

National locations that served as post offices during the Classical Era (1856-1883), canceled stamps, and are now abandoned or nearly vanished sites

By: Magdalena García Ramírez

This is a historical map of the Gulf of Mexico coastline, showing various towns and geographical features. The town of Macuilapa is highlighted with a red circle. The map includes labels for 'GULF OF MEXICO' and 'GULF OF CALIFORNIA'.

Partial map of the state of Chiapas from the Atlas of García Cubas, on the left of the image, Macuilapa is highlighted with a red circle.

Continuing with García Cubas, in his *Geographical Dictionary* (late 19th century) it is noted that Macuilapa was a *hacienda* belonging to the “municipality of Zintalapa”, and this to the Department of Tuxtla Gutiérrez, in the state of Chiapas; in his *Atlas* (1856) he indicates that the distance between San Cristóbal (then capital of the state of Chiapas) and Macuilapa was 39 leagues (2).

The chapel shown below dates from the 18th or early 19th century (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2

Current photograph of the chapel in Macuilapa. Note the old boundary marker in the foreground with a cross on top, and a modern water tank in the background to the right.
(Source: Marco Tulio Toledo on sie7edechiapas.com 2025)



Fig. 3

Photograph of Macuilapa, showing the boundary marker with the cross which is in front of the chapel, from another angle, and a view of the current buildings in front of the chapel.
(Source: Marco Tulio Toledo on sie7edechiapas.com 2025)



Fig. 4

Aerial view of what was the main settlement or core of the Macuilapa *hacienda*, the ruins of old buildings are highlighted on the right of the image with a red circle, the chapel, boundary marker, and water tank mentioned in Fig. 2 are highlighted with a red circle on the left.
(Source: Google Maps, current era)

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Schatzkes notes that Macuilapa belonged to the postal district of Chiapas and received stamps from the Hídalgo series of **1872**; he shows **1 cancellation** (Fig. 5) that was used to cancel the stamps that came out of the *hacienda*.



Fig. 5
Cancellation of Macuilapa,
its number appears at the bottom of image
(Source: Schatzkes)

In the book of Postal Cancellations (1874-1900) by Karl H. **Schimmer**, **3 cancellations** are shown (Fig. 6), of which the first one on the left (16/1) is the one reported by Schatzkes to cancel stamps from 1872; Schimmer indicates that Macuilapa received stamps from the Foreign Trade series **1879** and Numerals Series **1886**.



Fig. 6
Cancellations in Macuilapa; their number appears at the bottom of each
image.
(Source: Schimmer)

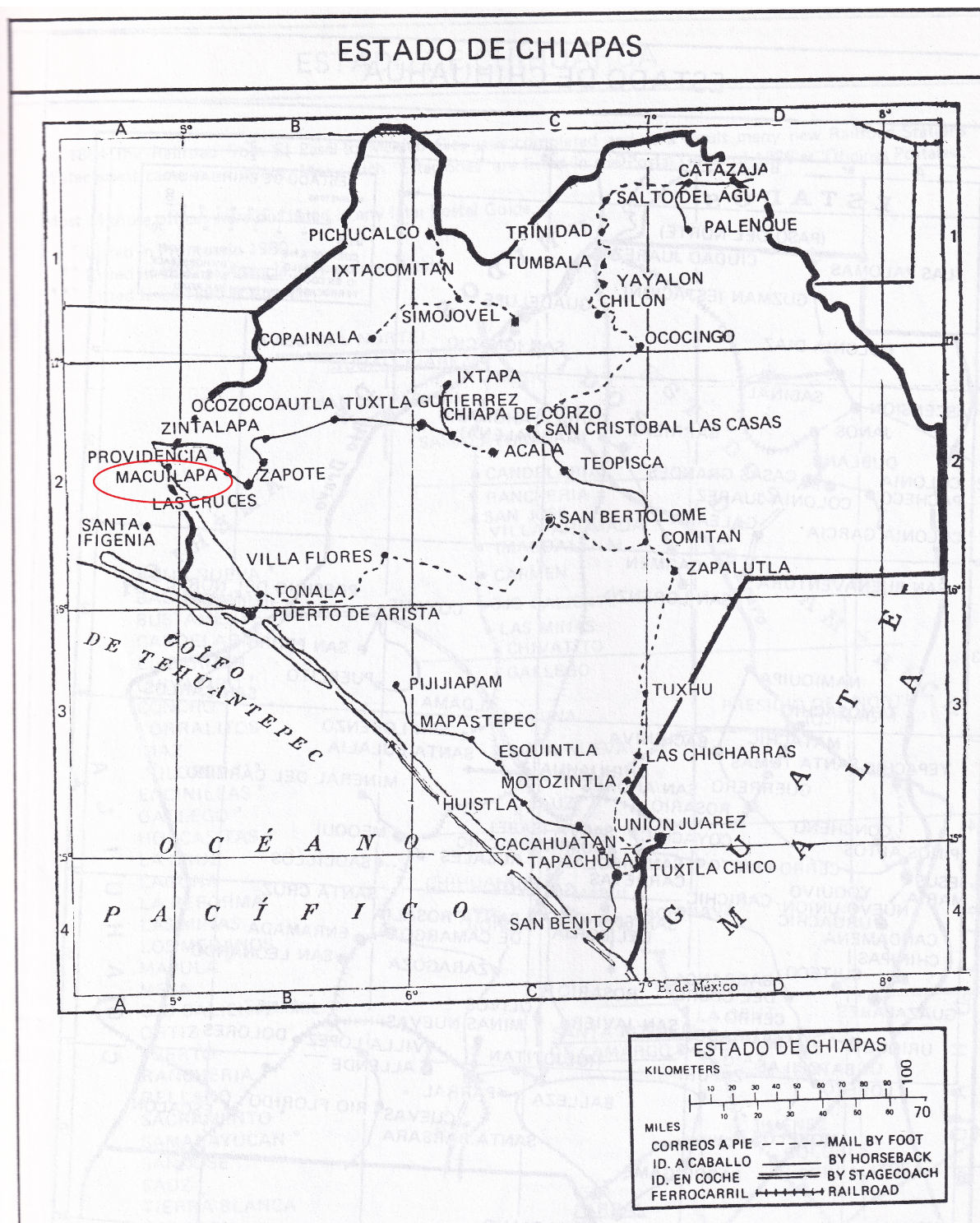


Fig. 7

Map of the state of Chiapas, Macuilapa is highlighted in a red circle in the left - center of the image
 (Source: Karl Schimmer)

Currently, the estate is privately owned and borders a community called El Ecuador. (Fig. 8).

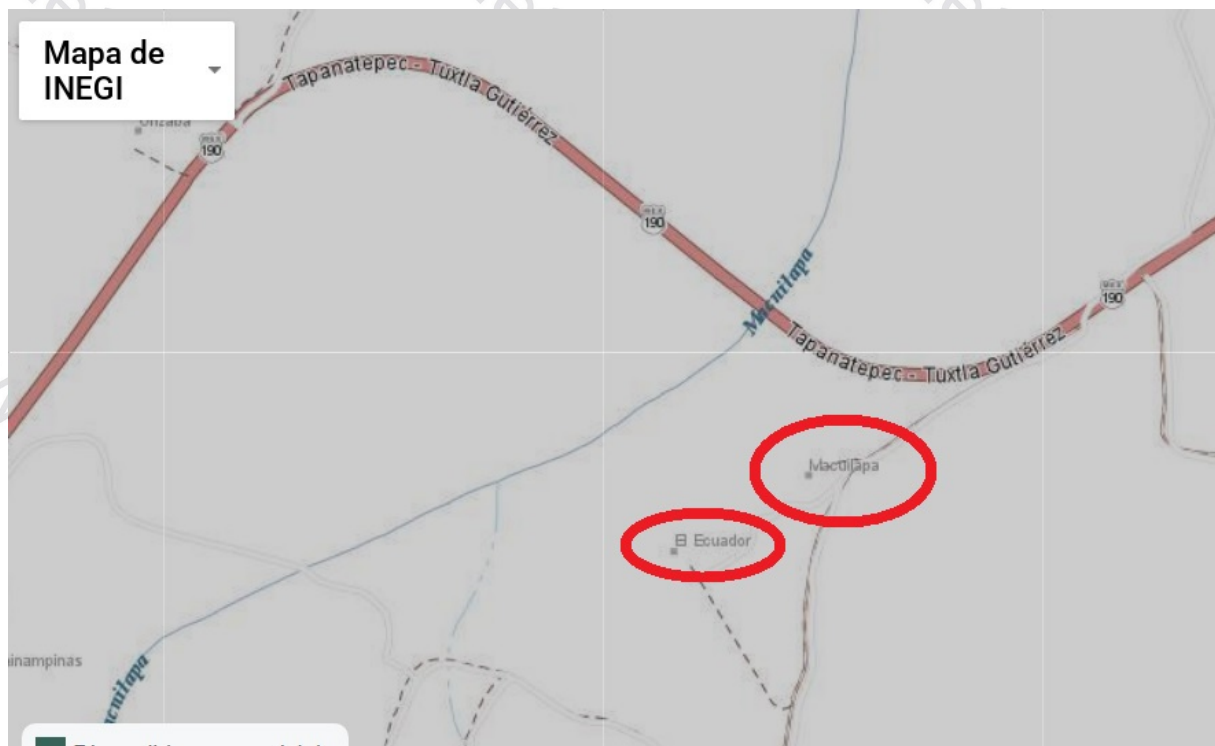


Fig. 8
INEGI map, current era, highlighted with red circles showing Macuilapa and the El Ecuador community, which has developed very close to the hacienda.

In the **2022** census, the INEGI (National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics) reported 38 inhabitants for Macuilapa, of which 18 were women and 20 men.

Notes.-

- (1) During the 19th century, from 1853 to 1857, the Federal Territory of Tehuantepec was established. In 1857, it was reintegrated into the state of Oaxaca, so during that period the Macuilapa border was with Tehuantepec, as shown on the map by García Cubas in Fig. 1.
- (2) 1 league = 4.82803 kilometers, therefore 39 leagues = 188 kilometers.

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