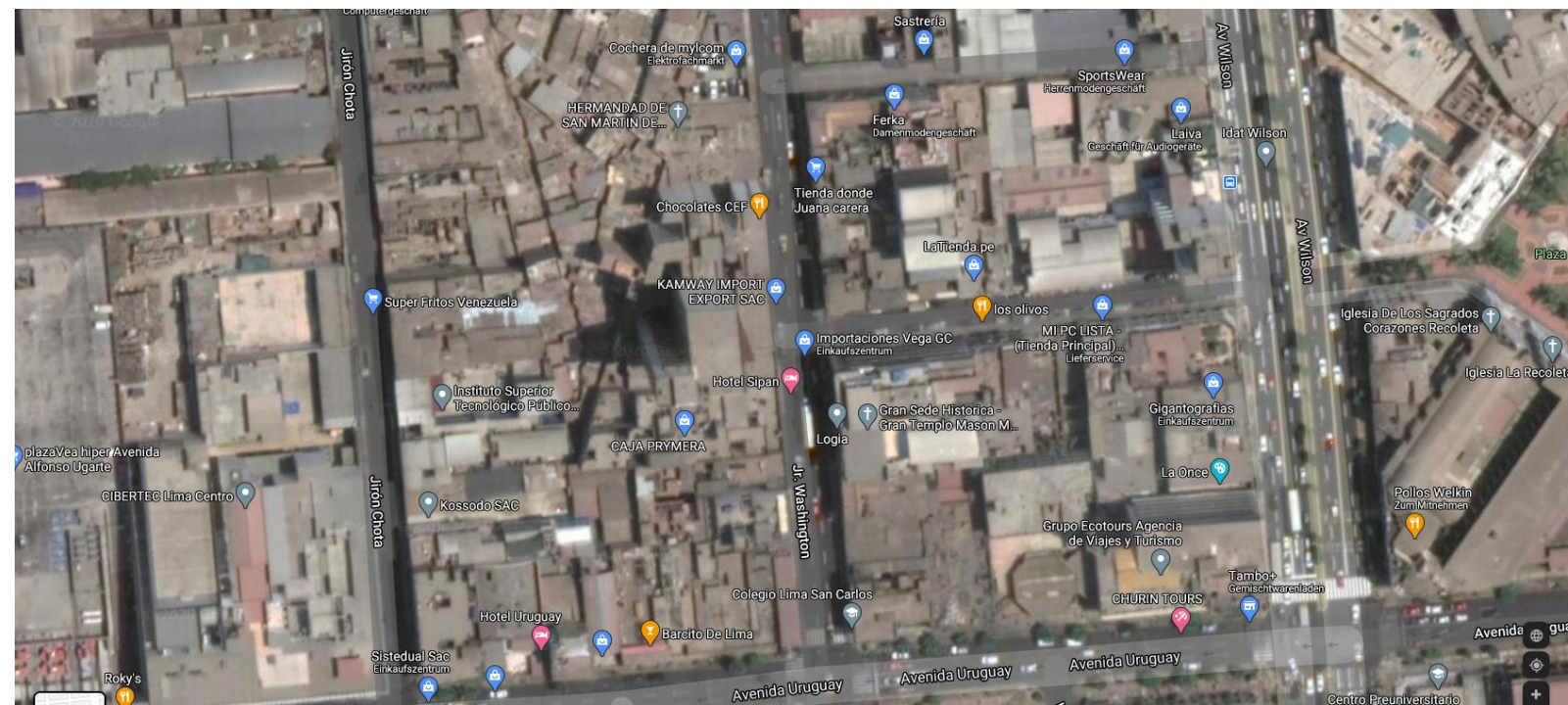
- Located around the city centre
- Big houses with a big patio
- Originally inhabited by rich people
  - These people moved out to the outside of the city
  - Poorer people come in
- Patio houses as reception areas for poor people
  - Slums are created





## Construction of Lima –The Slums

- Around the city centre
- Also called "favelas"
- Richer people moved out of these quarters
  - Poor people move in
  - Live in former Patio houses
- Patio houses are reception areas for poorer people
- Slums are created





## Construction of Lima -Marginal districts (barriadas)

- At the margin of the city
- Many people are unemployed
- Former people from slums live there
- Very poor district, no focus
- The inhabitants have to create their own settlements/infrastructure

# Quellen

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