

# The Past, Present and Future of Social Housing: A Spatial Analysis of Downtown Vancouver

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BA Honours Thesis

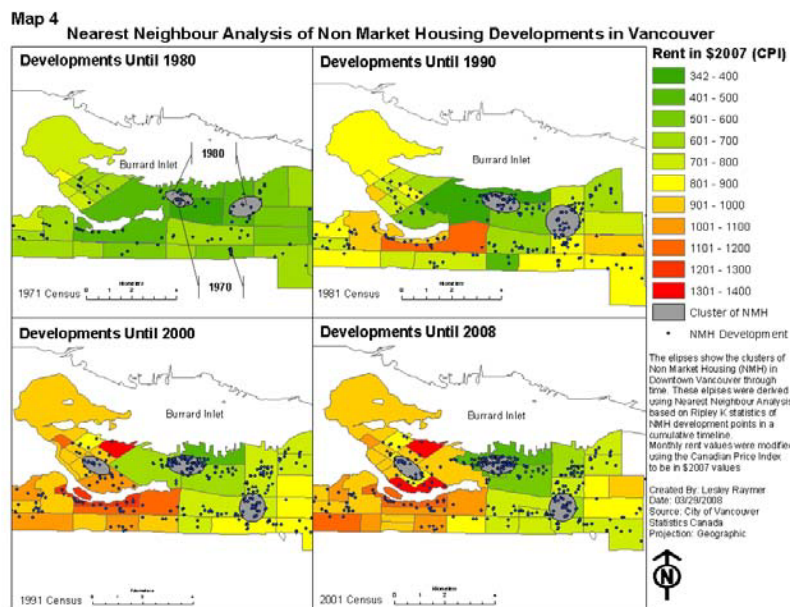
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Montreal (Quebec)

2008

## Abstract

The focus of this study is to debate the benefits and disadvantages of concentrated non market housing in poor inner city neighbourhoods, using Downtown Vancouver, British Columbia as a case study. The line between segregation and community preservation was examined, as well as the role that gentrification, displacement, and closely linked social mix theory play. This was preformed by analyzing the spatial and temporal distribution of non market housing in relation to socioeconomic characteristics (average rent) over time using Geographic Information Systems. Regression and Nearest Neighbourhood Analysis was conducted on non market housing points in relation to average rent data from the 1971, 1981, 1991, and 2001 censuses. My results were that non market housing in Downtown Vancouver is spatial clustered and that there is a statistically significant relationship between non market housing placement and average rent values per census tract. Moreover, that non market housing has become increasing concentrated in low income neighbourhoods in the last 20 years.



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