

Being one of the biggest rivers in Europe Volga is over 3 000 kilometers long and passes across 15 federal subjects of Russia.

There are more than 100 cities spread along riverside of Volga, 4 of which have

Volga basin on the map of Russian

Federation

a population exceeding 1 million people.

Volga basin is traditionally described as a unity of three different regions:

Upper, Middle and Lower ones. They differ both in geographic and cultural characteristics, although the borders are not strictly set.

The landscape of **Upper Volga** can be characterized as a sequence of water reservoirs, with the water level regulated by a series of hydroelectric power station dams (also referred to as "GES"). The river banks vary from flat to slightly raised terrain covered by forests.

2. Kostromskaia district

4. Tatarstan Republic

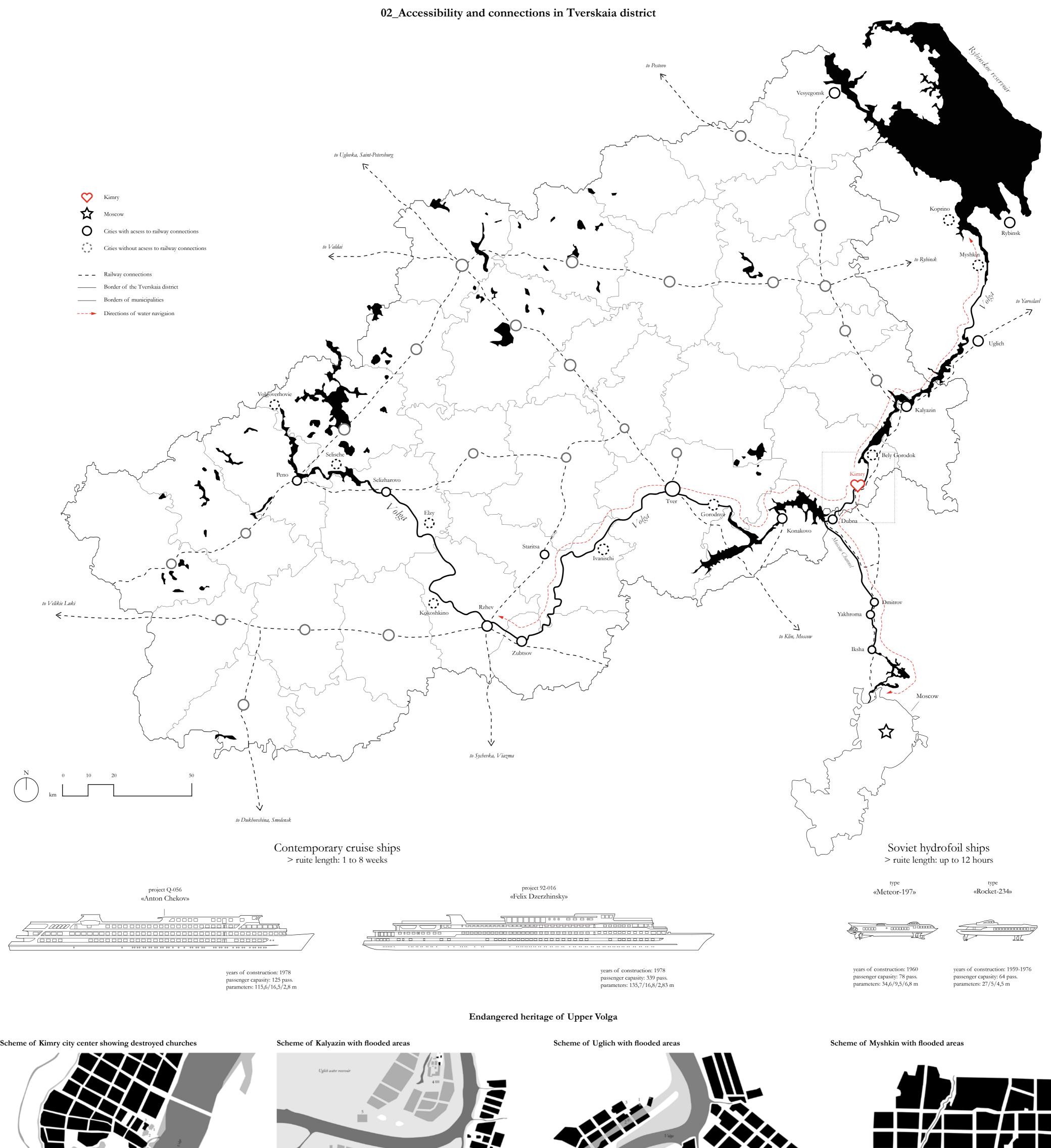
The **Middle Volga** becomes wider where it streams around the northern border of Privolzhskaia upland with a contrast between a tall right bank and a flat left bank. In Cheboksary another GES dam forms a water reservoir. In the lower part after merging with river Kama Volga continues its way along the Privolzhskaya upland until it reaches the region of Zhigulev

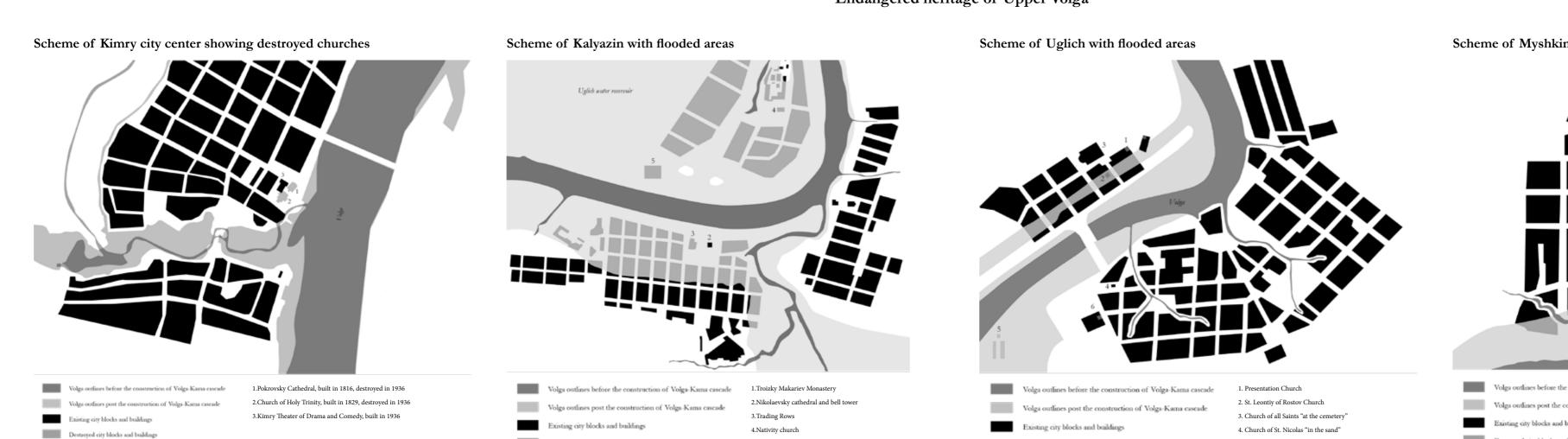
mountains.



6. Astrakhanskaia district

The character of the **Lower Volga** abruptly changes after the Volzhskaia GES in Volgograd, since he river acquires a secondary branch parallel to the main stream called the Akhtuba branch. The vast space between two river flows, covered in flow-throughs, ducts and dried riverbeds, is called the Volgo-Akhtubinskaia bottom-land. The width of the floods in the area reaches 30 km in spring season.





5.Church of Exaltation of the Holy Cross



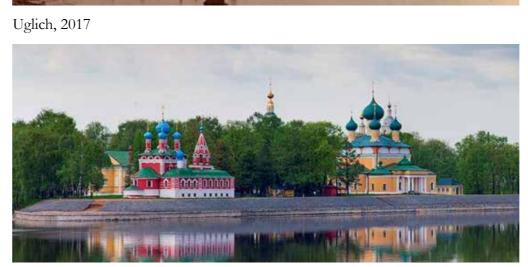


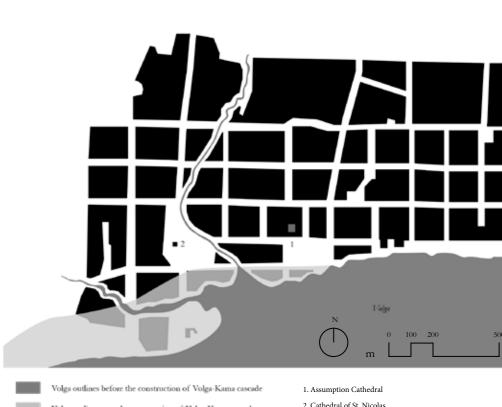
Kalyazin, 1911

Destroyed city blocks and buildings



Destroyed city blocks and buildings 5. Sloboda and Church of the Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem 6. Church of Resurrection "of the poor men" Uglich, 1911





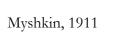
Volga outlines before the construction of Volga-Kama cascade

1. Assumption Cathedral

2. Cathedral of St. Nicolas

Existing city blocks and buildings

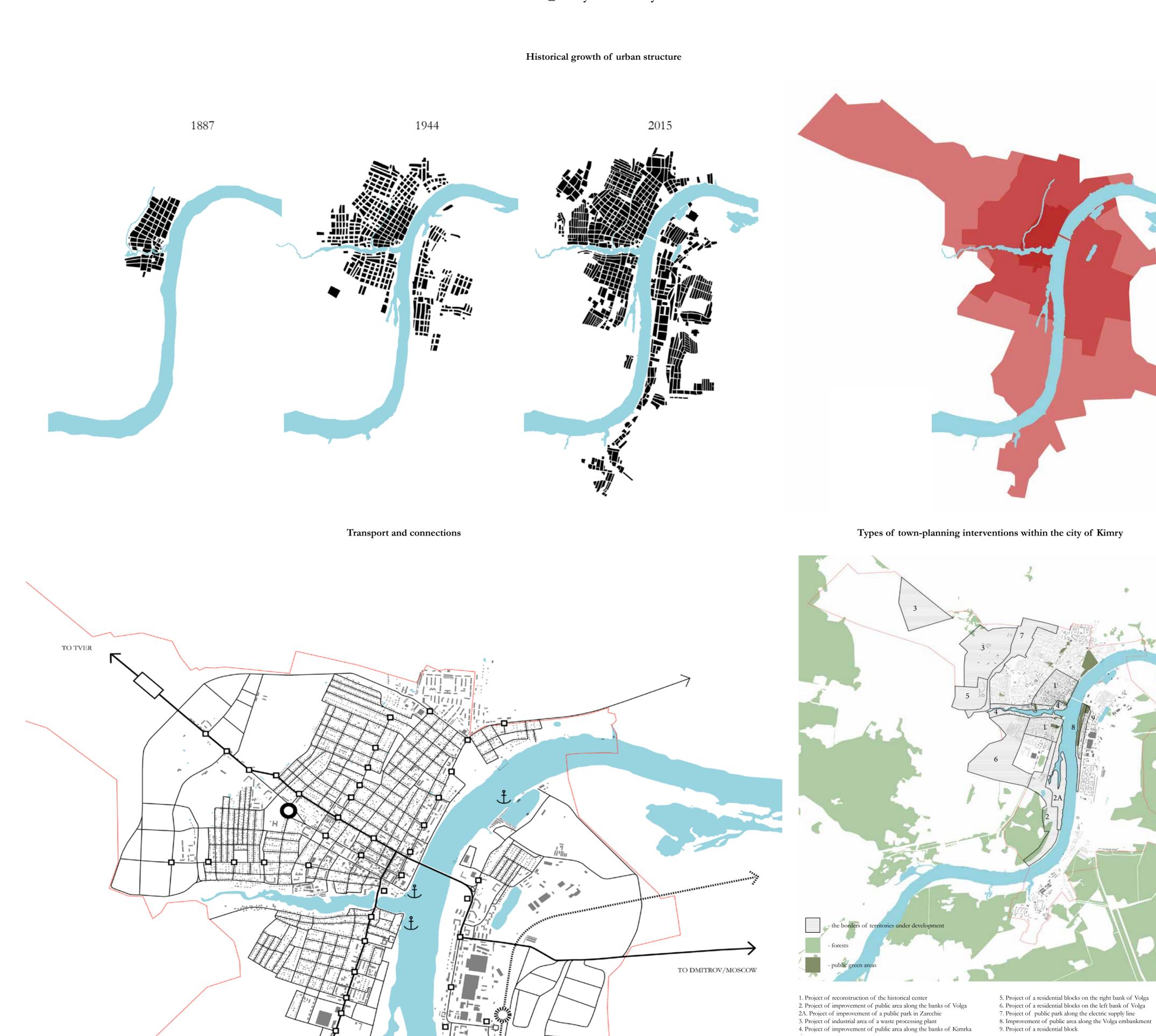
Destroyed city blocks and buildings





Myshkin, 2017





Savelovo train station

Kimry bus station

Industrial ports Passenger piers

City borders

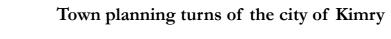
Borki airport

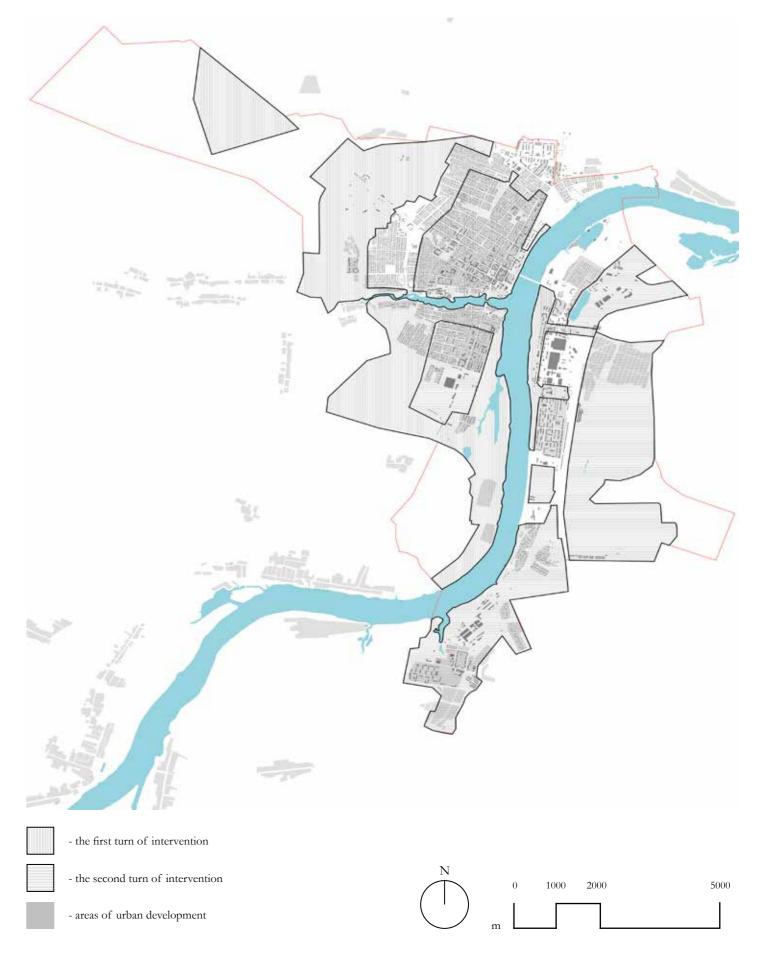
P116 - Dmitrov highway Moscow - Savelovo railway

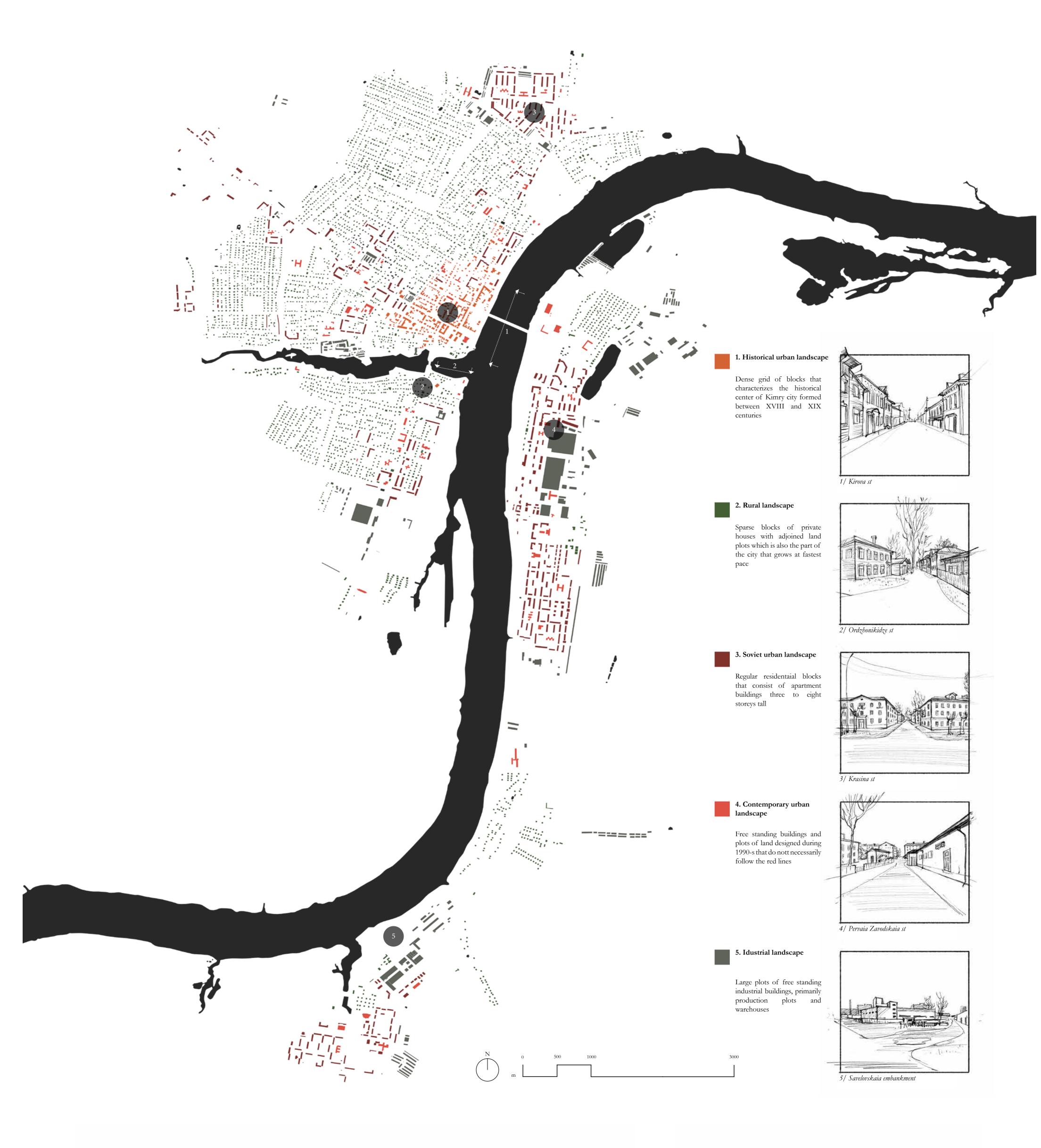
Bus stops

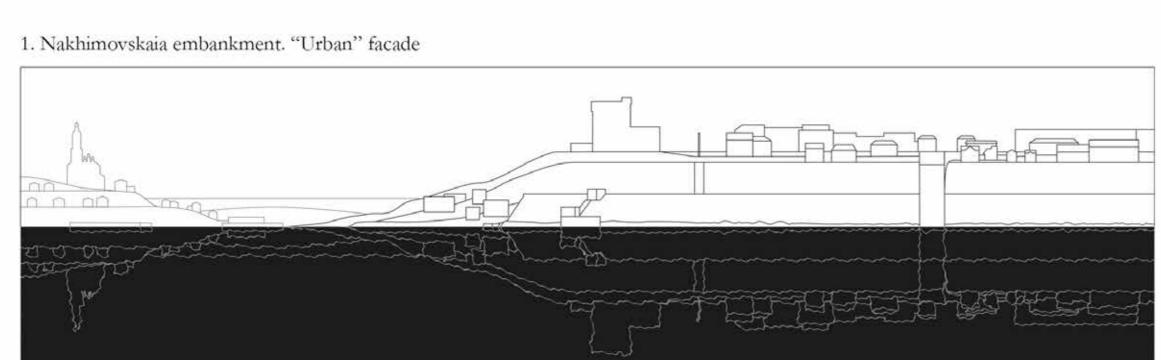
Roads

TO DUBNA

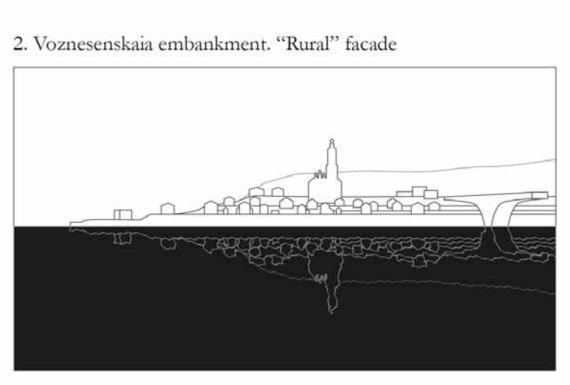








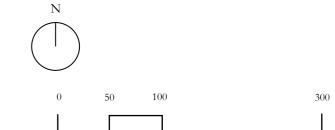
The skyline of Pokrovaskaia side of Kimry historical center has a distinctive urban charecter dominated by masonry buildings forming a dense grid of blocks. The historical local emergencies of Pokrovsky Cathedral and Ilyinskaia Church were replaced by the building of Kimry Theater of Drama and Comedy. The embankment is organised in two levels with pedestrian paths on each of them.



The skiline of Voznesenskaia side has a rural character since the embankment is mostly naturally formed and the majority of buildings are sparsely distributed private wooden houses. The main visual emergency of the landscape is the belltower of Voznesenskaia Church. In comparison to the Pokrovskaia side the authenticity of the rural part of Kimry historical center is better preserved.



- 1. Church of Ascention of Christ, 1813 2. House of N.N. Nososv Wooden Art Nouveau House on Ordjonokidze st, 1920-s
 Wooden Art Nouveau House on Moskovskaia st, 1920-s
 House of N.A.Dzhardetsky, 1920-s
- 6. House of merchant Teplov, 1906
 7. House of V.M. Sukharkov, 1911
 8. Luzhin Brothers' houses on Kirov st, beginning of XXth cent.
 9. House of A.E. Rybkin, beginning of XXth cent.
 10. House of Serepievy, beginning of XXth cent.
- 11. House of M.A. Stoliarov, beginning of XXth cent.
 12. House of V.D. Sobtsov, 1895
 13. House of O.V. Potapenko, 1890
 14. House of I.K. Tuntzov, Middle of XIX cent.
 15. Transfiguration Cathedral, 1902-1911
- 16. House of S.I. Gorgyliev, end of XIX cent.17. House of D.N. Zaitsev, end of XIX cent.18. House of Shokin, 1917 19. Post office building, 1910 20. Building of "Yakor" factory, 1907
- 21. Merchant Houose, 1914 22. Fire Station Building, end of XIX cent. 23. The former "Kimry Public Peasant Bank" building, XIX cent. 24. The former building of Kimry Local Museum, 1870 25. House with a tower, first half of XX century



Merchant Raws building, 1910







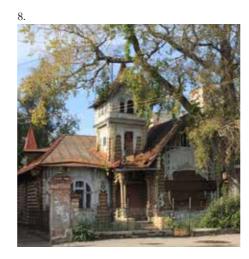


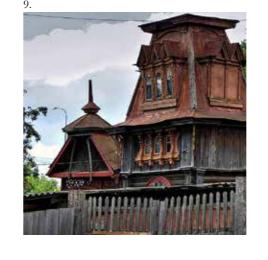




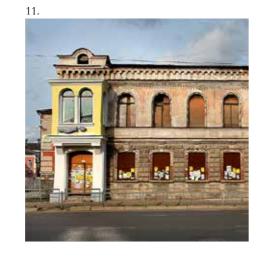














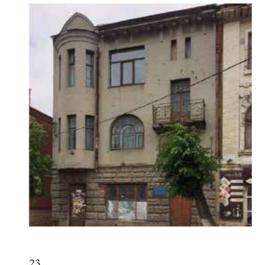


















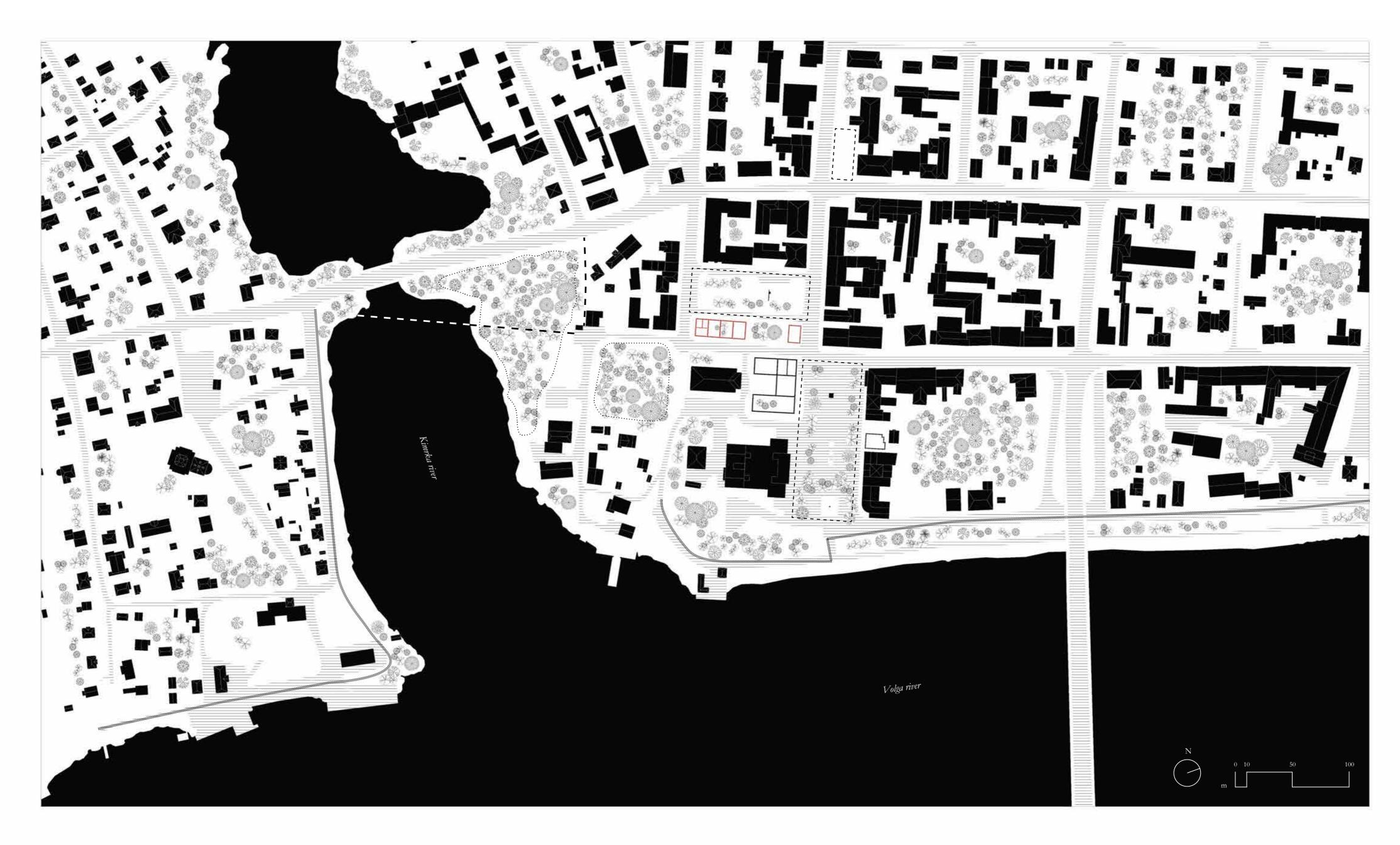




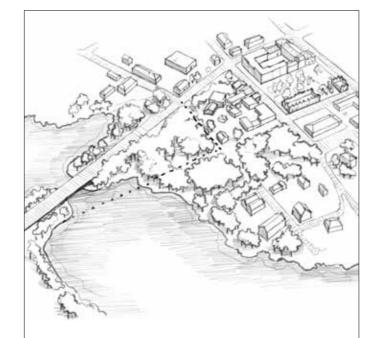








Missing connections

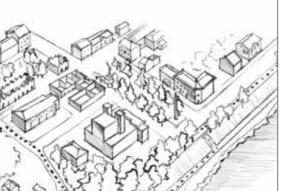


The connection between two sides of Kimrka has historically been the continuation of the Volodarskogo street where the building of Merchant Rows is situated.

Tverskaia

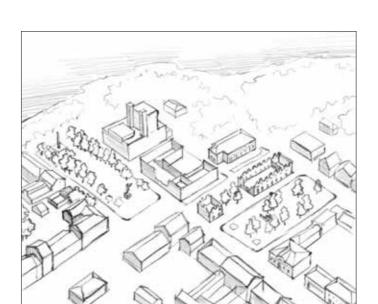
district

Accessible embankments



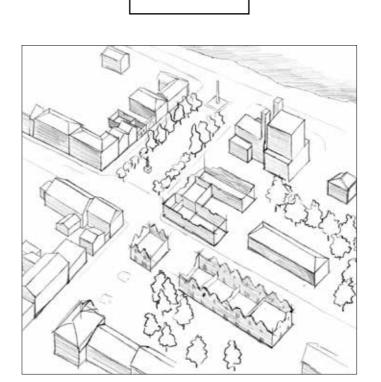
The pedestrian route alongside Volga is currently interrupted by a line of private houses which makes Kimrka embankment difficult to access.

Public spaces



The building of Merchant Rows is surrounded by existing public spaces: The Theater square, facing Volga, and Tupolev square on the other side of the building.

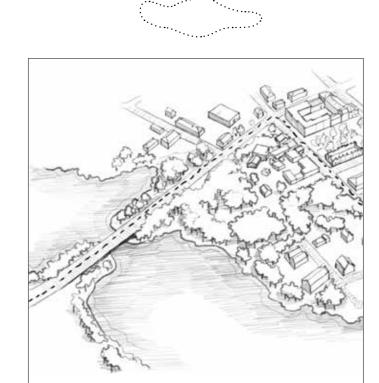
Abandoned buildings



Unfortunately, the central part of Kimry has a lot of neglected buildings in various states of decay, Merchant Rows building being one of them.

Hisorical photos

Anaccesible green areas



There is a large portion of unattended greenery between the building of Merchant Rows and Kimrka river which is difficult to access for regular citizens.

Examples of the typology

1. Kimry



2. Kashin

water reservior

Moscow



3. Klin



3. Krasny Holm

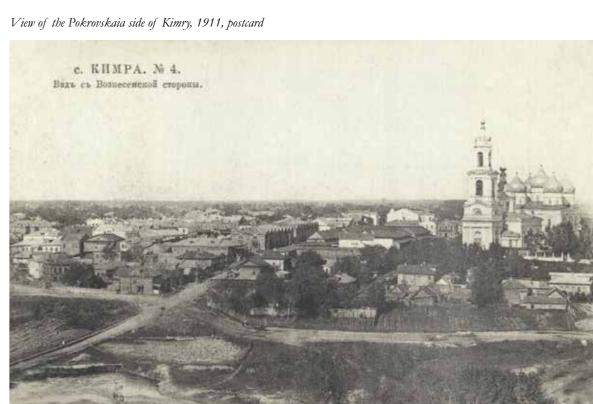


View of the Merchant Raws from the Central square, 1911, postcard



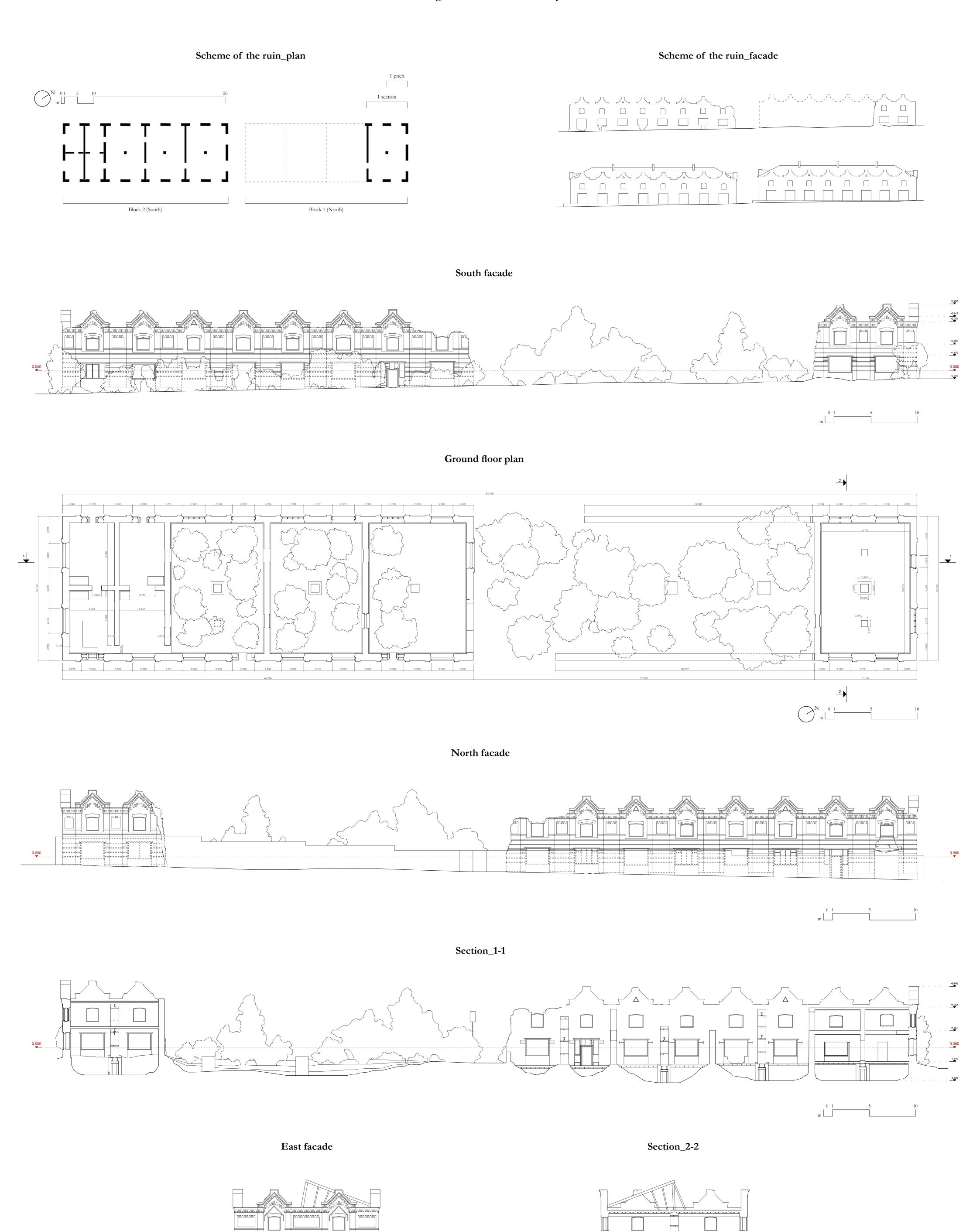
Construction of the Merchant Raws building, 1909, postcard



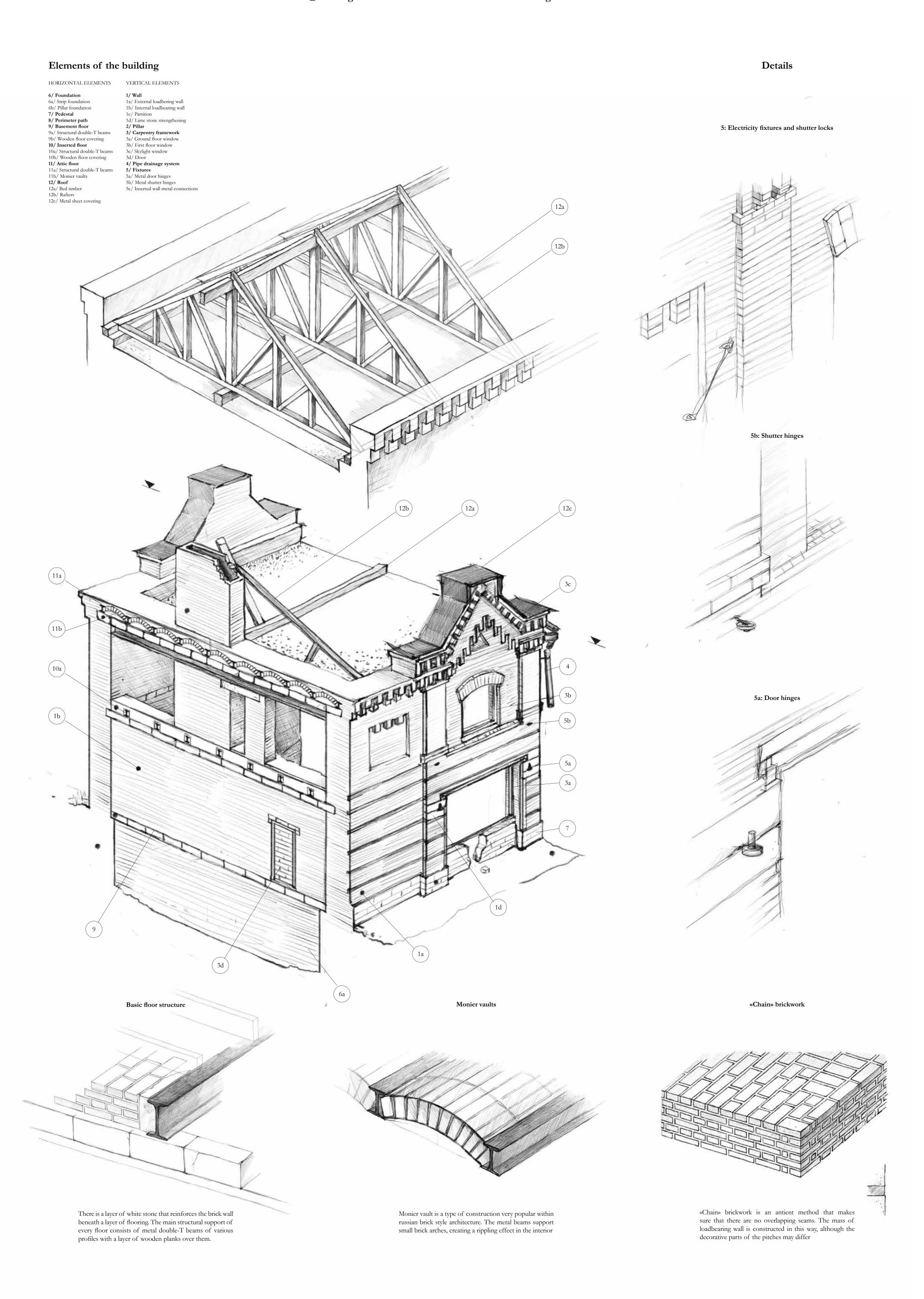


Viev of the Guest House building and the Merchant Raws, 1911, postcard



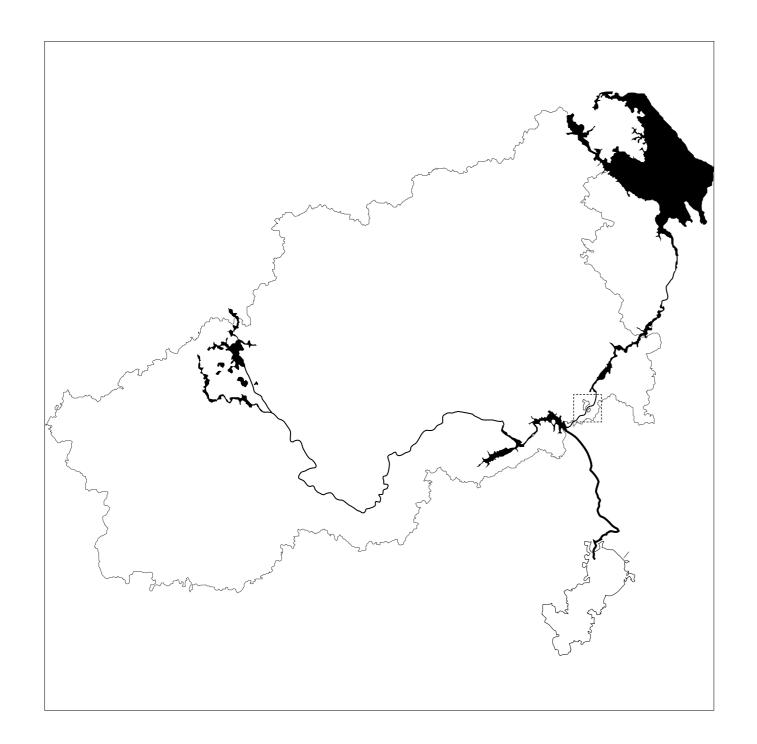






Scale 2: the river

Tverskaia district



Types of intervention

- 1. Propose an affordable infrastructure for restablishment of Volga passenger shipping
- 2. Restore preexisting piers for minor hydrofoil ships
- 3. Encorage local boat owners
- 4. Improve accessability of minor historical cities that are not directly connected to the railway system

Stakeholders



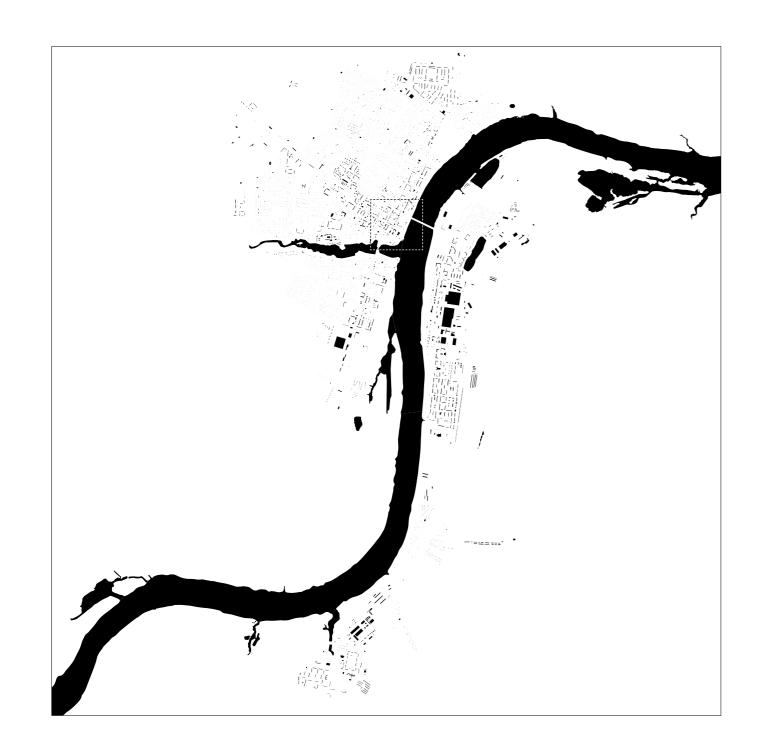
- У ХРАНИТЕЛИ Наследия



- 1. «Vodohod»: Volga passenger shipping assosiation
- 2. «The National Fund of Development of Minor Historical cities and settlements»: an official government organization financing local initiative in minor historical cities and settlements
- 3. «Heritage keepers»: a private independant organization, working with cultural heritage on national scale
- 4. «ArchNadzor»: a

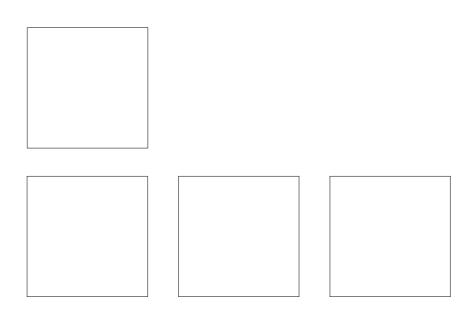
Scale 2: the city

City of Kimry



Types of intervention

- Concidering three scales of the research I propose three scales of intervention:
- 1. Conserve and enhance the Merchant Raws building
- 2. Restore the pier on the Voznesenskaia side of historical center
- 3. Reintroduce the missing link between the two sides
- 4. Create an uninterrupted sequense of Volga embankments in the historical center



Stakeholders



- ТВЕРСКОЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ ОБЪЕДИНЁННЫЙ МУЗЕЙ

- 1. «Tverskie svody»: an independent organization dedicated to collecting a preserving data of Tverskaia district architectiral heritage
- 2. «Main Directorate for the State Protection of Cultural Heritage Sites of the Tver Region»: an administrative body responsible for heritage preservation
- 3. «Guardians of Upper Volga»: an independent heritage preservation organisation operating on a national scale
- 4. «The Society of Tverskoy National Museum»: the assosiation of local museums of Tverskaia ditrict
- 5. «Tver Digest»: independant public news portal focused on cultural events

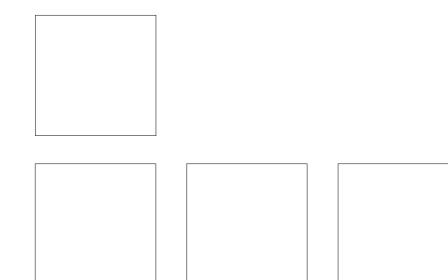
Scale 3: the building

Building of the Merchant Raws



Types of intervention

- 1. Conserve and consolidate of the ruin of the Merchant Raws building
- 2. Make reversable additions to the structure responding to specific types of damage
- 3. Create a public green area on the site of the missing block of the building
- 4. Impact the local community by introduction of multiple public functions to the building: an exposition space, a public area, a recreational area



Stakeholders



- 1. «Kimry local museum»: museum of Kimry history with a hard lean into industrial production
- 2. «Tom Sawyer Fest»: an independant organization that manages volonteers in an effort to resore abandoned or neglected buildings
- 3. Kimry City Administration
- 4. «Selskaia Tzerkov» Center: An independant organization that monitores restoration of religious monument in Kimrsky municipality
- 5. «Minor Historical Cities and Settlements» competition: an annual event arganized by the Ministry of Culture for aspiring projects in urban development



Different types of damage to the building

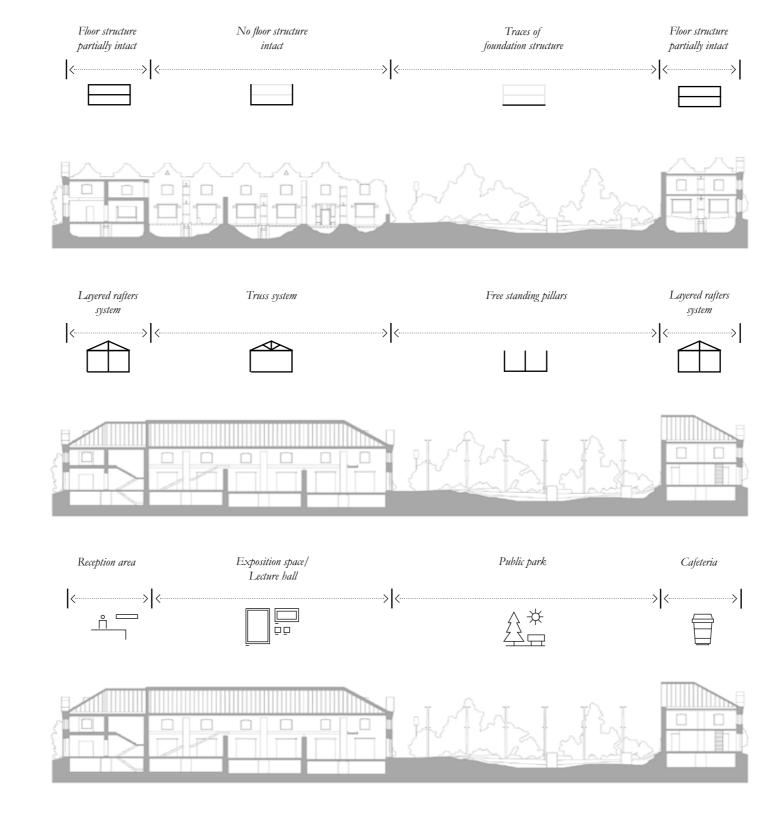
Various sections of the ruin have survived in different ways. The remaining sections of the northern block and the two sections of the southern block still have the floor structure partially intact, while the majority of the southern block has only the loadbearing walls and pillars in place. In response to the type of damage and intended functional use I decided to adopt different types of roof structure.

Different types of construction systems

For the parts of the building that still have the attic floor structure intact I decided to use a system of rafters, which was the original type of roof consruction for the building of Merchant Rows. For the parts that miss the floors entirely I chose to use the truss system, since it leaves an oppontunity to leave the roof structure exposed in the interior.

Different types of functional use

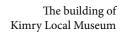
The different types of construction systems create a sequence of visually contrasting spaces. The large space with an exposed trus system is used as an exhibition space. The remaining two sections of the northern block are used as a small caffee facing the Theater square, which is the main meeting point of the Kimry city.



Kimry Local Museum:

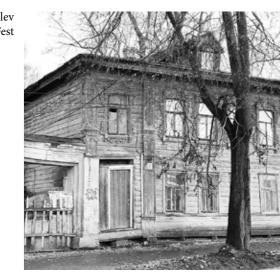
Temporary Exhibition space

I consider the Kimry Local Museum and Tom Saywer Fest as two of the main stake holders, since both organizations have a lot of unexhibited material stored due to the lack of appropriate space.





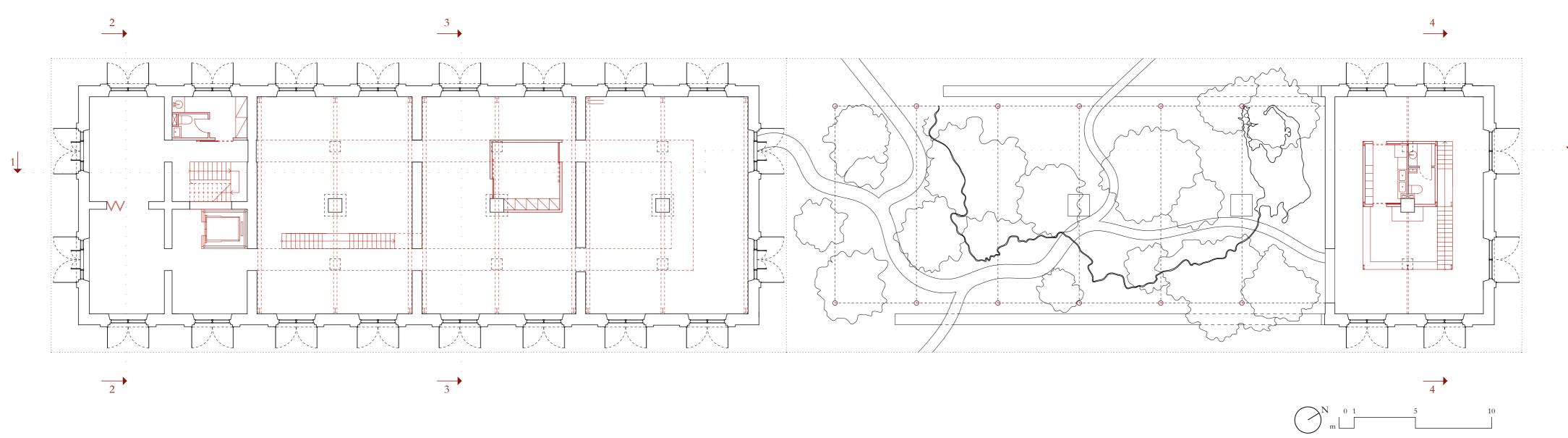
House of Tupolev Headquarters of Tom Saywer Fest



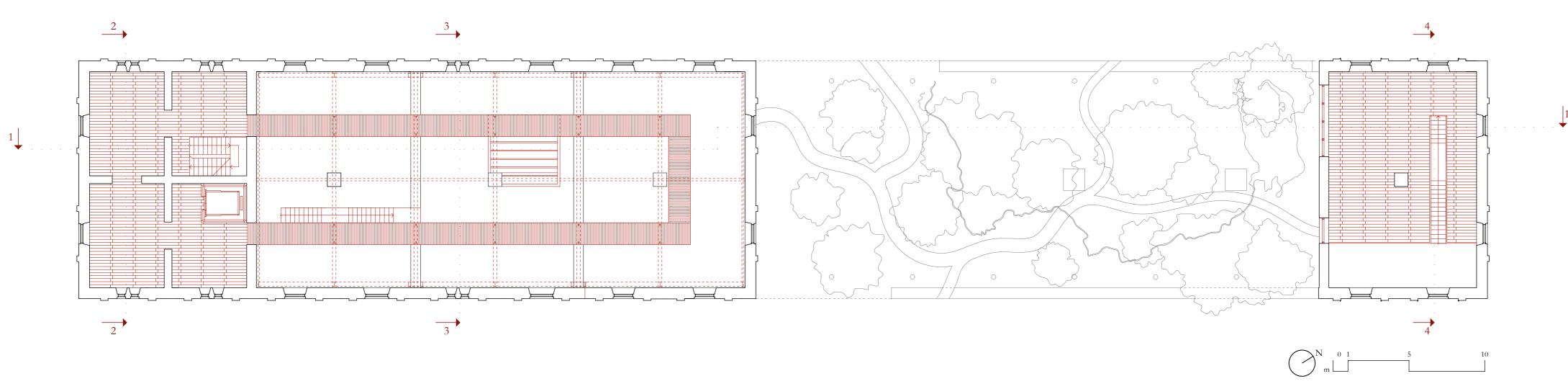
South facade



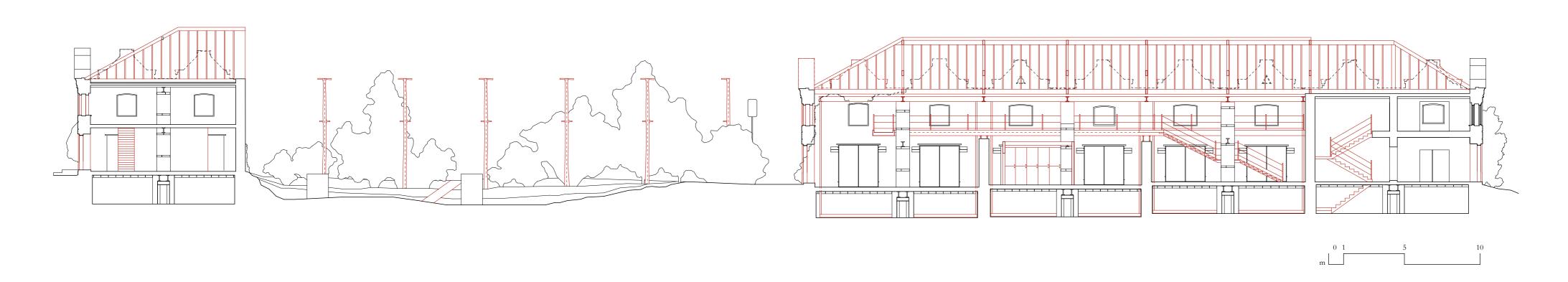
Ground floor plan



First floor plan



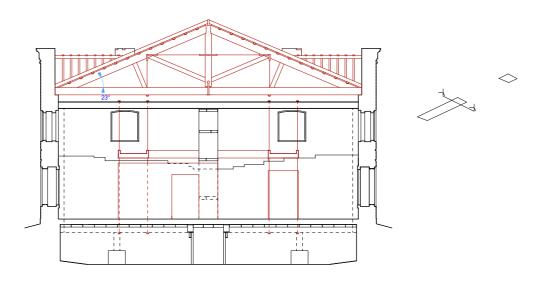
Section_1-1



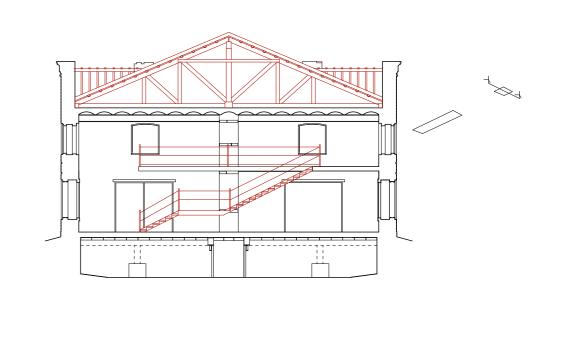
Section_2-2



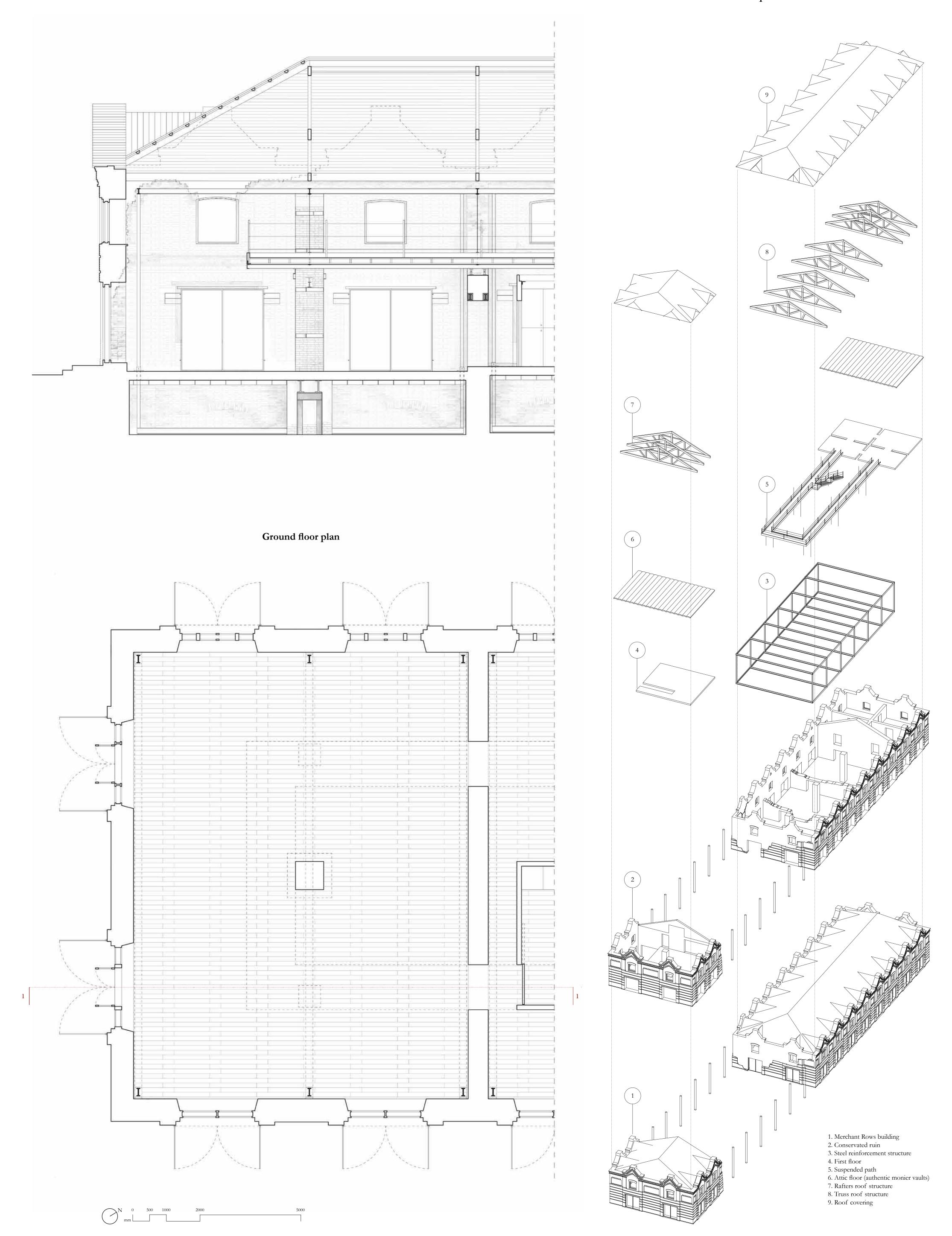
Section_ 3-3

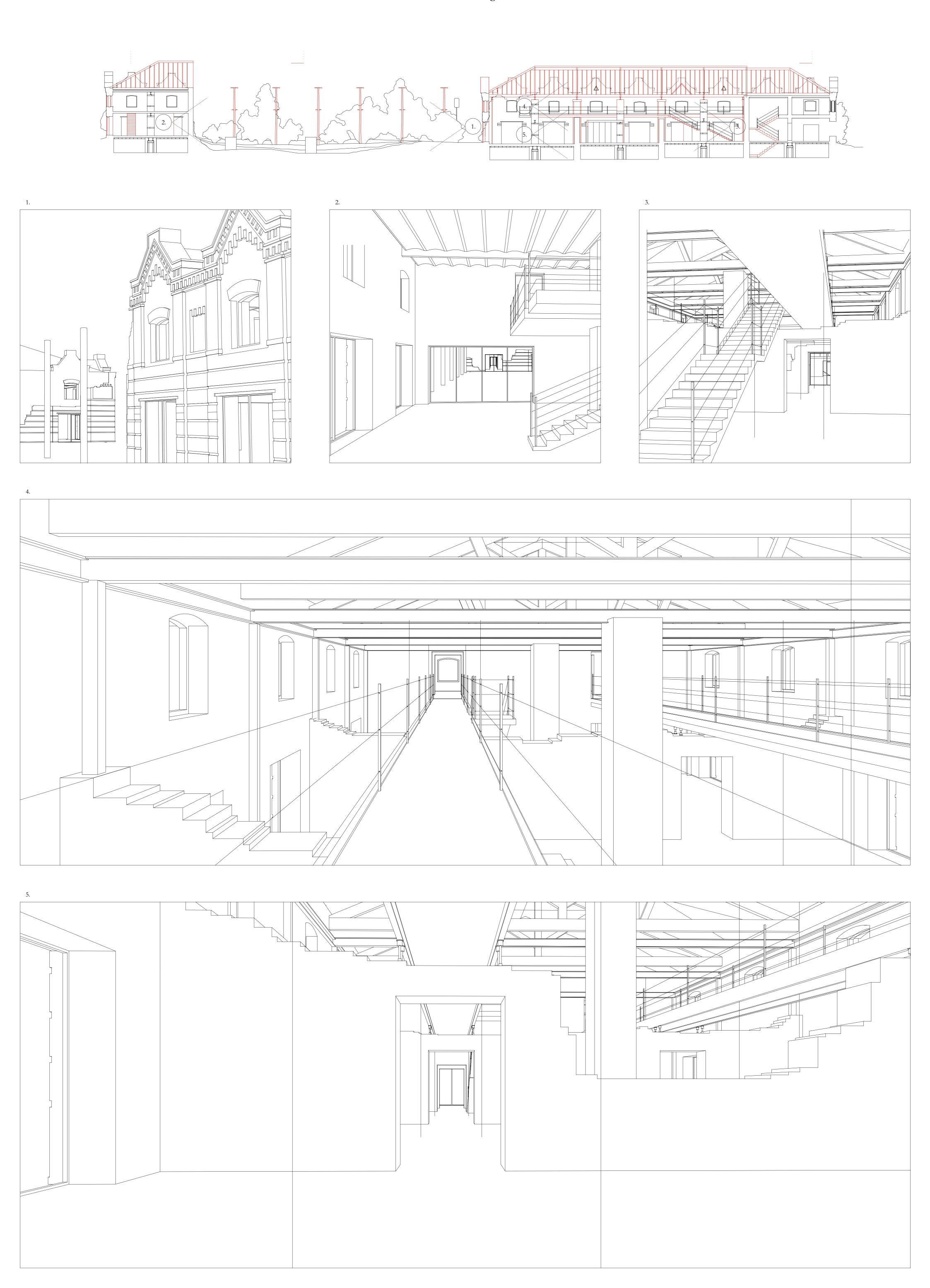


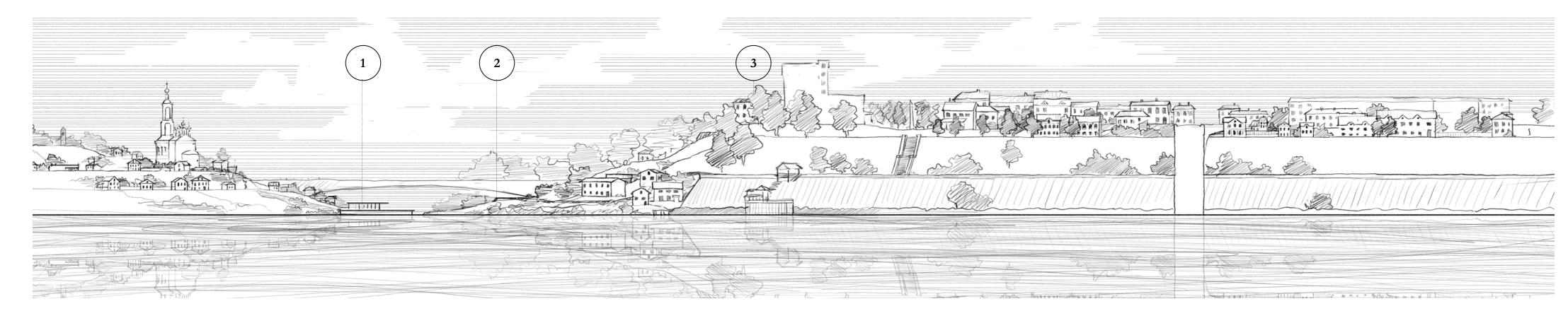
Section_4-4



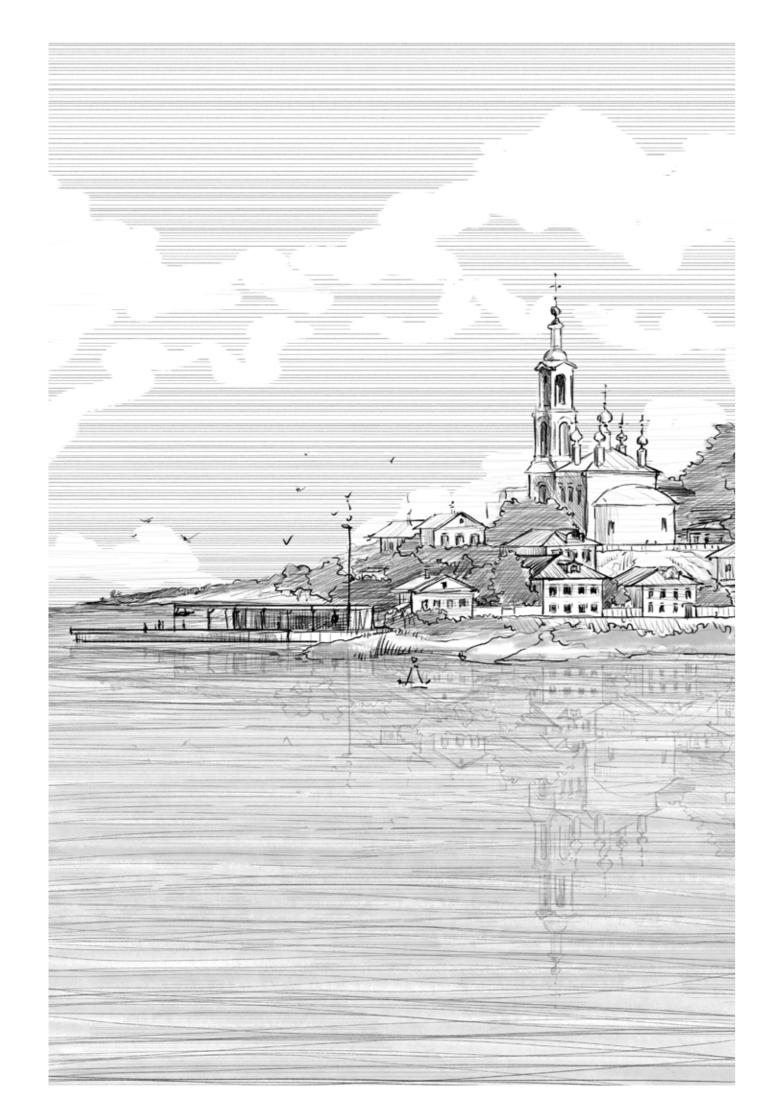
Structural exploaded scheme

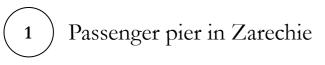












As a way to reintegrate Kimry into the Volga waterway system I suggest to restore the already existing pier in Zarechie, at the southern bank of Kimrka river, in a way that will allow regular hydrofoil ship navigation. The pier was initially constructed with this purpose, which makes a restoration project possible with minimal adjastments.



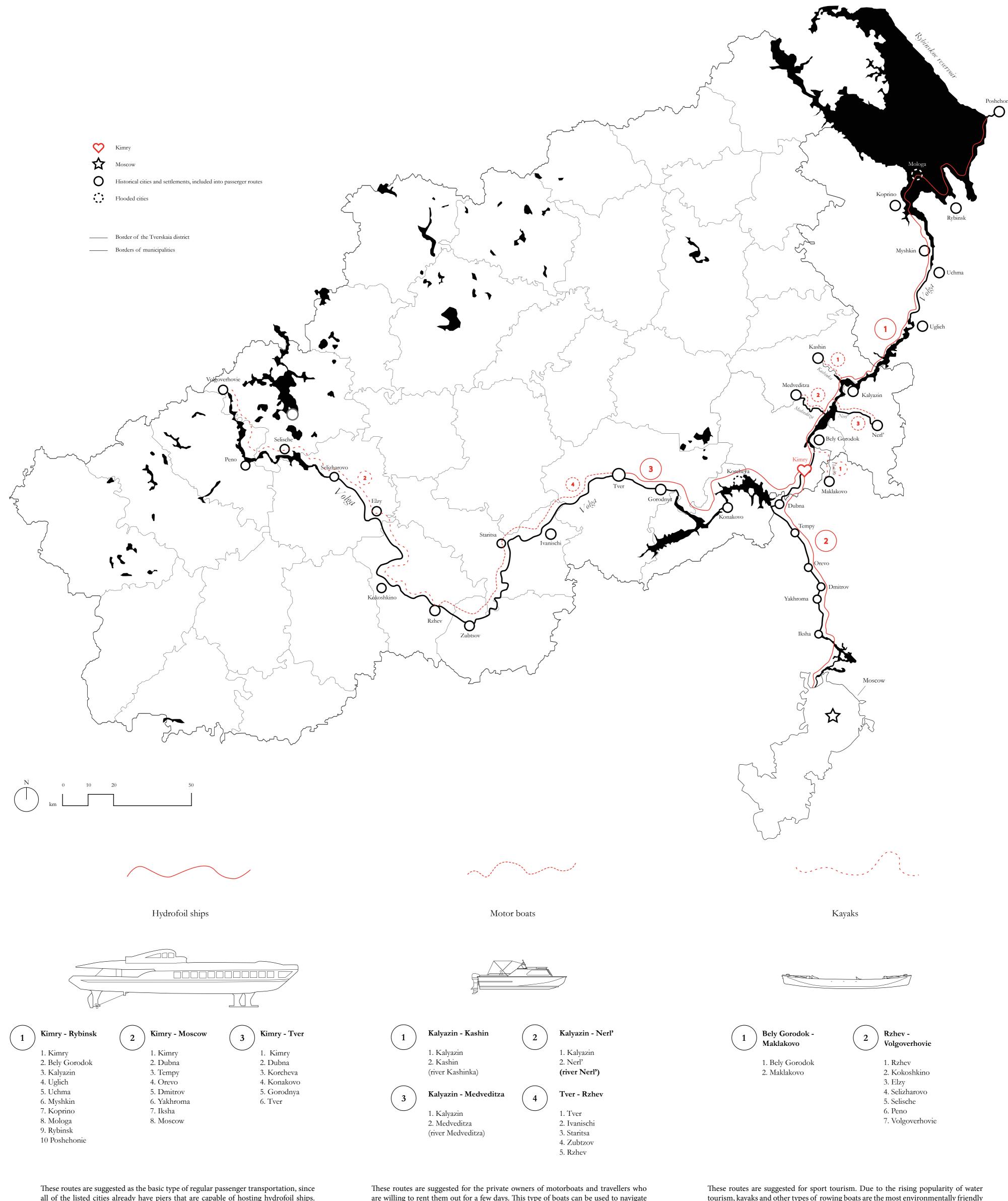
(2) Pedestrian path at Kimrka river

A temporary footbridge can serve as a temporary passage along the bank of Kimrka river in the time period when the official project of Kimrka embankment is still in the works. This solution allows a perfect view of the Voznesenskaia side of Kimry historical center, a highly recognizable historical landscape which is deeply valued by Kimry citizens.



Exhibition space in Merchant Rows

An exhibition space within the ruin that can also serve for hosting public events is a way to help reintegrate the building of Merchant Rows into the regular city life. The building is situated at the strategic point where the Kimrka embankment, the central square and the Volga embankment intersect, which makes it a key element of Kimry urban structure.



These routes are suggested as the basic type of regular passenger transportation, since all of the listed cities already have piers that are capable of hosting hydrofoil ships. Some of them need restoration and maintanance, like in the case of Kimry. All of the cities situated along the routes can be reached within a day trip from Kimry, which gives the passengers a possibility to plan their stay in each city, instead of submitting to the fixed intervals of time that are posed while travelling by large cruise ships.

These routes are suggested for the private owners of motorboats and travellers who are willing to rent them out for a few days. This type of boats can be used to navigate Volga influxes as well as Volga on the part between Rzhev and Tver, since it becomes too shallow for hydrofoil vessels.

These routes are suggested for sport tourism. Due to the rising popularity of water tourism, kayaks and other types of rowing boats are the most environmentally friendly way of exploring smaller rivers; local dwellers have already established an infrastructure of small villas and camping sites to stay along the route.

The upper part of Volga starting from the source and up until Rzhev flows though a natural resort which prohibits the use of motor boats.





