

Unfinished Modernisations
Ljubljana, 12.-14. April 2012

NEW CITIES IN SLOVENIA
(1945-1960)
KIDRIČEVO-NOVA GORICA-VELENJE



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Outline

- Political situation in Slovenia after WW II
- Urban planning policy
- Case studies of Kidričevo, Nova Gorica and Velenje
 - The area before the building of the cities
 - Urban planning
 - Construction of the cities

About the second half of the 40' and the 50'



- From the communist centralized government to the self-government system
- Five-Year plans for the National economy
 - Rapid industrialization and electrification
 - Deagrarization and urbanization of the country
- Organization of the urban planning system: from centralization to decentralization
- Influence of the political authority
- Enthusiasm and faith in a better future
- Roots of the Slovenian postwar urbanism

Sternt(h)al, Strnišče pri Ptuj, Kidričevo



Location: south-est edge of Dravsko polje/ The Drava plain



The WW I and II



Plan and photo of the A-H camp, 1915 (Pokrajinski muzej Ptuj-Ormož).

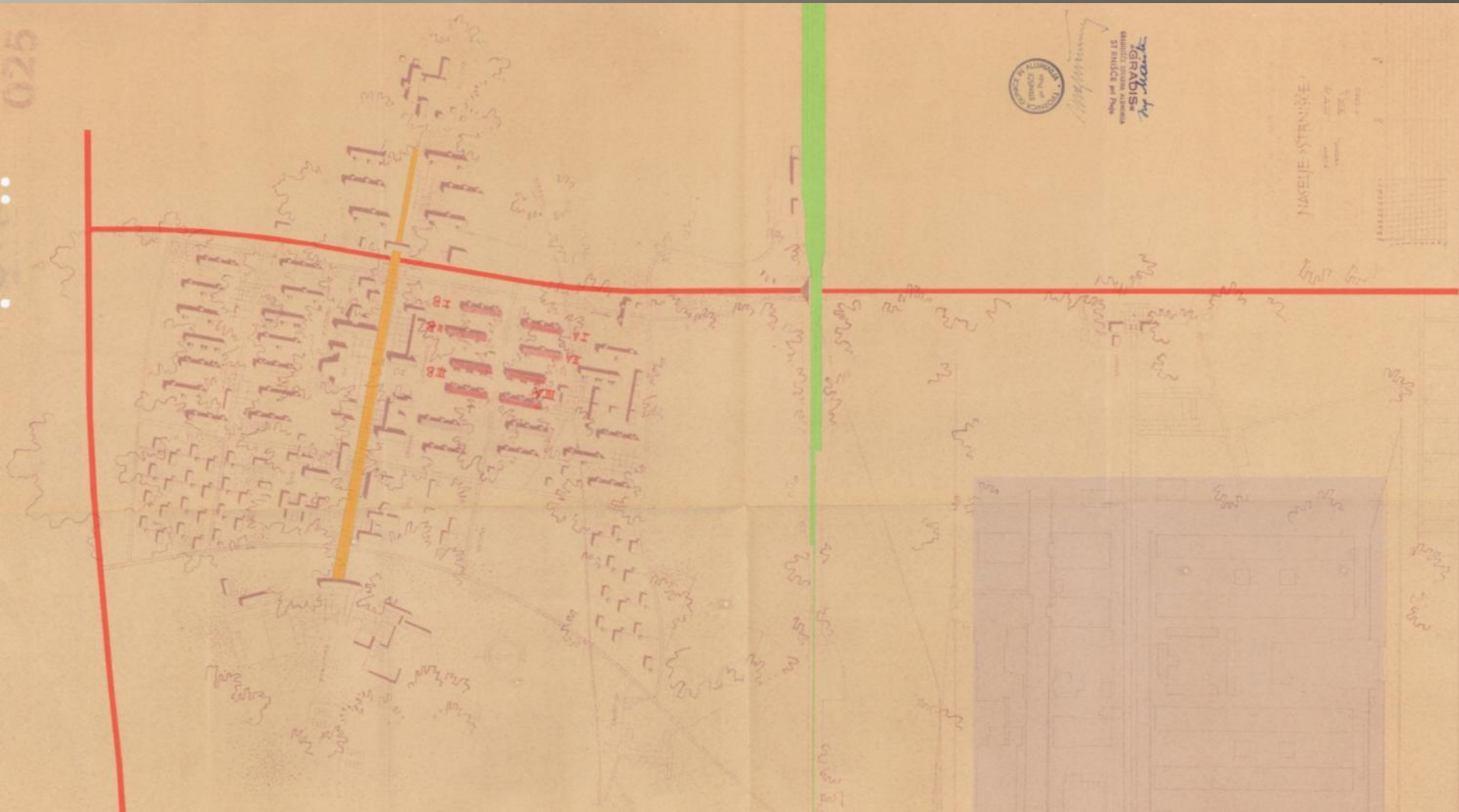


Construction of a new city after 1945 for the factory workers

Investor: The Ministry of Construction of the PRS and The Factory of alumina and aluminum

Urban planning: Danilo Fürst (two plans in 1947) and Edvard Ravnikar (two plans in 1950)

Successfully constructed architecture from 1947 to 1954: the extension of the alumina factory, the factory administration building, blocks of flats, restoration (Danilo Fürst) and aluminum factory (Josip Didek)

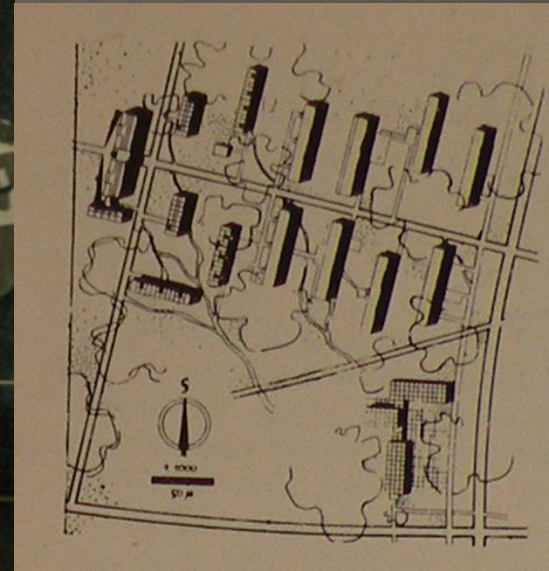


Danilo Fürst, Urban plan Strnišče-Kidirčevo, 25.05.1947
(Archive of the Republic of Slovenia).





Danilo Fürst,
Urban plan
Strnišče-
Kidirčevo,
25.05.1947
(Archive of
the Republic
of Slovenia).



Edvard Ravnikar and Stanko Kristl, Picture of the model for the new city Strnišče, 1950 (Museum of Architecture and design, Ljubljana, on the left).

Overview of the building constructed by 1948 (from magazine Arhitekt, number 1, 1951, on the right).



Picture of the constructed building (Pokrajinski muzej Ptuj-Ormož, Library of Ivan Potrč Ptuj, National Museum of Contemporary History).





Picture of the inauguration of the new factory and of the city, 1954 (National Museum of Contemporary History).



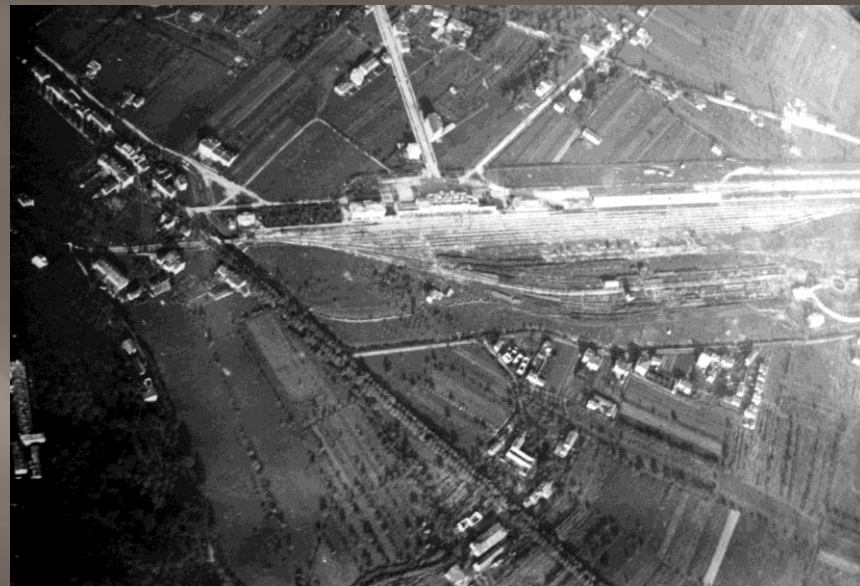


Nova Gorica



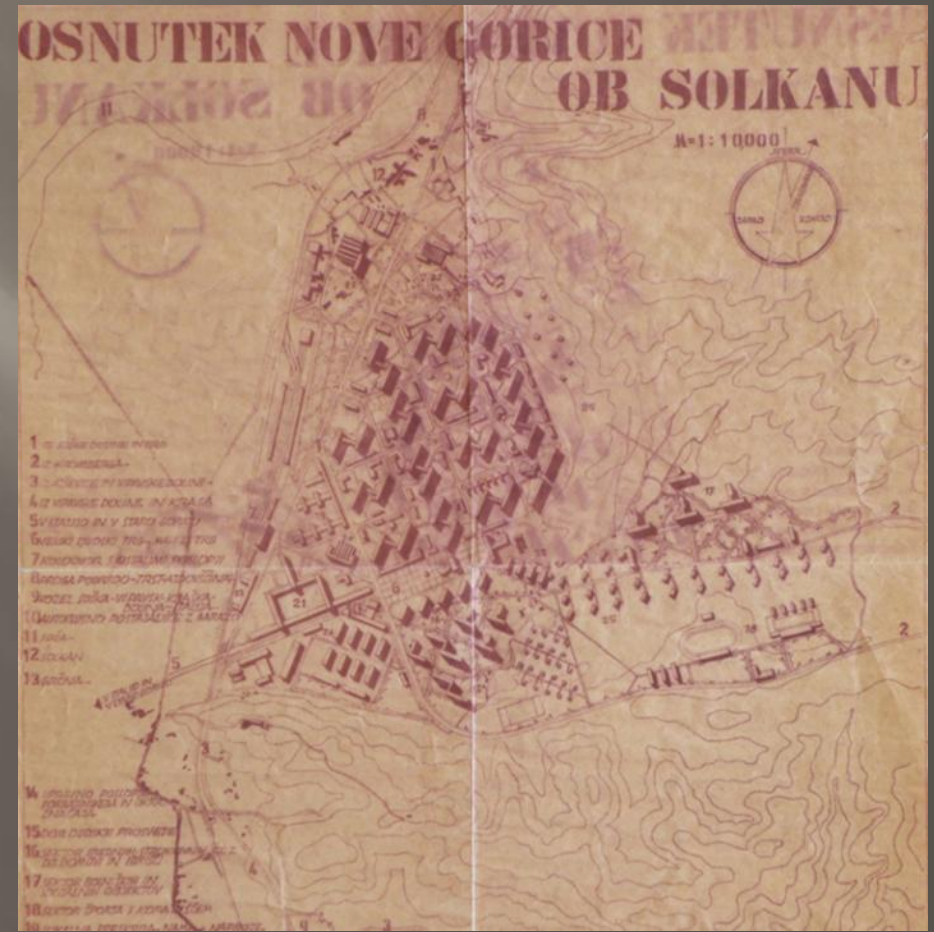
- Location: Solkansko polje/The Solkan Plain, between the towns Solkan (in the North) and Šempeter (in the South).

The Solkan Plain at the end of the WW II



- Picture of the Solkansko polje/The Solkan Plain (Regional Archives of Nova Gorica and Museum of Contemporary History).

Construction of a new center for the Primorska region after 1945

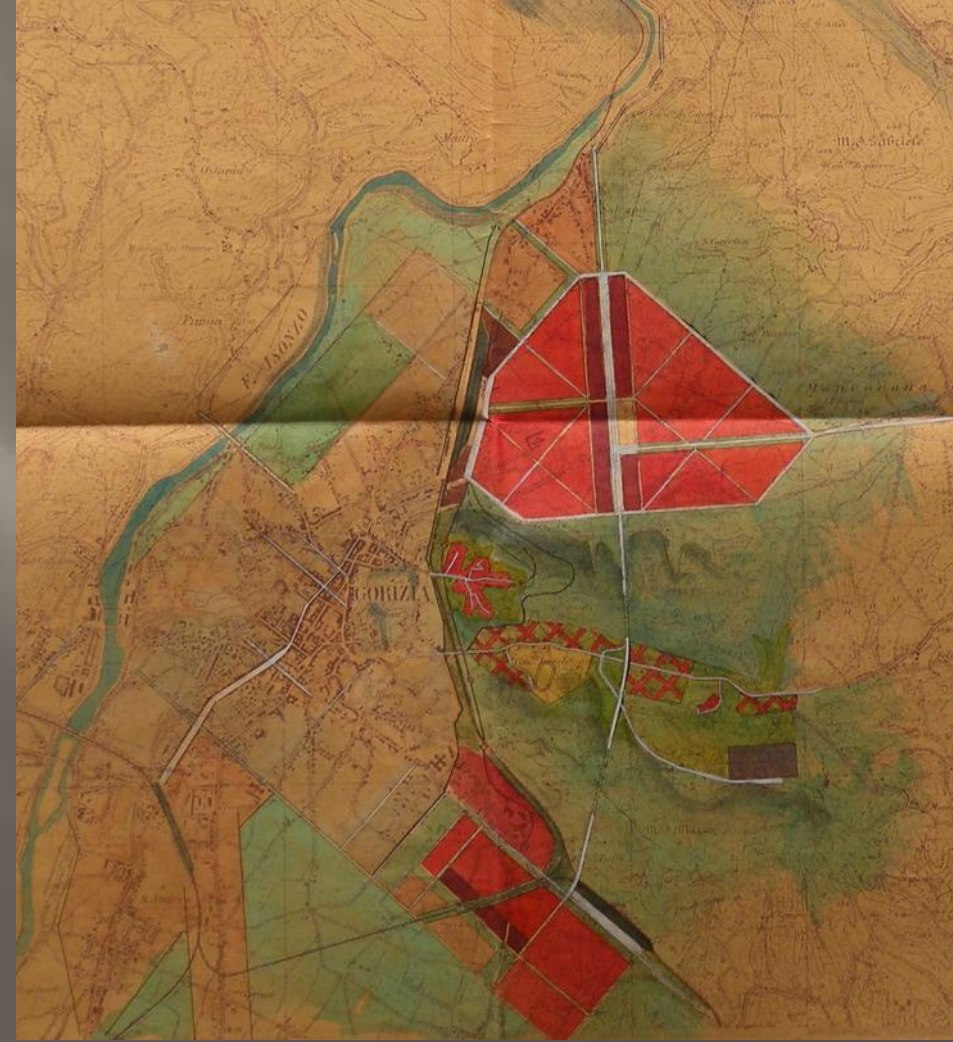
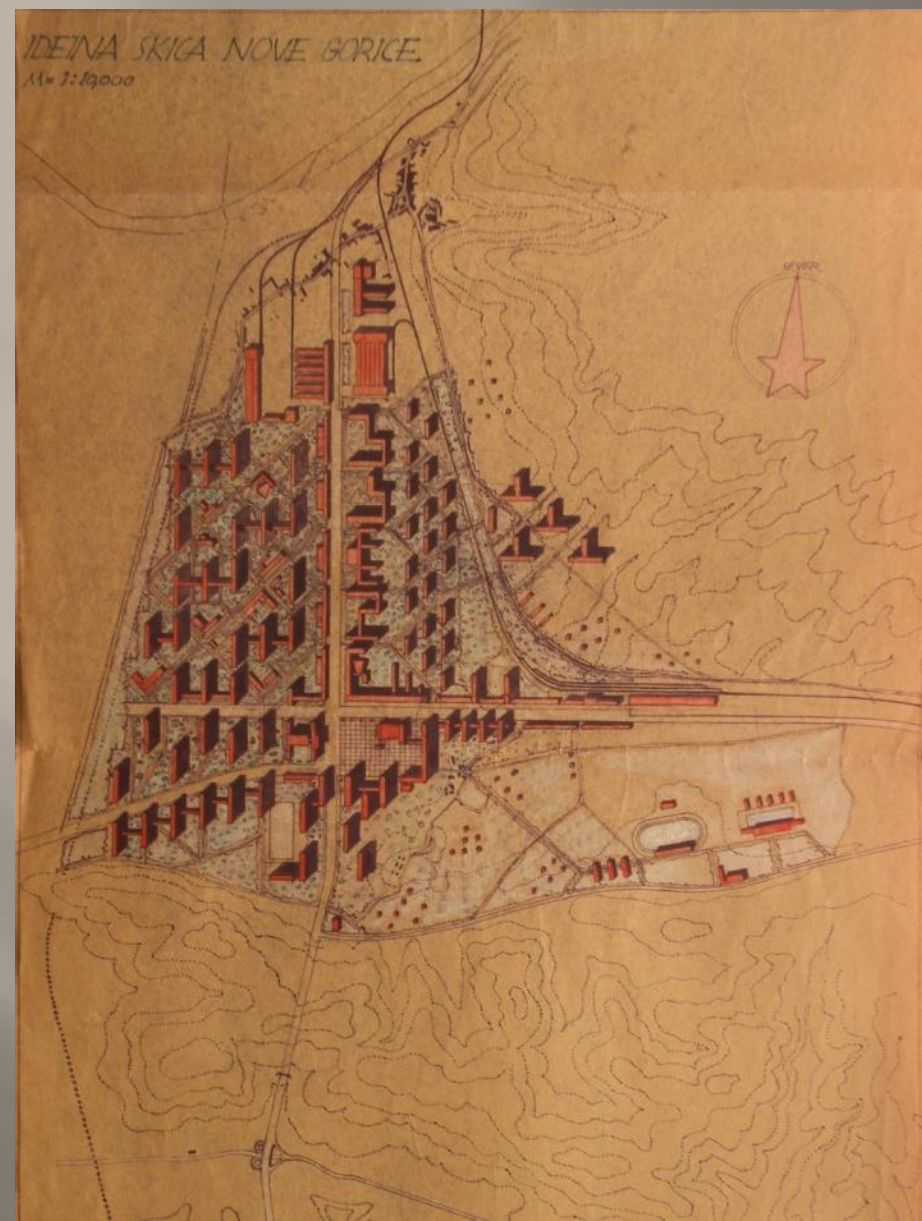


The first urban plans of Nova Gorica by Božidar Gvardjančič, 1947 (Regional Archive of Nova Gorica).



Construction of a new center for the Primorska region after 1945

- **Investor:** Ministry of Construction of PRS
- **Urban planning:** Edvard Ravnikar
- **Collaborators:** Franc Šmid, Jurij Jenšterle, Marta Ravnikar
- **Successfully constructed architecture from 1947 to 1950:** block of flats designed by Edvard Ravnikar and Danilo Fürst, the Regional People's Committee building designed by Vinko Glanz



Urban plans of Nova Gorica by Božidar Gvardjančič (on the left) and Marko Zupančič (on the right), September 1947 (National Museum of Contemporary History).



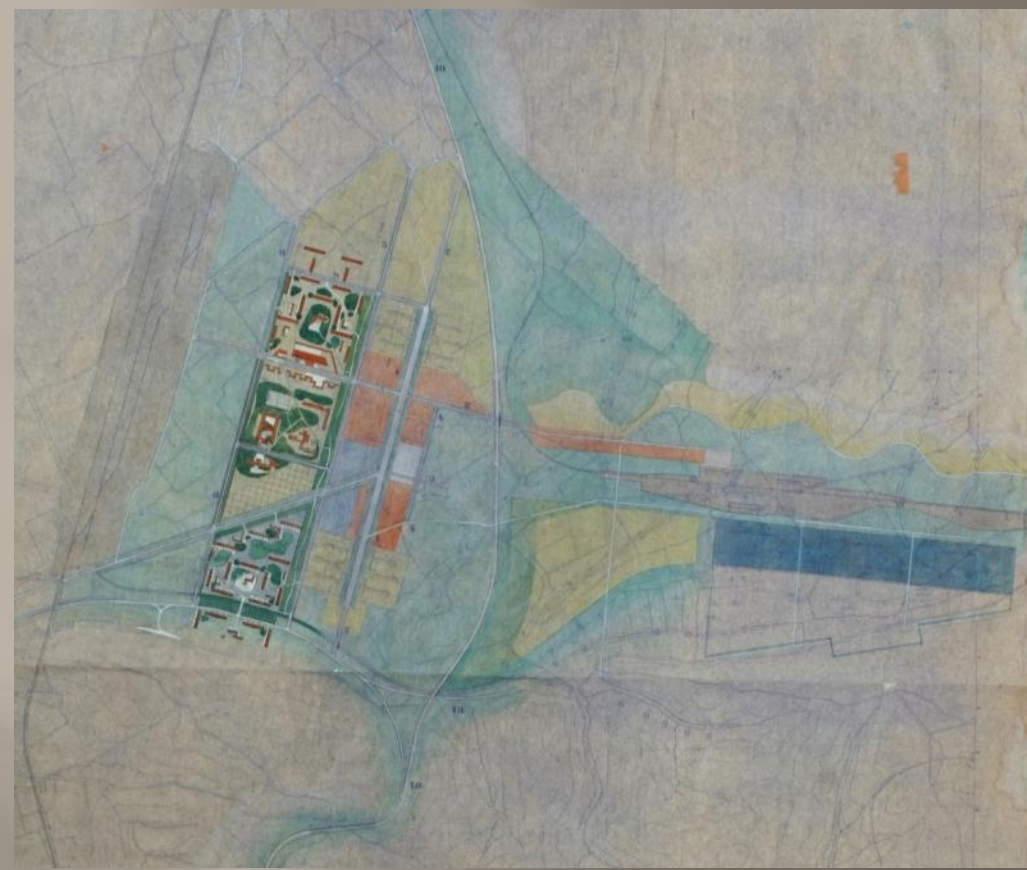
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Urban plan of
Nova Gorica by
Edvard
Ravnikar, 1947
(MAO).



Zoning of Nova Gorica (on the left, MAO) and perspective of Nova Gorica (private collection).



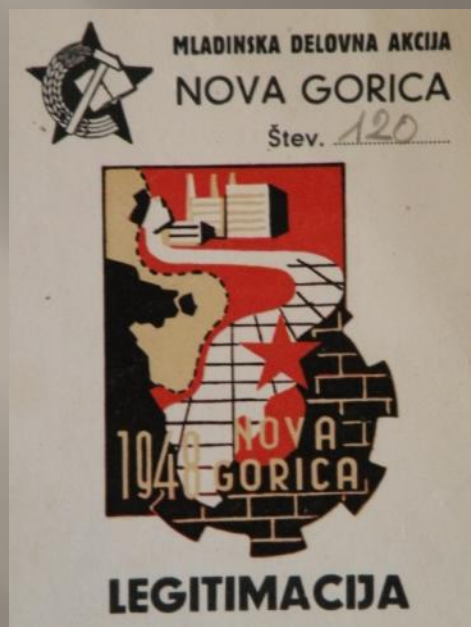


Photo of the ID card of a volunteer (private collection) and photo of the constructed building (Regional Archives of Nova Gorica and National Museum of Contemporary History).



Velenje–Titovo Velenje–Velenje



- Location: east part of the Šaleška dolina/Šaleška valley.

The Šaleška valley at the end of WW

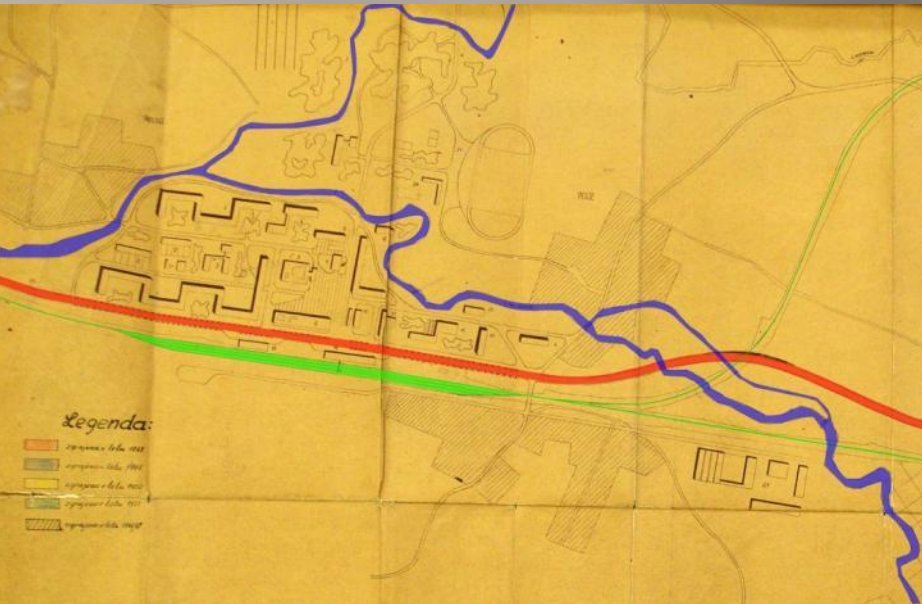
II



- ▣ Volbenk Pajek, Photo of the Šaleška dolina / Šaleška valley, about 1948 (private collection).



Construction of a new city for the Velenje lignite mine



The urban plan of The Šaleška valley-Velenje sector by Viljem Strmecki, 1948 (Zgodovinski arhiv v Celju).



Photo of the housing settlement in the North of Paka, about 1956 (private collection).



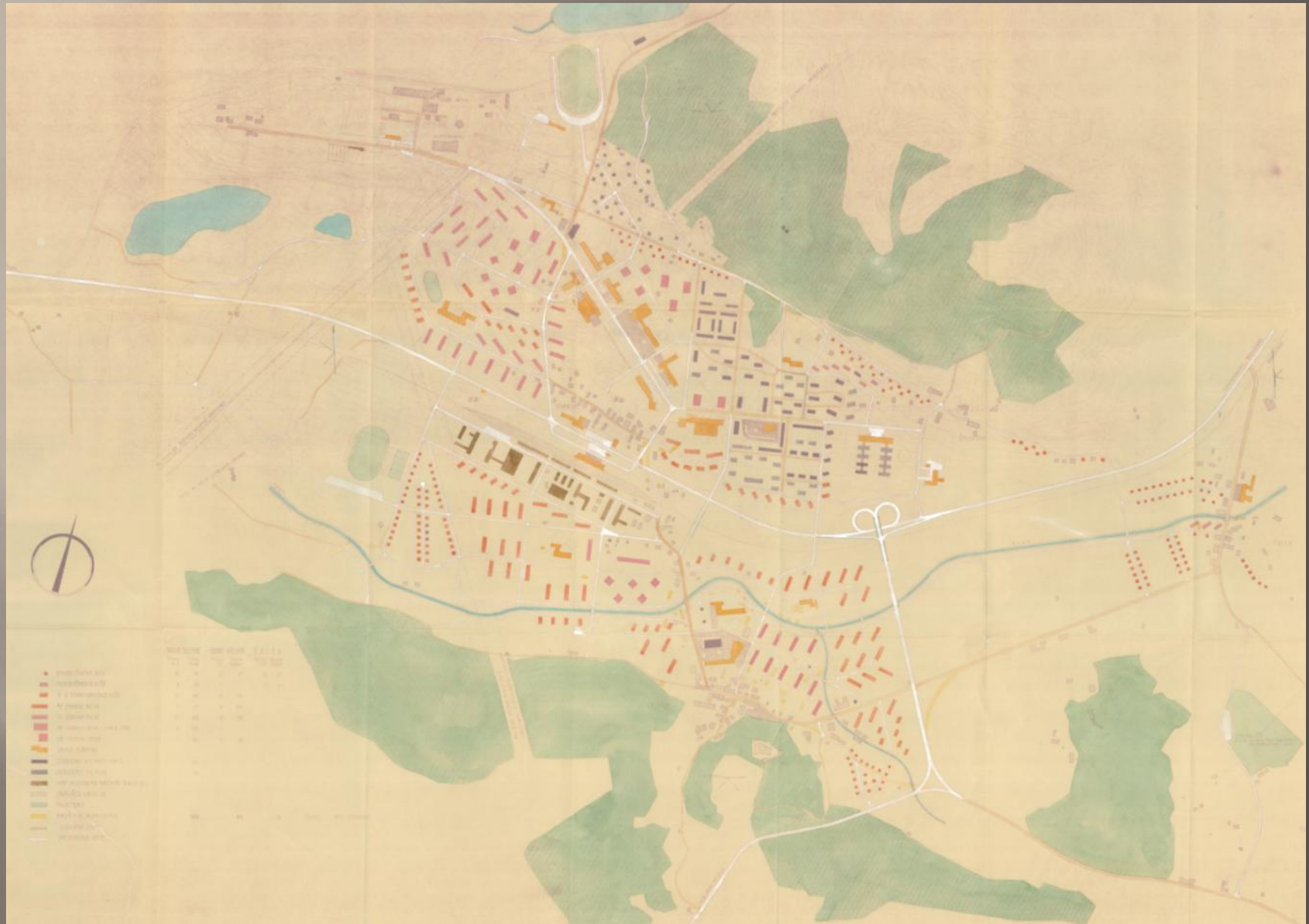
Construction of Velenje 1956–1960

Investor: Velenje lignite mine and Velenje municipality

Urban planning: Janez Trezn

Collaborator: Franc Šmid

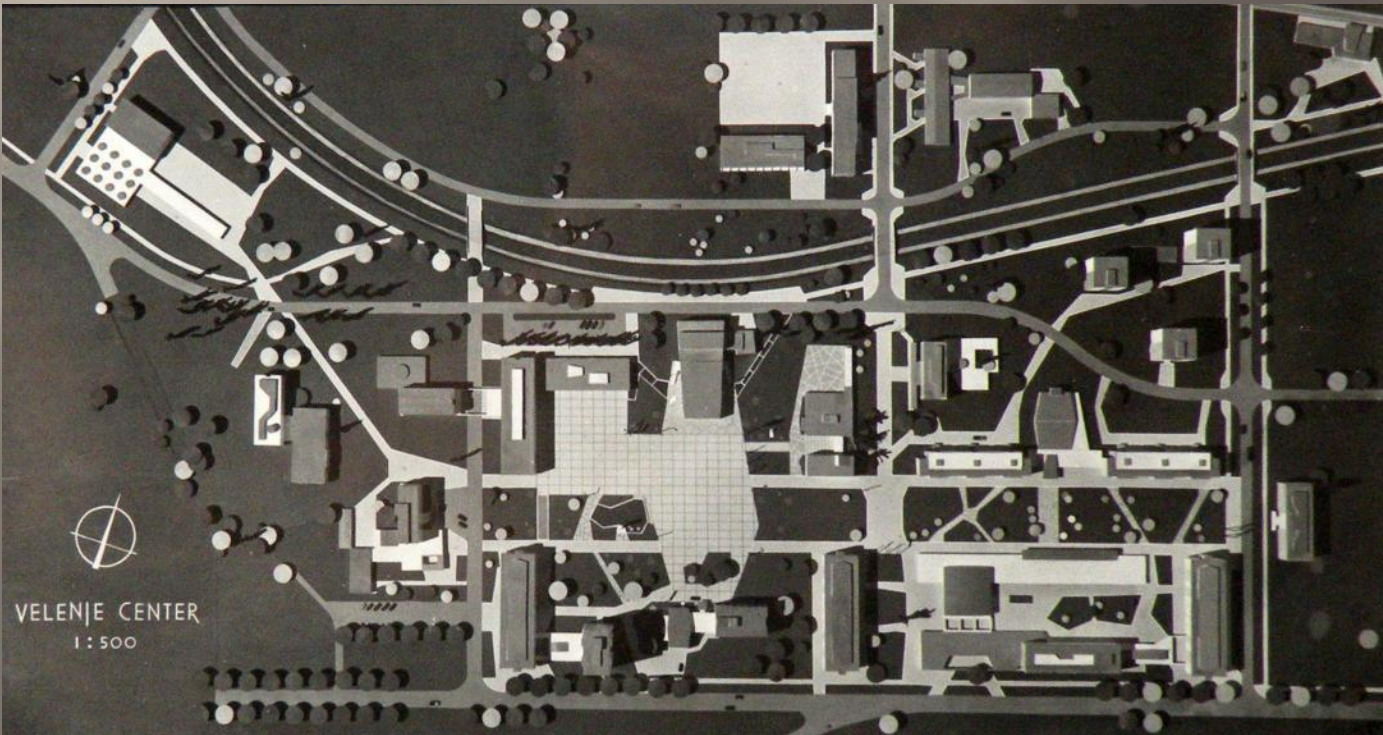
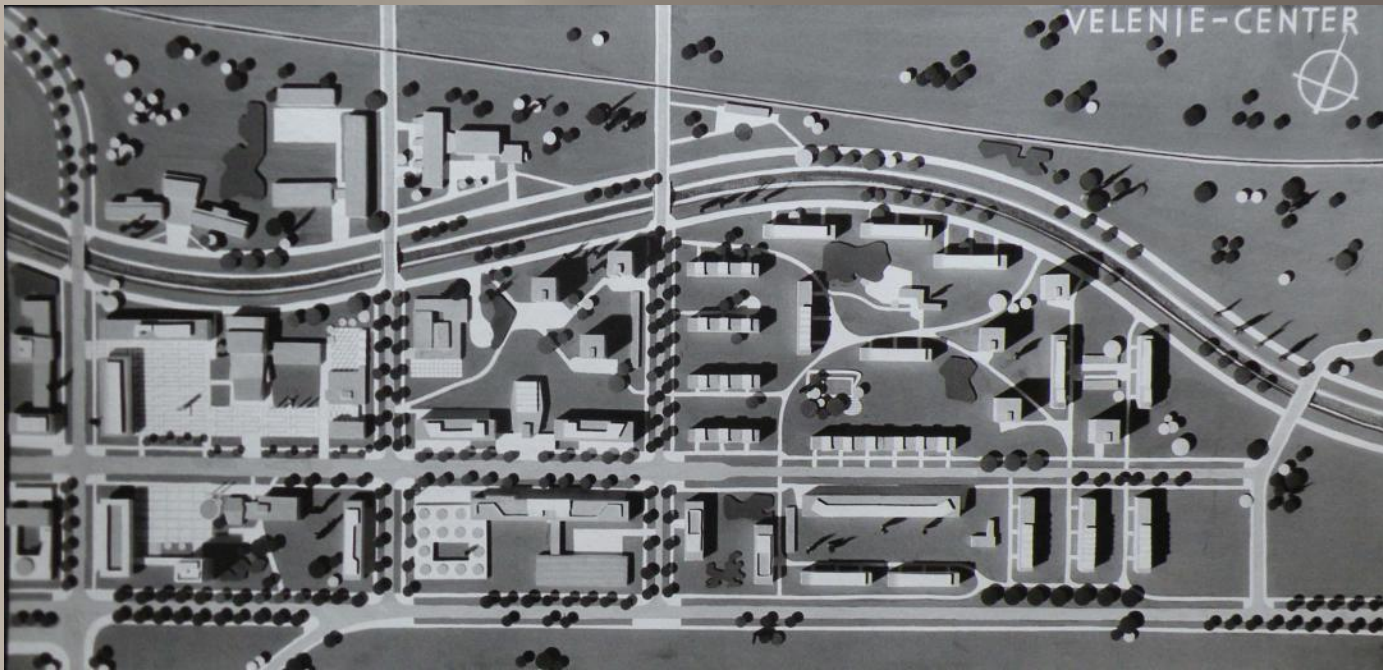
Constructed building in the new city centre:
administration building of the Velenje lignite mine by Janez Trezn, Cultural home, Labour Club and University by Oton Gaspari, commercial and residential blocks by Jože Usenik, high-rise by Milan Mihelič, block of flats by Stanko Kristl



Town planning scheme of Velenje by Janez Trezn. Ref. No. 1386/1, 1954 (private collection).



Town planning scheme of Velenje by Janez Treznj with the boundaries of the lignite layer exploitation area Ref. No. 1386/1, 1954 (private collection).



Models of the city centre by Janez Trenc, 1957 and 1958 (private collection).

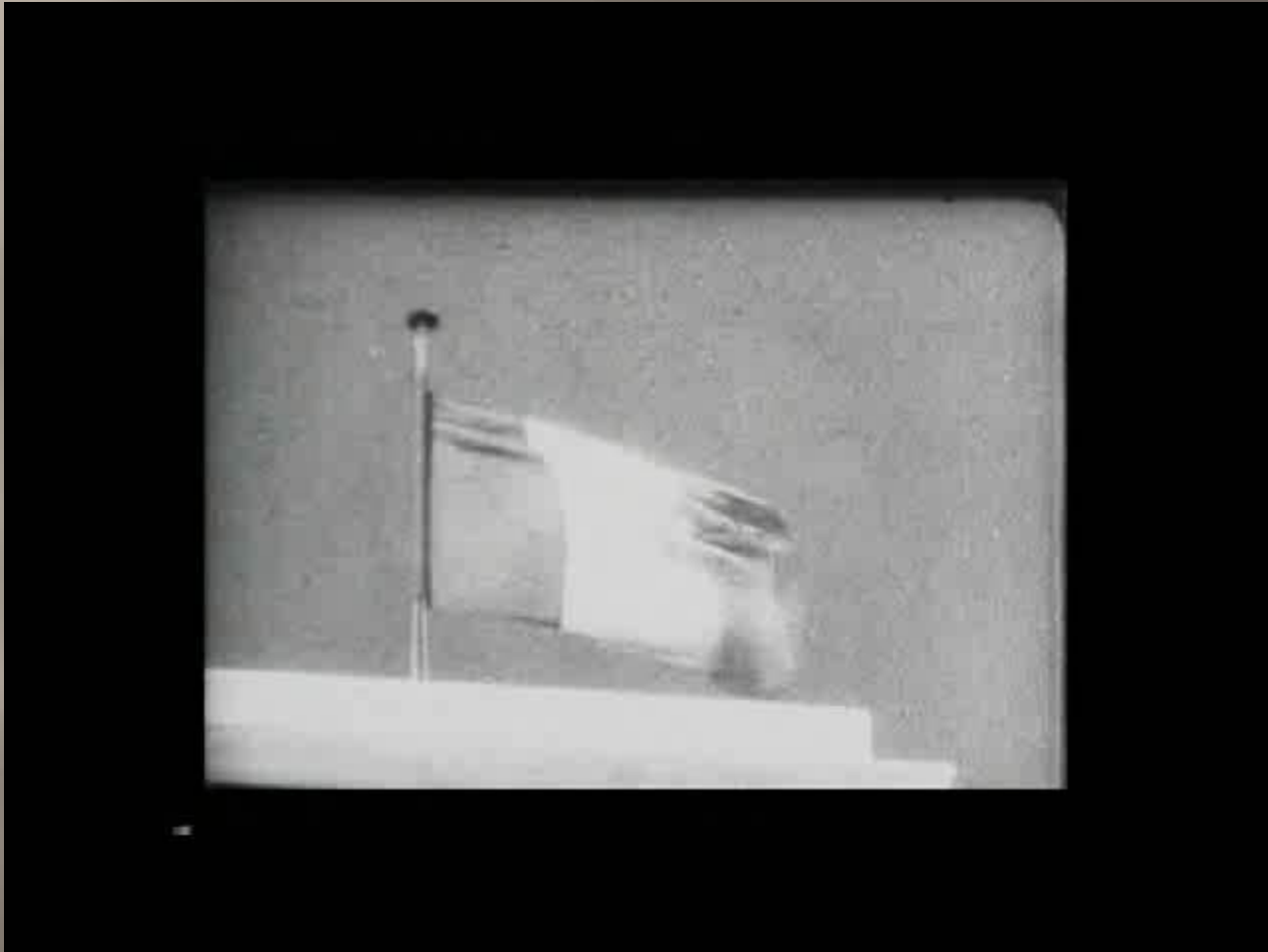


Photo of the constructed building, (Private collections, Velenje Library and National Museum of Contemporary History).





Conclusion



Documentary film of Nova Gorica from Goriška mozaik tisočletij.
Produkcija Vitel.



Documentary film of Velenje from Vasi pod vodo by Jaka Šuligoj.