

# POSTAL DISTRICTS OF MEXICO ( 1856 – 1883 )

By : Enrique Sánchez García

## TAMPICO



### OFFICES INCLUDED IN THE POSTAL DISTRICT

Office	Old name	Actual name	Location
Main	Tampico	Tampico, Tamaulipas	N 22° 15' 19" W 97° 52' 07"
Sub-office	Aldama	Aldama	N 22° 55' 10" W 98° 04' 25"
Sub-office	Coayala (1)		
Sub-office	Escandón (2)	Xicoténcatl	N 22° 59' 45" W 98° 56' 41"
Sub-office	Linares	Linares, Nuevo León	N 24° 51' 35" W 99° 34' 00"
Sub-office	Magizcatzin	Magiscatzin, Tamaulipas	N 22° 48' 00" W 98° 42' 01"
Sub-office	Matamoros	Heroica Matamoros	N 25° 52' 47" W 97° 30' 15"
Sub-office	Mexico (3)	Ciudad de México, Distrito Federal	N 19° 26' 03" W 99° 08' 19"
Sub-office	Ozuluama	Ozuluama de Mascareñas, Veracruz-Llave	N 21° 39' 40" W 97° 51' 02"
Sub-office	Panuco	Pánuco	N 22° 03' 19" W 98° 10' 39"
Sub-office	Prezas (4)	Aldama, Tamaulipas	N 22° 55' 10" W 98° 04' 25"
Sub-office	Pueblo Viejo	Ciudad Cuauhtémoc, Veracruz-Llave	N 22° 11' 00" W 97° 50' 10"
Sub-office	San Luis Postosi	San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí	N 22° 09' 04" W 100° 58' 34"
Sub-office	San Fernando	San Fernando, Tamaulipas	N 24° 50' 51" W 98° 09' 30"
Sub-office	Soto la Marina	Soto la Marina	N 23° 46' 03" W 98° 12' 28"
Sub-office	Tampamolan	Tampamolón Corona, San Luis Potosí	N 21° 33' 30" W 98° 49' 05"
Sub-office	Tamuin	Antiguo Tamuín, San Luis Potosí	N 21° 59' 28" W 98° 45' 57"
Sub-office	Tanquian	Tanquián de Escobedo	N 21° 36' 08" W 98° 39' 39"
Sub-office	Tula de Tamaulipas	Ciudad Tula, Tamaulipas	N 23° 00' 10" W 99° 42' 30"
Sub-office	Tuxpan	Túxpam de Rodríguez Cano, Ver. Llave	N 19° 33' 58" W 100° 27' 45"

(1) No information exists for its geographic location. (2) This town changed its name to Xicotencatl in 1828. (3) Use outside the district. (4) This town changed its name to Aldama in 1829.

**CANCELED SERIES**

Office	Hidalgos			Aguila	Max	Prov.	Hidalgos			Juarez
	56	61	64	64	66	66-7	68	72	74	79
Tampico	X	X		X			X	X	X	X
Aldama							X	X		
Coayala								X		
Escandón	X									
Linares				X						
Magizcatzin	X			X			X	X		
Matamoros	X	X								
Mexico (1)				X						
Ozuluama	X						X			
Panuco	X	X						X		
Prezas	X	X					X			
Pueblo Viejo							X	X	X	
San Luis Postosi				X						
San Fernando	X	X								
Soto la Marina	X	X					X	X	X	
Tampamolán								X		
Tamuín	X									
Tanquian								X		
Tula de Tamaulipas	X									
Tuxpan				X						
(1) Use outside district										

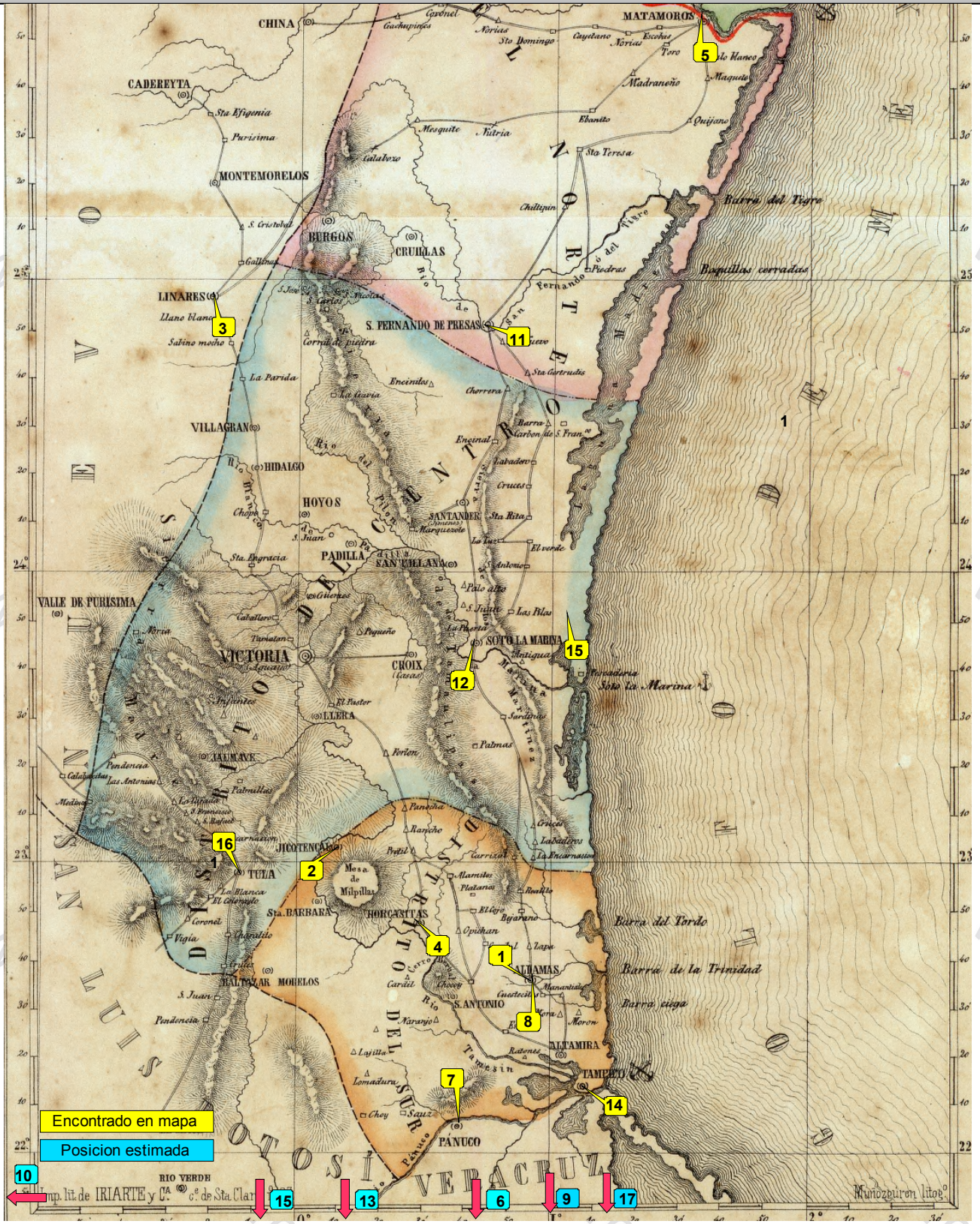
**STAMPS USED (1)**

Denomination	Hidalgos			Aguila	Max	Prov.	Hidalgos			Juarez
	56 (2)	61 (3)	64	64 (4)	66	66-7	68 (5)	72 (6)	74	79
½ real	22,920	2,400		1,107						
1 real	30,480	22,507		15,129						
2 reales	27,180	17,641		20,758						
4 reales	2,100	3,056		1,914						
8 reales	1,560	1,839		828						
1 cts										2,820
2 cts										1,918
3 cts										
4 cts									943	
5 cts									25,998	14,314
6 cts							9,241	4,419		
7 cts										
10 cts									59,755	8,195
12 cts							39,171	21,813		
13 cts										
18 cts										
24 cts										
25 cts							44,091	28,357	110,651	274
50 cts							5,764	3,576	8,923	124
85 cts										24
100 cts							5,285	3,387	4,657	66
1 peso										

(1) Stamps sent less those returned. (2) Six shipments were sent and dated between September 10, 1856, and January 29, 1858, and no returns were made. (3) Nine shipments were sent and dated between April 19, 1861, and February 6, 1864, and returns were made. (4) received 9 remittances dated between May 10, 1864, and January 11, 1866, and did make returns in 1866. (5) received 15 remittances between September 8, 1868, and November 11, 1871, and made returns in 1871. (6) received 10 remittances between April 5, 1872, and February 12, 1874, and did make returns. Invoice 123 dated December 30, 1872, was overprinted with 1873.

MAPS OF THE 19TH AND 21ST CENTURY

MAP PREPARED BY ANTONIO GARCIA CUBAS IN 1856



Encontrado en mapa

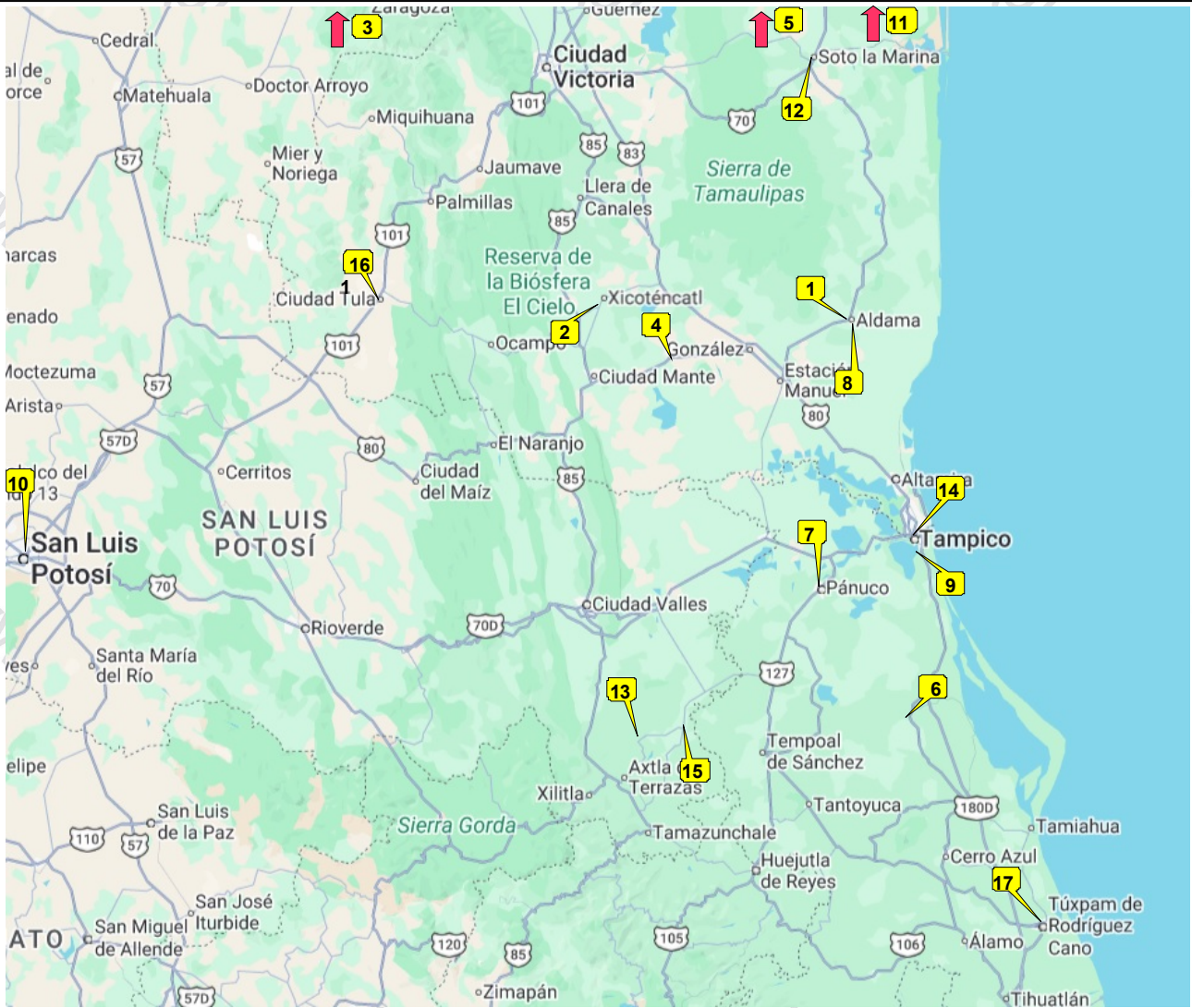
Posicion estimada

Notes:

**Identifier Numbers** (old names / alphabetical order): Aldama (1), Escandón (2), Linares (3), Magízcatzin (4), Matamoros (5), Ozuluama (6), Panuco (7), Prezas (8), Pueblo Viejo (9), San Luis Potosí (10), San Fernando (11), Soto la Marina (12), Tampamolán (13), Tampico (14), Tanquian (15), Tula de Tamaulipas (16), Tuxpan (17).

**Distance** (leagues according to "Itineraries and Routes of 1856") (numbers in parentheses are estimates): **From Tampico to:** Aldama **20**, Escandon **43**, Linares **104**, Magizcatzin **35**, Matamoros **122**, Ozuluama **18**, Panuco **11**, Prezas **20**, Pueblo Viejo **1**, San Luis Potosi **117**, San Fernando **87**, Soto la Marina **43**, Tampamolán **42**, Tanquian **35**, Tula de Tamaulipas **77**, Tuxpan **52**.

**CURRENT GOOGLE MAPS MAP**



**Notes:**

**Identifier Numbers** (old names / alphabetical order): Aldama **(1)**, Escandon **(2)**, Linares **(3)**, Magizcatzin **(4)**, Matamoros **(5)**, Ozuluama **(6)**, Panuco **(7)**, Prezas **(8)**, Pueblo Viejo **(9)**, San Luis Potosi **(10)**, San Fernando **(11)**, Soto la Marina **(12)**, Tampamolán **(13)**, Tampico **(14)**, Tanquian **(15)**, Tula de Tamaulipas **(16)**, Tuxpan **(17)**.

**Distance** (Kilometers according to Google Maps): **From Tampico to:** Aldama **106**, Escandon **165**, Linares **384**, Magizcatzin **154**, Matamoros **495**, Ozuluama **75**, Panuco **51**, Prezas **106**, Pueblo Viejo **10**, San Luis Potosi **430**, San Fernando **365**, Soto la Marina **234**, Tampamolán **196**, Tanquian **163**, Tula de Tamaulipas **290**, Tuxpan **166**.

## HISTORICAL PROFILE OF THE ERA

Geological studies have shown that there were human settlements in the Tampico area more than 8,000 years before Christ.

In the **16th** century, the Spanish made several attempts to establish settlements in the region, but in addition to facing fierce native inhabitants, the climate was hot and humid, conducive to the development of tropical diseases, and was prone to storms and hurricanes. The settlements in New Spain were ephemeral from the **16th to the 18th** centuries. Thus, the official founding date, or repopulation or refounding, of the port of Tampico is April 12, **1823**, already during the country's independence period. This occurred at the initiative of residents of the nearby town of Altamira, who requested the intervention of General Antonio López de Santa Anna, who was then beginning his long career at the height of power. The new settlement was named Santa Anna Tampico and was founded on the north bank of the Pánuco River. It was declared a maritime port on November 12, **1824**, and retained the name Santa Anna until the general's final fall in **1855**.

In the second half of the **19th** century, during the Reform War, Tampico remained on the side of the liberals, led by Benito Juárez. During the French occupation, beginning in late **1862**, French troops attempted to seize the port of Tampico. Ten ships carrying a thousand men sailed from Veracruz on November 17, **1862**, and entered the city of Tampico on the 23rd, but French General Forey ordered their withdrawal, despite the fact that the republican garrison facing them was very small in both men and weapons. The port of Tampico was finally taken by the French in **1863**, but the republican guerrillas constantly besieged the city. The invaders, in turn, maintained a counter-guerrilla force to keep them away from the port. On May 2, **1866**, republican troops captured Altamira, and on June 13, they attacked the port of Tampico. They then continued advancing from Altamira and Pánuco; by July 31, the Republican brigades from Central and Southern Tamaulipas had taken control of Tampico; the French attempted to recapture the port by sea but were stopped, and on August 8, **1866**, the French definitively abandoned Tampico.

With the restoration of the Republic, Tampico consolidated its position as a strategic point on the Gulf of Mexico. Infrastructure work began at the port in **1870**, and the first pier was inaugurated. On March 30, **1890**, the railway line connecting San Luis Potosí with the port of Tampico was inaugurated, an expansion of the Mexican Central Railway route. This spurred commercial activity and passenger traffic from the Central Plateau to the Gulf of Mexico. In the last decade of the 19th century, the port was modernized with breakwaters, the Pánuco River was dredged, cargo facilities and three warehouses were built, the maritime customs office was inaugurated in **1902**, and four piers, each 145 meters long, were completed in **1903**.

Oil deposits were discovered in the region at the beginning of the **20th** century. The development of the oil industry and shipping activity are currently economic drivers for the port of Tampico.