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DEMAND FOR  
ACCOMMODATIONS  
BY SENIOR CITIZENS  
IN THE  
CITY OF WINDSOR.  
1981

BY



EDWARD C. EGYEDY

A Thesis

Submitted To The Faculty Of Graduate Studies  
Through The Department Of Geography  
In Partial Fulfillment Of The Requirements  
For The Degree Of MASTER OF ARTS At



The University Of Windsor



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## ABSTRACT

The last few decades of Canadian growth has seen a gradual, but significant increase in the elderly population. The implications of this change have not yet been fully experienced by urban centres. Treatment and support for this aging group will require understanding from all sectors to sustain an acceptable housing standard.

In particular, the older population has special needs with respect to housing and health care and it is questionable whether the system is prepared. With increasing prices due to inflation and a lower income, the ability by the elderly to maintain themselves becomes difficult.

The greatest demand will be met when the needs escalate as the aging baby boom generation nears retirement. The City of Windsor offers an ideal situation for study, with a higher than average proportion of senior citizens.

A present demand study offers the opportunity to predict suitable accommodations in preparation for future housing needs. Demand is accomplished by an overview of socio-economic and health related factors. An examination of the housing market by demand will direct the city towards an adequate and satisfying supply of housing for the elderly.

Results showed that a majority of senior citizens wanted to live in single-family residences. With stable incomes and reasonable health many had the desire to remain independent through a house. Many seniors stated that highrise apartments were too small and often isolated from transportation and services. In total, senior citizens in the city want to remain in their own housing during their retirement years.

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## Chapter I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Canadian Elderly Population

The Canadian population in the past few decades has been increasing substantially in the number and proportion of elderly persons. The 65 and over population in 1976 was seven times larger than it was in 1901, while the total population was only four times larger. This trend is continuing; between 1971 and 1976 Canada's population as a whole rose 6.6 per cent while the 65 and over population increased 14.8 per cent (Statistics Canada, 1979). A knowledge of the current age structure, how it developed, and what its consequences are likely to be for future population trends is essential, both for determining present housing needs and for planning with regard to the future needs of a population (Stockwell, 1972: 1-9).

The Economic Council of Canada in 1975 compiled population projections to the year 2050, enabling the present government to foresee the needs of the growing elderly numbers. Their projections incorporated assumptions about fertility, mortality rates and immigration. The results show a growing population from 23.3 million people in 1975 to 31.2 million at the turn of the century and increasing,

to 40.2 million by the year 2050. Over the full 75 year period, the population aged 65 and over increases more than threefold, from less than 2 million in 1975 to 6.8 million in 2050 (Denton, Robb, Spencer, 1980 13).

To summarize, it is evident that the population of Canada will continue to expand and that both family and non-family households will change as the post-war baby boom generation enters their 50's and retirement years of the life cycle.

The trends discovered at the national level are being repeated at the local levels in many parts of Canada. The City of Windsor reported an increase of 11 per cent in the number of senior citizens (defined for the purposes of this study as the population aged 55 and over) from 1971 to 1976, compared to only 8.9 per cent increase in Ontario's senior citizen population. The 65 and over group showed the second highest increase in numbers among all cohorts of the city, rising 5.4 per cent for the same time period.

With the growing number of senior citizens, communities will be confronted with the problem of providing the necessary accommodations for this group. Many of the socio-economic characteristics associated with the life-style of senior citizens such as lower incomes, small family units, physical disabilities, less mobility, and lessened ability to maintain property, contribute to shelter problems. As the elderly population continues to grow, its impact will



be keenly felt by all sectors of society. This is a population whose dependency on ameliorative welfare policies covers a wide variety of aspects of social and economic life (employment opportunity, health, housing, recreation, transportation, community service, education, etc.) and consume a large segment of the national, and the local budgets of cities as well (Stone and Marceau, 1977 51).

This paper focuses on the determinants of housing demand by senior citizens in the City of Windsor. The size and character of the senior citizen group creates changing demands for space in a metropolitan area. Eventually, these demands affect both housing policies and the supplies of shelter, and, in turn, the composition and character of urban neighborhoods. The elderly may stay in their neighborhoods as long as they can, but may lack the resources to maintain and to conserve the housing stock. Or, they may move in order to adjust their changing life styles to a variety of shelter types in other neighborhoods or the same neighbourhood. The redistribution of the local elderly population thus reflects changes in housing demand patterns. An understanding of the determinants of residential demand is not only of intellectual interest to social scientists, but also of immediate practical importance to planners and local officials.

The City of Windsor was chosen as a study area because it presently has a large number of elderly people.

Compared to other Canadian metropolitan centres, this community supports a higher than average proportion of those 65 and older. The data sample adequately represents this condition.

The subject of determining Canadian housing needs for the elderly population has received limited attention. Existing investigation has been conducted mostly by government agencies, usually providing only an inventory view of the elderly housing market. These studies lack the explanations for their numerical findings and often offer no solutions in presenting their inventories. Past data sources have usually reflected the actual patterns of consumption for housing units and empirically projected these consumption patterns into the future. They are of little use for explaining underlying needs related to separate dwelling units or for apartment complexes.

Specific services such as medical facilities, shopping centres and recreational areas are often required by senior citizens. It is understood that perceived needs for housing services depend on several socio-cultural and economic factors (on both the demand and supply sides of housing) so that the collection of data on housing needs is not a routine matter (Stone, 1980: 98).

Current and historical statistics on the availability, use, and demand for housing facilities by older people is not extensive. This research will attempt to focus on some

of the gaps which have been found to exist in the Canadian literature (Ontario Welfare Council, 1975 '4).

Data for this research will be complemented by directly participating with the senior citizens of the community, incorporating their opinions, wants, and desires for specific housing choices. This research will include the housing view of the people in determining its objectives. This research has determined the perceptions of the elderly with respect to their past and present shelter needs.

Research has shown that housing is of key importance as a means of maintaining independence for as long as possible (Mumford, 1979. Rossi, 1955 Carp, 1966). Satisfactory housing policies rank high on the list of priorities among the retired and those concerned with their needs (Morris and Winter, 1978). While marked progress is being made in this policy area, lack of adequate data means that while it is possible to describe what progress has been made, we do not know what progress is needed and therefore, whether needs are being adequately met (Brown, 1975: XXX).

In Ontario, the Ministry of Housing estimates that they have provided housing for less than ten per cent of the elderly households. There may be a need for a greater choice of housing to all seniors through development of government programs.

Furthermore, the Ontario Welfare Council saw a lack of co-ordination between the municipal and provincial

governments in response to senior citizens' housing needs. Many times the objectives were poorly defined and they had no sense of direction where the monies and effort should be allocated (Ontario Welfare Council, 1975: 4). This study hopes to contribute to a solution by providing a one user oriented research study into the demand for accommodations by seniors.

A possible shortage or lack of adequate accommodations may be attributed to the number of older people retiring from the active work force earlier to enjoy the leisure of retired life (Goldscheider, 1966; Binstock, 1975; Newman, 1975; Agan, 1976; Morris and Winter, 1978; Stone, 1980). This is characteristic of an auto-related industry town such as Windsor. The decision to take early retirement is most likely to be determined by health (Cliffin and Martin, 1977: 16). Working conditions were found to be partly responsible with jobs that involve repetitive work, stress, strength or other physical demands causing higher early retirement rates (Quinn, 1978: 318). A factory city such as Windsor contains many workers in this situation. Therefore, the evaluation of the elderly for this research will commence at age 55. This is the allowed age for retirement in a union-operated factory.

The retirement age categories for this study have been grouped into seven cohorts up to the age of, and over, 85; viz. 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85 plus.

In this way a more detailed and accurate study of each cohort can be investigated.

Household lifestyles adjust within three to four years after retirement, usually forcing the elderly to examine their housing type. In Ontario, one half of all elderly households received some portion of income supplement, but they were still below recognized poverty levels. As a result, many seriously reconsider their location and type of residence for their remaining years.

Shelter requirements of the elderly are different from younger families' needs. Much of the public interest in the problem of housing the aging has been centered around the infirm and chronically ill. However, in terms of total numbers, a larger need for thought and action is in housing for generally healthy but aging persons (Ashley, 1954: 17). Canadian opinion is similar to the English attitude where successive government ministers and official publications have made it clear over many years that they equated old people's dwellings with one-bedroom apartments (Mellor, 1973: 15).

This research will show that attitudes of the past must change along with the evolving population structure. People's ideas and needs must be examined to supply proper accommodations. The growth and longevity of older citizens in Canadian society and in particular their concentration

in the central cities has placed considerable strain on a part of the nation's housing resources.

### 1.2 Objectives and Anticipated Results

The objective of this project will be to measure the need for shelter by retired people in relation to changes in their income, size of family, health and life style. This study will thus investigate the economic, medical, physical and social relationships of the elderly to their housing choice at different age levels. Their perception of the adequacy of housing for various age cohorts will also be determined.

The following are the objectives of this research.

- 1) To determine the demand for specific types of accommodation by various age groups of senior citizens through an examination of their satisfaction with their present residences.
- 2) To determine whether early retirement from the work force will affect the type of residence in which retirees live.
- 3) To determine locational preferences of senior citizens when choosing retirement housing.
- 4) To determine the desired services and facilities which influence seniors in deciding on the choice of a specific shelter type.

- 5) To determine the effects of reduced family income at retirement for accommodation choices.
- 6) To determine which socio-economic factors affect housing need and the decisions to stay or relocate.
- 7) To determine control points in the life cycle affecting housing needs and decisions to stay or relocate.
- 8) To determine the dimensions of satisfaction with retirement accommodations, that is, to determine the relative importance of different aspects of accommodations to retirees' housing satisfaction.

It is anticipated that this project will result in a better understanding of actual housing needs of the elderly in Windsor, by using an age-progression model to predict what types and what supplies of housing are needed now and in the future. This demand study will describe desired types of housing being supplied in regard to the present aging of the Canadian population and will determine whether adequate plans are being made to satisfy future demands for shelter.

### 1.3 Dimensions of Senior Citizen Housing Problems

A large majority of the senior citizens in many communities have a substantial investment in their homes. Housing continues to be the largest single expense for these people. According to Statistics Canada, housing costs are thirty per cent of a retired couple's budget (Statistics,

Canada, 1974, Cat. 62-544). As a result, these people are house-poor, because they are spending too much money for accommodations.

Much of the supporting data are seriously deficient in the coverage of relevant variables and there appears to be a substantial demand for housing in the older population which is not being supplied (Stone, and Fletcher, 1980: 49). One of the areas of data information needing improvement can be found when examining census material of senior citizens with household heads below the age of 65. This gap of information fails to record what proportions of senior citizens are living with their relatives or friends, perhaps against their own accord (Stone and Fletcher, 1980: 49). The data lack information on what proportion of the older residents desire and are physically able to occupy private households, but fail to do so due to the lack of housing at affordable prices (Stone and Fletcher, 1980: 49).

Reports on housing problems suggest that many municipalities have long waiting lists of senior citizens looking for good housing at subsidized prices. Information from a seminar on housing needs of the elderly in 1978 revealed that the chances of getting a housing unit in a government sponsored development where rent is geared to income is about one in thirty-three. Truly, this indicates an unmet need for housing by our senior citizens.



This section will concentrate on the critical points where difficulties arise for senior citizens during retirement years trying to select available accommodations. Areas of discussion will involve income needs, health related needs and their relationships along with housing quality needs.

The nature of housing choice by the elderly is often influenced by their reduced physical abilities and by their financial inability to maintain their homes. Maintenance services have often to be bought or obtained from friends or neighbors. Their physical inability to move around and make an inquiry for units at a more advantageous rent also sharply constricts their choice of alternative rental housing (Leeds, 1973: 13).

The general inadequacy of sympathetic government programs has prevented the elderly from becoming new home owners. But, the dominant mode of house occupancy has been home ownership. This has declined from 77 per cent in 1961 to 64 per cent in 1976 (Statistics Canada, 1970: table 84, 1978: table 13).

The newer shelter patterns that are beginning to emerge may include changing from living in one's present home to rental of an apartment house, or ownership of a condominium apartment or town house, or membership in a cooperative, hotel living, moving to a retirement community or mobile homes. All these ways of living tend to break up the former living pattern of the elderly.

When senior citizens examine their incomes, usually the cost of housing is their first consideration. Elderly incomes tend to be fixed while prices keep rising so they may be caught in the price squeeze. Rises in prices started about 1965 to 1970 which increased the buying and maintaining costs of a house by 80 per cent while in the same time period, elderly incomes rose only 40 per cent. A solution to this cost problem is to supply the type of affordable housing the elderly need, with further housing supplement payments, if necessary.

The next area of concern is health since it has a very important bearing on living arrangements. Housing need, in part, derives from, and relates to, health needs. This suggests that age changes housing needs into another expression of health needs (Leeds, 1973. 18). As a person moves through the life cycle from self-sufficiency to dependency, he moves into a different state of housing need.

Income may be a constraint. Social need must be translated into economic expression and through this the social need is met or greater stress is imposed. Most seniors require government financial aid in one form or another to allow themselves the decent housing they are entitled to as citizens.

Over the past decade there has been an increase in apartment residency by seniors. The factors related to this change are the need for personal company, while maintenance

problems tend to be solved automatically in apartment living. But many senior citizens find that the space allowed them with their small incomes is not sufficient and as time passes, new problems arise.

One of the major problems discovered when examining Canadian government policies is the lack of a reasonable minimum standard for the quality of housing in Canada. A statement by the Canadian Council on Social Development Board of Governors claims that, "hundreds of thousands of Canadian families and individuals are still either housed inadequately or pay a disproportionate share of their income for housing." (Canadian Council on Social Development, 1975 1).

The Council endorsed a housing cost standard of 25 per cent of income spent on accommodations. Some senior citizens spend more than 25 per cent of their income on housing and still do not attain adequate shelters.

Other standards of the past recognized the "number of rooms per persons" or considered "one housing unit to one household" as being adequate housing. Maurice Yeates described his adequate standard as the "demand for housing being determined by the number of existing households and the rate of formation of new households." (Yeates, 1975: 116). Harvey Lithwick stated in his article that "if we extrapolate the number of households coming into the market place we can estimate the amount of housing units needed to accommodate them." (Lithwick, 1972 91).

Much of the existing stock of housing in Canada is the result of private development. This development has emphasized the supply of housing to achieve a satisfactory return on investment rather than to accommodate the housing needs of all segments of society. The housing standards established by public agencies have been applied to households without consideration to the age of the household head and to the family life cycle stage. Attention should also be directed to the quality of housing to be provided and not merely to the number of units (Stone, 1980: 104).

Questions concerning the number of housing units required in Canada have been around since World War II, but questions as to the quality of this housing have just entered the political arena. In particular, senior citizens were the last group to be provided with quality housing. Perhaps one problem has been the lack of definition of "quality housing" for the elderly. The literature search failed to suggest any general consensus concerning the quality of housing that Canadians should enjoy.

As a society we must review and examine the total elderly situation before and after any housing changes are made by the seniors. Many times what is suggested sounds good, but, later, appears to impose new and unforeseen burdens. The isolation and difficult access within high-rise developments for the elderly may be an example.

## Chapter II

### CANADIAN DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

#### 2.1 A Profile of the Elderly Population

The purpose of this chapter is to describe in detail the Canadian demographic trends with respect to the elderly population. Before research can be undertaken it is necessary to examine the present population structure to establish a basis for comparison in the direction of research. To accomplish this goal, this chapter will describe by charts and illustrations the areas of most concern to the research. These sections will relate to the overall Canadian population and future projections, the Ontario population situation and Windsor's present status. To lead on from the basic population numbers, examination will pertain to the life expectancy for the general elderly population and a comparison of numerical changes over a selected time frame.

Once the past, present and future population trends have been established more detailed examination of the elderly population will commence. Housing demands of senior citizens are affected by many different factors. Some of the main factors which will be examined here are marital status, death rates and financial situations of the elderly. It is advantageous to overview the present senior citizen

housing structure in Canada and Windsor. By completing this general analysis a firm basis has been established for the undertaking of the present research. All statistical indications show that Canada's general population is steadily growing older. This means that the elderly persons 65 and over now form a larger proportion of the total population than ever before in Canadian history (see figure 2A).

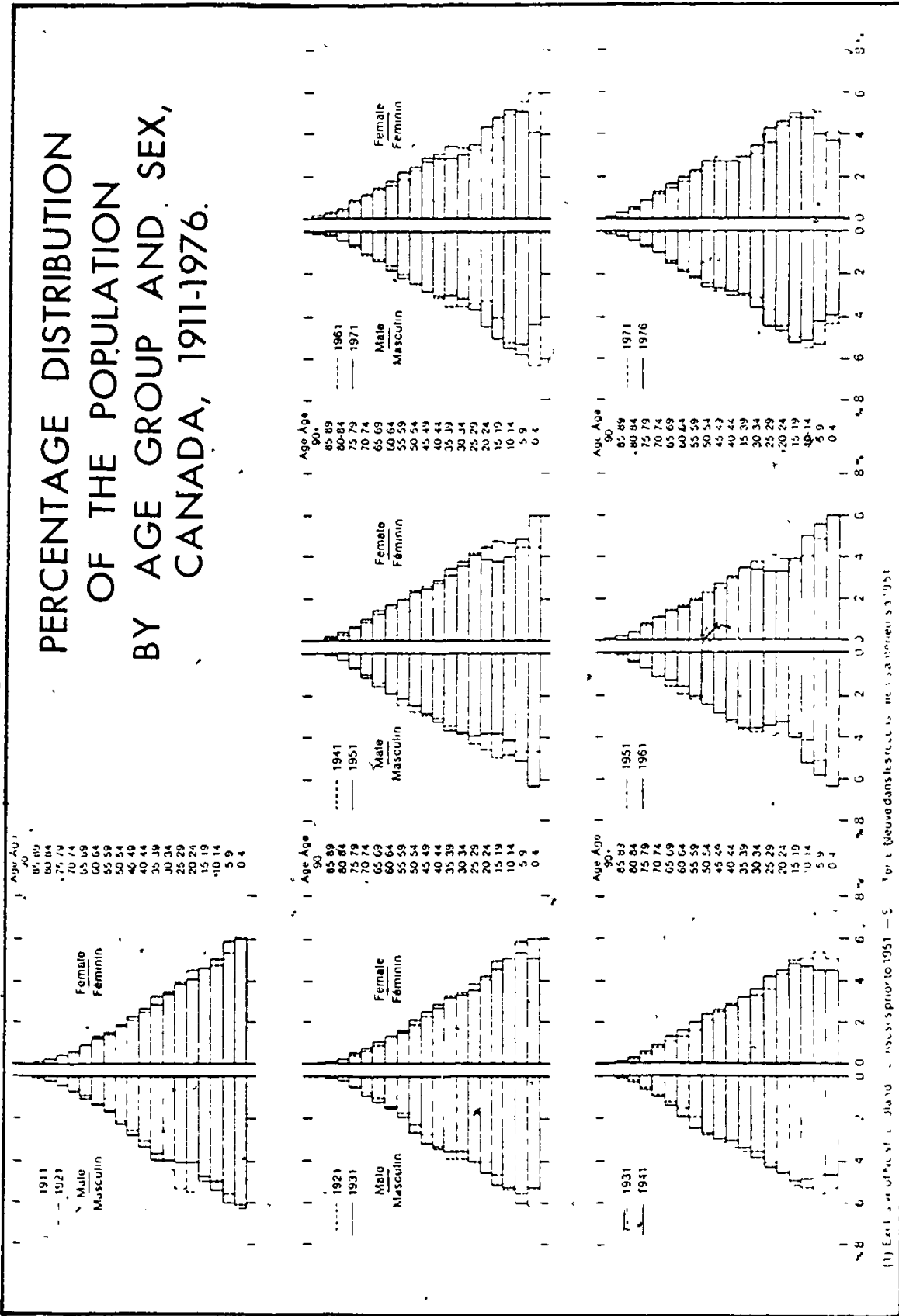
In 1901, 5 per cent of the total population was 65 or older. By 1976 this proportion had risen to 8.7 per cent and all indications show that by the year 2001, this elderly group will number between 11 and 13 per cent of the Canadian population (see figure 2B) (Statistics Canada, 1978).

There have been three main reasons which were responsible for the relatively high growth rate of the elderly population. The first may be attributed to the increase in births during the early 1900's. This period was marked by high birth rates of 36 per 1000 population. As a result of the high rate of births during 1900 these persons contributed to an increase in the proportion of the 65 and over population in later years.

Secondly, between 1911 and 1931, Canada accepted 2.6 million immigrants. Their general age on arrival ranged from 20 to 35 years. Presently, most of these people are 65 and over in the population.

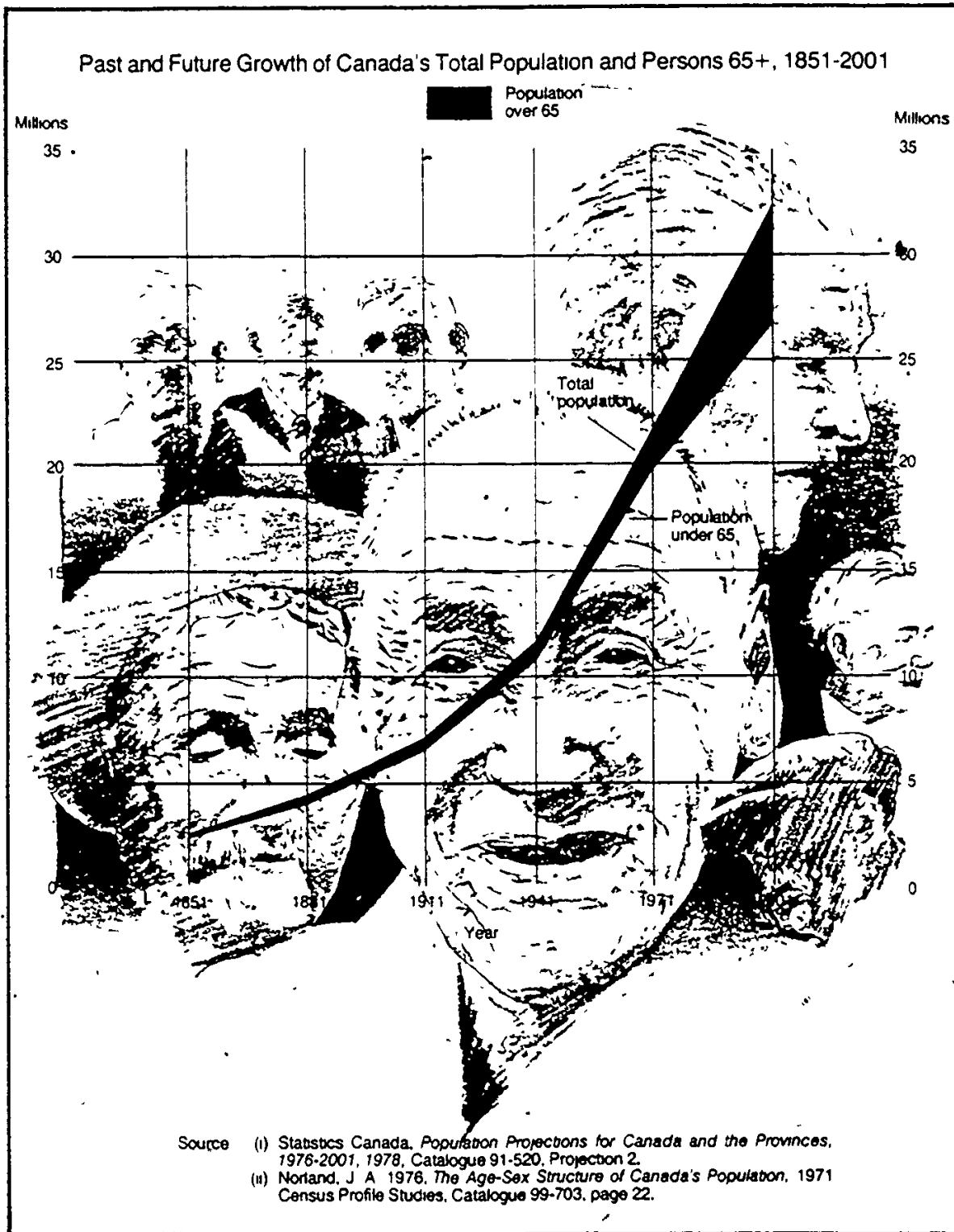
Figure 2A

# PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP AND SEX, CANADA, 1911-1976.



(1) Estimated from official statistics, based on the 1951 census.

Figure 2B



Taken from: Canada's Elderly, 1976 Census of Canada, Minister of Supply and Services, 1979



Lastly, medical advances combined with improvements in the overall standard of living have increased the average life expectancy from 61 to 73 years. These reasons contributed to the increase in the growing numbers of the elderly.

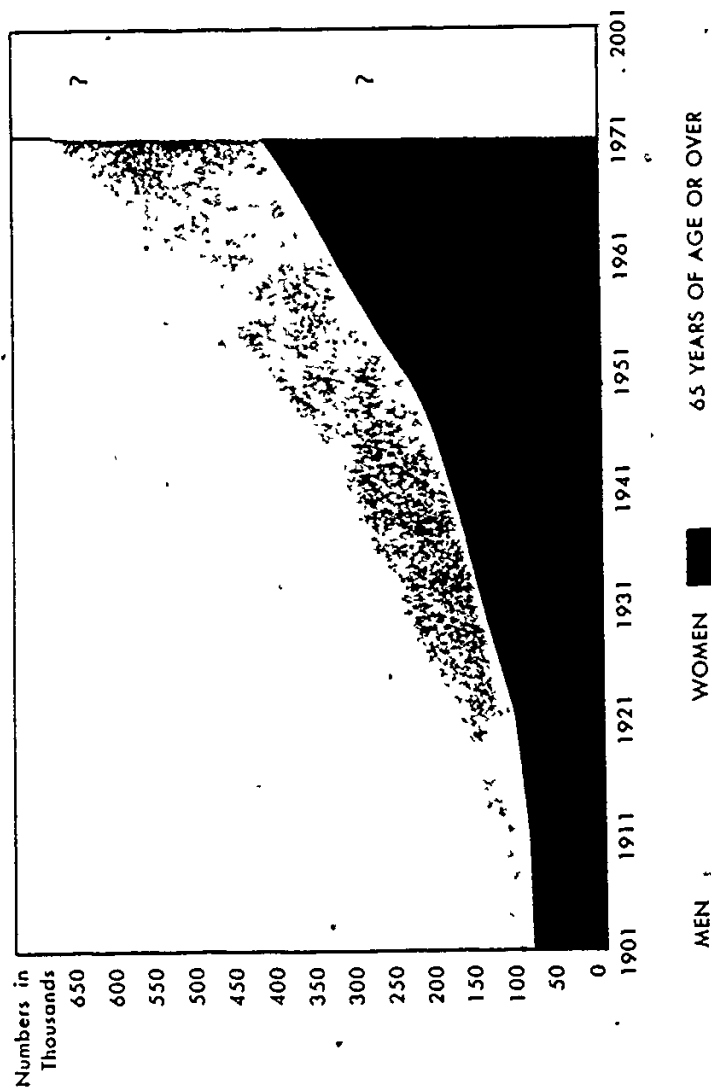
Examination of figure 2B shows a strong increase in the population after 1945. Much of this may be attributed to the postwar baby boom experienced by the country. At this time, a large number of returning veterans started new families, encouraged by the government to produce larger families with baby bonus incentives. In future years, this large population group will move into the elderly section. Figure 2C illustrates that the province of Ontario has also been experiencing growth patterns similar to that of Canada.

In Ontario the province experienced growth during the 1950's which may be attributed in part to a period of industrial expansion and development. It can also be seen that the Ontario elderly reflect very closely the effects of the Canadian immigration period of 1911 to 1930.

By examining the Ontario population more closely through age groups, the highest cohorts with increases occur in the 55 and over categories (see table 2.1).

Figure 2C

# GROWTH OF THE OLDER POPULATION OF ONTARIO



Source: Data - Census of Canada 1901-1971 (1971 based on advance information received from Statistics Canada prior to publication)

Chart format adapted from AOA, Pub No 146, U.S., HEW Aging, May, 1970

Taken from: Homes for the Aged, 1972, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario, 1972

Table 2.1

AGE GROUPS (Years)	Number*		PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION — 'D'		% Change in 'D' 1901-1961
	1901	1961	1901	1961	
Under 5	224 8	740 2	10 3	11 9	+15 5
5 to 9	230 6	674 5	10 6	10 8	+ 1 9
10 to 14	229 9	593 0	10 5	9 5	- 1 0
15 to 19	229 8	436 9	10 5	7 0	-33 3
20 to 24	216 0	387 0	9 9	6 2	-37 4
25 to 29	178 6	422 7	8 2	6 8	-17 1
30 to 34	154 9	459 8	7 1	7 4	+ 4 2
35 to 39	144 0	469 3	6 6	7 5	+13 6
40 to 44	127 1	397 3	5 8	6 4	+10 3
45 to 49	104 4	360 8	4 8	5 8	+20 8
50 to 54	89 1	309 8	4 1	5 0	+22 0
55 to 59	70 6	258 3	3 2	4 1	+28 1
60 to 64	62 7	218 5	2 9	3 5	+20 7
65 to 69	47 3	180 1	2 2	2 8	+27 3
70 to 74	34 7	146 3	1 5	2 3	+53 3
75 to 79	21 3	97 7	1 0	1 6	+60 0
80 to 84	11 6	53 5	5	9	+80 0
85 and Over	5 7	30 5	3	5	+66 6
Total	2,183 1	6,236 2	100 0	100 0	
Under 20	915 1	2,444 6	41 9	39 2	- 6 4
20 to 44	820 6	2,136 1	37 6	34 3	- 8 8
45 to 64	326 8	1,147 4	15 0	18 4	+22 7
65 and Over	183 3	726 6	8 4	11 6	+38 1
65 and Over	120 6	508 1	5 5	8 1	+49 1
70 and Over	73 3	328 0	3 3	5 3	+60 6

In thousands

Source: Census of Canada 1901-1961

Table format adapted from Ontario Legislative Select Committee on Aging Final Report 1967 (See Entry 153)

Taken from Homes for the Aged, 1972, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario, 1972

To make further comparison the population numbers are grouped and compared in the table below to a more recent period. Again, the greatest increase in numbers for the population from 1901 to 1971 occurred in the 60 and over age groups (see table 2.2).

Table 2.2

CHANGES IN SELECTED AGE GROUPS AND THEIR PROPORTIONATE DISTRIBUTION, ONTARIO POPULATION, continued					
(8) 1901 TO 1971					
AGE GROUPS (Years)	Number*		PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION — 'D'		
	1901	1971	1901	1971	% Change in 'D' 1901-1971
TOTAL	2,183.1	7,703.1	100.0	100.0	.
Under 20	915.1	2,921.8	41.9	37.9	- 9.5
20 to 44	820.6	2,662.3	37.6	34.6	- 8.0
45 to 64	326.8	1,474.6	15.0	19.1	+27.3
60 and Over	183.3	924.5	8.4	12.0	+42.9
65 and Over	120.6	644.4	5.5	8.4	+52.7
70 and Over	73.3	416.6	3.3	5.4	+63.6

\* In Thousands

Source: Census of Canada 1901-1971

(1971 based on advance information received from Statistics Canada prior to publication)

Table format adopted from Ontario Legislature Select Committee on Aging Final Report 1967 (See Entry = 153)

Taken from: Homes for the Aged, 1972, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario, 1972

This comparison may be taken one step further by comparing the population from the industrial growth years of Ontario to 1971. Table 2.3 below shows the highest increase for the 45 to 64 age group supporting the labour force needed for industry during the growth years.

Table 2.3

CHANGES IN AGE GROUPS, ONTARIO POPULATION, 1951-1961, 1961-1971							
AGE GROUP	Number*			INCREASE			
	1951	1961	1971	1951 1961	1961 1971		
				Numerical*	%	Numerical*	%
Under 20	1,555.0	2,444.6	2,921.8	889.6	57.2	477.2	19.5
20 to 44	1,733.8	2,136.0	2,662.3	402.2	23.2	526.3	24.6
45 to 64	908.4	1,147.4	1,474.6	239.0	26.3	327.2	28.5
65 and Over	400.3	508.1	644.4	107.8	26.9	136.3	26.8
Total	4,597.5	6,236.1	7,703.1	1,638.6	35.6	1,467.0	23.5
60 and Over	582.9	726.6	924.5	143.7	24.7	197.9	27.2
70 and Over	245.3	328.0	416.6	82.7	33.7	88.6	27.0

\* In Thousands

Source: Census of Canada 1951, 1961, 1971

(1971 based on advance information received from Statistics Canada prior to publication.)

Taken from: Homes for the Aged, 1972, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario, 1972

Trends in shifts of age groups for the City of Windsor are comparable to those in the rest of the Province of Ontario. Table 2.4 below shows the declining birth rate experienced over the past several years is reflected in the changes in population for age groups 0-4 and 5-14. The 8.13 per cent growth in the age groups 25-34 reflects the results of the post World War II baby boom of the late forties and early fifties. The other age group which has undergone significant growth are seniors 65 years of age and over.

Table 2.4

CHANGES IN WINDSOR'S POPULATION BY AGE GROUPS, 1971-1976					
Age Groups	1971		1976		% of Population Change 1971-76
	Population	% of Windsor	Population	% of Windsor	
0 - 4	16,565	8.15	14,140	7.19	14.64
5 - 14	40,020	19.9	33,975	17.29	15.10
15 - 19	19,275	9.48	19,550	9.95	1.41
20 - 24	18,645	9.17	18,321	9.34	1.74
25 - 34	25,599	12.59	27,865	14.15	8.13
35 - 44	23,410	11.52	20,740	10.56	11.41
45 - 54	22,760	11.20	23,185	11.79	1.83
55 - 64	16,640	8.18	17,330	8.76	3.98
65+	20,385	10.03	21,550	10.97	5.41

Taken from Demographic and Social Data for Human Services Planning Windsor and Essex County  
Monograph II 1979, United Way of Windsor and Essex County, Windsor

To summarize the situation, this study was selected because our growing elderly population will present increasingly serious problems to our society. To predict future trends will suggest the possible path in which our population will expand. More reasonably, the present exact figures point to a need for research on the elderly. The following table (2.5) prepared by the Economic Council of Canada shows the future increases of the Canadian population to the year 2050. The results are alarming and indicate that the senior citizens of this country will present a growing need for lifestyle support by those who remain in the workforce.

Table 2.5

CANADA'S POPULATION PROJECTIONS									
	1975	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
	(Thousands)								
Population									
Total	23,291	24,872	28,212	31,229	33,791	36,080	37,771	39,027	40,151
Aged 65 and over	1,990	2,309	2,886	3,533	4,156	5,488	6,772	6,655	6,804
Retirement beneficiaries									
Total									
Male	655	765	1,119.0	1,359.0	1,593.0	2,124.0	2,602.0	2,479.0	2,561.0
Female	349	416	854.4	1,355.9	1,901.9	2,814.5	3,628.3	3,667.3	3,721.7
Both	1,004	1,181	1,973.4	2,714.9	3,494.9	4,938.5	6,230.3	6,146.3	6,284.7

Taken from The Future Financing of the Canada Quebec Pension Plans: Some Alternative Possibilities 1980,

Minister of Supply and Services, Canada, 1980

All of these statistics indicate that the elderly population will present an important aspect of shelter to the entire population. People will always require housing and the growing numbers of senior citizens need help to acquire their appropriate accommodations.

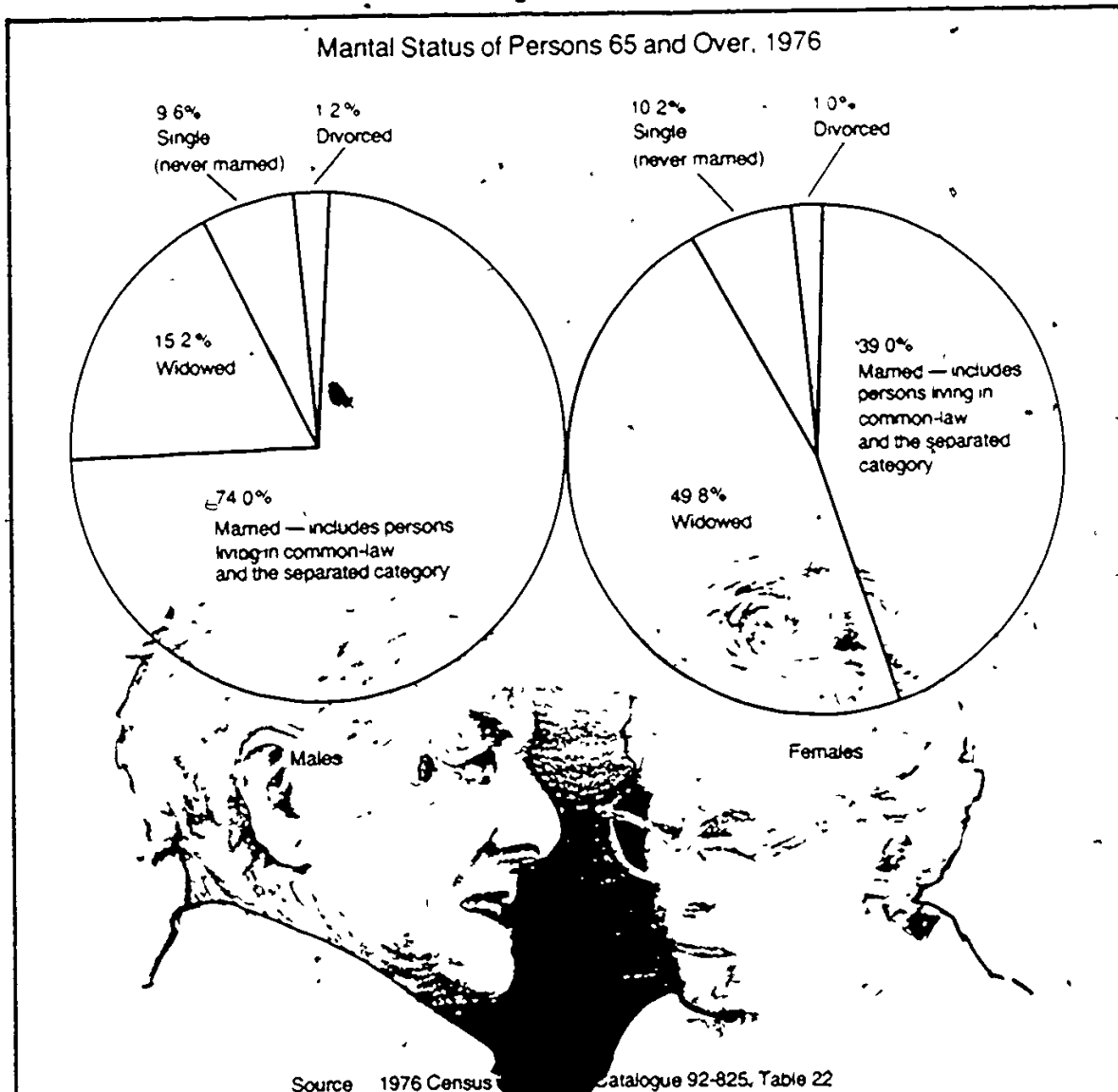
To analyze the elderly population fully, an examination of more detailed characteristics must be incorporated. The first to be discussed is the marital status of older persons in Canada. It is obvious that married and single senior citizens have different housing needs. The accompanying figure 2D and table 2.6 show the present marital structure of the elderly population.

In recent years the number of elderly women has increased. Before 1961, there were always more men than women in the 65 and over category. In 1976 however, there were only 777 males to every 1,000 females. Between 1961 and 1971 the female population 65 and over increased annually by 3.4 per cent compared with 1.6 per cent for their male counterparts. This trend is continuing, but the difference in the rate of increase for males and females has narrowed to a 3.4 per cent annual increase for females as opposed to a 2.4 per cent increase for males. Medical advances have contributed to the elderly living longer.

Previous immigration patterns have added to the unequal sex ratio of the 65 and over population. During the years 1931 to 1948 there were more females than males entering Canada.



Figure 2D



**Table 2.6**  
**Males and Females 65+ and Sex Ratio, 1901-1976**

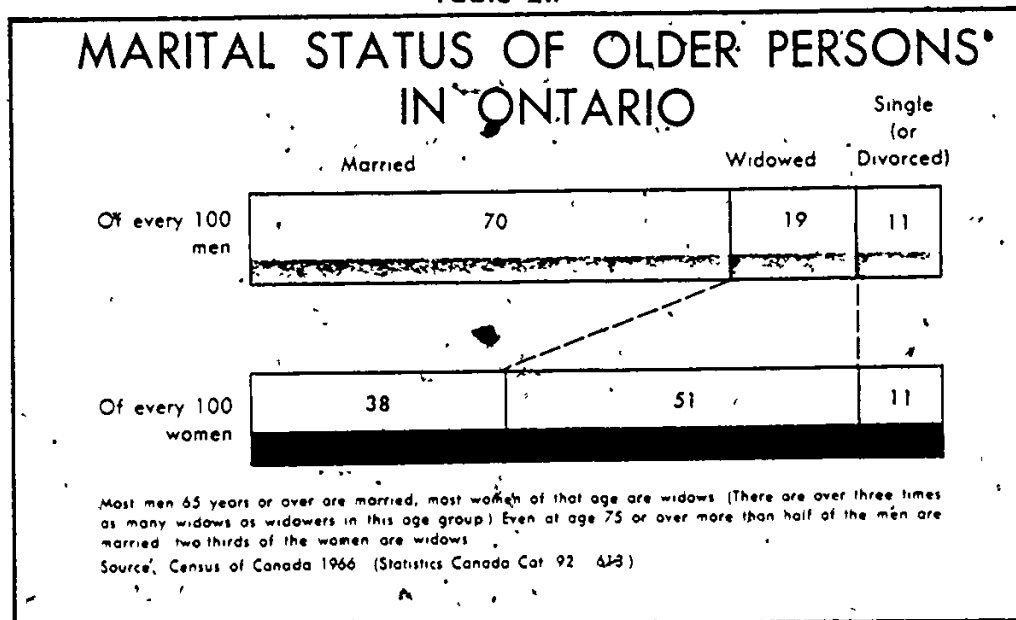
	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1976
Males	138 913	170 613	214 964	294 550	390 909	551 303	674 117	781 865	875 405
Females	132 288	164 704	205 280	281 526	376 906	534 970	717 037	962 540	1 126 940
Ratio of males to 1 000 females	1 050	1 036	1 047	1 046	1 037	1 031	940	812	777

Source (i) 1961 Census of Canada, Catalogue 92-542, Table 20  
(ii) 1971 Census of Canada, Catalogue 92-715, Table 14  
(iii) 1976 Census of Canada, Catalogue 92-823, Table 11

Taken from: Canada's Elderly, 1976 Census of Canada, Minister of Supply and Services, 1979

When examining the Ontario marital status it is seen that there is a great difference between married and widowed men and women (see table 2.7).

Table 2.7



Taken from: Homes for the Aged, 1972, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario, 1972

Marital status becomes important when examining housing demand because single elderly women prefer to live in small apartments and married elderly couples would rather remain in their own residence. Single elderly men usually live in nursing homes or a residence providing some form of help. This knowledge aids in determining the present housing demand (Ministry of Community and Social Services, 1972, Retirement Bibliography).

Many researchers have tried to answer why the elderly population has continued to grow. Today Canadians are living longer and the chances of surviving to old age have increased for all people. At 65 people can expect to live more years than previous generations.

Life expectancy over the past decades has increased for both sexes. In 1971 life expectancy at birth for males was 70 years and for females it was 77 years. At 65 the average man can expect to live another 13.7 years while women can look forward to an additional 17.5 years.

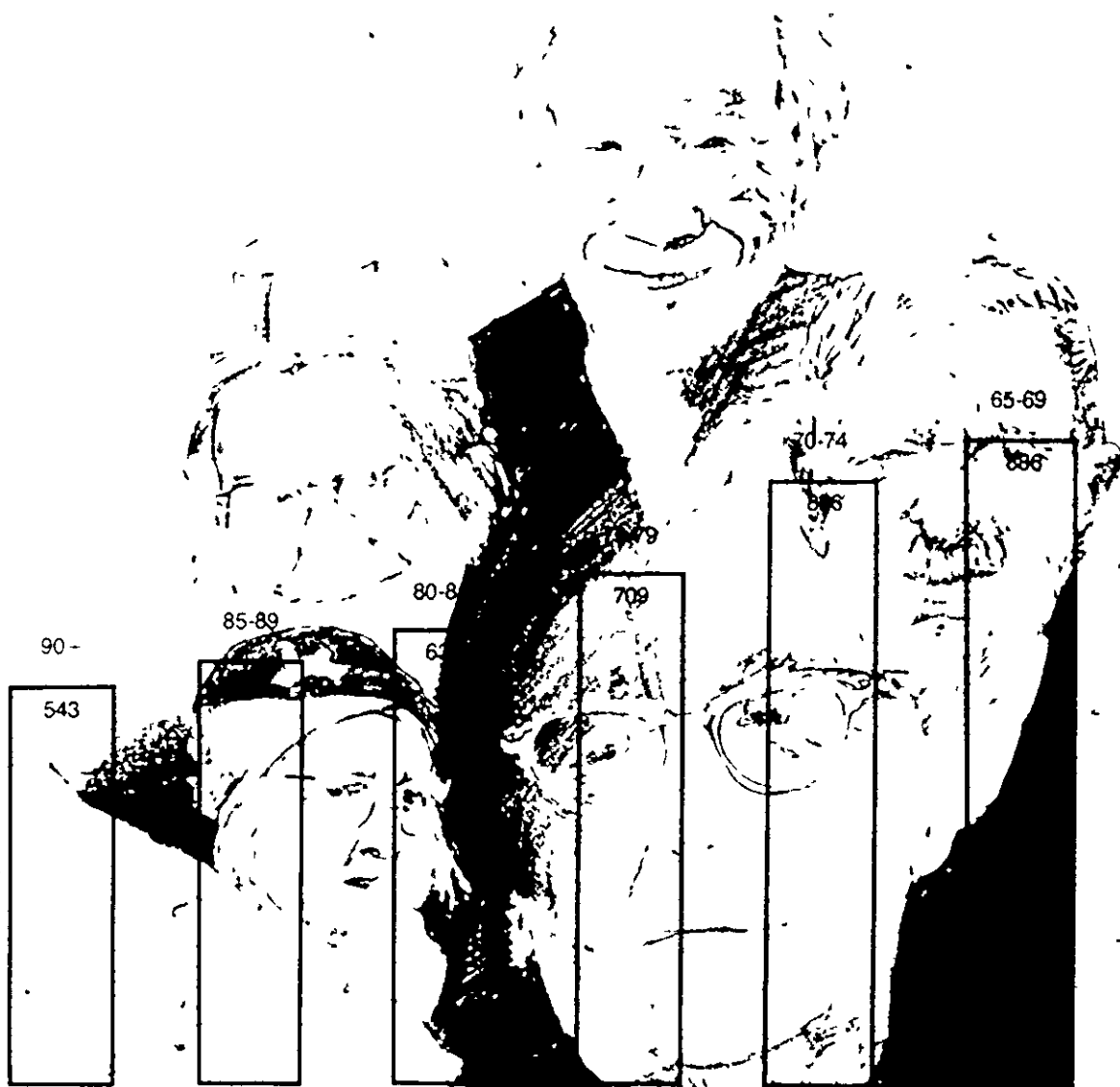
Most of these gains in life expectancy are attributed to the decline in infant mortality. But the death rates for each elderly age group have also declined (figure 2E; table 2.8). Between 1921 and 1976 for instance, the death rate for women 70 to 74 has dropped by 50 per cent while the rate for men declined by 10 per cent.

The table figures show that the 80 and over cohort has the highest increase in numbers for both males and females. This could indicate a growing need for nursing homes in future years by communities since older cohorts require more care.

Canada's 65 and over population will continue growing more markedly as the children from the high birth rate years of the 1940's and 1950's move into the elderly segment. Preparation for this group should start with adequate accommodations.

Figure 2E

65+ Men per 1,000 65+ Women, 1976



Source 1976 Census of Canada Catalogue 92-823, Table 11

Table 28

Death Rates Per 1,000 Elderly Population by Age and Sex, 1921 and 1976

Age	Males		Females	
	1921	1976	1921	1976
65-69	33.4	33.3	33.2	16.4
70-74	56.9	51.4	52.8	26.3
75-79	89.4	77.3	80.9	44.7
80-84	133.8	118.2	122.4	76.8
85+	228.2	195.7	224.9	154.7

Source Statistics Canada Vital Statistics 1976 Catalogue 84-206 Table 9

Taken from Canada's Elderly, 1976 Census of Canada, Minister of Supply and Services, 1979.

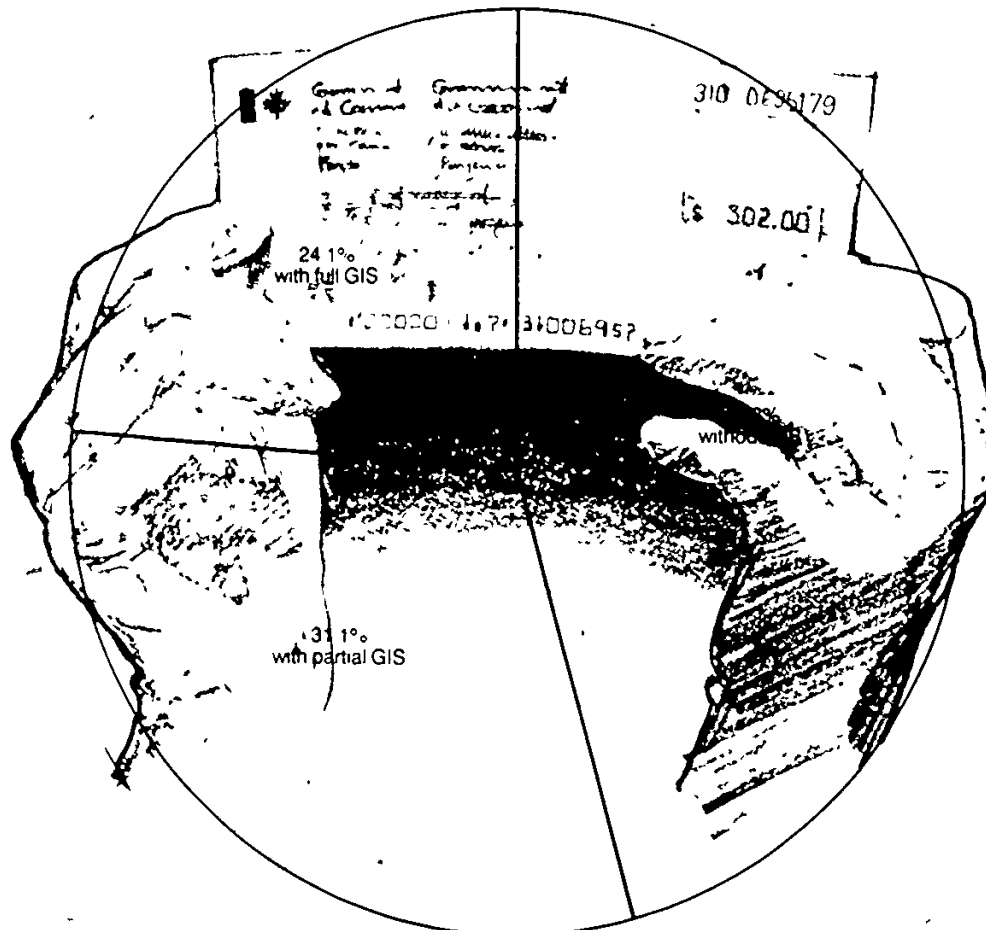
One of the most important factors which influences housing demand is income. When applied to the elderly, their financial capacity usually dwindles over time. Housing is provided to senior citizens in accordance with the amount of money that they receive from different sources. In the following figure (2.F) the number of senior citizens who receive full or partial guaranteed income supplement is shown.

In 1975 the average income of families with a head 65 and over was 10,171 dollars. This was slightly less than two-thirds of the average income of all families. The average income for unattached individuals 65 and over was 4,138 dollars. The relative differences in income between the elderly and other groups have remained the same over the years. For example, the difference in average income between families with head of all ages and families with head 65 and over was 61.2 per cent. When applied to housing the communities must scale their services accordingly.

The sources of revenue for the elderly are derived from employment, pensions, investments and transfer payments. Employment income forms 32 per cent of the family income for the elderly. A further 29 per cent is made up from investments and private pensions. But for many whose payments from these sources are fixed, the value of income is dwindling by inflation.

Figure 2F

Percentage of Old Age Security Pensioners Receiving Full and Partial Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), April 1975 — March 1976



Source: National Health and Welfare Welfare Information Systems, Welfare, 1975-1976

Table 2.9

Average Income of Families, Unattached Individuals and All Family Units, 1969 and 1975

	1969	1975
Families head all ages	\$ 8 927	\$16 613
Families head 65+	5 490	10 171
Unattached individuals all ages	3 980	6 595
Unattached individuals 65+	2 525	4 138
All family units head all ages	7 686	13 805
All family units head 65+	4 205	7 489

Source: Statistics Canada. Income Distribution by Size in Canada, 1975, Catalogue 13-207, Tables 26 and 29. Income Distribution by Size in Canada, 1969, Catalogue 13-544, Tables 2 and 20.

Taken from: Canada's Elderly, 1976 Census of Canada, Minister of Supply and Services, 1979

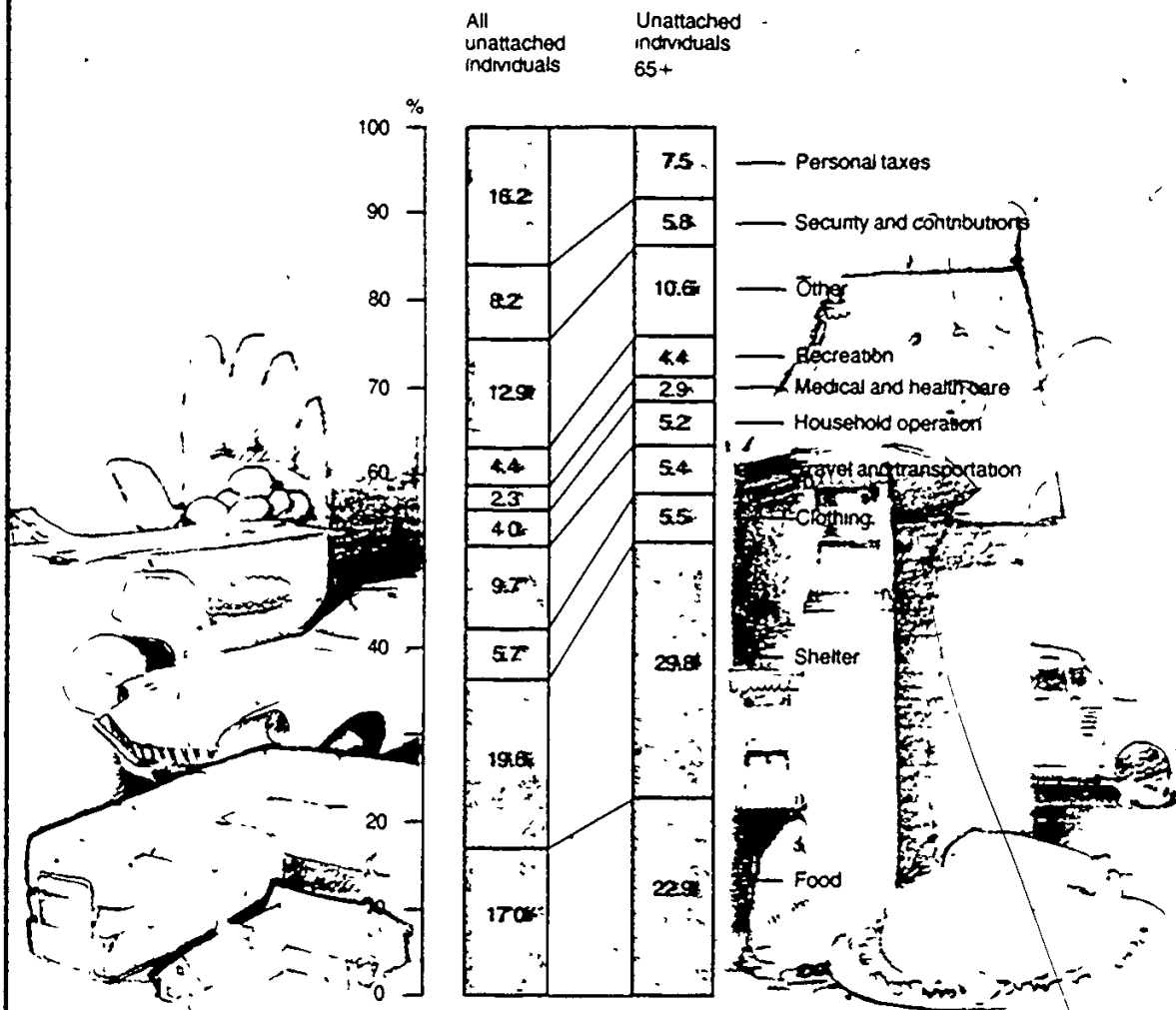
Transfer payments from government sources account for 39 per cent of the total income going to family units with heads 65 or over. To determine housing demand the amount of money spent by the elderly on their shelter will indicate the types of accommodations which should be supplied. The following graph examines the budget of senior citizens in Canada for 1974.

The statistics show that the elderly spend a greater percentage of their income on food and shelter. Unattached individuals 65 and over and families with head 65 and over spend a higher proportion of their incomes on food and shelter than unattached individuals and families in general.

In 1974, for example, unattached individuals 65 and over living in fourteen major cities reported that they spent 52.7 per cent of their budgets on food and shelter, while in comparison, all unattached individuals spent only 36.6 per cent of their budgets on these items. The figure 2.G shows allocation for all other expenses required by the elderly family. To determine housing demand, it is learned from this information that if the average elderly family's income for 1975 was 10,000 dollars they might spend more than half on shelter. More than likely the residence would be a single family residence. If the senior citizen were single and only had an income of 4,100 dollars as indicated by this type, then their affordability for shelter would be an apartment.

Figure 2G

Allocation of Budget for All Unattached Individuals and Unattached Individuals 65+, Canada, 1974



Source: Statistics Canada, *Urban Family Expenditure*, 1974, Catalogue 62-544, Occasional, Tables 2 and 3.

Taken from: *Canada's Elderly*, 1976 Census of Canada, Minister of Supply and Services, 1979.



The problem to be solved here is clearly indicated in whether or not our communities are providing the adequate housing type for each senior group. Only through a housing demand study will this problem be answered.

The final area to be discussed concerns the present housing accommodations of the elderly in Canada and Windsor. The following figure (2.H) shows the percentages of elderly persons in each unit. A large percentage of elderly heads of private households own their homes. The 1976 census shows that 64.3 per cent of the 1.2 million elderly households were home owners. The comparable percentage for all private households was 61.8 per cent.

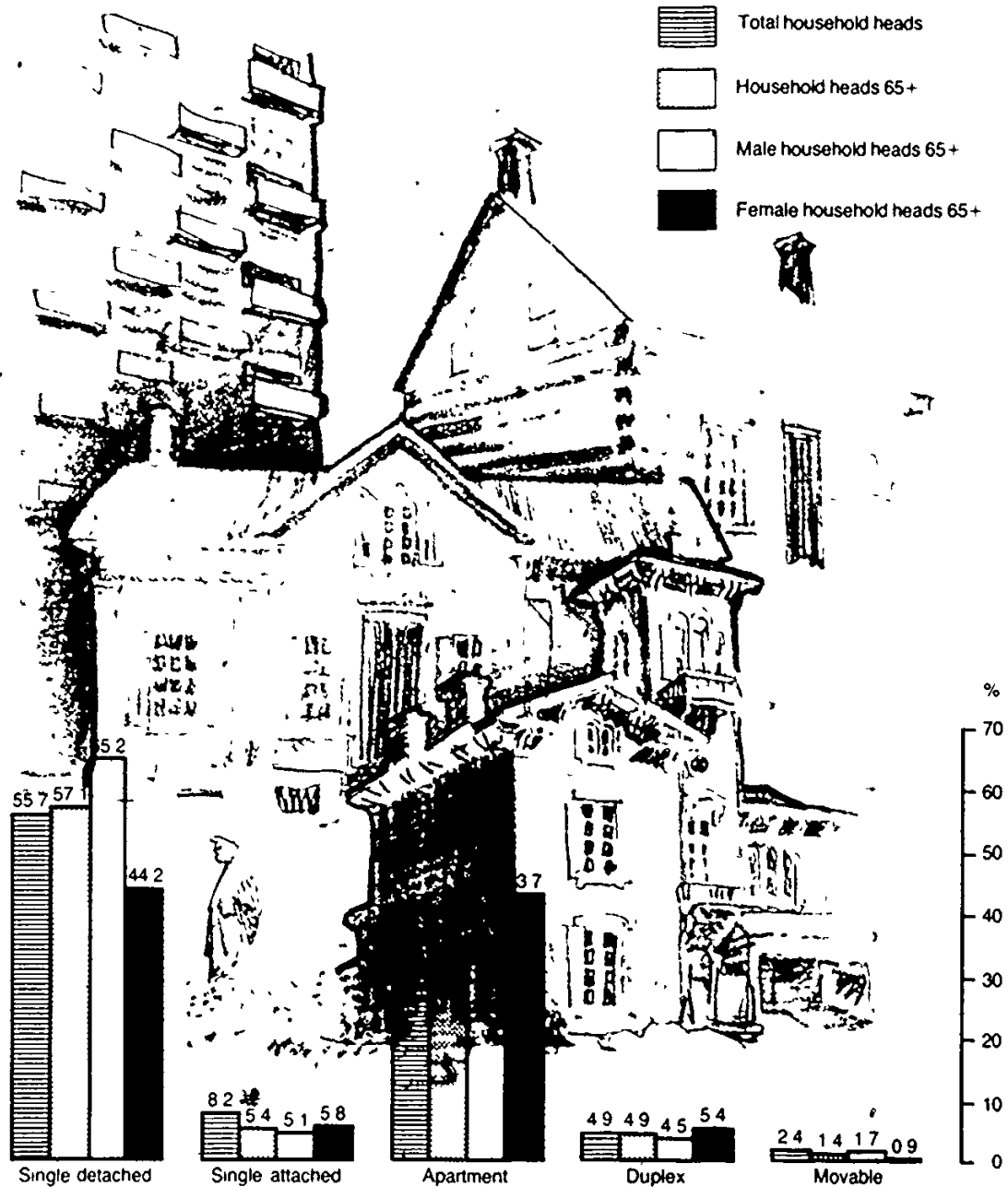
Among elderly male and female heads of households there is a great difference in the percentages of home ownership. Concerning the elderly males, 72.9 per cent own their homes while 50.2 per cent of the females are owners.

Approximately, 55.7 per cent of the total Canadian households live in single detached dwellings as compared to 57.1 per cent of the elderly households that live in such dwellings. Apartments are an important form of dwelling for the elderly. Almost a third, 31.3 per cent of the elderly households live in apartments.

In comparison rented dwellings were found to be popular with elderly women. The proportion of households with elderly women heads living in rented apartments is twice that for households headed by elderly men, 40.2 per

Figure 2H

Type of Private Dwellings Occupied by All Household Heads  
and Those 65+, by Sex, Canada, 1976



Source 1976 Census of Canada, Catalogue 93-804, Table 13

Taken from: Canada's Elderly, 1976 Census of Canada, Minister of Supply and Services, 1979

cent and 19.4 per cent respectively. Furthermore, 76.9 per cent of these women are widows.

With these statistics a type of housing unit can be matched further with the suitable person. The following Windsor statistics (table 2.10) show a comparison for all age groups to the elderly population. It is seen from this table that in Windsor, the majority of senior citizens live in single detached dwellings.

Table 2.10

## HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE CENSUS METROPOLITAN AREA OF WINDSOR, 1976

Age or sex of household head	Single detached dwellings (%)	Rented dwellings (%)	Rooms per dwelling	Median house value (\$)
Total	71.3	29.6	5.7	22 327
Male	74.9	26.3	5.8	23 050
Female	65.0	44.5	5.0	18 518
Under 25	30.8	80.7	4.5	19 295
25-34	61.2	45.1	5.5	23 869
35-44	80.8	21.5	6.2	25 380
45-54	82.5	16.9	6.1	23 646
55-64	79.1	18.1	5.7	21 315
65-69	50.0	20.6	5.4	17 000
70 plus	68.2	26.5	5.2	17 953

Source: Statistics Canada, 1976

## Chapter III

### REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

#### 3.1 Introduction

The body of literature which supported the formulation of this research is vast since the study of senior citizens' living conditions relates to many social science disciplines. The most abundant literature comes from gerontology. Recognition of gerontological works has been most favourably accepted by geographers as an excellent source of information (Golant, 1979).

This study tries to establish a geographical perspective by concentrating on spatial as well as social-economic aspects concerning housing demand. The separation between the two areas is undefinable, but the geographical sections must determine their own perspectives by relating and joining research principles and ideas. Housing is one such study area which requires tremendous input from many related disciplines.

The review of literature concentrates upon the six most relevant areas: family life cycle and housing turnover, residential satisfaction and residential mobility, socio-economic characteristics related to accommodations,

residential characteristics of senior citizen accommodations, housing demand and supply models, and general housing concepts of the elderly.

### 3.2 Family Life Cycle and Housing Turnover

A basic overall model which explains senior citizen accommodation requirements can be attributed to the Family Life Cycle. Some of the earliest applications using this structure as an explanation for research were those of Glick (1947), Mumford (1949) and Rossi (1955).

The life cycle was used originally to reflect the fact that household change is a more or less regular response to vital processes of life such as births, deaths, marriages and divorces. Although the family life cycle is not a perfect predictor since the course of a person's life may alter considerably from the model, the individual will still experience the major changes in life (Clausen, 1972, Riley, 1973, Quigley and Weinberg, 1977).

In relation to time, the family life cycle shifts with the size and age composition of members of a household. Accordingly, the housing needs of families at different points in the socio-economic life cycle will change and will be expressed by changes in type and location of housing (Rossi, 1980: 25).

The major difficulty with this concept is disagreement among researchers over the particular stages that

- are distinguished (Quigley and Weinberg, 1977). Ray (1976) identified the following five clusters of age groups representing the five stages of the family.

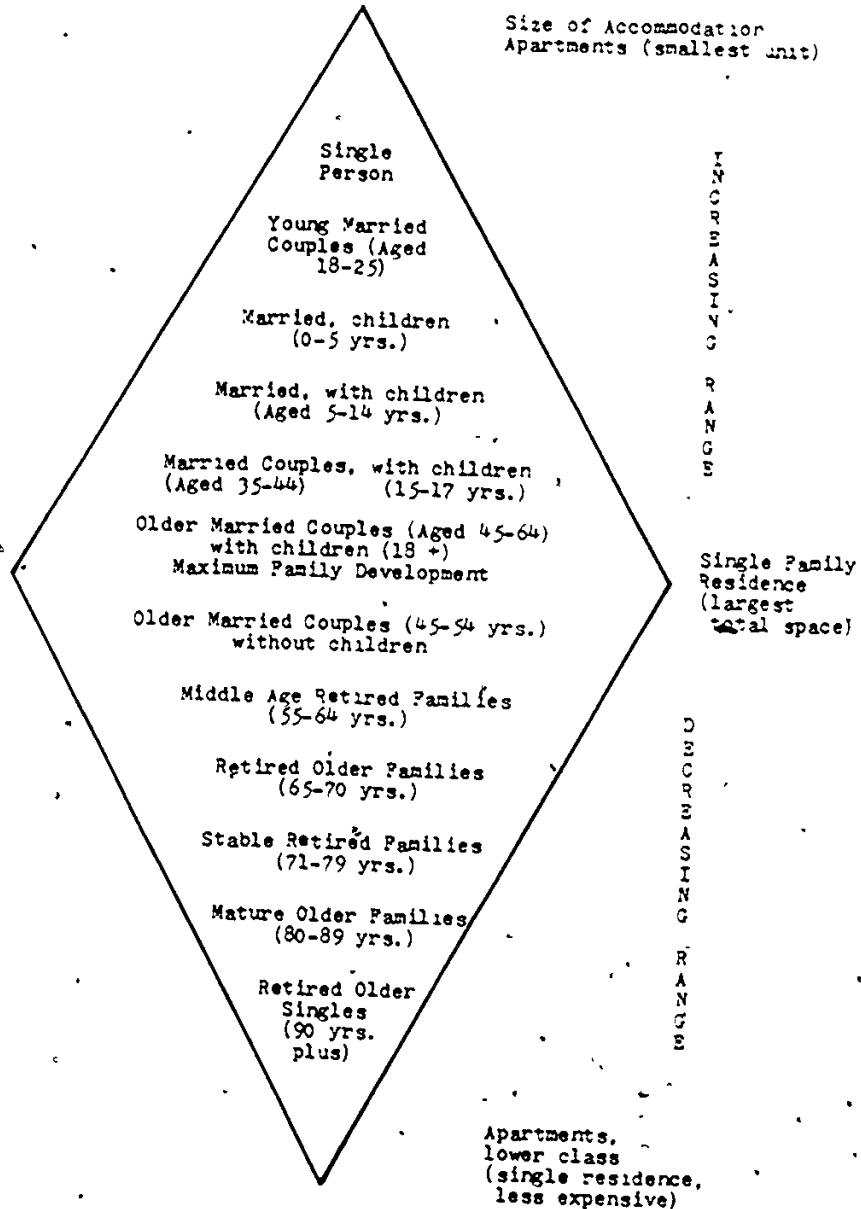
- A) the young family, ages 0-4 and 25-34;
- B) the middle-stage family, ages 5-14 and 35-44;
- C) the mature family, ages 15-19 and 45-54;
- D) older households, ages 55-64;
- E) retired family households, ages 65 plus.

Research will primarily examine and concentrate on retired persons starting at age 55 (see accompanying diagram). This age was chosen and is supported as a starting position since early retirement is possible in a union-influenced city such as Windsor. Others have used this commencement point since personal lifestyle changes are likely to occur following retirement (Goldscheider, 1966, Tibbitts, 1960; Epstein, 1976, 12).

Lewis Mumford summarized the 'senior citizens' function in the family life cycle by describing the planning process for the "phases of life." His article concentrated on the definitions and applications of the life cycle from the point of view of a city planner. As we know, future housing needs are determined by the city planner and therefore, his complete understanding of the theory is required. Mumford stated that, "the city planner must come to realize the full nature of his task: the provision of an environment

Figure 3A

# STAGES OF THE FAMILY LIFE CYCLE



Source: Author

suitable to every phase of life and growth from infancy to senescence." (Mumford, 1949: 5).

Mumford suggested the type of housing and environment that should be associated with each phase of life. He stated "no community should be considered well-laid out, and no housing adequate, unless it provides special accommodations for all groups." (Mumford, 1949: 16).

This is actually where the problem of supplying accommodations originated. Mumford was suggesting that city planning must deal with all the phases of life as well as all the functions of a community. Within the community one must think of establishing a balance in time through inter-relationships between the phases of life (Mumford, 1949: 16).

A "balance in time" has been recognized by many researchers concerned with senior citizens. Many think that there are special requirements for each phase that can only be served when the cumulative needs of all age groups are taken into account.

Family life cycle was taken a step further by Rossi in 1955 with the direct application to housing in his book "Why Families Move." Rossi emphasizes the link between housing and mobility by undertaking research on the patterns of residential relocation. For the first time his study applied the "purpose factors" which were responsible for change. He isolated social issues, economic change and spatial patterns (Rossi, 1955: 10). Rossi was one of the



first researchers to document how residential satisfaction involved primarily the interplay between households' housing needs and the physical structure it occupied.

Residential mobility will be discussed more extensively in the following section, but it should be pointed out here that Rossi's conclusions showed the relationship to family life cycle when he stated that, residential mobility was interpreted as a phenomenon of the housing market driven by autochthonous changes that take place as families and households formed, grew and declined in size and eventually dissolved. He further stated that peoples' housing choices are conditioned by income and the housing opportunities presented by the local housing market (Rossi, 1980: 17).

Rossi developed in his research a complex model of duration of stay and mobility which was the interplay of cumulative inertia and dissatisfaction. There is no question that the life cycle was a critical parameter of his model (Rossi, 1980: 11).

Further research on the life cycle was conducted by Yee and Van Arsdol (1977) showing that age-related events influenced moving probabilities. This idea of age status was examined earlier by Cain (1964), Erikson (1959) and Einsenstadt (1956) as a behavioral link between the social system and the individual. When describing senior citizens regarding their age-related events, such as retirement,

conditions may vary dramatically according to place and the specific population cohort (Riley, 1973; Strauss, 1959).

This research makes hypothetical formulations using age divisions from the investigation of these authors. These researchers described how age and the life cycle were related to expected and actual residence changes in terms of transition points. Rossi thought in 1955 that the extent to which transition events by age indicate residence changes remains unspecified, but Yee and Van Arsdol contradicted him by showing that the life cycle described the relations between age, transition points and residential mobility.

It was realized that elderly attitudes can also be attributed to housing changes (Jerome, 1959). When considering ages this method can be related back to specific family responses of life cycle changes such as retirement (Long, 1972; Morrison, 1967; Speare, 1970; Uhlenberg, 1969).

Furthermore, there are frictional factors intervening between age points such as employment opportunity, availability of suitable housing and financial resources which may impede or facilitate residential change (Yee and Van Arsdol, 1977: 212). The life cycle was seen to influence residential moves through familism, aspirations and social status, the residential environment and by social or locality participations (Sabagh et al., 1969). With senior citizens their factors of aging take precedence, such as past experiences which modify their perceptions and influence their choices (Yee and Van Arsdol, 1977: 212).

Earlier researchers found that generalizations pertaining to one group or age level do not necessarily apply to another (Duncan, Cussort and Duncan, 1961; Kendall and Lazarsfeld, 1955; Robinson, 1950). From other investigations, Yee and Van Arsdol concluded that:

- 1) age must be shown to be associated with mobility;
- 2) normative events demarking cycle stages must be specified,
- 3) age and normative-based behavioral changes must correspond,
- 4) the influence events exerted on residential mobility must remain relatively constant with each life cycle stage (Yee and Van Arsdol, 1977: 213).

These researchers concluded that there were two transition points at 40 and 65 years of age. Their analysis showed that age had a consistent relation to mobility, a conclusion also drawn by Bogue (1959), Shyrock (1964) and others; furthermore, it was seen that age underlies a family life cycle step as a function which explained residential mobility (Yee and Van Arsdol, 1977. 218).

In conclusion, Yee and Van Arsdol suggested that these transition points might be used in predictive models as time points where behavior probabilities change for different cohorts. It was agreed by other researchers that the life cycle obviously had differential effects on residence change by population (Long, 1972; Morrison, 1967; Spears, 1970; Uhlenberg, 1969).

When applied directly to senior citizens Yee and

Van Arsdol stated that at ages 55 and older, there may be an increased tendency for persons to both plan and implement moves (Yee and Van Arsdol, 1977. 219). In addition to this statement, is the idea put forth that the volume of residential mobility is inversely related to distance moved (Galle and Taeuber, 1965; Isard and Romhall, 1960; Stouffer, 1940). We may deduce that senior citizens will plan a move more carefully than other age groups and will move less frequently.

The fact that older households are far less likely to move than younger households is not a particularly good indicator of whether their housing needs are being met (Roistocher, 1974; Goldscheider, Van Arsdol and Sabagh, 1965; Long, 1972; Chevan, 1971). There are a variety of constraints which may be operating that prevent mobility. In particular the constraints for senior citizens could be more serious.

### 3.3 Residential Satisfaction and Residential Mobility

#### 3.3.1 The meaning of Residential Satisfaction and Dissatisfaction

In extension of the family life cycle, the demand for housing by senior citizens will be greatly influenced by their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with their present residence. Although the concept of residential satisfaction is intrinsically related to the housing turnover process,

this element has been downplayed in previous analyses (Dzus, 1975).

Residential dissatisfaction is a stress caused by housing that deviates from cultural, family or community norms. When the level of stress exceeds the limits a family is willing to tolerate, they will develop behavior to adjust their housing (Morris and Winter, 1978).

The importance of satisfaction in the development of demand for specific housing adjustments has only recently been the focus of research. Much of that research has been conducted in the fields of business administration and marketing. In many cases, findings have limited applicability to housing (Morris, Winter and Beutler, 1975).

Rossi's study of residential mobility represented a major theoretical and empirical advancement in the study of housing behavior. He organized his interpretation around the concept of the family life cycle and viewed housing needs as directly related to family composition (Rossi, 1955: 178). It is the households' needs which determine satisfaction or dissatisfaction with their shelter. Most research specifically related to residential mobility as a housing adjustment process has followed Rossi's lead and have viewed changing family composition as being directly responsible for changes in housing needs (see eg., Speare, 1970; Chevan, 1971; Long, 1972).

The basis of the residential model has been

attributed to stress factors which lead to dissatisfaction and a change in residence (Wolpert, 1965; Speare, Goldstem and Frey, 1974; 175). These researchers pointed out that the residential environment was the link between stress and housing change. This idea has been measured by many researchers in trying to assess the question of why people move and which destination will be selected (Brown and Moore, 1970; Bueter et al., 1969; Chapin, 1974, Deutschman, 1972, Golant, 1971; Michealson, 1970 and Yeates, 1972).

The idea of stress was further measured by Goodman (1974) when he discussed housing adjustment in terms of disequilibria. These disequilibria were induced by changes in family factors such as income, family composition or health. Goodman referred to such disequilibria as being directly related to "housing stress." While satisfaction is only one of the complex set of relationships involved in the residential location process, it nonetheless seems to be the single most effective measure (Ermuth, 1974).

In particular, senior citizens may display dissatisfaction with their residence as a result of growing older and having insufficient means to relocate which increases their stress by remaining in their present residence. Being either dissatisfied or satisfied requires only a slight shift in the life cycle. Many seniors see themselves in this situation. The events occurring at a given moment in time within a given family are important to the family members

(Thomas and Znaniecki, 1927: 28). These researchers concluded that family situations must be defined by a set of values and attitudes with which the individual or group has to deal through their family changes which result in planning and appreciating this activity.

The discussion from Thomas and Znaniecki can be applied to housing satisfaction-dissatisfaction within the housing process. The family develops a set of values and attitudes which arise from the cultural, community and family norms. The specific means by which families achieve consensus about the level of satisfaction depends upon family structure and organization. Elderly families approach a period of drastic change in which adjustments must be made to remain intact either in location or accommodation.

The process of satisfaction development is the same for all classes of people and involves three basic steps (Morris and Winter, 1978: 151). First, the household head compares his current housing type with family norms. Secondly, there is the assessment of any constraints that might prevent change if there were problems present. Thirdly, the family develops preferences for improving their housing conditions (Morris and Winter, 1978; Day, 1976, Miller, 1976).

Household characteristics are more complex when incorporating these steps into housing choice. Since most senior citizens are on pensions and are ~~low-income~~ families, they are more satisfied with housing that has more

deficiencies or problems than middle-income families would tolerate (Morris and Winter, 1978. 152). Low income acts as a constraint in that poor families cannot obtain better housing. Thus, the propensity to adjust their housing is reduced by the tendency for low-income families, such as senior citizens, to be satisfied with less than optimum housing conditions.

The measurement of satisfaction can be difficult since consumers' needs define the terms for a family's cultural norms when applied to various aspects of life style or level of living. Speare's (1974) analysis of residential mobility included residential satisfaction as an intervening variable used to predict the propensity to move.

Perhaps the most acceptable method of measuring satisfaction that has been applied in the empirical analysis of housing was used by Yockey (1976); Harris (1976) and Morris (1976). Yockey developed a scale of satisfaction with space-oriented characteristics of the dwelling. Harris developed a scale based on quality-oriented characteristics. Morris developed an overall measure of satisfaction including quality, quantity, ownership and structure-type satisfactions. All three of these studies used a set of paired factors in which a question of satisfaction with a characteristic of the dwelling was asked. The respondents were asked to assess the importance of these factors to the family.



All results were similar and Yockey (1976) found that feelings of powerlessness produce a reduced sensitivity to the housing problems and, therefore, a reduced tendency to be dissatisfied. This is the major reason given for senior citizens' undesirability to relocate.

Morris (1976) analyzed the influences of housing deficits and household characteristics on housing satisfaction. He examined cultural problems in space, tenure and structure type in contributing to the explanation of housing satisfaction. Only age and income had statistically significant relationships to satisfaction. Morris concluded that the older the household head and the higher the income the greater was the housing satisfaction (Morris and Winter, 1978: 161). The tenure, structure type, space, quality and neighborhood problems have been shown by other researchers to produce lower levels of housing and neighborhood satisfaction. Therefore, neighborhood satisfaction was found to be the strongest influence on housing satisfaction (Morris and Winter, 1978: 161).

Recognition of the role of residential satisfaction in housing adjustment and adaptation has been relatively recent. Hence, conclusions regarding stages in the development of dissatisfaction and relationships to family characteristics require further research. In particular, studies are needed to further refine the measurement of housing and neighborhood satisfaction.

### 3.3.2 Residential Mobility and Senior Citizens

When describing residential mobility concerning the elderly, life style factors which affect younger age groups become a more serious consideration for senior citizens' decisions. Many people over sixty years express dissatisfaction with the settings in which they live and feel that their lives generally would become much better if only their housing were improved (Carp, 1966: 5).

It is true that the elderly population are the least mobile age category and age has been found to be one of the crucial determinants of residential mobility (Bogue, 1959; Shryock, 1964, Thomas, 1938; Thomas, 1958). Since the absolute number of the older population is increasing, the volume of movement of older persons can be expected to increase (Goldscheider, 1966: 103).

Despite the increasing importance of residential changes in the living patterns of a growing number of older people, previous research has not focused in any detail on the differential propensity to move among various social and economic categories within the older population.

Previous research has shown that mobility rates decline with increasing age and duration of residence. Rossi (1955) found that home owners were much less likely to express an interest in moving than renters. Thus, one might expect that renters would be "movers" and home owners would be "stayers." The probability of an individual staying

in a particular place increases with increasing length of residence. Speare found this to be true for home owners, but not true for renters when he examined their occupancy in a residence (Speare, 1970: 456).

He concluded that the renter moving into a housing unit has fewer ties and often his commitment to his landlord can be dissolved. The only economic bonds considered may be the cost of moving his possessions to a new place. Senior citizens often find the slightest economic burden a hindrance to relocating. Often their costs are greater than younger families since all moving operations must be performed by younger workers (Speare, 1970; Rossi, 1955).

Home owners develop a social bond with their neighborhood. These primary social bonds tie a person to a particular location (Speare, 1970: 457). Lansing and Mueller (1967) and Speare (1966) have shown that social bonds tend to increase with duration of residence.

Many senior citizens decide to move because they want to get "something a little cheaper" or "a little better quality" or "to be with people" (Carp, 1966: 65). Carp's research discovered that the reasons for elderly people moving were attributed to a need for lower rent, a need for improved living conditions and a need to overcome social isolation or interpersonal stress. The elderly have a high rate of mobility trying to improve themselves (Carp, 1966: 66).

Relocation by older people was found to be very stress provoking when the decision to move was not made by the mover (Aldrich and Mendkoff, 1963. Bourestom and Pastalon, 1975, Killion, 1970, Markus et al., 1971, Miller and Lieberman, 1965). They suggest that relocation entails considerable risks for the elderly. Markus (1971) suggested that the chronically disabled and most elderly are at a greater risk of dying when they are relocated even when the move seems to indicate a change for better conditions.

One of the most important factors for seniors concerning their relocation is independence and the freedom of choice to make that decision. Research relative to this point indicates that voluntary participation may be an important factor in relocation outcome (Carp, 1967; Donahue, 1968, Ferrari, 1962; Hamovitch, 1968; Lawton and Yaffe, 1970).

Few researchers have examined the outcome of a move through the decision-making process. The decision-making process is a complex process that takes into consideration the reasons for the move, planning and preparation for the move and the emotional responses to the move (Beaver, 1979; 567). It is reasonable to suggest that the underlying dynamics in the decision-making process plays an essential role in relocation outcome. Some elderly people may look forward to moving; others may be more apprehensive and ambivalent. A few may perceive this as the last move before dying (Beaver, 1979 569).

X In Goldscheider's research on residential mobility of the older population, he found that there was a relatively higher mobility among those 50 to 64 years of age. This age group may reflect shifts associated with occupation and retirement changes, as well as the movement of persons in this age category into a stage of the family life cycle which is more congruent with different housing facilities (Goldscheider, 1966: 104). Other researchers observed that members of higher social classes in the older ages were more mobile than other groups, attributing this to economic reasons (Carson and McConnell, 1956).

A further description of movers and non-movers by Goldscheider in the elderly population found that married older people are less mobility-prone in terms of both attitudes and behavior than widowed, never married, divorced or separated people (Goldscheider, 1966: 106). Furthermore, older persons who rent were more than twice as successful in anticipating mobility behavior than owners.

Goldscheider's results showed that the overwhelming majority of reasons older people gave for moving were directly related to dissatisfaction with their current housing and neighborhood. His research results showed that economic, employment, and family and health related considerations were not as significant or important determinants on the perceptual level (Goldscheider, 1966: 107).

Economic reasons may not have been perceived as

important to mobility in this study, but economics is an essential underlying factor in neighborhood and housing dissatisfaction. Unquestionably, the volume of the older population moving will increase in the future. Along with other social problems of the elderly will be the problems associated with older people who want to move but cannot find appropriate housing and neighborhood facilities and those who did not want to move but were forced to relocate.

#### 3.4 Socio-Economic Characteristics Related to Elderly Accommodations

The socio-economic factors which influence housing adjustment are the same for the overall population. Adjustments and changes of particular socio-economic factors make housing choices more difficult for certain groups than others. The ability to overcome these constraints may vary with socio-economic status from family to family.

Butler et al., (1970) used a socio-economic index composed of education, occupation and income to classify their sample into various groups. They found that there are major differences in mobility within age levels by socio-economic status (Butler et al., 1970: 14).

The census compiles comprehensive data on individuals according to age, income, education and occupation. From followup analysis it was learned that mobility rates vary according to occupation groups. The highest mobility

was found among skilled and semi-skilled blue collar workers. Duncan and Newman (1975) found similar results with regard to education.

Other researchers found that income had little relationship between mobility and family plans (Goodman, 1974, Lansing et al., 1964; Roistacher, 1974). Roistacher associated mobility as a means by which families adjust housing consumption to fit their altered economic status (Roistacher, 1974: 50).

For many of the elderly socio-economic factors decrease in order of importance compared to younger age groups. When retirement is achieved the set pension acts as a barrier determined by past activities in early life. Most of the elderly's lives amount to a struggle for economic survival; for many it is a struggle for some social recognition, for all it is a struggle against being pushed out of the mainstream into a subculture...a subculture of poverty and social uselessness (Lindheim, 1971: 9).

Many older people have become poor as they have grown old (Smith, 1977:5). As people grow older their housing needs change along with changing socio-economic conditions. The utility of the house deteriorates unless careful consideration is given to ways that can meet the needs of the changing person (Stubbs, 1976: 540).

The older person is faced with changing living arrangements trying to re-order who he is and where his

"life space" is in the world. The mental health aspects of any alteration in life styles becomes a giant consideration (Smith, 1977: 1). Many older people cling to living spaces which seem inadequate because their home may be the last bastion of reality and competence.

Before discussion can begin on the types of living arrangements for the elderly, it is necessary to see how researchers examine the socio-economic profile of the elderly. Zay (1965) divided his analysis into the following areas: age, sex, marital status, personal physical conditions, economic situation, environment and community resources (Zay, 1965: 6-9). Quotations would show little significance from this period since the quantitative figures are greatly outdated.

The basics of his study showed that with regard to age, the population over 65 years was distributed very unevenly. His statistics showed that in 1965 two-thirds of the population were under the age of 75. He therefore predicted that the 1980's would have an expected increase in the number of persons requiring medical and nursing care (Zay, 1967: 7).

When examining the sex distribution, Zay realized that the older population had more women than men and that women preferred to live in self-contained dwellings, whereas men tend to live in hostels, boarding houses or the home of a relative.



Among all the factors taken individually, marital status is probably one of the most important because it had a decisive effect on living arrangements. Zay found that approximately half of the 65 and over group were single. This proportion was increasing from one age cohort to another. His results showed that women living alone formed the fastest growing group. From this it may be deduced that the most rapid increase in demand will be for accommodations to house solitary female persons (Zay, 1965: 8).

When the information on health conditions was examined Zay concluded that living arrangements for the elderly would be affected in two ways. The lowering of the mortality rate by medical science would create special needs for specialized institutions and would reduce the functional capacity of individuals to lead an independent existence.

The relationship between the economic situation of aged persons and their living arrangements has been examined by Beyer (1961) and Smith (1961). They brought out clearly the difference that exists between the means of persons who live in their own homes, of those who are tenants, of those who live in rooms and of those who live in the home of a relative. They concluded that income is the decisive factor in the choice of a dwelling (Beyer, 1961: 17; Smith, 1961).

When Zay examined the environment he found that the important factor was the geographic distribution of the aged between the urban and rural environment. Results showed

that the proportion of elderly persons who own their homes was much higher in rural areas. From his study period, there was an increase in the proportion of elderly persons residing in urban centres (Zay, 1965: 9). It must be remembered that elderly people remain individuals and if there is one area in which they should not be lumped together within a single solution, it is housing (Guillemette, 1966: 58).

### 3.5 Residential Characteristics of Senior Citizen Accommodations

When thinking of housing needs of the elderly, we often think of meeting those needs in retirement villages. Housing needs of the elderly have been met in part by retirement villages, retirement homes and nursing homes. Other housing needs have been met by facilities funded by government programs. Yet, the vast majority of the elderly population live in their own homes (Morris and Winter, 1978: 210).

One of the most important aspects of retirement is a senior's accommodation. Wherever a person lives, his surroundings and kind of housing will directly affect the quality of his life (Crawford, 1979: 106).

Housing needs of the elderly are significantly different from the concept of housing for any other age group. For all age groups, housing is invested with the emotions

of family living and independence of spirit and action. It encompasses friendship patterns and all of the dimensions of community life. It is an environment in which one can take pride and find the resources needed to mold a meaningful way of life (White House Conference on Aging, 1971, 12).

To the old, home may be the last grip on reality and security. Many elderly people fight institutionalization even when their own housing is unsatisfactory or unmanageable. If "a man's home is his castle," for the old, it is also his sanctuary, refuge and identity (Smith, 1977: 78).

Because decreased mobility often reduces the amount that older people can travel outside their homes, the living place becomes a life focus. For persons restricted by age infirmities, the home may be the centre of practically all life activities (Smith, 1977: 13, Green, 1975; A. W. and P. J. Cluff, 1970). Retirement at 65 is becoming the accepted practice and in this connection people are coming to realize that there exists wide individual differences in the physical and mental state at that age (Heron and Chown, 1967 10).

Traditionally, the elderly lived with their children. Most families now live in relatively small houses or apartments which do not provide the space required for grandparents. With increased family mobility, the close family ties that existed in the past are rarely found today (A. W. and P. J. Cluff, 1970: 36).

A problem arises when the aged have some specific requirement which is not supplied in the usual house or have a need for specially designed facilities which are not distributed in an available manner. One characteristic common to all elderly, regardless of their stage in the aging cycle, is the desire to attain independence and the happiness associated with it (Rad, 1976: 516).

Independence is defined by the architect Isaac Green as being.

- 1) that which requires ability to cope fully with the demands of everyday living;
- 2) that which is possible only if a special setting of congregate housing complete with a program of personal, social and health services, short of full medical care, is made available (Green, 1975: 1).

When seniors retire they have four choices open to them: to stay where they are, to sell their big home and buy a smaller one, to sell and then rent an apartment or smaller home, or to lease their big home and use the revenue to rent a smaller place (Crawford, 1979. 107).

Desired housing characteristics of older people were reviewed by Alice Stubbs when she examined the quality of elderly's housing desires. Her results showed that older people

- 1) do not want to move from familiar surroundings

- 2) prefer single family residence
- 3) need physical improvements in their present housing
- 4) have fixed low incomes
- 5) are lonely
- 6) have physical impairments which necessitate having modifications (Stubbs, 1976: 541).

A further study to examine the elderly housing situation was conducted by Beyer and Woods (1963). They questioned 5000 elderly individuals and discovered that 81 per cent lived in their own household, 10 per cent lived with their children and 25 per cent lived alone. In the community where the sample was taken, 60 per cent of the population owned private homes (Beyer and Woods, 1963).

This type of study was continued by Montgomery (1965) with 500 individuals in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He found that 15 per cent lived alone, 60 per cent lived with their spouses and 75 per cent were home owners (Montgomery, 1965).

The picture that emerges is a set of housing conditions not very different from the housing of the rest of the population. Households with an elderly head are more likely to own a single-family dwelling than any other combination of structure type and tenure status. The elderly are also more likely to be home owners than families headed by an individual under 35 years of age (U.S.B.C., 1973 1-10).

By the time seniors reach retirement age, their homes are usually paid for, but in need of extensive repair. With only their pensions and a small inflation-eroded savings account, seniors have not the money to cope with costly improvements (Crawford, 1979: 107). Sometimes their poor health or the lack of financial resources lead to delay or postponement of routine maintenance. Hence, the dwelling may need major repairs. The house and yard may be far too large for the couple to care for with ease. This condition is apt to create problems for the elderly which are not easily solved through residential alterations or additions (Morris and Winter, 1978: 212).

There are many different types of housing for seniors to choose from: independent units, which include single family homes in communities and retirement villages, second homes which include vacation and mobile homes and multi-units which take in condominiums, apartments and cooperatives.

During the last decade, high rise complexes have become a way of life for many seniors. Since most of these units have rents in direct ratio to income, almost every segment of the senior population can afford them if available. The problem in this type of unit is the difficulty some seniors have in adjusting to the accommodation (Crawford, 1979: 115).

Senior apartments provide an answer to the housing needs of pensioners with small savings, but the loneliness

is overwhelming. Usually when seniors move into a high-rise, they have sold their homes and their lives are dependent on their landlord, often a large government agency (Crawford, 1979: 116).

There are basically two types of institutions for the elderly, namely: the nursing homes which are privately owned, and homes for the aged, which are owned and operated by a government source. This group of people form a small section of the elderly population (Crawford, 1979: 123).

From a study by Cluff, they found that tenants in apartments complained of poor transportation to facilities, noise, incompatibility with neighbors, lack of amenities in surroundings and rent (Cluff, 1970: 38). They isolated the facts that elderly people guard their independence and wish to keep it as long as possible. Most aged people feared change (Cluff, 1970: 39).

In conclusion this study found a need for a wide range of living accommodations which will meet the needs of the elderly and allow an extended period of independence and freedom of choice in which to enjoy their retirement years.

### 3.6 Housing Supply and Demand Model

The price for housing depends upon the supply of, and demand for, housing. Supply and demand are theoretical constructs that provide an organized way to think about the

many factors affecting the market price of housing (Morris and Winter, 1978; Lithwick, 1977).

The concept of supply and demand relates to the marketplace, since it is the interaction between buyers and sellers which results in a trade for a specific price. Therefore, the price of housing will represent to the public the factors that affect demand for housing and the factors which affect the supply for accommodations (Lipsey, Sparks and Steiner, 1973).

Determining the supply of housing available to the elderly begins with knowledge of the number and quality of accommodation units in existence at a given time for an area. In conjunction, the measurement of the demand for housing begins with knowledge of the number and characteristics of the elderly households that exist at a given period in an area. These two sets of information are usually available from census data (Lithwick, 1977; Heilbrum, 1974; Toyne, 1974; Lipsey, Sparks and Steiner, 1973; Morris and Winter, 1978).

The estimation of the demand for housing is made additionally difficult because demand will consist of only those households who are ready to buy or rent a different accommodation. This group of households includes people residing in other localities who are considering a move into the locality and potential households in the form of



people considering formation of a separate household in the locality. Therefore, the actual supply of housing consists of the units vacant and available and those potentially vacant if a buyer were available (Morris and Winter, 1978: 236).

As a result, only a portion of the population of households and only a portion of the housing stock are involved in the demand for and supply of housing. Also not all families are the same, nor are their preferences, and not all housing units are identical. The housing market is segmented by tenure, size of units and location (Morris and Winter, 1978: 237; Lipsey, Sparks and Steiner, 1973).

Housing markets are essentially local in nature, and therefore, requirement analysis has to be firmly based on a viable regional approach (Armitage and Audain, 1972: 5). The ability of households to occupy the housing they need is constrained by their ability to afford it. Thus, income and wealth variables must be introduced into an analysis (Armitage and Audain, 1972: 9).

To analyze housing these researchers developed an "economic-demographic model" for the elderly because they thought that demographic factors were the strategic factors in determining the level of housing demand (Armitage and Audain, 1972: 6 and 36).

When determining housing demand it is necessary to examine the special housing needs of senior citizens. The term "housing needs" is used in a social sense to express

the extent to which housing conditions fall below the levels or norms considered necessary for health, privacy and the development of normal family living conditions (United Nations, 1967 7). Reliable estimates of housing needs are an important factor in establishing housing policy and for the formulation of housing programs. They indicate the magnitude of the housing problem while changes in the age levels can be interpreted.

The demand for housing refers to the characteristics and constraints on the behavior of consumers. Conventionally, the housing market is divided into submarkets according to certain key characteristics on the demand side. A demand model was developed by Mandelker and Montgomery (1973) using three characteristics; income, size of the household group and tenure (Montgomery and Mandelker, 1973: 161).

Most housing problems reflect change in people concerning their houses. Over a period of time houses change in quality and price, usually both decline with age. Households also change in the sense that an individual ages and passes through the life-cycle.

The findings from these researchers showed that housing did filter down in quality and as it did, it filtered down through the spectrum of household income moving from the richer to the poorer. Their results showed the elderly at the poorer end of the scale (Montgomery and Mandelker, 1973: 226).

The demand for housing was further investigated by Lithwick in 1973. He projected the need for accommodation in Ontario from 1971 to 1981. His variables were similar to those of other researchers. Results from Lithwick's model were accurate enough to indicate the requirements for new construction, demolition, maintenance, rehabilitation and subsidization for the period considered (Lithwick, 1973: 14-20).

As with most housing researchers, Lithwick had problems in gathering data since availability was difficult. In conclusion, his research found that the poor and elderly are often forced to trade quality for size of unit and accessibility to services and facilities (Lithwick, 1973: 22).

The elderly are a distinct segment of the population with special needs which are not being met. "It has been estimated that a fourth to a half of all patients in nursing homes would not have to be there if there were adequate alternative housing of various types." (Rad, 1976: 524).

When considering how little specially designed housing has been built for those of lower income, it is obvious that the great majority of elderly persons find themselves without the kind of housing they need. Those who need and would most benefit by more and better housing are largely inarticulate and are not organized to make their needs known (Rad, 1976: 527). Rad's findings showed the

most predominant U.S. constraints to elderly persons' accommodations were a national set of priorities, high interest rates, construction costs and zoning or building codes.

The growth and longevity of older citizens in Canadian society and in particular their concentration in the central cities has placed considerable strain on the nation's housing resources (Epstein, 1976: 5).

A substantial number of old people own their own homes. This is also true of most European countries and even more so of the United States. About 79 per cent of elderly persons live in dwellings owned outright by themselves (Williams, 1979: 130). These houses are usually the old family home and have been occupied for a considerable time. Undoubtedly, old people prefer the independence of owning a house and are reluctant to move, even when the residence becomes unsuitable and financially extending (Stone, 1980).

When examining the rented housing market it can be seen that a sizeable number of old people live in rented accommodations. Most of these buildings are operated by a local authority. The elderly in these houses have usually been in them for a long period of time, although there is usually a larger turnover than in owner-occupied houses, as it is easier to persuade old people to move into smaller and more convenient accommodations when there is not the sentimental tie of home ownership (Williams, 1979: 130).

In recent years government policy has encouraged local authorities to build special housing for old people which has resulted in an increase for this type of accommodation. These projects are aided by additional central government financing which reduces the economic burden to senior citizens (Stone, 1980).

The provision of sheltered accommodations for old people has developed in recent years. These units are of the bungalow type with communal eating and meeting facilities. Other services are provided on a group basis with nursing and domestic help. Accommodations have a highly qualified staff for the home, yet the seniors maintain a more satisfying state of independence. If increasing age brings about a general physical deterioration, then the move into the residential home can be far less traumatic.

Finally, senior citizens are able to fulfill their housing needs through established housing associations. These groups have special accommodations for the housing needs of the elderly. There are variations in the type of accommodation which provide elderly with their own rooms, within the security and companionship of small households (Williams, 1979. 131).

It is important to remember that the community as a whole is responsible for their senior citizens. These people have earned a right to proper accommodations for.

their past community services and should be provided with a continuing role as a retired member of the community.

### 3.7 General Housing Concepts of the Elderly

The aim of this literature review has been to describe the housing problems of caring for old people in the community and to outline the facilities which should be available to improve their situation. Many senior citizens fear disengagement from the community but society seems to encourage this. However, attitudes must change. Professional workers must fully realize the special problems which affect the elderly. Families and society must accept the responsibility of care. Old people themselves must learn to integrate and not segregate. Retirement must not mean disengagement but rather an opportunity for fulfillment and positive living.

The initiative must come from government agencies which have the power to legislate direction towards senior housing solutions. Proceedings from the Research Conference on Aging, 1965, in Washington, D. C. stated the principles for the planning of old age housing:

- 1) Every aged person should retain a maximum amount of independence.
- 2) Accommodation, service and help should be in accordance with individual physical and mental needs.

- 3) The individual should decide how much organized aid he or she demands and accepts.
- 4) Planning should aim at maximizing opportunities for help from the family and personal friends.

(Conference on Aging, 1965: 40).

With the trend toward early retirement, millions of persons in their 50's will face many of the problems now associated with the chronologically aged. They will experience the economic dependency that comes from living on a reduced fixed income in an inflationary economy. They may have inadequate housing, lack access to transportation and be confronted with other problems stemming from limited purchasing power (Binstock, 1975: 42-3).

Governments from different areas and countries have tried to approach these problems in diverse ways. The Canadian government should learn from examples abroad which policies would be best for its own elderly population.

Trends in government policy take many different forms throughout the world. England and several European countries lead in providing elderly accommodation services. In the United Kingdom the government provides sheltered housing for its senior citizens. These accommodations are small row apartments grouped throughout the community. A study conducted by Lloyd Jones (1975) examined this method in his country. His research showed that 84 per cent were lonely, 53 per cent had accommodation size problems and 19

per cent were unable to care for themselves (Jones, 1975: 8).

The English government sees this type of housing as a solution to the problem of elderly housing. They feel that these accommodations allow the people to remain with a feeling of independence and have all the services needed by them provided. The majority of the costs are captured by the government.

An excellent example on which the Canadian system could pattern itself is provided in Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Holland. In these countries there is an emphasis on independence and self-sufficiency which is balanced with government insurance, pensions, housing subsidies and home service programs. There is also an increasing diversity of services and choices for the elderly by centres designed with a wide range of housing, recreation, health, cultural, commercial and social services. The main objective of European attitude is to have a continued involvement for the elderly in society (McRae, 1979: 8).

One of the best examples in Europe for elderly housing choices is found in Sweden. Sweden has a widely ranging program and spends approximately 40 per cent of the national budget on programs for seniors. They have learned to allow the individual to live in a normal environment by making enough options available to allow freedom of choice to the elderly.

In Sweden the elderly are helped to remain as



long as possible in their own homes retaining their independence. What makes this country different from Canada, the United States and England, is the acceptance by the younger generation that it is their financial and social duty to care for their senior citizens (McRae, 1979: 54).

The Canadian problem can be described more clearly when examining the housing situation in Ontario, since it affects the policies undertaken in Windsor. This situation is described by the Ontario Welfare Council when they state that one-half of the elderly households in Ontario are below the acceptable poverty lines (Ontario Welfare Conference, 1975: 1).

The Ministry of Housing recognizes the fact that our senior citizens are in need of better quality housing. Today's rents impose an almost intolerable burden on many seniors.

There is the recognition of the need for more sensitive and open development and better management methods because the lack of choice many elderly people face is distressing. The solution is to have at the provincial and local level a much more accurate general assessment of need and a set of targets for programs which clearly indicate how these needs will be met. Each community's population ages in a different way and in each area the elderly have different patterns of housing tenure, income and other important characteristics. It is important to uncover the universals

which apply to North American communities, such as applications of the family life cycle, while recognizing the differences in housing and shelter adjustments from place to place.

While the patterns and problems of the aged are similar throughout the industrialized nations of the world, there is no doubt that Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland have been making significant strides towards identifying and solving the problems of elderly people and their physical environment.

## Chapter IV

### STUDY DESIGN OF THE RESEARCH

#### 4.1 The Decision-Making Process and The Housing Demand Model

The main objective for this research has been to determine the demand for accommodations by senior citizens in the City of Windsor. In order to accurately determine housing demand the present supply of accommodations must be established for the senior citizen population. To help determine this goal a model of housing demand is presented in this chapter. Operational procedures for the model are based on the family life cycle, changing over time. As well, the affecting socio-economic and residential factors within the model are incorporated, enabling the determination for elderly housing demand.

The decision-making process by the elderly in determining their choice of housing, is also presented to further aid explanation. This flowchart is only descriptive to help the reader better understand the selection process for a specific housing type.

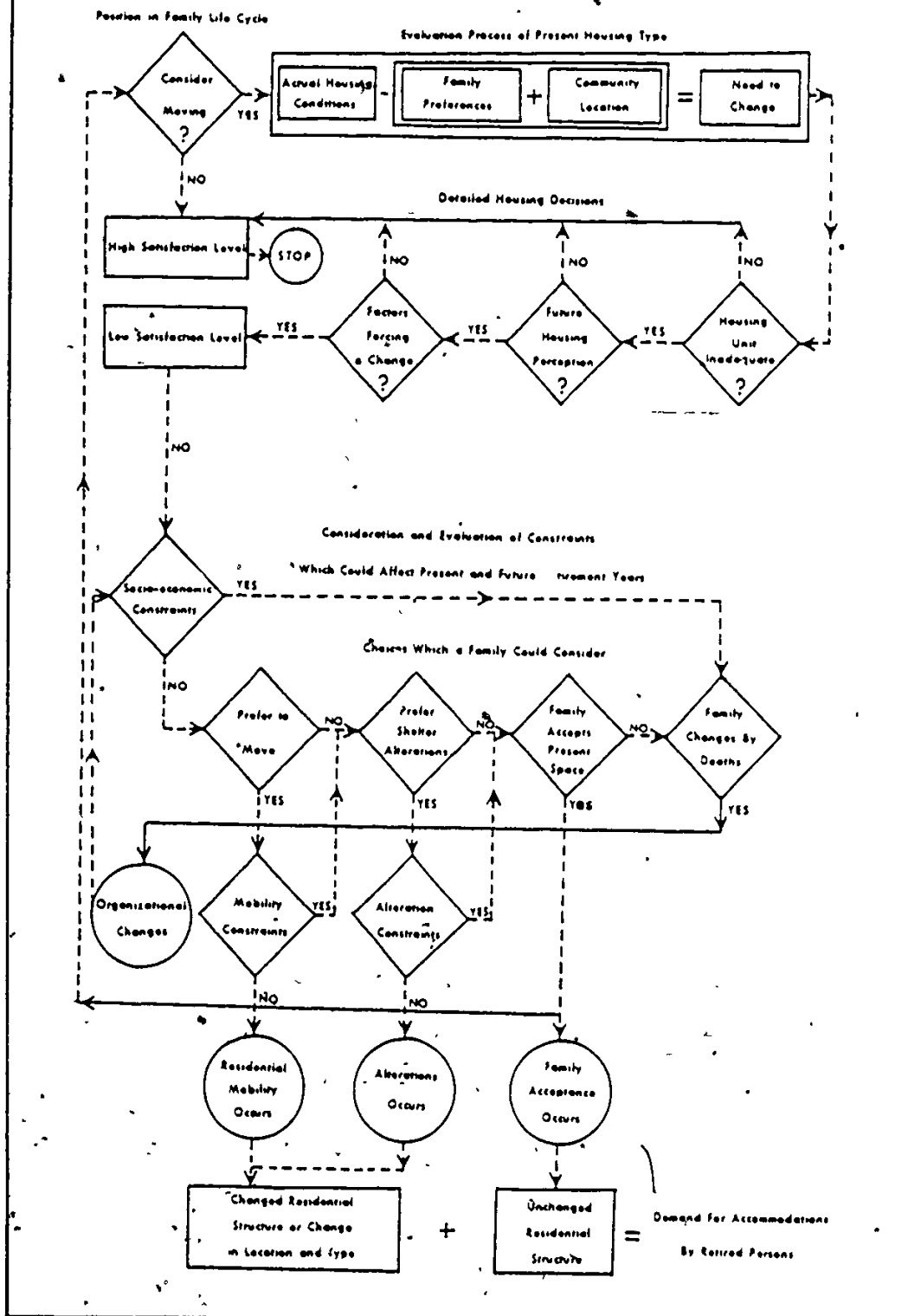
The hypotheses for this research are discussed and analyzed in chapter seven. Hypotheses were derived to measure the different aspects of elderly housing adjustment.

With the changing lifestyles of retired persons the hypotheses offer an indepth analysis of the various factors which result in the demand for accommodations. The relevant characteristics of decisions have been assessed along with present changing environments of the elderly.

The flowchart commences when a family first considers their residential position as a determinate to move. Before any changes are made careful consideration by the family will occur evaluating their present residence. The evaluation of housing conditions are more important at specific age related periods than at others. The relative importance of housing conditions depends upon changes in the family's situation and the contribution of housing to the family's overall well-being.

In particular, for this study, the first decision concerns the evaluation of the actual housing conditions weighted against family preferences and community location. If the results indicate a housing adjustment then the family will assess their housing decision to move. This second decision process will examine the housing unit, future accommodation perceptions, if any, and specific factors which could force a change such as a drop in income resources. The result of this first process will either be a high level of satisfaction allowing the elderly couple to remain in their present residence or a low level of satisfaction where they will consider moving into a new accommodation type.

# DECISION MAKING PROCESS FOR ELDERLY ACCOMMODATIONS



Source: Author

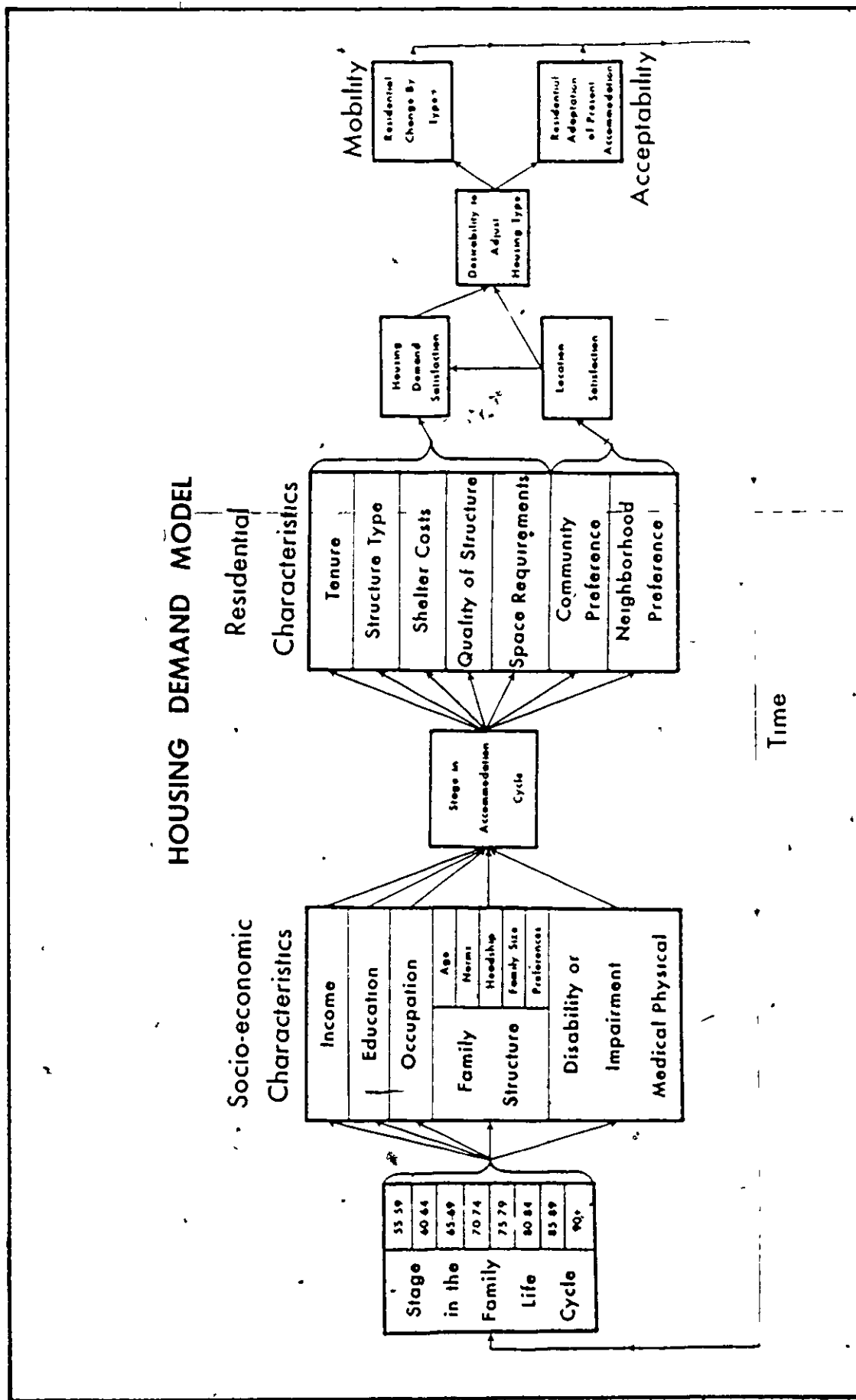
The third decision-making process will involve the socio-economic constraints on the elderly family. As presented in the research model these characteristics are income, education, occupational status, family structure and medical or physical disability. With the consideration of these factors, the family will decide:

- 1) to move into a smaller residence and new location,
- 2) prefer to make accommodation alterations;
- 3) to make personal adjustments and remain in their present residence,
- 4) to consider family reorganization, by moving in with other family members or allowing members to live with them.

The last stage occurs when the final decision process begins whereby the family changes or retains their actual housing conditions. Regardless of the final output the determination of demand for accommodations by retired persons is revealed.

The importance of the decision-making process is the application to the demand model presented in the research (see accompanying diagram). The factors to be measured are presented in determining housing demand. The model is influenced by a transition time throughout the family life cycle changes. Any specific age group from 55 to 90 plus assess their housing status when desiring a change in residence.

Figure 4B



Source: Author

With this model the analysis of socio-economic characteristics are assessed against the different residential characteristics which the elderly family must consider before making a selection. The model is divided into a series of stages allowing the elderly persons or family to find a suitable situation. In completion the model shows a variety of choices possible resulting when family changes in their residence occurs or they decide to remain in their present shelter. As time passes the process will start over, but not necessarily at every age group indicated. Each individual in the life cycle proceeds at different rates, so that this model is flexible enough to accommodate all persons. Once the process of assessment has occurred the demand for any specific housing type at any specific age can be provided to the elderly.

The model of family housing behavior is simplified since families are self-regulating and complex in decision-making. Nevertheless, the model is a close approximation of reality and can provide the basis for the refinement and testing of detailed hypotheses. The utility of the model of housing demand as presented here shows value as a guide to research and secondly, as a means of teaching the implications of various housing actions.



## Chapter V

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

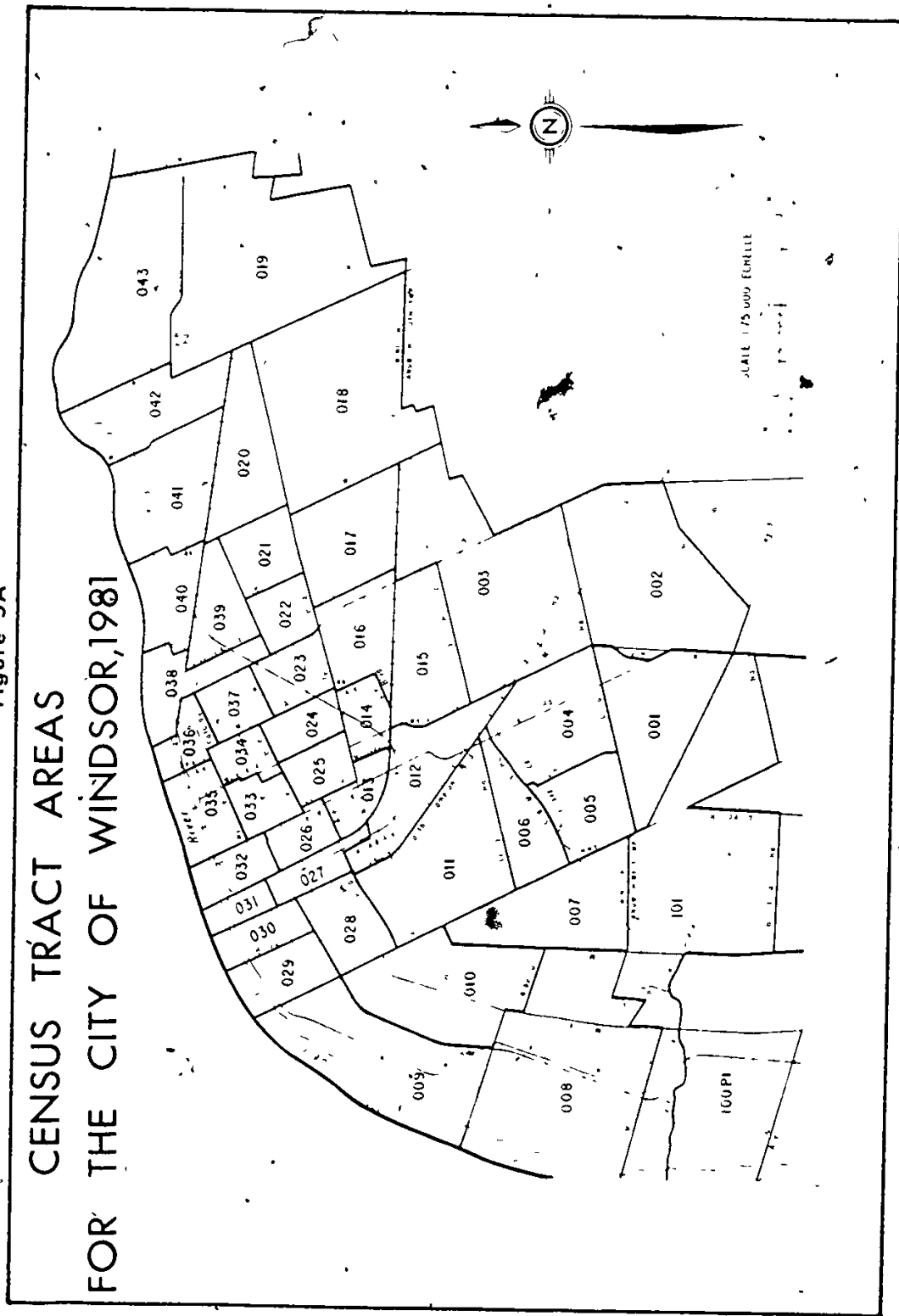
#### 5.1 Questionnaire Procedure and Analysis

In order to achieve the objectives of this study, the starting point of research was to establish the age characteristics of the elderly population under investigation. For the purposes of this research, the study area is defined as the City of Windsor (see figure 5A). Because of difficulties with readily available population data sources for the elderly, a methodology for collection was established to provide a solution to this problem.

Description of the elderly population numbers were derived from the 1976 census of Windsor. Allocation of dispersion in census tracts locations indicated the number of retired persons for each area (see figures 5B, 5C). The total elderly population over age 55 was gathered into five year groups for a more detailed and accurate analysis (see table 5.1). A representative sample for early retirement was established for ages 55 to 64 through advice and consultation of local auto union referees.

Figure 5A

# CENSUS TRACT AREAS FOR THE CITY OF WINDSOR, 1981



Source, Statistics Canada, 1976

Figure 5B

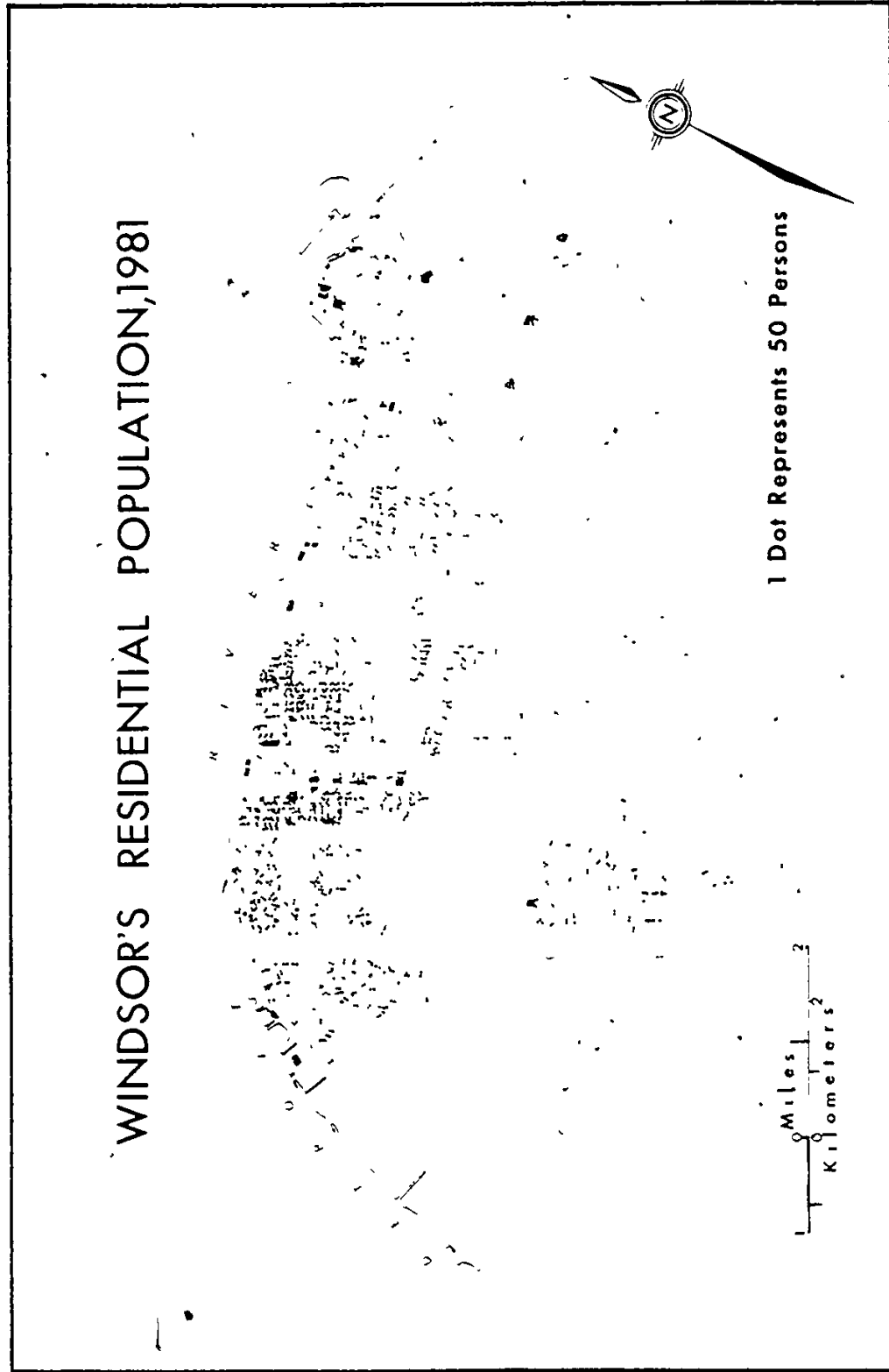




Table 5.1

## RETIRED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF WINDSOR 55 YEARS AND OVER

Age Groups	1976 Canada Census Windsor	1981 Survey Samples
55 - 59	11,005 (1,200 retired)	12
60 - 64	9,330 (2,600 retired)	26
65 - 69	8,700 (5,395 retired)	54
70 - 74	6,840	69
75 - 79	4,650	49
80 - 84	2,585	26
85 - 89	1,125	15
90 +	390 (1,515)	
Total Sample = 251		

The sample was drawn by stratified random selection from the seven major age categories for the total elderly population. ~~A~~ sample population of one per cent was decided for interviewing purposes. There were 251 respondents from the city for data gathering purposes.

A questionnaire schedule was prepared on the basis of the literature review and in accordance to fulfill the study objectives. The first set of questions was designed to provide a statistical profile of the accommodation characteristics of older people (i.e. housing types: present, past, location, tenure status, housing description). The

second set of questions pertained to family characteristics (i.e. family size, marital status, buyer's family size). The next section concerned financial characteristics while the last section asked opinionated questions on need for housing (i.e. services, satisfaction, desired changes). Several dimensions were extracted from the target population measuring both socio-economic and residential characteristics to determine housing demand.

The questionnaire was administered during the period November 1980 to January 1981. A method of interviewing was devised enabling the selection of respondents from senior citizen centres in the city area. The total number of centres in the city represent approximate membership for 70 per cent of all senior citizens in Windsor. Therefore, 30 per cent of the survey was conducted at the residence to account for non-participating members. These respondents were randomly chosen from the city directory using random number tables.

In total, there were 30 senior citizen centres located throughout the city boundaries. From this group 11 centres were chosen as strategic locations for residents' coverage. The locational pattern of the selected centres represent a market potential for the seniors within the city (see for example Applebaum, 1968: 214; Haggett, 1975. 364).

This method provides more centre representation in the city areas of high senior citizen density (for comparison see figure 5C) and eliminated redundancy of residents among

centres. Justification for the use of centres allowed accessibility to apartment residents, eliminated duplication of surveyed residents, provided locational representation of the city, provided ethnic representation and allowed accessibility to hospital and nursing home residents.

The next stage of the study was the tabulation, mapping and analysis of the collected data. The analysis was carried out in two phases -- an analytical description of the data tabulations and cartographic representation of the housing residents and a more detailed statistical analysis which refined the results of the preliminary review.

The first analysis compiled will consist of frequency tables and graphing of the data while tests in phase two will cross tabulate key variables to test the hypotheses. A chi square test for relationship among two variables was used to measure association, and a contingency coefficient to determine the strength of the relationship. The formulas for both procedures can be found in the appendix and are used for calculations.

## SENIOR CITIZEN CENTRES MARKET AREAS, 1981



Source: Author



## Chapter VI

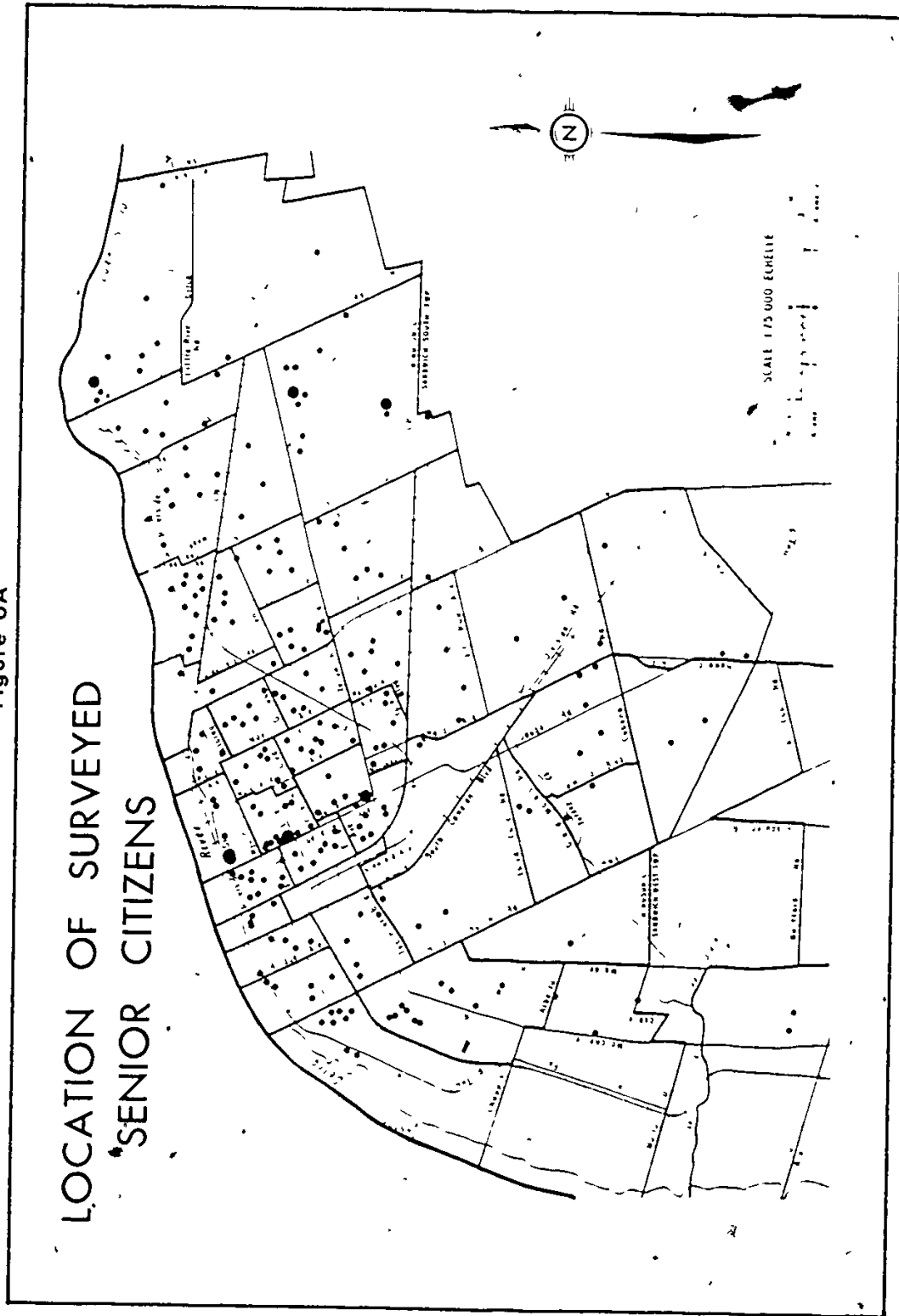
### PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS

#### 6.1 Introduction

The preliminary analysis constitutes the first of two phases of data analysis. The interview data are tabulated and mapped (see figure 6A). Different age groups are compared when analyzing the different study factors in Part One. The accommodations types presently lived in and anticipated accommodation types are examined first, followed by a locational description. This section is followed by a discussion of the cost factors related to present accommodations for seniors. The ability to pay and the cost of living constrains household spending and residential improvement.

The analysis then focuses on the effects of the later stages of the Family Life Cycle, since seniors find themselves in these categories (see figure 3A, chapter III). The largest family size achieved by seniors and their housing is compared to the buyer's family for their previous residences. This should reveal a turnover of units within the housing market. The final part of the preliminary analysis examines medical and physical factors along with service and transportation needs which affect housing choice of senior citizens.

Figure 6A



Source: Author

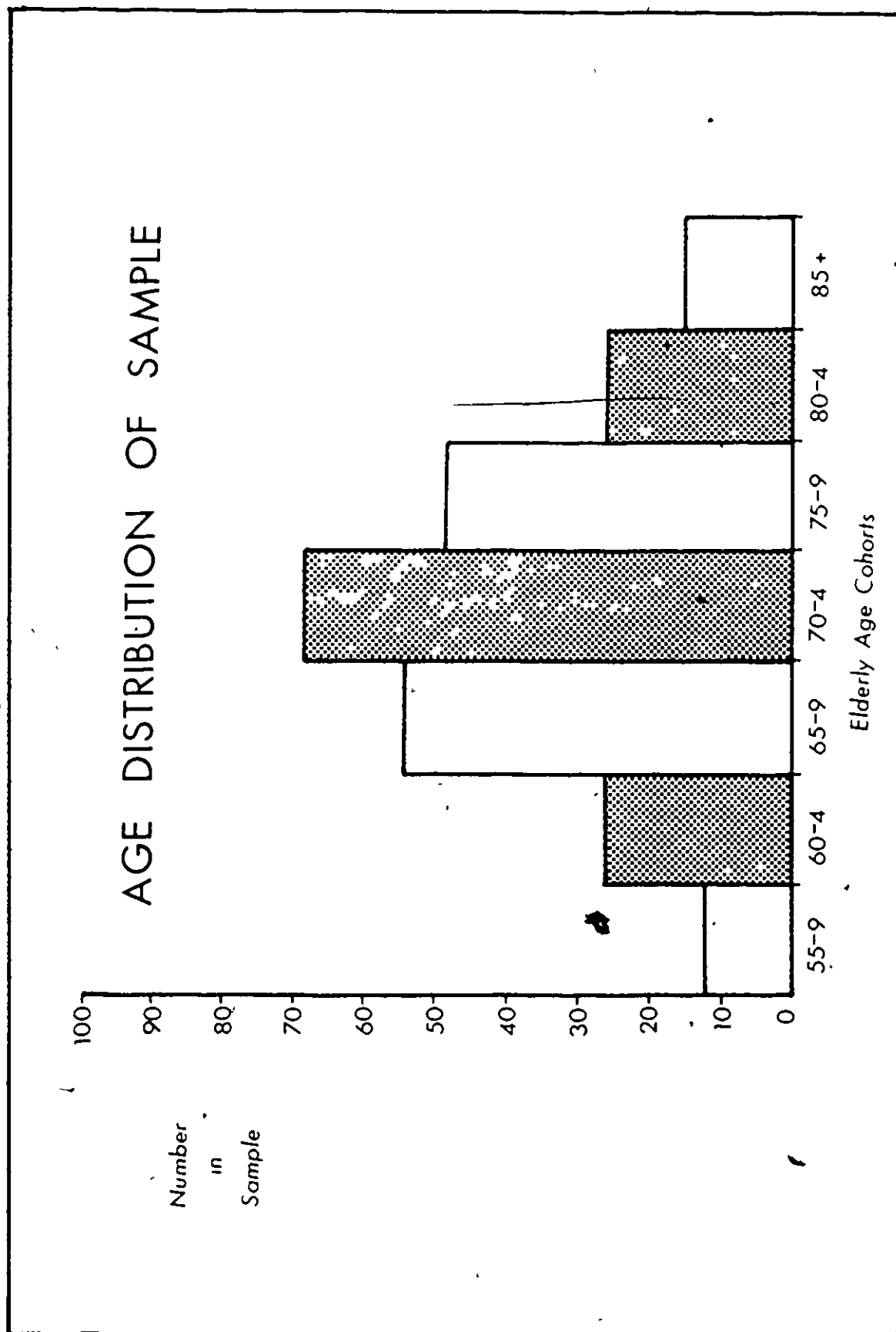
## 6.2 Survey Data Distribution, Age Cohort Comparisons

As mentioned in chapter five, the survey questionnaire was conducted in senior citizen centres and interviewing at the place of residence. The location of surveyed residents are displayed on figure 6A. All census areas of the city show a representation proportional to population concentrates. The survey had a response rate of 87 per cent. From the map residents are heavily concentrated within the city highrise apartment complexes resulting in a clustered pattern. Other seniors also located in this area are found within the older city neighborhoods.

An examination of figure 6B showing distribution by age cohort of the sample reveals a range with a near normal distribution increasing from the 55 to 59 age group, peaking at ages 70 to 74, and then declining.

In addition to data analysis, the researcher made personal observations of the residents interviewed. One such example may be the emotional aspects which people convey in expressing their particular problems. While conducting a questionnaire one may experience different strengths of feelings and interrelationships that can only be recorded and discussed at a later stage in the analysis, but should not be eliminated. Therefore, the personal aspects of the survey have also been incorporated within the final analysis.

Figure 6B



Source. Author

### 6.3 Comparison of Accommodation Types, Past, Present, Future

The accommodation descriptions indicate the extent to which senior citizens establish themselves in different types of housing throughout the urban area. The greater the number of residents found in one particular type of shelter, the greater the demand for that type. A comparison of residents by age groups and total population showed the changes in housing types over the years. Past housing has been surveyed to establish the link over time, which can then be projected to future desired housing types. An important aspect in the study of housing demand is to establish the present accommodation pattern and examine the past trends to project future needs.

This study recognizes that several factors may have an impact on the demand for senior citizen housing. In particular, the choice of the present pattern is affected by type, price and location in the urban area. As well, personal factors which have tremendous impact upon the senior, such as health, income and mobility, will relate to the demand for accommodation.

The analysis of the demand for housing commences with an overview of the entire survey results for the study area. The results for the past, present and predicted future housing situations are presented in tables A.1, A.2, A.3, found in the appendix. Present housing shows a total

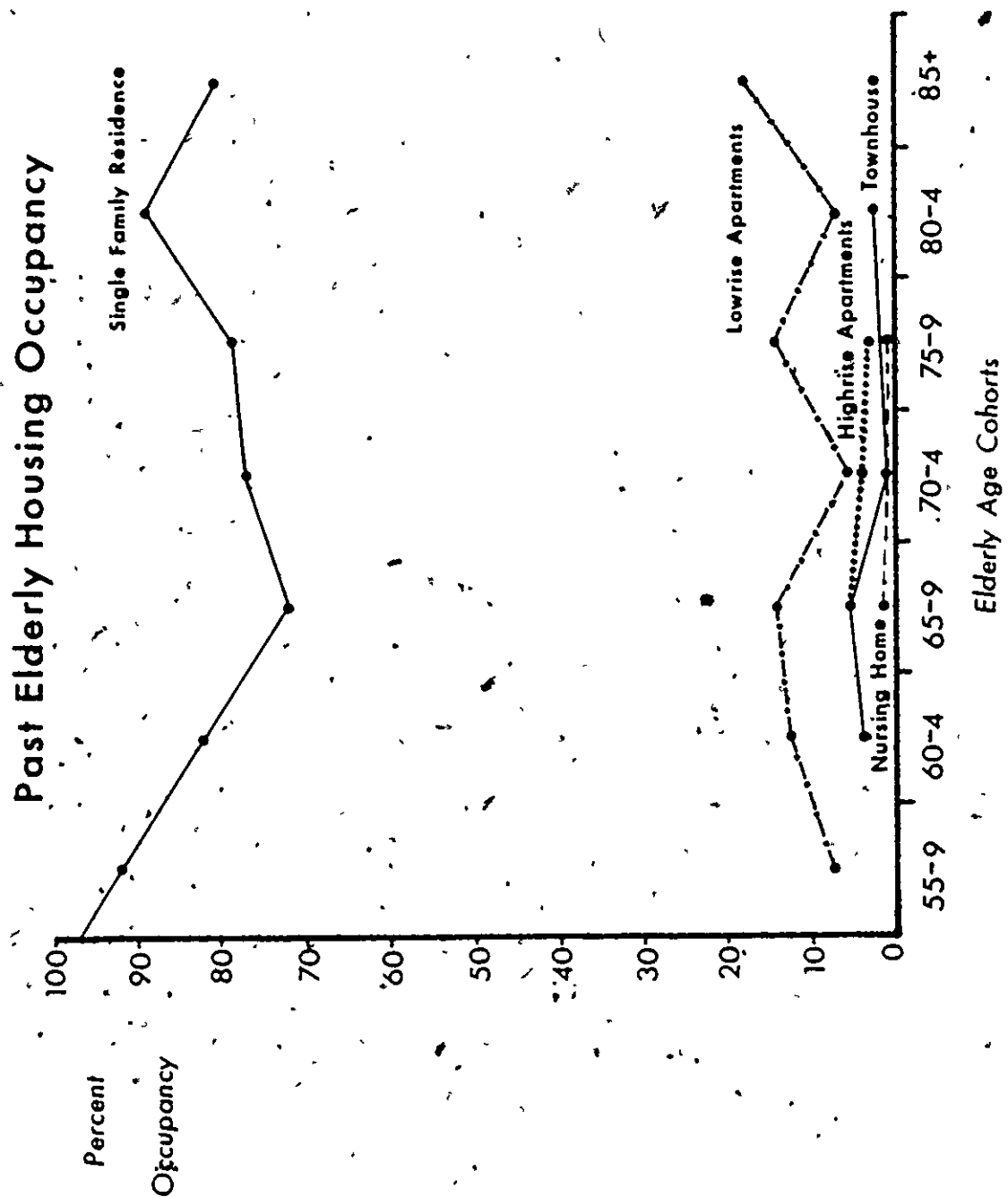
of nine accommodation types that were inhabited by the 251 surveyed residents. The highest level of occupancy was in single-family residences with 62.5% followed by highrise apartments accounting for 24.0% of the respondents. The seven other types comprised 13.5% of the remaining sample (see tables in appendix).

Nursing homes contained only 2.8% of the sample, and this indicates that many seniors who reach older ages are relatively healthy. The large proportion of seniors who remain in their own homes indicated that this is the most desired type of residence, given the choices available.

Results for the specific age cohorts are presented in figures 6C, 6D and 6E showing the actual past, present and future preferences for housing. By comparing the past and present housing percentages for each cohort, the overall market shows a decreasing gap between single-family residences and highrise apartments. The figures also show a general lowering of occupancy in single-family residences and a steady increase for highrise apartments as more and more are put on the market for seniors. When extended to the future, demand preference shows that the decrease of single-family homes continues to a leveling off point. This plateau is reached when all seniors who want to stay in houses are established (see figure 6E).

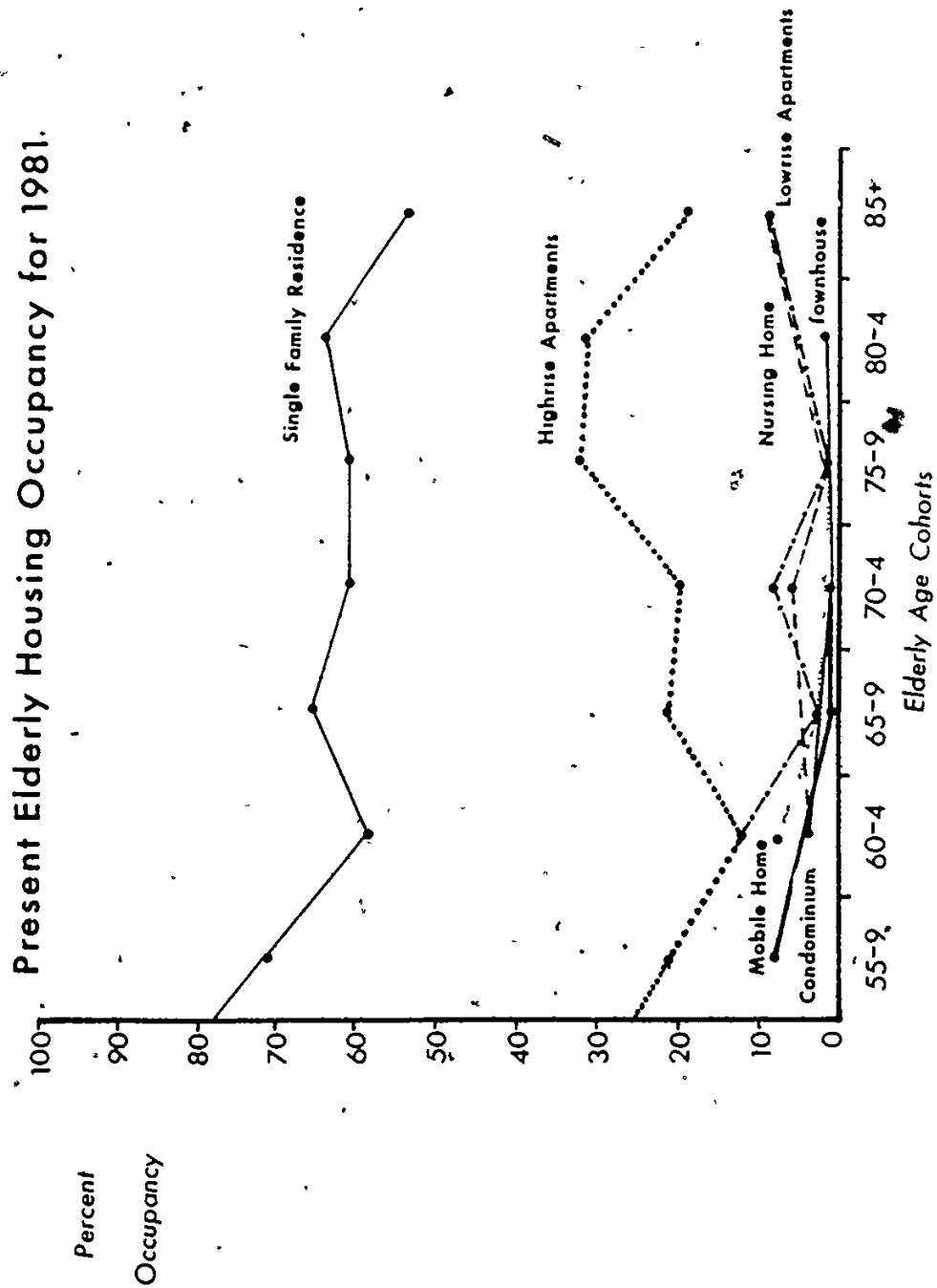
When examining the age cohorts for present accommodations it is seen that there are definite decreases in the

Figure 6C



Source: Author

Figure 6D

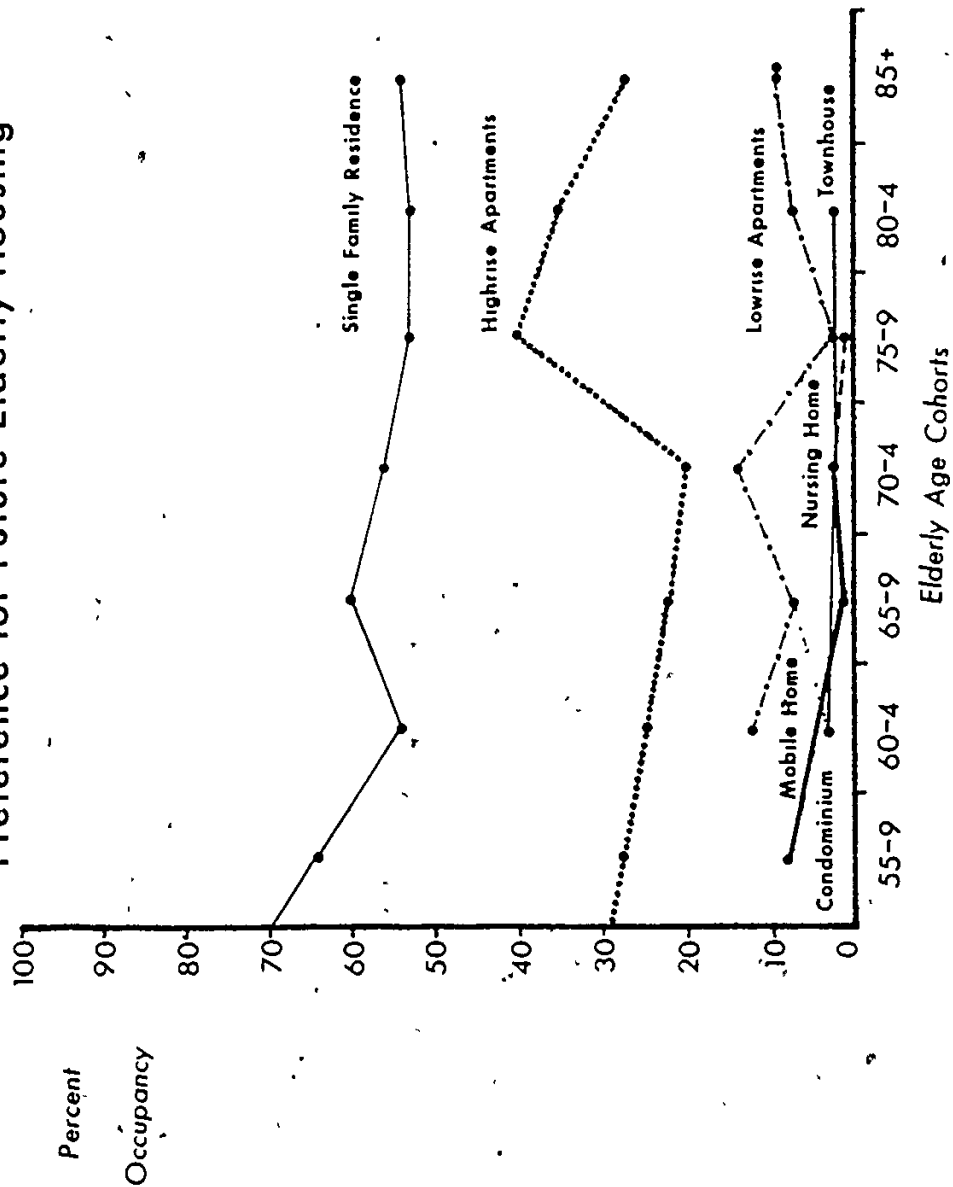


Source: Author



Figure 6E

# Preference for Future Elderly Housing



Source: Author

proportion of single-family residences between the ages of 59 to 64. This may be attributed to decisions to relocate prior to retirement, further explanation will be given later. Among all age groups there was a larger number who lived in highrise apartments. The steepest increase occurred between the age groups of 70 to 74 and 75 to 79 moving from 20.0% to 33.3%. These figures show that at these ages the demand for apartment living increases at the expense of other shelter types (see figure 6C and table matrice 6.1)

From examination of the present housing graph, an abruptness in decision-making can be seen at age 55 to 64. At this point there are decisions made by these seniors to experience a new shelter. Some may be trying to solve any anticipated problems they might have with a present location.

A "turning point" is seen on the graph which may be explained by the fact that this younger group's ability to function and afford relocation is not affected. They still have relatively high incomes, from more recent retirement pensions than older groups and are in good health. Therefore, the incidence of relocation is higher in the younger age cohort.

A loss in single-family residence occupancy is seen by the increase of other housing types in the market for age 55 to 64. Once these seniors have had the opportunity to explore the retired housing market and start nearing the government pension age of 65, they become more content by

Table 6.1

## TRANSITION OF OCCUPANTS FROM PAST TO PRESENT HOUSING

Past Housing Types	Present Housing Types				Other, Joined Units
	Single-Family Residence	Highrise Apartments	Lowrise Apartments		
Single-Family Residence	(79.7%) 200	31	5	12	=200
Highrise Apartments	(3.5%) 9	9	0	0	= 9
Lowrise Apartments	(11.2%) 28	15	8	0	= 28
Other, Joined Units	(5.6%) 14	5	0	9	= 14
Totals	251	157 (62.5%)	60 (24.0%)	21 (8.2%)	=251 (100.0%)

All numbers are in absolute values

Source Author

either remaining in a selected new shelter or reverting back to a single-family residence. This is supported by the sudden increase at age 65 to 69 for both single-family residences and highrise apartments. This occurs at a loss of other housing types taking away their residents. A situation such as this results from housing inertia whereby a person establishes over a lifetime a taste for a particular accommodation type. Some seniors never feel comfortable in any place other than their own homes.

Single-family residents comprise more than 50% throughout the different age cohorts. This supports the fact that seniors wish to remain independent within their own house throughout their retired lives. Figures also show that approximately 24.0% of the seniors live in highrise apartments. Investigations of the other socio-economics and health factors should indicate the reasons for this change.

When compared to past occupancy patterns from figure 6C it can be seen that there were greater numbers of seniors living in single-family residences. The future trends from figure 6E indicate a growing shift towards apartment living and a leveling off for houses. This figure for all apartments increases to 28.2% with a high of 40.7% for the 75 to 79 age group (see figure 6E for comparison).

Shifts in the senior housing population is further supported by an analysis using matrices to measure moves from past to present and to future housing preference

types (see figures 6C, 6D). The housing types were collapsed for a better distinction of moves. Within the past to present matrix (table 6.1), the single-family residence gave up 17.2% of its occupants to highrise apartments. There was also a loss of 5.9% in lowrise apartments with 2.6% moving to highrise apartments and 3.3% to the remaining varieties. In general there was a 23.1% shift in the elderly housing population from a past shelter to their present residence.

The accompanying present to future matrix (table 6.2) shows the preferences for moves to accommodations. Future changes are modestly predicted changing only 7.8% as compared to 23.1% earlier. This shows a stabilization in future housing trends. Again, single-family residences will lose occupants, but this time only 6.0%. Of this amount, 4.2% stated they will choose highrise apartments and 1.8% stated lowrise apartments. There will also be losses of 1.7% in joined housing to lowrise apartments.

The rising costs to live and to maintain a single-family residence because of inflation are further reducing the number of senior occupants. These diagrams show that the future supply of housing for senior citizens should be adequate. It could be surmised that lesser housing quality and lower family incomes would cause seniors to choose high-rise living. The fact remains that a majority of seniors prepare for retirement and remain during retirement in their

Table 6.2

TRANSITION OF OCCUPANTS FROM PRESENT TO FUTURE HOUSING PREFERENCES

Present Housing Types	Single-Family Residence	Highrise Apartments	Lowrise Apartments	Other, Joined Units
Single-Family Residence (62.5%) 157	142	10	3	2 -157
Highrise Apartments (24.0%) 60	0	52	4	4 - 60
Lowrise Apartments (5.3%) 13	0	4	9	0 - 13
Other, Joined Units (8.2%) 21	0	6	5	10 -21
Totals 251	142 (56.5%)	72 (28.5%)	21 (8.4%)	16 (6.5%) -251 (100.0%)

All numbers are in absolute values

Source Author

own homes. The future housing types (figure 6E) shows only a small increase in highrise apartments from single-family residences. This increase could be explained through knowledge of the availability of these units, but the number of seniors who remain in their own homes indicates that they feel this environment is the proper type for themselves.

#### 6.4 Location Situation of Accommodations

Certain location factors may determine the preference for a particular housing unit chosen by senior citizens. As the years pass and the family fragments a large single-family residence in a particular location may not adequately serve the elderly couple or single person. Shopping or medical services and transportation are maybe available only at a distance which may impose a burden on the elderly person.

In the survey, many individuals responded that they were willing to adjust to any inconvenience caused by location. With rising transportation costs many seniors distinguished the location as varying systematically with distance and chose services as near to their housing as possible. At times their location resulted in poorer shopping conditions with reduced quality and higher prices for goods. They attributed this to the lack of commuting ability to provide competitive shopping facilities within the city. Elderly residents are concerned about their isolation. When age increases and mobility decreases the central shopping

location of a city market becomes difficult to reach. Sometimes the resident will make substitutions for goods and services caused by the lack of ability to travel greater distances.

In this manner, the choice of accommodation becomes critical for retirement years. Highrise apartments offer the most central location, but many seniors own single-family residences (62.5%) within the older city neighborhood (see table 6.3). As long as health, which affects mobility, is stable the present location in a highrise or older single-family neighborhood was feasible.

From table 6.3 of the survey, results showed a preference for living in city neighborhoods with 70.1% of the sample being located in these areas. There was a distinct decline away from this area towards the central business district core and central business district fringe for those ages of 65 to 69 and 70 to 74, dropping from 69.0% to 66.2%. This indicates an adjustment period, supporting the shift in population towards highrise apartments of the more central location.

Only 9.8% of elderly residents choose to live within the outlying county. If city neighborhoods are considered most desirable with single-family residents, then the direction of service aid should be applied to these areas of housing units that enable better services for the elderly. More small local clusters of shops and smaller but discrete



Table 6.3

## SENIOR CITIZENS PREFERRED HOUSING LOCATIONS

Location	Elderly Age Cohorts							
	55-85+	55-9	60-4	65-9	70-4	75-9	80-4	85 +
Central Business District	10.4		8.3	5.4	12.3	16.7	7.1	18.2
Central Business District Fringe	9.5	7.1	12.5	10.9	13.8	9.3		107
City Neighborhood	70.1	71.4	66.7	69.0	66.2	68.5	85.7	72.7
City Suburbs	9.1	21.4	8.3	12.7	7.7	5.5	7.1	9.1
Within the County	0.8		4.2	1.8				

All values are in percentages

Source Questionnaire

housing units appear to be demanded. Perhaps a sharing of present residences by several elderly couples or singles should be encouraged.

With the small percentage of seniors willing to live in the county the need for housing is greater within the city limits. Perhaps 1 or 2 persons of the total sample said they would relocate outside the country. As a result, housing developers will need to locate their facilities in those areas of the city suitable to seniors. Shopping and walking are important facts for highrise location. As indicated in section 6.3, the highrise does supply and will accommodate a substantial number of seniors.

Most seniors said they saw Windsor as a city with a comfortable climate for retirement. Location is important to the developer for future building and it is important to the senior for present housing choices.

#### 6.5 Cost Factors Related to Present Accommodations

The overall economic status of any group of people is partly determined by their ability to pay for the cost of a commodity. Housing usually imposes the single largest expense for any person. While seniors' incomes usually remain at a stable level throughout their retirement years the financial obligations of society could lead to an adjustment in their housing types. Perhaps a more centrally located and smaller housing unit will adjust their expenditures.

to fit retirement incomes. Income is one reason why seniors relocate themselves into downtown highrise apartments.

The survey results will be analyzed in terms of total family income, the amount spent by seniors for their housing and the costs related to improvements for their residence. A combination of these factors leads to decisions to relocate or to improve their present housing structure. Either decision is strongly influenced by the income of that household.

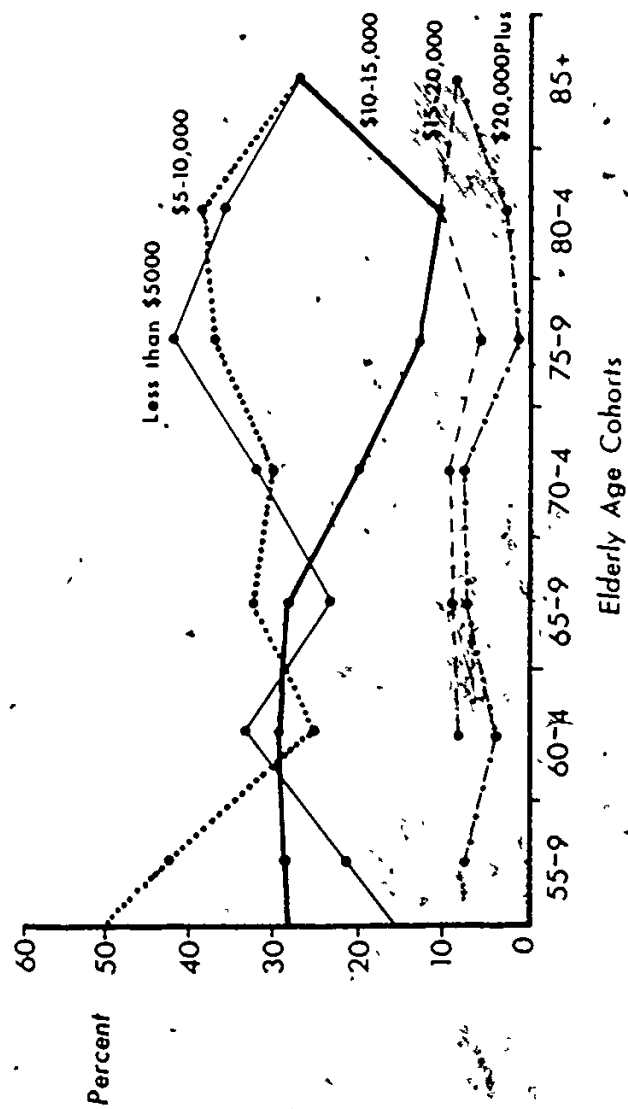
Total family income is presented in figure 6F. Immediate effects of retirement are seen by the majority of senior citizens living on 10,000 dollars or less which totaled 65.8% of the sample. This indicates that since income is relatively low, the budgeting of household expenditures must be cautious. At the other extreme of the scale it was realized that only 5.5% of the seniors earned 20,000 dollars or more.

From this table the turning point of expenditure was seen to be at ages 70 to 74 with a drop in earnings shown by the increase in the less than 5000 dollars group. The single highest income cohort was between the ages of 55 to 59, earning between 5 to 10,000 dollars which totaled 42.9%. This could be attributed to a more recent retirement age and higher retirement wages attained by the group.

Since 81.6% of all seniors had their mortgages paid in full and 98.4% of those who did not thought the payments

Figure 6F

# TOTAL FAMILY INCOME FOR 1981



Source: Author

were of no burden, then it is logical to suggest that most seniors who own their homes are more financially secure than other owners.

Occupancy costs per household per annum are presented in table 6.4. From this table, the largest costs per household is within the 2 to 3000 dollar range comprising 39.8% of the sample. The second largest group of 30.2% spent between 1 to 2000 dollars per year on housing. As households moved down the wage scale the likelihood of home ownership decreases since upkeep costs for a single-family residence is greater than other housing units' costs.

The transition in tenure to a rented highrise or lowrise apartment requires expenditures approximately between 2 to 4000 dollars. This explains some of the 32.3% sample having incomes less than 5000 dollars choosing this type of accommodation. The low income groups would have no funds to spend on improvements. In one unique group sampled only 2.7% of the residents spent more than 5000 dollars on their households.

The trend for senior citizens shows a move toward the lower expenditure scale. Between the ages of 69 to 70 there is an increase from 1.8% to 10.8% of those seniors spending less than 1000 dollars. At the upper age category of 85 and over the expenditure for 5000 dollars and higher was 18.2% of the total group for which 9.1% were found in nursing homes. This supports the fact that health care

Table 6.4

## AMOUNT SPENT PER ANNUM/PER HOUSEHOLD FOR HOUSING

Personal Costs  
for Occupancy

## Elderly Age Cohorts

	55-85+	55-9	60-4	65-9	70-4	75-9	80-4	85 +
Less than \$1000	5.5	7.1	8.3	1.8	10.8	1.9	7.1	9.1
1 - 2000.	30.2	28.6	25.0.	23.6	30.8	48.1	21.4	27.3
2 - 3000.	39.8	50.0	29.2	47.3	33.8	38.9	50.0	27.3
3 - 4000.	11.9	14.3	16.7	14.5	12.3	5.5	7.1	
4 - 5000.	9.5		16.7	12.7	9.2	5.5	7.1	18.2
5000. plus	2.7		4.2		3.1		7.1	18.2

All values are in percentages

Source. Questionnaire

within nursing facilities is extremely expensive to the aged.

The second table for comparison of income and expenditure reveals the amount of money spent by seniors for repairs to their residences. This information is shown in table 6.5. The highest improvement expenditures was less than 1000. dollars (11.5%) followed by the 2 to 3000 dollar range (11.1%). This table is revealing because it is assumed that as people grow older the residence in which they live requires more repairs.

The age category of 55 to 59 showed an increased proportion of persons (28.6%) spending between 1 to 3000 dollars. Expenditure drops for the following group aged 60 to 64 to 4.2% within the same range. Most of the expenditures at age 60 to 64 falls within the 5000 dollar plus range at 12.5%. Figures reveal that some people between the ages of 55 to 59 prepare for retirement by investing money in their present home for later years. This also indicates that the decision to relocate and change their retirement housing is not foreseen by some of the group.

The costs of improvements rise again to 14.5% for the age cohort 65 whereby mandatory retirement perhaps forces the consideration of investment into personal property for later years. The oldest age group of 85 and over shows expenditures of 2 to 3000 dollars for 27.3% of the cohort. This supports the close relationship of age to building repair needs over increased time.

Table 6.5

## AMOUNT SPENT FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Amount Spent	Elderly Age Cohorts							
	55-85+	55-9	60-4	65-9	70-4	75-9	80-4	85 +
Less than \$1000.	11.5	7.1	4.2	10.9	16.9	12.9	10.7	
1 - 2000.	8.4	14.3	4.2	9.0	6.1	11.1	10.7	
2 - 3000.	11.1	14.3		14.5	9.2	12.9	7.1	27.3
3 - 4000.	2.4	7.1	8.3	3.6		1.8		
4 - 5000.	3.5		4.2	5.5	4.6	1.8	3.5	
5000. plus	3.5		12.5	1.8	1.5	3.7	3.5	9.1
Not at all	58.5	57.1	66.6	54.5	61.5	55.5	64.3	63.6

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire



In summary, it was shown that a total of 58.5% of the households attempted some form of repair to their residence. These households generally progressed from moderate expenditures at the early cohorts to no expenditure within the middle age cohorts to again moderate spending at the upper age cohorts. A description of living expense perception is presented in the appendix showing that 32.6% of the survey felt there were medium effects from retirement living on their expenditures. In conclusion, many senior citizens showed that they do prepare for retirement by improving the condition of their existing housing and are moderate to thrifty spenders as a result of their reduced incomes. For this reason the demand in senior housing can be found through inexpensive apartment living or low cost housing.

#### 6.6 Family Life Cycle Structure

Stages in the life cycle influence households in their housing requirements as their family size and income change at various stages in their life. If the transitions described by life cycle concepts are correct then housing choice should vary with the sequences of moves. When family size is largest, housing facilities should also be at their largest. As the family grows and progresses in age the needs change for housing. The choices to elderly people are twofold: they may remain where they are, usually in a house too large, provided their income, maintenance and health are

sufficient or they may adjust their needs to smaller accommodation. The survey data are analyzed to determine if the turnover process was completed by older families, releasing larger facilities to younger growing families.

Table 6.6 describes the largest family size ever achieved by the present elderly person, showing the required space needs for all age groups. The largest family size achieved by a majority of the respondents (33.8%) was three children followed by two children families for 31.0% of the sample.

The table shows a general stability for one to three children in the early cohort groups. The most noted family sizes appear in the upper age levels over 85 showing 63.7% of the group had more than three children. This was due to the accepted attitude of raising very large families when these people were younger. Indications show that most large families choose to live in single-family residences and therefore this type of accommodation is made available to starting families at later times.

This table was compared with the buyer's age and family size to determine if new growing families were indeed purchasing larger accommodations from elderly people. The age of the buyer for the elderly's past residence is presented in table 6.7. Results show that buyers between the ages of 20 to 30 years comprise 27.8% and those 31 to 35 made up 17.5%.

Table 6.6

## LARGEST FAMILY SIZE ACHIEVED

Number of Persons	Elderly Age Cohorts						
	55-85+	55-9	60-4	65-9	70-4	75-9	80-4 85 +
1 Person	2.8		4.2	5.5	3.1	1.9	
2 Persons	7.5	7.1	4.2	7.2	10.8	9.3	3.6
2 Adults 1 Child	21.5	28.6	25.0	21.8	23.1	22.2	17.9
2 Adults 2 Children	31.0	28.6	37.5	29.1	32.3	35.2	17.9 36.4
2 Adults 3 Children	33.8	35.7	25.0	36.4	26.2	27.0	60.7 45.5
State Size	3.2		4.2		4.6	3.7	18.2

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire

Table 6.7  
SIZE OF BUYER'S FAMILY FOR ELDERLY PAST HOUSING

Number of Persons	Elderly Age Cohorts							
	55-85+	55-9	60-4	65-9	70-4	75-9	80-4	85+
1 Person	7.5	14.3	8.3	10.9	7.6	5.6	7.1	9.1
2 Persons	27.5	21.4	41.7	25.5	26.2	27.8	28.6	27.3
3 Persons	23.9		8.3	25.5	29.2	24.1	35.7	9.1
4 Persons	21.1	14.3	20.8	20.0	21.5	20.4	14.3	45.5
5 Persons	3.9		4.2	1.8	1.5	7.4	7.1	
6 Persons	2.4			1.8	3.1	3.7		9.1

Response 50.0 16.7 14.5 10.7 11.1 7.1

All values are in percentages

Source Questionnaire

This information can be taken one step further by comparing the buyer's family size to the age of the household head. Table 6.7 shows that 45.0% of the young families had 3 to 4 persons in their household. This supports the idea that younger families with small children are looking for larger accommodations.

The smaller percentages in the larger families corresponds to the smaller percentages for the middle aged buyers. Usually when a couple have achieved their full family size by their late 30's or early 40's, they have established a permanent residence. It is the younger families who are searching for more suitable housing from the elderly population. From the survey it was also realized that a small percentage shared accommodations with relatives. This is presented in table A.5 found in the appendix.

In most cases seniors sold a larger house for a smaller more manageable apartment. This fact also supports the need for highrise facilities, if the housing stock is to be balanced among all groups. The demand for accommodations by this changeover process is directed to the supply of apartments for older people and single-family residence for younger families.

#### 6.7 Health Factors Related to Housing Choice

This section attempts to describe the relationship

of health as it affects housing choice of the elderly.

When some element or condition in the household changes from its set standard or norm a deficit may result. The deficit could be biological, psychological or social. If the problem is great enough it will trigger stress of some kind. The stress produced may result in routine adjustments by the elderly in their housing type or they may adapt their situation through changes in the norms or standards of living by a housing change. Finally, their pathology could be in the form of physical or mental ill health caused by severely decreased socio-economic well-being.

Table 6.8 ranks the specific reasons for which the elderly said they moved from their past residence. Health is directly related to physical upkeep of a residence and accounted for 36.1% of the sample. Income was next at 13.1% as a reason for relocation. The largest single reason given for relocation was to raise a family at 44.6% of the sample.

Health and upkeep peaked at ages 65 to 69 as causes for moving to a new location. The oldest cohort at 85 years of age stated upkeep (27.3%) as their single most important relocation factor.

Table A.5, found in the appendix, shows the need for an occasional nursing visit. Sample results indicated only 18.3% residents needed help while over 80.3% said they had reasonable health. This proves that the survival rate

Table 6.8

## REASONS FOR MOVING FROM A PAST RESIDENCE

Reason	Elderly Age Cohorts						
	55-85+	55-9	60-4	65-9	70-4	75-9	80-4 85 +
Wanted a Change (Raise a Family)	44.6	71.4	58.3	36.4	41.5	40.7	53.6 36.4
Upkeep too great	23.9	21.4	16.7	30.9	24.6	20.4	21.4 27.3
Income	13.1	7.1	8.3	12.7	15.4	18.5	7.1 9.1
Health	12.4		12.5	14.5	9.2	14.8	14.3 18.1
Sold for a Profit	5.5		4.2	5.5	7.7	5.5	3.6 9.1

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire

of seniors as measured by increase longevity in Canada is further substantiated by this survey.

The last table 6.9 ranks the reasons which influenced present housing choice of the elderly. Health was expressed as the lowest factor of importance in the decision to move at only 3.1%, while the resident who moved for reasons of style was the highest at 32.2%. Income was the second highest reason at 23.9% while location was given next at 16.7%. These results may be correlated to the graphs of section 6.3. Income can certainly be a determinate to those seniors who chose a highrise apartment.

The type of residence was probably expressed most since health and income factors dictate to the senior which type of accommodation is most suitable. A summary of this table shows a transition or turning point between ages 64 to 65. The most important reasons given for selection were by type, price and health related factors.

The motivation for relocation varies from age to age since factors of importance have different importance for each cohort. When related to the demand for housing the single-family residence requires the most healthy and able senior citizen, unless their incomes are substantial to pay for the needed services or they receive free family help. Many seniors indicated a highrise apartment complex as their first choice, as a result of health and dwindling



Table 6.9

## SPECIFIC REASONS WHICH INFLUENCED PRESENT HOUSING CHOICE

Reason	Elderly Age Cohorts								
	55-85+	55-9	60-4	65-9	70-4	75-9	80-4	85 +	
Change of Type	32.3	57.1	37.5	20.0	29.2	31.5	32.1	45.5	
Income	23.9	21.4	16.7	29.1	26.2	20.4	21.4	27.3	
Change of Location	16.7		20.8		15.4	18.5	17.8	9.1	123
Physical Upkeep	14.4	14.3	4.2	14.5	15.3	16.7	17.9	9.1	
Area too Large	3.9		8.3	25.5	3.1	5.5	7.1	9.1	
Medical, Physical	3.1		4.2	3.6	4.6	3.7			
No Response	5.5	7.1	8.3	7.3	6.2	3.7	3.6		

All values are in percentages

Source Questionnaire

incomes. In summary, health factors may force a move but the selection of a new residence is dominated by style and type factors.

#### 6.8 Services and Transportation Factors Related to Housing Choice

The final section examines any relationship which, may exist between the supply of services and facilities and the decision for a particular housing type or location by elderly people. As mentioned in the earlier chapters a choice of housing type may be decided by whether or not the neighborhoods can provide the services required by seniors.

Table 6.10 shows the preference for transportation usage while table 6.11 shows shopping and level of satisfaction with facilities. Many times, whether or not personal transportation is available will influence choice for a central city location. If personal mobility decreases, then seniors look for readily available services which reduce their dependence upon personal transportation.

It is a known fact that those senior citizens who live in highrise apartments are using a bus most for transportation. The sample showed (table 6.10) that 29.0% of these people used a bus intensively, which can be correlated with 30.0% of the seniors living in apartments.

Many seniors located within the central business district or its fringe are in the position to walk easily to facilities as compared to others located in outer

Table 6.10

## TRANSPORTATION PREFERENCES BY SENIOR CITIZENS

Type of Service	Usage			Not at all
	Intensive	Moderate	Occasional	
Personal Vehicle	46.6	9.9	2.4	40.6
Bus	29.0	9.9	25.8	35.6
Taxi	4.7	4.7	22.7	67.7
Friends' Car	6.8	11.5	31.5	50.2
Walking	19.9	25.1	29.5	25.5

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire

Table 6.11

## SHOPPING SERVICE PREFERENCES BY SENIOR CITIZENS

	Satisfaction			
	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied
Food Stores	22.7	58.6	14.4	4.4
Hospital	17.1	76.9	5.6	0.4
Other Shopping Stores	13.9	72.1	12.4	1.6
Entertainment	10.8	74.1	13.2	1.9
Parks	9.9	74.5	13.2	2.4

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire

neighborhoods or suburban areas. The first table shows that only 4.7% of the seniors will spend money intensively for taxi services. This figure is low because the expense for this type of transportation is not affordable by many seniors. The intensive usage column further shows that only 6.8% of the people will rely on friends for transportation. These figures were closely related to ethnic family ties in the questionnaire results, showing that the children in these families catered to the transportation needs of their parents.

The people sampled stated that the less independent they became in a combined housing type such as apartments, the more need they developed for public transportation. This was also true of the oldest cohorts that required more help as a result of less mobility to enable them to travel in the city. The developer should keep this in mind when constructing highrise facilities for seniors.

Related to transportation are the service stores and facilities which the general public use. Many times the choice of an accommodation is decided on the basis of proximity to services.

Table 6.11 describes the service preferences for senior citizens. Many elderly people are very satisfied with the type and location of food stores in their area. In general, the highest percentages fell within the satisfied category. It may be deduced that services play a

secondary role in housing choice behind income and health. If the decision to relocate has been finalized most seniors will adjust their living habits to satisfy their service needs.

In summary, choices for housing by seniors are not totally dependent on service availability as earlier thought. Transportation creates the link between accommodations and services and is directly related to the type and usage by the individual. Therefore, the importance given to housing demand decisions would only be secondary concerning service availability and more directly decided by the uncontrolled factors of health and income. The developer can learn from these results to provide what the people want and not force on the people what they do not want.

## Chapter VII

### TESTING OF HYPOTHESES

#### 7.1 Introduction

In the preceding chapter, a preliminary analysis of the housing demand factors was carried out based primarily on questionnaire data tabulations. This analysis revealed trends which indicated directions for further detailed investigations. A more precise and accurate statistical procedure draws on these factors to express variable values. In accordance, a number of hypotheses have been formulated to measure the variables by numerical testing. The hypotheses fall into five categories.

- 1) those concerned with relocation from or to an accommodation;
- 2) those concerned with the economic aspects of housing;
- 3) those concerned with the medical and health related dependencies;
- 4) those concerned with the family life cycle process, related to the turnover of housing;
- 5) those concerned with the locational factors related to housing choice.

These factors have been shown to be of importance

to the elderly in deciding on a housing choice. Hypotheses are formulated so as to discover the significance of variables which are influential in the decision-making process. The results should affect opinions which lead to the provision of necessary shelters for senior citizens.

## 7.2 Relocation Consideration Hypotheses

### 7.2.1 Test of Hypothesis I

$H_0$  the decision to move from a past residence is not similar to the decision which influences the present housing choice.

$H_1$  the decision to move from a past residence is similar to the decision which influences the present housing choice.

Hypothesis I is based upon the literature review and the observations obtained from the empirical field work for this study. Other researchers have studied the reasons which generated a move, but they did not follow the transition through to see if actual choice is related to the past decision to move.

As senior people progress through the aging process their reasons for moving may not necessarily be related to their reason for choosing a new shelter. Unlike other groups found in society many older people become unpredictable in their decision-making. A measurement of these variables creates the focal points for the housing demand model.

Many times logic does not play the deciding factor for choice. As a result of being unguided and unaware of



the present day buying or renting procedures in today's housing market the elderly make unpredictable moves. This is strongly evident in section 6.2 with the description of the 55 to 64 group that leave their single-family residences and the 85 plus group that want to move back into a single-family residence. Questionnaire respondents often revealed that their past housing was more suitable than their present placement and wanted to return, but could not as a result of selling. By testing the two variables this hypothesis should support that a majority of seniors perform logical acceptable housing changes.

The hypothesis was tested by means of a three by three chi square table (table 7.1) according to the methods prescribed by Blalock, Taylor, Hammond and McCullagh. The reason given for moving from a past residence is measured against the reason which influenced present housing choice.

Observed data values are those recorded from the field work. The expected values were obtained from the theoretical assumption that reasons for moving from a past residence are not influential on the decision to choose present housing. Since seniors often make forced decisions or moves, their relocation thinking may alter from those of younger groups. Younger families buy or sell for more space, seniors buy or sell for less space as affected by feelings of discontent, loneliness and possible critical

Table 7.1

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS I

Reason for Moving  
from a Past Residence

Reason Which Influenced  
Present Housing Type

	Income		Upkeep		Medical	
	0	E	0	E	0	E
Health	32	35.2	52	46.	7	9.7
Income	21	12.8	6	16.7	6	3.5
Upkeep	44	49.1	69	64.3	14	13.7

132

N = 251

$$\chi^2 = 0.05$$

$$\chi^2 = 16.7$$

0 = observed frequency value

$$df = 4$$

$$\text{chi square} = 9.49$$

E = expected frequency value

$$c = .2497$$

Source. Author

aging. For this reason, a measurement of the moving decision may not be associated with the buying choice.

All hypotheses were tested by the same method and description procedures will not be repeated throughout the text. For further information on methodology consult the appendix. The rejection level for  $H_0$  was decided at .05. At 4 degrees of freedom, chi square is 9.49 at the .05 level of confidence. Through calculation, the value of  $\chi^2$  was 16.7. Since  $\chi^2$  observed is greater than chi square crit. the null hypothesis can be rejected. There is indeed a relationship between the reason for moving from a past residence and the specific reason in choosing a present residence.

Senior citizen decisions to change their residence has been proven to relate to their reason of choice. Even though they may have difficulty in understanding others, or physical handicaps, the elderly usually seek out advice from a reliable source. Most seniors were cautious to relocate and only moved if they felt an absolute benefit by the change. The variables only showed a modest relationship having a contingency coefficient of .2497. Although the relationship is not strong, the importance of the two variables is great enough to indicate that senior citizens are aware of their actions.

### 7.2.2 Test of Hypothesis II

$H_0$  the housing size of a present accommodation has no influence on the future preference for housing space.

$H_1$  the housing size of a present accommodation has an influence on the future preference for housing space.

The statistical analysis for hypothesis I showed a direct relationship between the reason for moving and present housing choice. It is necessary to take this idea one step further by measuring whether or not the size of a present accommodation has an influence on the decision choice for a future housing type. As recorded by other social scientists, lifestyles of people determine their living space. Whether they are willing to change their space for future housing will be dictated by the present accommodation they occupy.

Over the years families develop a particular type of inertia towards certain living conditions. Many set personal norms and will not alter their living spaces even though family changes have occurred. In particular, senior citizens look upon a large house as their right, earned through years of hard work. They do not want to lose this reward and their freedom, and, therefore, maintain a larger than necessary residence for many years beyond their actual space needs. If they decide to relocate, the decision will usually be influenced by the present size of residence, trying to maintain yard and space wants in their new type of accommodation. It was thought that this expressed feeling is an

important determinate for a final future housing choice. In particular, a proportion of seniors stated that they would not go to a highrise apartment complex or nursing home because they would not want to give up housing space.

Hypothesis II completes the relocation process by measuring the household space characteristics of the housing occupancy size for the present and suggested future. The size of accommodation need can be measured by the number of bedrooms in the present and desired future housing.

In order to determine the significance of space requirements over time a chi square table was used to assess the variables (see table 7.2) . It describes present housing size cross-tabulated by future housing size. Standard procedures were used to determine the results.

The results show that  $\chi^2$  was much larger than chi square crit. The null hypothesis can therefore be rejected and a relationship does exist between present housing size and the predicted future size. This relationship is stronger than hypothesis I having a contingency coefficient of .4948. Therefore, actual present housing size is related to determining the size of a future housing preference.

These results can be used to explain the housing graphs presented in section 6.2, which show a stable occupancy rate for future single-family residences, and why a low percentage of elderly are found in nursing homes. Many elderly people want to remain in the familiar size and

Table 7.2

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS II

Number of Bedrooms Within Present Residence	Number of Bedrooms Preferred in Future Residence									
	1	2	3	4	5					
0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E	
1	3.2	21.5	24	20.4	37	22.9	.5	4.0		136
2	1.8	12.5	9	11.8	5	13.4	1	2.3		
3	1.2	8.1	4	7.6	4	8.6	.2	1.5		
4	3.2	21.5	25	20.4	31	22.9	4	4.0		
5	1.7	11.4	9	10.7	3	12.1	2	2.1		

N = 251

$\chi^2 = 0.05$   $\chi^2 = 81.4$  0 = observed frequency value

df = 16. chi square = 26.30 E = expected frequency value

c = .4948 Source Author

surroundings of a particular residence. By retaining size preferences senior citizens remain independent in their minds.

### 7.3 Economically Related Hypotheses

#### 7.3.1 Test of Hypothesis III

$H_0$  the type of residence chosen is not influenced and not related to the income of the elderly.

$H_1$  the type of residence chosen is influenced and related to the income of the elderly.

From preliminary analysis it becomes apparent that income plays an important part in the overall spending of a household. The amount of money received by any family determines their ability to pay and choose housing within the supply market. For senior citizens, income determines their independence through various housing types. The choice of residence is more important to the senior since other hindrance factors such as health may require adjustments in accommodations.

A four by five chi square table (table 7.3) was used to test hypothesis III. The amount of dollars attained per household is measured against the most selected housing facilities. In this case, nursing homes were included which show a particular dependent housing type among the other independent types.

The rejection level was set at .05. At 12 degrees of freedom, chi square is 21.03 at the .05 level of confidence.

Table 7.3

## TEST OF HYPOTHESIS III

Present Housing Type	Family Income, 1981									
	\$5000.	\$5-10,000.	\$10-15,000.	\$15-20,000.	\$20,000+					
	0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E
Single-Family Residence	37	48.8	53	48.8	39	33.2	15	13.8	13	12.5
Highrise Apartment	25	18.6	20	18.6	7	12.7	4	5.2	4	4.7
Lowrise, Joined Apartment Units	10	7.1	4	7.1	6	4.8	2	2	1	1.8
Nursing Facilities	6	3.4	1	3.4	1	2.3	1	.9	2	.9

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$\chi^2 = 22.8$$

O = observed frequency value

$$df = 12.$$

$$\text{chi square} = 21.03$$

E = expected frequency value

$$c = .2885$$

Source: Author



Since  $\chi^2$  observed is greater than chi square crit., the null hypothesis can be rejected. The results showed that there is a relationship between the family income and the type of accommodation chosen.

These facts are important to realize since development for senior citizen housing must be directed to the affordable housing areas. Since the type of housing is determined by amount of income, the developer should not overprice a senior citizen project.

Results show that 62.5% of the seniors live in single-family residences and of these 35.8% have incomes less than 10,000 dollars per year with 14.7% being less than 5000. dollars. Since a large proportion of seniors remain in single-family residences and the incomes they have are smaller than expected to maintain their properties, then services must be provided by others, such as their children or neighbors. The income that these seniors have would make it impossible to purchase a single-family residence in today's market. Therefore, when relocation occurs to a highrise or other units the costs must be related to their incomes. This relationship is important since a majority of seniors want to remain in their own homes.

### 7.3.2 Test of Hypothesis IV

$H_0$  personal living expenditures do not influence the amount of improvement expenditures which is spent on a residence.

$H_1$  personal living expenditures influence the amount of improvement expenditures which is spent on a residence.

The relationship between personal expenditures and improvement costs is important to every household. The maintenance of property is required for the protection of a housing investment. Senior citizens are particularly vulnerable in this case since upkeep becomes personally difficult over time and increases with the age of the residence.

The preliminary analysis suggests that income is one of the significant factors for a housing choice. It stands to reason that as a result of income the amount of compulsory living expenditures determines the ability to spend money elsewhere, i. e., to improve the physical condition of an older residence. Researchers have shown that living expenditures are directly related to income, but have not measured the two expenditure relationships separately.

In order for senior citizens to remain in a single family residence, then maintenance and upkeep are important costs, a part of total expenditures. Related to table, section 6.2, one of the reasons given for relocation was the inability to pay for needed improvements for a single-family residence. Seniors can be seriously affected by the lack of funds to afford improvement expenditures. This

may lead to a relocation to an unwanted accommodation. As related to section 6.2, it was realized that people between the ages of 55 to 64 spent more money for improvements on their residence. They did this to remain in a suitable building during later retirement years when repairs become difficult and more costly for themselves. The purpose of hypothesis III is to test the relationship between the building physical upkeep costs and personal living costs.

Hypothesis III has been tested through a four by five chi square table (see table 7.4). The specific dollar amount for each expenditure contained the allocated frequencies from survey data. The expected values were founded on the theoretical assumption that personal costs have no relationship to the amount spent on improvement costs. Standard procedure was used for testing (see appendix).

Calculated  $\chi^2$  was greater than chi square crit., therefore the null hypothesis can be rejected. On the basis of this chi square analysis there is a definite relationship between the amount of money spent on personal housing expenditures and the amount of money spent on improvement costs. For the strength of the relationship see the contingency coefficient.

The importance of the results confirms the idea that income maintains independence for a household. When necessary improvements become a burden and result in relocation to a less desirable housing type then independence can be lost.

## TEST OF HYPOTHESIS IV

$\chi^2 = 36.0$       O = observed frequency values       $\chi^2 = 21.03$       E = expected frequency values

C = .3541

Results from this hypothesis show directions that local governments could provide in the form of maintenance upkeep for seniors. This will allow them to remain in their own homes. In the long run total costs would be less for both the city and resident, since relocation, including public housing construction, are more costly.

#### 7.4 Hypotheses Concerning Health Related Factors for Housing Choice

##### 7.4.1 Test of Hypothesis V

$H_0$  dependency on other family members is not related to health requirements for specific housing types.

$H_1$  dependency on other family members is related to health requirements for specific housing types.

A) Tested for single-family residences

B) Tested for Highrise Apartments

One factor which must be considered during housing choice is the health and medical status of the individual. Usually a person's dependency increases for health related services as they grow older until total medical care must be provided in a nursing facility. Depending on the individual's income, health problems could become more serious if they are unable to pay for the needed services.

Past researchers have taken this aspect and considered it separately in analyzing the overall housing market. This situation is not one separate medical issue alone, but becomes a complex of many factors, which include health and dependency on others.

Hypothesis V was postulated to show if a relationship exists between the health care needed by seniors against any dependency upon family members. This situation, as mentioned in the preliminary analysis, is more common to families having strong ethnic ties within the family group. It was also decided that the strongest responses arising from single-family residences and highrise apartments should be measured separately and then compared to see if one accommodation shows more collaboration with friends than the other.

A two by four chi square table (table 7.5) was used to test Hypothesis V for single-family residences. A rejection level of .05 was chosen for the null hypothesis. At 3 degrees of freedom, chi square is 7.82 at the .05 level of confidence. Since the calculated  $\chi^2$  is greater than chi square crit., the null hypothesis can be rejected for the single-family residence accommodations.

Procedures were exactly the same to test hypothesis V for highrise apartments. The rejection level and degrees of freedom were identical. Since the calculated  $\chi^2$  is less than chi square crit., the null hypothesis could not be rejected for highrise apartments.

It would appear that senior citizens living in single-family residences have more dependency on family members than those living in highrise apartments. Seniors who live in a single-family residence require physical help to maintain their residence if they wish to remain living there

Table 7.5

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS VA

Dependency on Family Members' Help  
for Single-Family Residences

Medical, Health Requirements	Very Little			Occasional			Moderate			Intensive		
	0	E		0	E		0	E		0	E	
Very Little Care	100	91.5		19	24.6		9	11.0		5	5.9	
Moderate Care	8	16.5		10.	4.4		4	1.9		2	1.1	

145

N = 157

$\alpha = 0.05$   $\chi^2 = 17.2$  O = observed frequency values  
 df = 3 chi square = 7.82 E = expected frequency values  
 c = .3142

Source: Author

Table 7.5

## TEST OF HYPOTHESIS VB

Dependency on Family Members' Help  
for Highrise Apartments

Medical, Health Requirements	Very Little		Occasional		Moderate		Intensive	
	O	E	O	E	O	E	O	E
Very Little Care	33	29.8	6	5.4	4	6.9	3	3.8
Moderate Care	6	9.1	1	1.6	5	2.1	2	1.2
								146

N = 60

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$\chi^2 = 7.6$$

O = observed frequency values

$$df = 3.$$

$$\text{chi square} = 7.82$$

E = expected frequency values

Source. Author



in the future. Many times their children provided the building maintenance required, therefore allowing the parents to spend old age in their own homes.

The elderly who choose to live in highrise apartments do so to become independent from housing upkeep and therefore required less help from family members. Usually these seniors were more physically fit than others for walking and had no, or little, family who cared for them. As a result, they represent more independent living.

#### 7.4.2 Test of Hypothesis VI

$H_0$  there is no relationship between the type of residence and the amount of time that is spent living or short-term visiting with a relative.

$H_1$  there is a relationship between the type of residence and the amount of time that is spent living or short-term visiting with a relative.

From hypothesis V it was shown that the dependency factor was more important to those living in single-family residences than those in highrise apartments. Hypothesis VI proceeds to test all housing types against the amount of time an elderly person might spend living or visiting with a relative. Literature has shown this to be a type of psychological health factor for senior citizens knowing they are wanted or cared about by others. The question arises as to whether or not different types of accommodations have a higher or lower significance with this variable. If the senior citizen spends a greater amount of time away

from his residence, then the need to live elsewhere is greater than in the present accommodation.

Hypothesis VI was tested by means of a three by four chi square table (table 7.6), with a rejection level set at .05 for the null hypothesis. At 6 degrees of freedom, chi square is 12.59 at the .05 level of confidence. Since calculated  $\chi^2$  is less than chi square crit., then the null hypothesis could not be rejected. Final conclusions showed that the type of residence has no relationship as to whether or not senior citizens spent time living or visiting relatives.

Therefore, a large residence is not necessarily maintained for visiting family members. Seniors who choose a highrise apartment do not seek time away from it by visiting relatives to try to escape their own living space reality. Rather, seniors maintain the comfort of their own homes for themselves and their own independence and the type in which they live does not influence travelling to others. If the relationship were positive then perhaps the senior could maintain a lesser or shared residence, such as winter and summer travellers might.

Table 7.6

## TEST OF HYPOTHESIS VI

## Time Spent With Relatives

Present Housing Type	Less than 1 Week				1-4 Weeks		4-6 Weeks		Yearly	
	O	E	O	E	O	E	O	E	O	E
Single-Family Residence	120	121.9	17	16.3	5	6.2	15	12.5		
Highrise Apartments	51	46.6	5	6.2	3	2.4	1	4.8		
Lowrise, Joined Apartment Units	24	26.4	4	3.5	2	1.4	4	2.7		

149

N = 251

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$df = 6$$

$$\chi^2 = 6.2$$

$$\text{chi square} = 12.59$$

O = observed frequency values

E = expected frequency values

Source: Author

## 7.5 Hypotheses Concerning Family Life Cycle Effects on Housing Choice

### 7.5.1 Test of Hypothesis VII

$H_0$  past family size of the elderlys' requirement for space is not related to the buyer's family size requirement for space.

$H_1$  past family size of the elderlys' requirement for space is related to the buyer's family size requirement for space.

Housing market theory suggests changes in housing needs accompany household life cycle changes. As shown by earlier hypotheses the housing types and costs have proven to be important variables which determine choice. The number of household members will dictate the need for space. Progression throughout the life cycle stages will reflect changing housing types. Younger families need larger spaces while older families require less space. This hypothesis will measure the relationship that the choice of past housing purchased from the elderly, who established space needs by their family size, is related to the space needs required by a younger growing family.

Hypothesis VII was tested by means of a four by four chi square table (table 7.7). This table measured whether a relationship existed between the elderly's largest family size achieved by the size of the buyer's family. Standard methods were used as described in the appendix for table calculations.

Table 7.7

## TEST OF HYPOTHESIS VII

Size of the Buyer's Family

Largest Family Size Achieved by Elderly Families	Size of the Buyer's Family				2 Adults 3 Children	
	1-2 Persons	2 Adults 1 Child	2 Adults 2 Children	2 Adults 3 Children	2 Adults 3 Children	2 Adults 3 Children
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-2 Persons	22	21.2	31	20.6	10	21.5
2 Adults, 1 Child	15	19.5	23	18.9	24	19.8
2 Adults, 2 Children	17	13.5	5	13.1	18	13.7
2 Adults, 3+ Children	18	17.8	11	17.3	21	18.0
					12	8.9
						151

N = 251

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$\chi^2 = 27.9$$

O = observed frequency values

$$df = 9.$$

$$\chi^2 \text{ square} = 16.92$$

E = expected frequency values

Source: Author

In this case,  $\chi^2$  observed is greater than  $\chi^2$  square crit., therefore the null hypothesis was rejected. There is indeed a relationship between the past family size of the elderly's need for space and buyer's family size requirement for space.

Implications for this hypothesis show a completed transition stage in the family life cycle. When the elderly give up their larger homes to younger families then the cycle is completed. As a participant in the housing turnover process, the elderly initiate the last link for exchange and relocation of both family groups. The elderly can affect part of the housing market in a city by deciding whether or not to give up their larger residence to younger, more needy families and to relocate to a smaller more suitable accommodation for themselves. It is this decision which arises sooner or later for them in retirement.

#### 7.5.2 Test of Hypothesis VIII

$H_0$  the number of years lived at a present residence is not related to the age of the residence.

$H_1$  the number of years lived at a present residence is related to the age of the residence.

A change of residence through the turnover process is a normal procedure in the family life cycle. The exception to the model is found when seniors remain in their present housing beyond a normal family length of time into their retirement years. In particular, single-family

residences which have the longest occupancy rate sometimes remain in the same hands for many years. Hypothesis VIII will determine if there is a relationship between the length of time lived in a residence and the age of the building.

By knowing this fact the need for new accommodations could be established.

Hypothesis VIII is tested through the use of a four by four chi square table (table 7.8) with a rejection level of .05 set for the null hypothesis. After calculations the value of  $\chi^2$  observed was much larger than chi square cut. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected showing that there is a relationship between the age of the building and owner occupancy rates.

This hypothesis shows that the expected turnover rate for single-family residences will not occur as fast as expected. Therefore, the provisions for new housing or other accommodations can be projected according to this prolonged occupancy of seniors that remain in their residence.

#### 7.5.3 Test of Hypothesis IX

$H_0(i)$  the number of years lived at the past residence is not related to the past type of accommodation.

$H_1(i)$  the number of years lived at the past residence is related to the past type of accommodation.

$H_0(ii)$  the number of years lived at the present residence is not related to the present type of accommodation.

$H_1(ii)$  the number of years lived at the present residence is related to the present type of accommodation.

Table 7.8

## TEST OF HYPOTHESIS VIII

Years Lived at Present Residence	Age of the Residence					
	1-10 yrs	10-20 yrs	20-30 yrs	30 yrs +		
	O	E	O	E	O	E
1-4 years	29	12.8	9	9.7	6	8.3
5-10 years	23	11.8	12	9	4	7.7
10-20 years	9	14.0	24	10.7	8	9.1
20 years plus	2	24.3	3	18.5	23	15.8
					69	38.3

N = 251

 $\chi^2 = 131.0$  O = observed frequency values

chi square = 16.92 E = expected frequency values

c = .5856

Source: Author



This hypothesis follows directly after the previous one in that people who occupy a single-family residence have usually lived in the same type of housing unit for many years. In accordance, since highrise apartments are newer in the housing market for the elderly, residents would not occupy this unit as long. A comparison is made between the past residence and the present residence, since formulation of life styles can be determined by past types.

Hypothesis  $IX_{(1)}$  and  $IX_{(11)}$  have been tested separately by a three by five chi square table (table 7.9; table 7.10). Both sub-hypotheses were tested according to procedures described earlier. The  $\chi^2$  observed was larger in both cases than chi square crit. The null hypothesis can be rejected for each table. These tests revealed that present and past housing types can be determined by the number of years lived at a residence.

Again, the turnover process is supported with a description for the past residence related to housing type. Usually the most extensive number of years were related to single-family residence. The period of time which a couple require the housing unit to raise a family is from 20 to 30 years (see chapter 3, figure 3A on Family life cycle). They may then decide to sell and change their housing type, attaining more convenient units after their family grows and leaves the house.

In contrast to this, the present housing can be

Table 7.9

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS IX<sub>(1)</sub>

Number of Years Lived in Previous Residence

Past Housing Type	1-4 yrs.		5-9 yrs.		10-14 yrs.		15-24 yrs.		25+ yrs.	
	0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E
Single-Family Residence	34	39.8	33	35	40	36.7	34	36.7	59	51.8
Highrise Apartments	8	3.6	3	3.2	2	3.3	2	3.3	3	4.7
Lowrise, Joined Apartment Units	8	6.5	8	5.8	4	6.0	10	6.0	3	8.5
N = 251										

N = 251

$\chi^2 = 0.05$   $\chi^2 = 17.6$  0 = observed frequency values  
df = 8 chi square = 15.51 E = expected frequency values

c = .2559

Source: Author

Table 7.10

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS IX<sub>(11)</sub>

Number of Years Lived in Present Residence

Present Housing Type	Number of Years Lived in Present Residence					O	E	O	E	O	E
	1-4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	25+ yrs.						
Single-Family Residence	14	31.9	13	29.4	25	23.1	26	20.0	79	51.3	157
Highrise Apartments	26	12.2	24	11.2	7	8.8	2	7.6	1	19.6	
Lowrise, Joined Apartment Units	11	6.5	10	5.9	7	4.7	4	4.1	2	10.5	

N = 251

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$\chi^2 = 102.2$$

O = observed frequency values

$$df = 8$$

$$\text{chi square} = 15.51$$

E = expected frequency values

$$c = .6168$$

Source: Author

measured to examine the younger elderly cohort's situation. With this in mind, a definite relationship can be established for the amount of time lived at a residence and the type of residence. The survey results showed that 62.5% of seniors stay in a single-family residence for 25 years. Figures revealed that 24.0% of seniors remained in a highrise apartment complex for 10 years. Therefore, the need for accommodations can be determined if there is a knowledge of the general amount of time spent in a residence and how fast it will be returned to the housing market. It is reasonable to project that the supply of single-family housing will not greatly increase over the next few years since many retired persons will likely remain in their present single-family residence and be satisfied. Stating this in another way, the persistence or inertia of the elderly to live in single-family residences causes a lag in the filtering process.

#### 7.5.4 Test of Hypothesis X

- $H_0$  the costs of improvements are not related to the age of the present residence.
- $H_1$  the costs of improvements are related to the age of the present residence.

At this stage of the analysis it was thought that since the age of housing has been related to type, the costs of an older residence may also be related. Since senior citizens were shown to be affected more seriously by expensive repairs, then the relationships of older accommodations

and higher costs should be avoided. Both factors have some impact during the turnover process of family life cycle if the unit is to remain in the housing stock. Younger families may not want to purchase housing from older households if the costs of improvements are too great. When this occurs, senior citizens are forced to remain in an accommodation not suited to their actual needs.

Hypothesis X was tested by means of a four by five chi square table (7.11) with a rejection level of .05 set for the null hypothesis. With 12 degrees of freedom, chi square is 21.03 at the .05 level of confidence. After calculations,  $\chi^2$  was 43.3 proving to be significantly exceeding the value of chi square crit. The null hypothesis was therefore rejected. There was a strong relationship between the costs of improvements and the age of the present residence.

This test compares with hypothesis IX when younger families see no usefulness in a residence that has aged and deteriorated beyond repairs. Improvements to a residence must be maintained if the housing stock is to remain vital to all groups. In particular, seniors should sell to others if they cannot afford or cannot perform the necessary repairs to keep the quality of their housing equal to the minimum maintenance standards. If the stock deteriorates beyond repair, then new housing must be built and put on the market for younger families. By showing that costs are directly related to the age of the residence, the building itself

## Costs of Improvements

$\alpha = 0.05$        $\chi^2 = 43.3$       O = observed frequency values  
df = 12      chi square = 21.03      E = expected frequency values

Source. Author

becomes an integral part of the housing life cycle, which is related to family life cycle.

## 7.6 Hypotheses Related to Locational Factors

### 7.6.1 Test of Hypothesis $XI_{(1)}$ and $XI_{(11)}$

$H_{0(1)}$  present housing choice is not related to or not determined by locational preference.

$H_{1(1)}$  present housing choice is related to and determined by locational preference.

$H_{0(11)}$  future housing choice is not related to or not determined by locational preference.

$H_{1(11)}$  future housing choice is related to and determined by locational preference.

The locational factor is important to consider when senior citizens are making a choice for a residence. Previous hypotheses tested both past and present housing factors, but hypotheses  $XI_{(1)}$  and  $(11)$  will test the present and suggested future housing types related to location. As indicated in the preliminary analysis the provision of services are related to distance which are both related to the housing location.

Literature review has shown many researchers weak on locational analysis. The location will relate to a market for services in the residential area. For senior citizens this becomes a very important choice when deciding on a type of residence. Different locations within the city provide different services and goods. If the needs for

services change as a result of aging, then perhaps housing choice may change in the future,

Hypothesis  $XI_{(1)}$  and  $XI_{(11)}$  have been tested separately by a three by four chi square table (table 7.12, table 7.13). The rejection level was set at .05 for the null hypothesis. Each table had 6 degrees of freedom and chi square is 12.59 at the .05 level of confidence. After calculation for table 7.12,  $\chi^2_{(1)}$  was 31.0 compared to 12.59 for chi square crit. The null hypothesis can therefore be rejected.

The value of  $\chi^2_{(11)}$  was 30.7 for the future housing type compared to 12.59 for chi square crit. The null hypothesis was again rejected. These tests revealed that present and future housing types are directly related to their location.

The implications from this hypothesis show that if seniors want a specific housing type then developers must realize the importance of location to them. Location was found to be the third most important factor when deciding on a housing choice, behind income and health. The result showed a moderate relationship between the variables (see tables 7.12, 7.13).

It appeared that as seniors grow older their future housing choice will become more related to specific locations. If the choice is a nursing home then the location variable becomes a most important factor, because of the



Table 7.12

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS XI<sub>(1)</sub>

## Location

Present Housing Type	C.B.D.			C.B.D. Fringe			City Neighborhood		City Suburbs	
	0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E	0	E
Single-Family Residence	6	16.3	10	15.0	120	110.1	21	15.6		
Highrise Apartments	14	6.2	9	5.7	36	42.1	1	5.9		
Lowrise, Joined Apartment Units	6	3.5	5	3.3	20	23.8	3	3.4		
									N = 251	

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$\chi^2 = 31.0$$

O = observed frequency values

$$df = 6$$

$$\text{chi square} = 12.59$$

E = expected frequency values

$$c = .3315$$

C.B.D. = Central Business District

Source: Author

Table 7.13

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS XI<sub>(11)</sub>

Future Housing Type	Location					
	C.B.D.		C.B.D. Fringe		City Neighborhood Suburbs	
	0	E	0	E	0	E
Single-Family Residence	4	14.7	9	13.5	112	99.6
Highrise Apartments	17	7.4	11	6.8	39	49.8
Lowrise, Joined Apartment Units	5	3.9	4	3.6	25	26.6
					4	3.8
					N = 251	

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$\chi^2 = 30.7$$

O = observed frequency values

$$df = 6$$

$$\text{chi square} = 12.59$$

E = expected frequency values

$$c = .3301$$

C.B.D. = Central Business District

Source: Author

wanted nearness to relatives. When nursing homes or hospitals are accepted as the final accommodation, location becomes even more important, since income is given up to authorities and health is deteriorating faster. In this situation, locational choices are severely restricted, and the final selection of a nursing home or hospital is most likely made by family members, or by a doctor, rather than by the patient.

## Chapter VIII

### CONCLUSIONS

#### 8.1 Windsor's Elderly Households

This study has examined the current housing patterns and anticipations of retired persons, age 55 and over in the City of Windsor. Conclusions drawn could be tested with other comparable Canadian cities; however, since cities differ widely, conclusions drawn from this study and from other localities should be treated cautiously. General characteristics of the elderly are similar everywhere reflecting the same wants and needs. However, housing demands are different from place to place because of differences in economic base, local history and housing stock.

The continuing increase in the numbers of elderly population will result in more need for proper projections which use resources, money and time concerning both public and private endeavours in housing for the elderly.

The research has shown that there is a need in Windsor for accommodations for the elderly and that the direction should be in the form of improvements to the present single-family residences of seniors. There is also a lesser need for development of highrise apartments geared to lower income and lower living expenditures but with more

bedroom space allowed for couples. Other shelter types such as mobile homes or lowrise apartments and joined units are needed, but on a limited basis. Generally requirement needs for maintenance on single-family dwellings is the most pressing need.

The questionnaire revealed the overwhelming preference of senior citizens to remain in their own homes as independent individuals within the community. From the survey sample 28 per cent favoured highrise apartments, but many were dissatisfied with services and transportation provided. The results showed that the city's housing stock was adequate at the present, but much of the stock was old and required repairs. To ensure the necessary number of units for the growing elderly population an assessment of the adequacy of present senior citizen housing could be completed.

#### 8.2. Decision Factors Which Influence Housing Choice; Income, Health, Location and Size of Family

Analysis of questionnaire data has shown that the major influence and constraint on housing choice was income followed by health and then location reasons related to services and transportation. Within this sphere of factors the family life cycle has been the major catalyst for change. The elderly see themselves at the end of family development, decreasing in size with the loss of children and perhaps a spouse.

Income, as with all groups of society was the most influential variable on housing choice. Results showed that seniors in the extreme age cohorts were the poorest, surviving on only 2 to 3 thousand dollars per year. The lack of resources for improvements were evidenced by residential deterioration. Many times those in the older age groups expressed the feelings of "no hope" or "not caring" since they realized their remaining years were limited.

At the other end of the age cohorts, the 55 to 64 age groups were usually quite secure financially, but spent their money cautiously. They had a greater tendency to make repairs to their residences, but they were greatly distressed when penalized by housing authorities as they relocated to government aided housing for having built up personal equities.

Rises in housing prices did not seem to affect many seniors since their homes were paid in full and purchased many years ago. If they sold their homes it was usually to relocate into smaller less expensive accommodations.

The health factor was also found to be a major reason for the relocation decision, but was of secondary importance when actually choosing the new accommodations. Income was the final decision factor.

All cohort groups were found to be in reasonable health. Very few required daily health assistance, except those living in nursing facilities. Others required weekly

visits from a traveling nurse. This group represented only 18 per cent of the sample. In general, senior citizens are a very healthy group. This is supported by the fact that many have lived well past their life expectancy rates. Better care and improved medical techniques have provided society with a relatively physically fit group of senior people. Many would never think of being hospitalized for old age and want to spend their entire life independently.

Areas of needed improvements are related to location and transportation for services. Difficulty with walking and the lack of driving forced many seniors into isolation. In terms of shopping many could not buy cheaper and better quality goods. Health services were set to locations in downtown areas and the buses often did not pass close to their homes.

The health future of our elderly seems to be improving every year with modern medical advancements. The requirements should be adequate if maintenance aid can be provided.

### 8.3 Housing Preferences Related to Age Cohorts

The desire for housing was structured for this study by age cohort breakdown of the elderly. Each specific group was given the opportunity to express their ideas, opinions and preferences concerning housing. It was hypothesized that each group is different and varies in tastes and wants for accommodations.

The survey revealed the following conclusions for the cohort groups. The youngest age cohort was between the ages of 55 to 64. The questionnaire revealed a propensity, of members of this group who were able to retire, to change their residence. A majority of these retired persons did not follow the emphasis upon single-family residence ownership, and somewhat surprisingly, expressed the desire to move into highrise apartment complexes. This may be attributed to the overall flexibility that these people still retain as a result of high income immediately following retirement. Most people at this age are still near the peak in their earning capacity and therefore, would probably have financial security. They still have reasonably good health enabling them to make quick decisions to relocate into large highrise apartments, if desired, with less discomfort on them than for the older cohorts. Most people begin to question their state of well-being at this age and decide to move before they actually become less mobile, and thereby attained more permanent residences for later retirement years.

The next "turning point" within the age groups was 65 to 69. This is the age of compulsory government retirement. Generally, this group stated their housing will remain the same.

If prepared for long term retirement these people made the decision to relocate and reduce their housing size by moving into a more appropriate shelter for later years.



The alternative for many was to make repairs to their present residence and stay at their present location. This fact was supported by a stable single-family residence occupancy rate among the group. It was seen from the data that adjustment to retirement housing was evident at age 70 with the increase in demand for highrise apartments and a decrease in single-family residences.

At age 70 to 74 the elderly showed an adjustment to retirement living with an increase in decisions to relocate and change their housing choice for later years. There is evidence of more moves to highrise apartments but the stronger, more independent and healthy seniors remained within their own single-family residence. Usually this housing was located in the older city neighborhoods in older buildings. These people had occupied their homes for more than 25 years and were attached to their neighborhood and style of living.

The next age cohort within the survey was 80 to 85. There was a tendency to move to highrise apartments, nursing homes or lowrise apartments. It is a fact that health plays a major role in their decision. With lessened mobility and increasing maintenance for a single-family residence, many sell their homes.

In conclusion, the most unpredictable group was the 55 to 59 cohort who could retire if they were economically secure. They were found to be the most decision-oriented group, permitted the greatest number of alternatives in

their lives at this time. If they had lived at a residence for many years now they were faced with change. Many questioned whether they could cope with their future retirement years as options change and prices rise so quickly.

Several surprises were experienced in the survey with respect to the family life cycle. First, there is no smooth curve delineating a cutback in space utilization as income and family size diminish in the successive retirement groups. Secondly, it might have been expected that a larger percentage of the elderly would have declared for moves out of the city to the county fringes, or perhaps to sunnier climates, partly in pursuit of cheaper housing and less maintenance. Family and neighborhood loyalty and determination to stay in the old residence were indicated by questionnaire response.

#### 8.4 A Demand Model for Windsor

The demand for housing in the City of Windsor shows a continuing need for single-family residences. Elderly people described their ideal accommodation as being a small two bedroom house with a moderate yard suitable for gardening. Most wanted to be located within the city neighborhood close to downtown or plaza shopping.

The second most important accommodation desired was for highrise apartments. Many seniors enjoyed apartment living but felt crowded and said they lacked sufficient

space. Some seniors thought their independence was preserved in apartments if they had their required bedroom and living spaces. Most couples wanted two bedroom apartments for health and aesthetic reasons, but were allowed only single bedroom facilities.

Windsor's model is judged sufficient for ethnic community housing. Many seniors expressed satisfaction and had community travel groups which worked together for mutual needs. These areas were quiet and located in outer neighborhoods of the central city.

One of the explanations given for the relatively high degree of satisfaction of the elderly with housing in Windsor is the good supply of modest single-family homes. Historically, Windsor has had a high proportion of home ownership and the various ethnic groups have had strong pride in owning and maintaining property. Overall, housing stock is in good condition.

This housing study should direct our attention to the many different areas related to the provision of housing. Consumer demand, regardless of whether the commodity is housing or some other commodity, always reflects to some extent the nature and condition of supply. From this study the elderly expressed preference towards single-family housing in a rather persistent way because this has been their lifestyle and the choice of the community for many years. If the population growth in Windsor had outrun single-family

housing supply, or if, as in the case of Toronto, single lots and houses had become too expensive for most incomes, then it is likely that a much greater proportion of Windsor's elderly would already either be residing in, or opting for, some form of rental accommodation.

The most important point from the survey revealed a strong inertial element in housing demand within the elderly group and the same characteristic is probably true of other age groups as well. Only a total survey of both demand for and supply of all types of housing by all age groups would provide the necessary information on filtering upward and downward in the Windsor market.

#### 8.5 General Conclusions

Housing demand acts as a regulator to the supply of housing for all groups in the city. The elderly are only a modest part of the total demand for accommodations in the city. As seniors, these people must compete for housing just like any other group of home owners. Many times their financial constraints and mobility problems hinder their competition for adequate residences. Their inabilities to travel and inquire quickly may result in the loss of affordable, well located accommodations. Usually they are not informed of suitable accommodations when they appear on the market and lose a chance to move into the better residences.

As economic times change within many cities the housing market becomes tighter in competition and the affordable rental units are absorbed by other age groups. To solve this unfair competition for space the elderly need better communications so that they are well aware of the housing opportunities in the market as they arise.

Compared to the European housing experience where total accommodations are paid for and supplied to all elderly people, Windsor can only learn to regulate and help the supply of housing for their elderly by providing maintenance services at lower costs. From the survey results the full provision of housing as in Sweden, is seen as not being workable in the Canadian system because the elderly here have expressed a total independence towards all their housing operations, whereby this is provided socially in Europe.

#### 8.6 Implications and Suggestions for Further Research

The study has shown the demand for specific housing types broken down by different elderly age groups.

It reveals the demand side for accommodations in the City of Windsor. The most prominent factors of housing decision were examined and measured as to the effect on housing choice. To fully consider housing choice, outside secondary factors such as shopping services and transportation locations were included. Positions in the family life cycle

were investigated to determine the needs for space by the elderly.

To further aid the community in the provision of housing, demand must be matched with supply. A demand study is only one side of the housing market, which should be compared to the actual supply of the housing stock. Specific types of accommodations should be detailed to determine their number, location, size, conditions and costs.

Included in this analysis are the geographic applications concerning neighborhood patterns by boundaries, which produce small sub-markets within the entire city housing system. A recently completed expressway system will certainly change the neighborhood's of people and will possibly change their future retirement lives. Each area is a unique and separate community. By completing a total inventory study, the projections for future supply will be directed to the needed areas of housing. Together, the demand and supply model comprise the housing system of a city.

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APPENDIX A  
SUPPLEMENT TABLES

Table A.1

## PAST HOUSING TYPE FREQUENCIES

Type of Residence	Elderly Age Cohorts							
	55-85+	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Single-Family Residence	79.7	92.8	83.3	72.7	76.9	79.6	89.3	81.8
Co-operative								
Townhouse	2.4		4.2	5.4	1.5		3.5	
M bile Home	1.5				6.2			
Highrise Apartments	3.5			5.4	4.6	3.7		
Lowrise Apartments	11.2	7.1	12.5	14.5	6.1	14.8	7.1	18.2
Condominium	.8				3.0			
Hotel Motel								
Nursing Home	1.2			1.8	1.5	1.8		

All values are in percentages

Source Questionnaire

Table A,2

## PRESENT HOUSING TYPE FREQUENCIES

Type of Residence	Elderly Age Cohorts							
	55-85+	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Single-Family Residence	62.5	71.4	58.3	65.4	61.5	61.1	64.3	54.5
Co-operative	.8			1.8				9.1
Townhouse	1.2		4.1		1.5		3.5	
Mobile Home	2.0		8.3	3.6		1.8		
Highrise Apartments	24.0	21.4	12.5	21.8	20.0	33.3	32.1	18.2
Lowrise Apartments	5.0		12.5	3.6	9.2	1.8		9.1
Condominium	1.0	7.1		1.8	1.5			
Hotel, Motel	0.4			1.8				
Nursing Home	2.8		4.1		6.2	1.8		9.1

All values are in percentages

Source. Questionnaire

Table A.3

## FUTURE PREFERENCE HOUSING TYPE

Type of Residence	Elderly Age Cohorts							
	55-85+	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Single-Family Residence	56.5	64.3	54.2	60.0	56.9	53.7	53.6	54.5
Co-operative	0.4							9.1
Townhouse	1.5		4.2		3.1		3.6	
Mobile Home	1.9		4.2	7.3				
Highrise Apartment	28.2	28.6	25.0	23.6	20.0	40.7	35.7	27.3
Lowrise Apartment	8.4		12.5	7.3	13.8	3.7	7.1	9.1
Condominium	1.5	7.1		1.8	3.0			
Hotel Motel								
Nursing Home	1.2				3.0	1.9		

All values are in percentages

Source. Questionnaire

Table A.4

## TOTAL FAMILY INCOME, 1981

Income	Elderly Age Cohorts						
	55-85+	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84 85+
Less than \$5000	32.3	21.4	33.3	23.6	32.3	42.6	35.7 27.3
\$ 5000-10,000	33.5	42.9	25.0	32.7	30.7	37.0	39.3 27.3
\$10,000-15,000	20.7	28.6	29.2	27.3	20.0	12.9	10.7 27.3
\$15,000-20,000	7.9		8.3	9.1	9.2	5.6	10.7 9.1
\$20,000 plus	5.5	7.1	4.2	7.3	7.7	1.9	3.6 9.1

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire



Table A.5

## ELDERLY LIVING EXPENSE PERCEPTIONS

Ratings	Elderly Age Cohorts						
	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Very Seriously	21.4	12.5	12.7	12.3	5.6	14.3	27.3
Medium Effects	7.1	29.2	36.4	32.3	37.0	35.7	27.3
Very Little	21.4	12.5	29.1	23.1	35.2	32.1	18.2
No Effects	50.0	45.8	21.8	32.3	20.4	17.9	27.3
No Response					1.8		

All values are in percentages

Source. Questionnaire

Table A.6

## LIVING WITH RELATIVES

Time Spent	Elderly Age Cohorts						
	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
1-2 weeks	7.1		9.0	3.0		10.7	
2-3 weeks			9.0	6.2	5.5		27.3
3-4 weeks				1.5			
4-5 weeks		4.2	1.8			7.1	
5-6 weeks				1.5			
6+ weeks			1.8	3.1			
Yearly	7.1	8.3	5.4	6.2	3.7	10.7	9.1
Not at all	85.7	87.5	72.7	78.5	90.7	71.4	63.6

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire

Table A.7

REQUIRED NURSING CARE VISITS

Amount of Care

Elderly Age Cohorts

55-85+ 55-59 60-64 65-69 70-74 75-79 80-84 85+

Intensive Care

3.1

Moderate

18.3

21.4

16.7

14.5

13.8

24.1

25.0

18.2

Not at all

80.3

78.6

83.3

85.5

83.1

75.9

75.0

81.8

197

All values are in percentages

Source: Questionnaire

APPENDIX B

FORMULA PROCEDURES

## 1) CHI SQUARE TEST FORMULA

Calculations were obtained using the following formula,

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

where O=observed frequencies from field data.

E=calculated expected frequencies by, (row x column + number)

## 2) CONTINGENCY COEFFICIENT

To compute the significance level, to obtain the contingency coefficient the following formula was used,

$$C = \sqrt{\frac{X^2}{N+X^2}}$$

APPENDIX C

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE



# UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR

WINDSOR ONTARIO N9B 3P4

TELEPHONE AREA CODE 519  
253 4232

Dear Sir/Madam

The following questionnaire is being conducted to gather statistical research information for a Master of Arts thesis. It is sponsored by the Department of Geography at the University of Windsor.

This is a completely confidential survey and your name is not requested or needed. The information however is very important. The intent is simply to gather accurate facts about elderly and retired persons with regards to their type of residence. It will help prevent old misconceptions being used in the continuing controversy over the "where," "how" and "why" of accommodating retired residents within our cities in the future. The survey has been prepared under the supervision of Dr. J. C. Ransome, Advisor of Urban Studies in Geography at the University of Windsor.

All information will be transformed into statistics and coded for computer analysis at the University. A final report will be presented in September, 1981. Copies of the study may be reviewed by the public at the Geography map library in Windsor Hall at the University of Windsor.

Your cooperation in accurately answering the questions will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*Edward Egyedy*  
Edward Egyedy  
Project Supervisor

*A. Blackbourn*  
A. Blackbourn  
Chairman  
Department of Geography

*J. C. Ransome*  
J. C. Ransome  
Technical Advisor  
Urban Studies

## ELDERLY HOUSING QUESTIONNAIRE

## PART I

Accommodation Characteristics

1) What is your present housing type? What was your immediate previous type?

- |                            |       |       |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|
| a) Single Family Residence | _____ | _____ |
| b) Co-operative Housing    | _____ | _____ |
| c) Townhouse               | _____ | _____ |
| d) Mobile Home             | _____ | _____ |
| e) High Rise Apartment     | _____ | _____ |
| f) Low Rise Apartment      | _____ | _____ |
| g) Condominium             | _____ | _____ |
| h) Hotel, Motel            | _____ | _____ |
| i) Nursing Home            | _____ | _____ |

2) Do you live in public housing? a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_

Do you receive rental assistance? a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_

3) Do you live with your relatives? a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how long in weeks?

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| a) 1-2 _____ | e) 5-6 _____    |
| b) 2-3 _____ | f) 6 - _____    |
| c) 3-4 _____ | g) Yearly _____ |
| d) 4-5 _____ |                 |

4) What is the location of your present housing?  
Be specific, state area \_\_\_\_\_

5) What are the personal costs to maintain your present housing in terms of utilities, taxes, upkeep, improvements, per year?

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Less than \$1000. _____ | e) \$4000. - \$5000. _____ |
| b) \$1000. - \$2000. _____ | f) \$5000. plus _____      |
| c) \$2000. - \$3000. _____ |                            |
| d) \$3000. - \$4000. _____ |                            |

6) Did you make any major improvements to your residence in the last 5 years? a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how much?

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Less than \$1000. _____ | e) \$4000. - \$5000. _____ |
| b) \$1000. - \$2000. _____ | f) \$5000. plus _____      |
| c) \$2000. - \$3000. _____ |                            |
| d) \$3000. - \$4000. _____ |                            |



- 7) Is your mortgage paid in full? a) Yes ☐ b) No ☐
- 8) If no, do you find this a financial burden? a) Yes ☐ b) No ☐
- 9) How many bedrooms has your present shelter?
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a) 0 bedrooms <input type="checkbox"/> | d) 3 bedrooms <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) 1 bedrooms <input type="checkbox"/> | e) 4 bedrooms <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) 2 bedrooms <input type="checkbox"/> | f) 5 bedrooms <input type="checkbox"/> |
- 10) How does your family fit into the following age classifications?
- | Male                                   |                          | Female                                 |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| a) 55-59 yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | d) 70-74 yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) 60-64 yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | e) 75-79 yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) 65-69 yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | f) 80 - yrs. <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- 11) Are you retired? a) Yes ☐ b) No ☐
- If yes, state number of past years
- If not, state number of future years
- 12) When you retire, where will you prefer to live?
- |                                     |                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Central business district        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Central business district fringe | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) City neighborhood                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) City suburbs                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Outside city within the county   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- 13) Will you move out of the city when you retire?
- a) Yes ☐ b) No ☐
- If yes, a) outside Windsor ☐ c) outside Ontario ☐
- b) outside county ☐ d) outside Canada ☐
- 14) What type of housing are you planning to move into within the immediate future of your retirement?
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a) Single Family residence <input type="checkbox"/> | f) Low Rise Apartments <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cooperative Housing <input type="checkbox"/>     | g) Condominium <input type="checkbox"/>         |
| c) Townhouse <input type="checkbox"/>               | h) Hotel, Motel <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| d) Mobile Home <input type="checkbox"/>             | i) Nursing Home <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| e) High Rise Apartment <input type="checkbox"/>     |   |

15) What was the housing type that you lived in at age 55, 65, 75, 80 where applicable?

	55	65	75	80
a) Single Family Residence	_____	_____	_____	_____
b) Co-operative Housing	_____	_____	_____	_____
c) Townhouse	_____	_____	_____	_____
d) Mobile Home	_____	_____	_____	_____
e) High Rise Apartment	_____	_____	_____	_____
f) Low Rise Apartment	_____	_____	_____	_____
g) Condominium	_____	_____	_____	_____
h) Hotel, Motel	_____	_____	_____	_____
i) Nursing Home	_____	_____	_____	_____

16) What is the age of your present residence?

- a) 1-5 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ d) 20-30 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) 5-10 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ e) 30-35 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) 10-20 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ f) 40 + yrs. \_\_\_\_\_

17) How do you rate your neighborhood, with regard to the following characteristics?

	Green space	Neighbors	Services	Transportation	Physical Appearance
a) Excellent	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
b) Good	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
c) Satisfactory	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
d) Poor	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

18) Why did you move from your past residence:

- a) Health \_\_\_\_\_ c) Upkeep too great \_\_\_\_\_ e) Wanted a change, discuss \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) Income \_\_\_\_\_ d) Sold for a profit \_\_\_\_\_

19) Was there a specific reason which influenced your present housing choice?

- a) Income \_\_\_\_\_ e) Desired a change of location \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) Physical upkeep \_\_\_\_\_ f) Physical, Medical \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) Area too large \_\_\_\_\_ g) Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_  
 d) Desired a change of type \_\_\_\_\_

20) How many years have you lived at your present residence?

- a) 1-4 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ d) 15-19 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) 5-9 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ e) 20-24 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) 10-14 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ f) 25 + yrs. \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II

Family Characteristics

21) How many members are in this household?

- |              |       |              |       |
|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| a) 1 person  | _____ | d) 4 persons | _____ |
| b) 2 persons | _____ | e) 5 persons | _____ |
| c) 3 persons | _____ | f) 6 persons | _____ |

22) What is your present marital status?

- |             |       |                     |       |               |
|-------------|-------|---------------------|-------|---------------|
| a) married  | _____ | d) widow, widower   | _____ | g) Other,     |
| b) single   | _____ | e) separated        | _____ | specify _____ |
| c) divorced | _____ | f) retired partners | _____ |               |

23) What was your largest family size achieved?

- |                      |       |   |       |
|----------------------|-------|---|-------|
| a) 1 person          | _____ | d) 2 adults, 2 children                 | _____ |
| b) 2 persons         | _____ | e) 2 adults, 3 children                 | _____ |
| c) 2 adults, 1 child | _____ | f) 1 adult, state number<br>of children | _____ |

24) How many years ago did you sell your previous housing?

- |               |       |               |       |
|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| a) 1-4 yrs.   | _____ | d) 15-19 yrs. | _____ |
| b) 5-9 yrs.   | _____ | e) 20-24 yrs. | _____ |
| c) 10-14 yrs. | _____ | f) 25 + yrs.  | _____ |

25) How many years did you live at your previous housing?

- |               |       |               |       |
|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| a) 1-4 yrs.   | _____ | d) 15-19 yrs. | _____ |
| b) 5-9 yrs.   | _____ | e) 20-24 yrs. | _____ |
| c) 10-14 yrs. | _____ | f) 25 + yrs.  | _____ |

26) What was the age of the buyer for your previous residence?  
Approximate.

- |               |       |               |       |               |       |
|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| a) 20-30 yrs. | _____ | d) 41-45 yrs. | _____ | g) 61-70 yrs. | _____ |
| b) 31-35 yrs. | _____ | e) 46-50 yrs. | _____ | h) 71-80 yrs. | _____ |
| c) 36-40 yrs. | _____ | f) 51-60 yrs. | _____ | i) 81- yrs.   | _____ |

27) What was the size of the buyers family? Approximate.

- |              |       |                   |       |
|--------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| a) 1 person  | _____ | d) 4 persons      | _____ |
| b) 2 persons | _____ | e) 5 persons      | _____ |
| c) 3 persons | _____ | f) over 5 persons | _____ |

28) Do you or your spouse require physical or medical aid which  
affected your housing choice?

- |        |       |       |       |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| a) Yes | _____ | b) No | _____ |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|

- If yes,
- |                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| a) intensive care (nurse required)  | _____ |
| b) moderate care (occasional nurse) | _____ |
| c) none at all                      | _____ |

29) Do you have a dependency on other persons for required services?

- a) intensive need \_\_\_\_\_ c) occasional help \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) moderate need \_\_\_\_\_ d) not at all \_\_\_\_\_

30) What type of transportation do you use or depend upon?

	intensive	moderate	occasional	not at all
a) personal vehicle	_____	_____	_____	_____
b) bus	_____	_____	_____	_____
c) taxi	_____	_____	_____	_____
d) friends' car	_____	_____	_____	_____
e) walk	_____	_____	_____	_____
f) special service and charter rides	_____	_____	_____	_____

## PART FII

### Financial Characteristics

31) What is the highest level of education attained by the head of the household?

- a) primary \_\_\_\_\_ d) vocational \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) secondary \_\_\_\_\_ e) university \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) post secondary \_\_\_\_\_ f) university graduate \_\_\_\_\_

32) Please check the approximate total annual family income group to which you belong.

- a) less than \$5000. per year \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) \$5000. - \$10,000 per year \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) \$10,000. - \$15,000. per year \_\_\_\_\_  
 d) \$15,000. - \$20,000. per year \_\_\_\_\_  
 e) \$20,000. plus per year \_\_\_\_\_

33) How is your income derived?

	Major Source	Minor Source(s)
a) pension	_____	_____
b) full time job	_____	_____
c) part time job	_____	_____
d) welfare	_____	_____
e) paid services	_____	_____

34) What was your occupation? State exactly \_\_\_\_\_

35) Do you have a supplementary job now?

- a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, state exactly \_\_\_\_\_

36) Has living expenses seriously affected your housing choice?

- a) very seriously \_\_\_\_\_ c) very little \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) medium effects \_\_\_\_\_ d) no effects \_\_\_\_\_

37) Has your income drop since retirement affected your housing choice?

- a) very seriously \_\_\_\_\_ c) very little \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) medium effects \_\_\_\_\_ d) no effects \_\_\_\_\_

#### PART IV

#### Opinionated Needs

38) Do you have all the services and recreational facilities you desire?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied
a) food stores	_____	_____	_____	_____
b) other shopping	_____	_____	_____	_____
c) parks	_____	_____	_____	_____
d) transportation	_____	_____	_____	_____
e) hospital	_____	_____	_____	_____
f) entertainment	_____	_____	_____	_____

39) Would you move into a senior citizen housing complex?

- a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_. If no, state reason \_\_\_\_\_

40) Do you think there are sufficient senior citizen complexes?

- a) very sufficient \_\_\_\_\_ c) sufficient \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) moderately sufficient \_\_\_\_\_ d) not sufficient \_\_\_\_\_

41) Do you want to live with people your own age?

- a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_. If no, state reason \_\_\_\_\_

42) Are you on a waiting list for accommodations in a government funded senior citizen complex?

- a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_. If yes, how long? \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Months

43) To what type did you apply?

State exactly \_\_\_\_\_

44) What would be your ideal housing or living type, with no conditions attached? Describe exactly.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX D

LIST OF VARIABLES


## LIST OF VARIABLES

## Variable

- 1 = Present Housing Type
- 2 = Past Housing Type
- 3 = Public or Private Housing
- 4 = Living with Relatives
- 5 = Time Spent Living with Relatives
- 6 = Personal Costs, Maintenance
- 7 = Improvement Costs
- 8 = Amount of Expenditure
- 9 = Mortgage Status
- 10 = Related Mortgage Burdens
- 11 = Number of Bedrooms
- 12 = Male Age of Husband
- 13 = Female Age of Wife
- 14 = Living Partner's Age
- 15 = Retirement Status
- 16 = Preference to Live when Retired
- 17 = Retirement Relocation Outside City
- 18 = Housing Preference Type After Retirement
- 19 = Housing Type at age 55
- 20 = Housing Type at age 65
- 21 = Housing Type at Age 75
- 22 = Housing Type at age 80

- 23 = Age of Present Residence
- 24 = Neighborhood Rating Greenspace
- 25 = " " Neighbors
- 26 = " " Services
- 27 = " " Transportation
- 28 = " " Physical Appearance
- 29 = Reason for Relocation from Past Residence
- 30 = Reason for Present Housing Choice
- 31 = Years Lived at Present Residence
- 32 = Number of Members in the Present Household
- 33 = Marital Status
- 34 = Largest Family Size Achieved
- 35 = Past Years Previous Residence Sold
- 36 = Number of Years Lived at Previous Residence
- 37 = Age of Buyer for Previous Residence
- 38 = Size of Buyer's Family of Previous Residence
- 39 = Medical or Physical Requirements
- 40 = Amount of Required Care
- 41 = Dependency on Others
- 42 = Transportation Intensity, Auto
- 43 = " " Bus
- 44 = " " Taxi
- 45 = " " Friends' Car
- 46 = " " Walking
- 47 = Educational Level
- 48 = Total Family Income



- 49 - Income Sources
  - 50 - Past Occupation
  - 51 - Supplementary Job Status
  - 52 - Living Expense Affects
  - 53 - Retirement Income Affects
  - 54 - Services and Recreational Facilities, Food Stores
  - 55 -       "       "       "       "       Shopping Stores
  - 56 -       "       "       "       "       Parks
  - 57 -       "       "       "       "       Transportation
  - 58 -       "       "       "       "       Hospital
  - 59 -       "       "       "       "       Entertainment
  - 60 - Opinion of Senior Citizen Housing Complexes
  - 61 - Opinion of Senior Citizen Housing Complex Sufficiency
  - 62 - Living with People Own Age
  - 63 - Waiting List for Accommodations
  - 64 - Ideal Type of Accommodation
- 

#### VITA AUCTORIS

Edward Carl Egyedy was born December 22, 1950 in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. He received his secondary school education in Leamington, Ontario. His post - secondary education was completed at the University of Windsor, where he received an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies in 1979. Continuing his education at Windsor as a graduate he recieved his Master of Arts degree in Geography in 1981.