



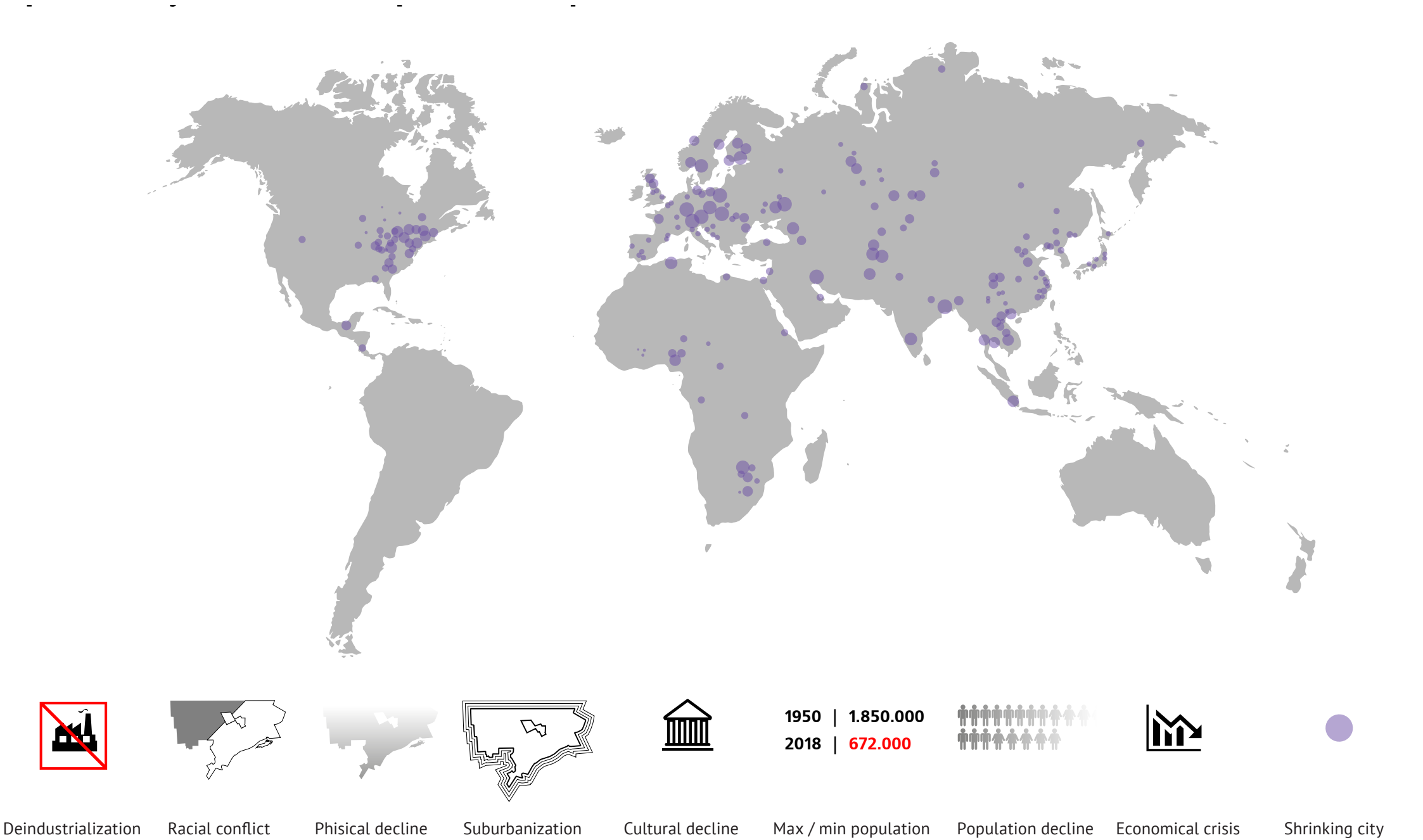
# U G L I C H   T O W N   R E V I T A L I Z A T I O N

PROBLEM

SHRINKING CITIES

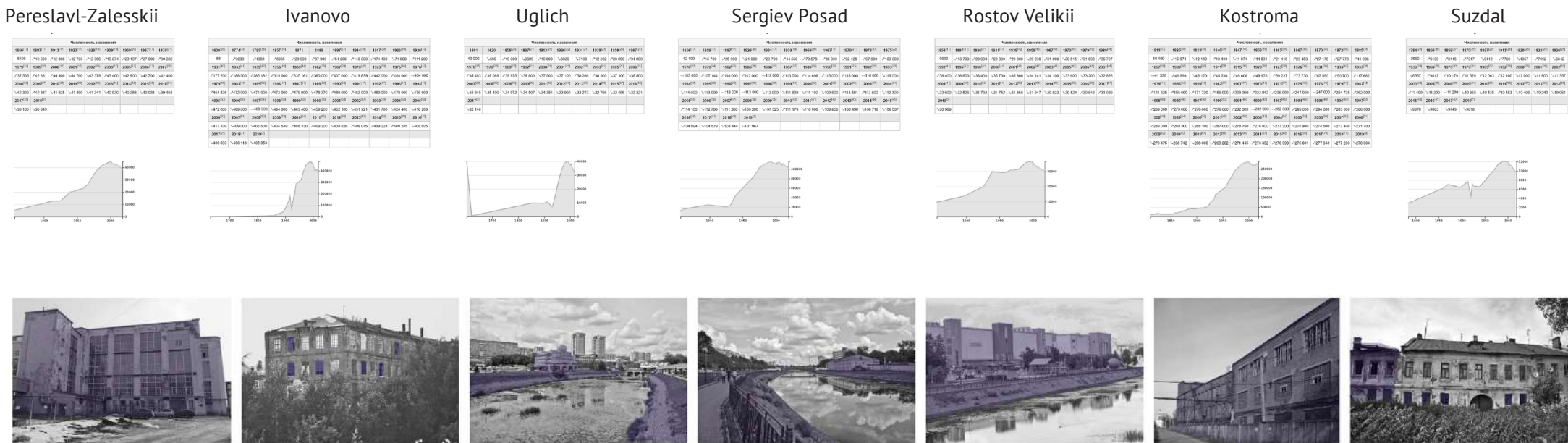
increasing global problem

Shrinking cities means the cities which have a significant population loss in a short period of time. The main reason for such phenomena is migration, which can be caused by demographic, economic, sociocultural or physical issues. This leads to such city problems as deindustrialization, desurbanization, deconcentration and suburbanization, unemployment, and in general the decreasing quality of life in the city. Nowadays, the issue of shrinking cities is one of the most actual globally. The process of shrinking is being widely studied, numerous studies have been conducted. The most famous research on this topic is The Shrinking Cities project (2003-2005) by Philipp Oswalt, including the research of four cities: Halle-Leipzig (Germany), Manchester-Liverpool (Great Britain), Detroit (USA) and Ivanovo (Russia). Despite the complexity of the problem, there are some examples of successful transformation and rebirth of declining cities. For instance, Detroit and Baltimore in USA, Bilbao and Barcelona in Spain. These projects succeeded due to rethinking of public spaces blended with the integration of contemporary architectural objects.



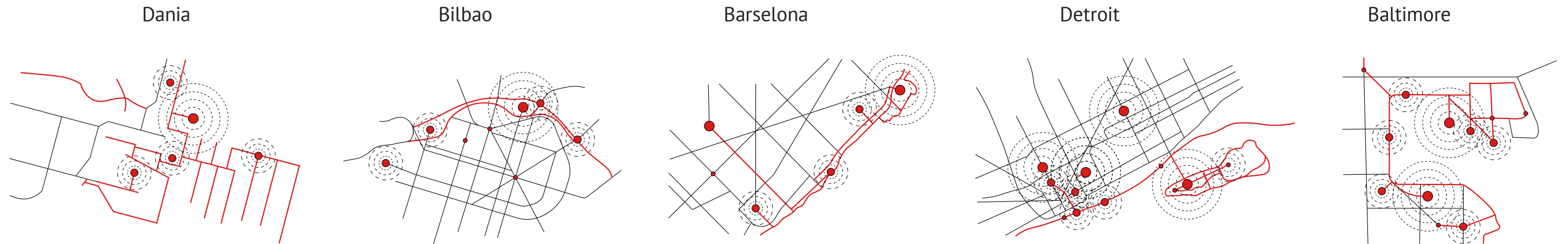
Shrinking cities in Russia

In the Russian Federation the problem occurred after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Many cities became exposed to such negative effects as deindustrialization. At the moment, the following trends are observed across the country: an increase in population of the large urban entities with more than 500 thousand citizens against the decreasing population of small cities, rural settlements and villages. The country has more than 310 single-industry cities, and only a third of them have a stable socio-economic situation.



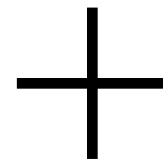
## RESEARCH RESULTS

Within this project, a study of shrinking cities cases was conducted, focusing on five cities partially revitalized. All the successful revitalization experiments reveal the following: DOWN-UP projects are preferable. Such projects first found support from the local population and then received state funding. As a rule, a shift of the city's focus from production to tourism was made while creating public spaces of a new type.



### Centers of the attractions

The centers of attraction can be represented by educational and medical institutions; residential buildings; places of work; entertaining and leisure centers; sports facilities; recreational areas; multifunctional complexes. The analysis of the domestic and foreign experience allows to highlight the optimal options for the places of social activity in the cities of the Golden Ring of Russia. They can be: recreational spaces, such as parks and urban pedestrian promenades, with elements of entertainment and leisure centers as well as market spaces, including private spaces



### Waterfront

The international experience shows that the organization of public spaces along the waterfront is one of the most successful examples of city revitalization. The analysis of the spatial organization of the Ancient Russian cities also revealed the significant role of rivers in forming the settlements. Riverfront areas can potentially become the main centers of attraction, thus revitalizing Russian cities.

## UP TO NOW THERE IS NO CASE OF A CITY RENEWAL IN RUSSIA

Under this project, the decision was made to apply such a revitalization system to the historical town of Uglich, Yaroslavl Region. This town is one of the nine cities of the Golden Ring of Russia. (The Golden Ring includes the most important culturally historical cities of Russia). Six out of the nine cities are decreasing. Their population has been declining every year. The present project assumes that shifting the city's focus to tourism is the only way to preserve the city



## HISTORY

Place: Russian federation, Yaroslavl'skaya oblast

Town: Uglich

Date of foundation: 937

Uglich is an ancient city with a rich history, one of the "pearls" of the Golden Ring of Russia. It is home for old Russian Churches of the XVI century. The local chronicle tradition attributes the foundation of the town of Uglche field to 937. In the history of Uglich, two phases of the town rebirth can be highlighted, which is a significant increase in the population and active development of the town. These happened in the 15-16th centuries and the 60s-80s of the Soviet era.

The 15-16th centuries are considered as the «golden age» of the Uglich principality. According to the chronicles, the population of the city at that time was about 40,000 people.

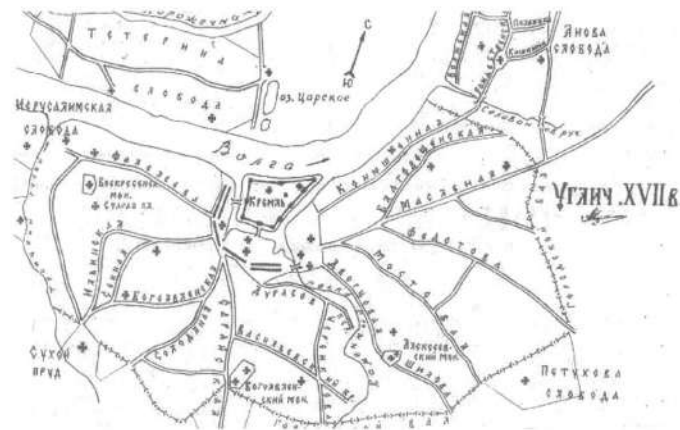
The second phase of the rebirth of the city is considered to be in the 60s-80s of the 20th century. Since the 40s, thousands of people came to the construction of the Uglich Hydroelectric Station, the Uglich watch factory was built, and the local Research Institute of Cheese manufacturing was producing the best cheese in the USSR. Thus, many workplaces were created in the city, and the population began to increase dramatically. By 1989, its population was 39,975 people.

The city itself has traditionally developed along the Volga River. The image of the riverfront is unconventional since here the Uglich Hydroelectric Station is found side by side with the religious buildings of the Kremlin. The city has a great potential in terms of tourism and production.

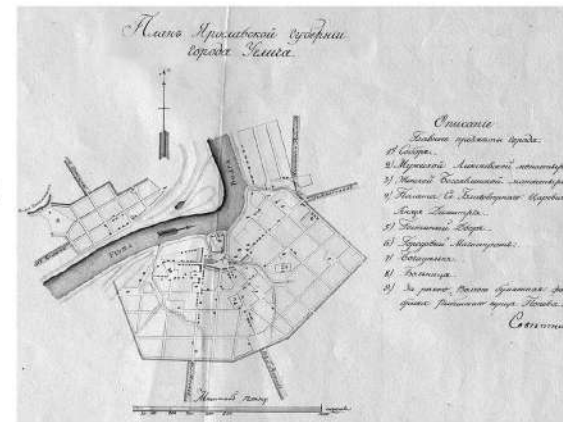


Uglich

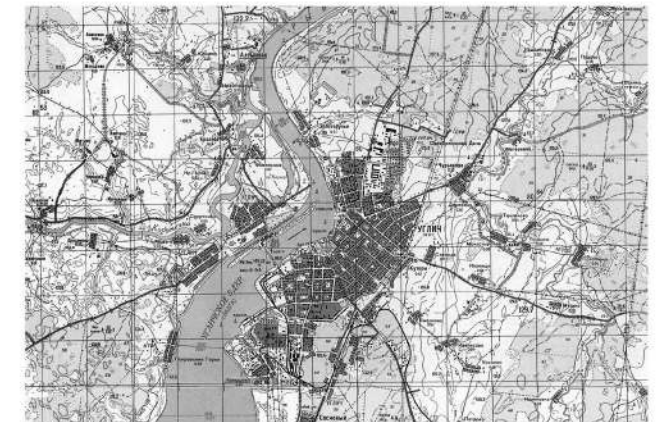
Uglich map 1674 y.



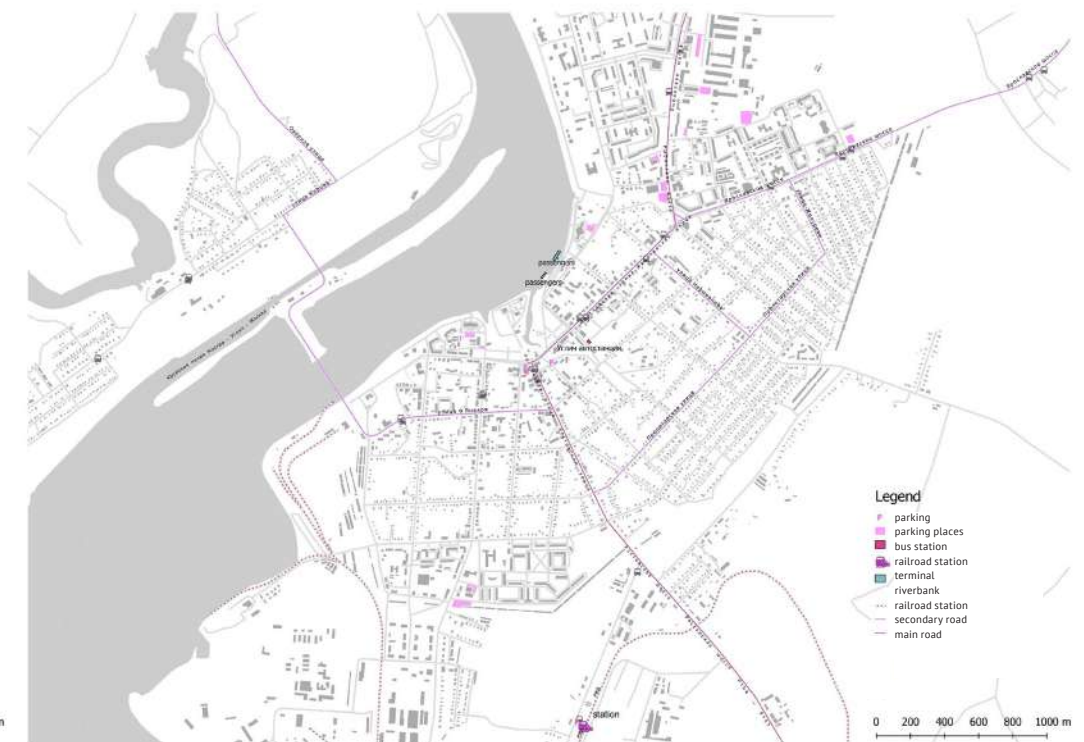
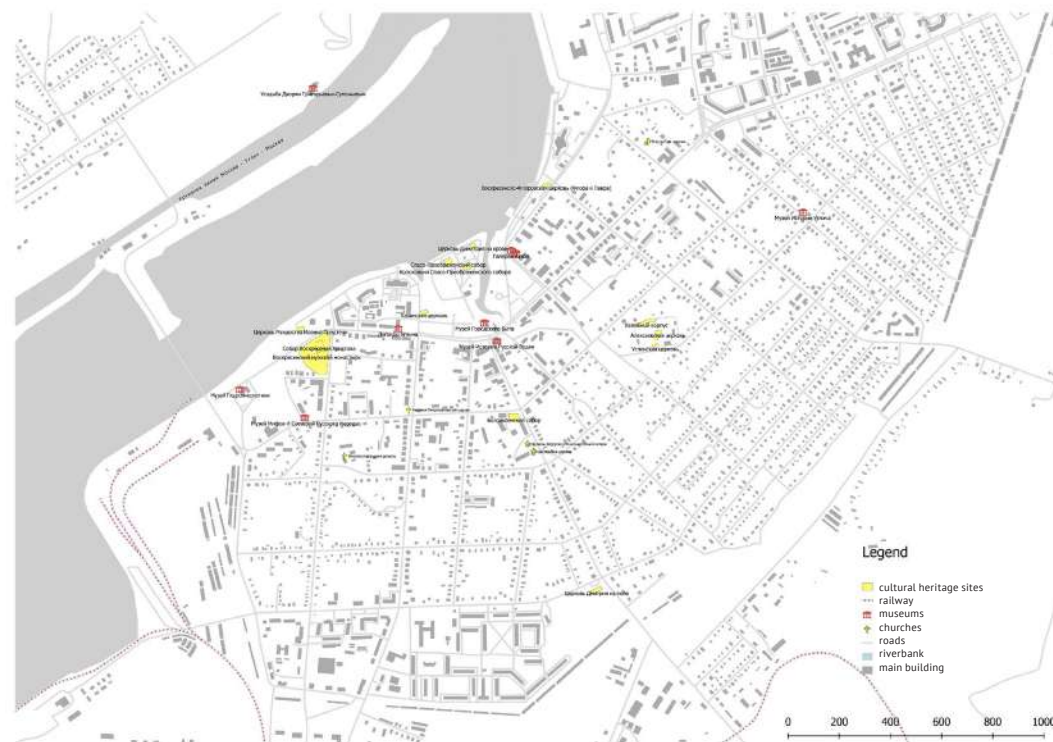
Uglich map 1684 y.



Uglich map 1980 y.



Lost dominants



Transparency map



Comfortable embankments



Centers of attractions



## TOWN ISSUES

## UNEAVEN DESTRIUTION

One of the Russian cities facing this problem is Uglich. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the town's population has been steadily declining for 28 years. In 2019, it was 32146 people. Most part of the factories in the town have been closed or reduced their capacity, thus leading to the high unemployment rate. Uglich has not been able to adapt to the market economy, tourism services here are not sufficiently developed and work mainly in summer. The average salary in the town is about 200 USD. All these factors affect the age of the population. Young people prefer to leave for the more advanced cities such as Moscow or Yaroslavl, mostly people aged 50-60 remain.

As a result of the demolition of architectural dominants and the advent of new buildings that do not match the planning and landscape features of the historical center, a number of areas that used to be a part of the spatial pattern of the historical center lost their architectural value or were destroyed. Thus, the historical center lost its physical boundaries and started spreading around, turning into an uneven urban fabric filled with empty enclaves.

## UNEAVEN DISTRIBUTION OF CITY FABRIC AND WETLANDS

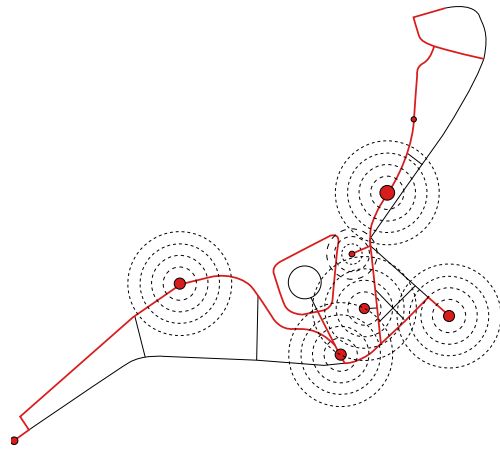




## IDEA

# UGLICH: MUSEUM UNDER THE SKY

The design proposal contains six landmarks connected into the single route. It would restore urban connections, enabling visitors and locals to explore the town. Thus, the town itself becomes an open-air museum space as well as an object of study. The proposed buildings, in addition to their main functions, play the role of viewing platforms and invite to enjoy the best panoramic views of historical areas.





# INSPIRATION

## HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS

Uspenskaya Church, was distroed in 1930



shopping malls in Kievan Rus



Debarkader (hotel on the water) in Uglich in Sovet time



Boat storages now



Observation tower



Market



Marina complex



Guest house



## CONCEPT

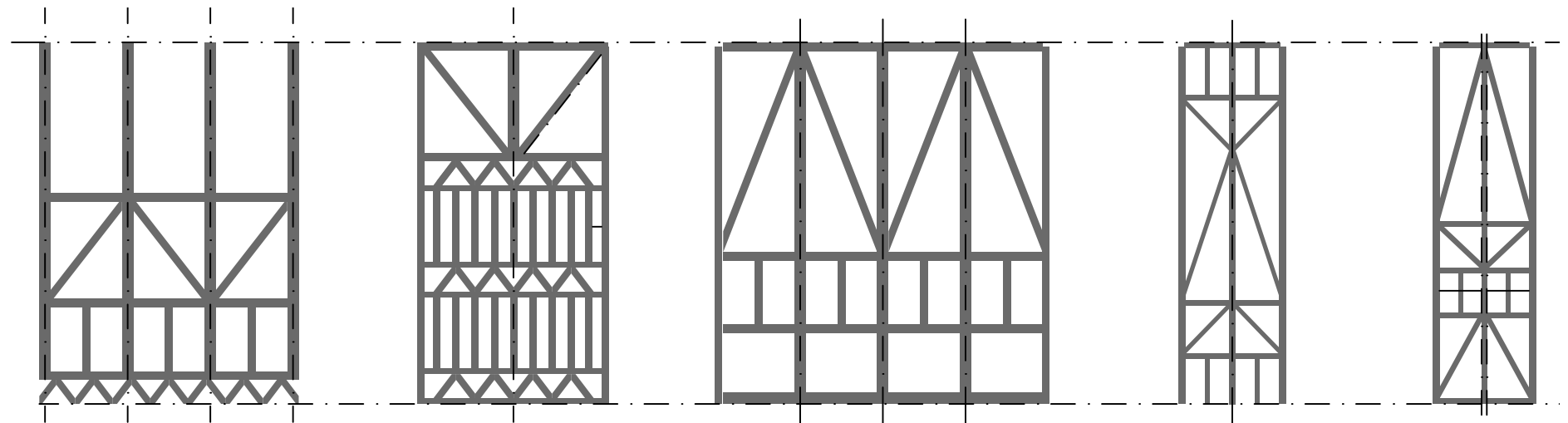
### AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCE

When developing the buildings facades, the brick pattern of the Chambers of Uglich Princes was rethought. The ornament was redesigned, and its rhythmic pattern is applied to the facades of the new structures. A uniform style for the new buildings has been created which visually connects them to the historical sights while integrating the new architecture into the spirit of the place. All the proposed structures are made in wood – the most common material in traditional Russian architecture.

House of Uglich Princes 1480



Ornamental compositions





# OBJECTS

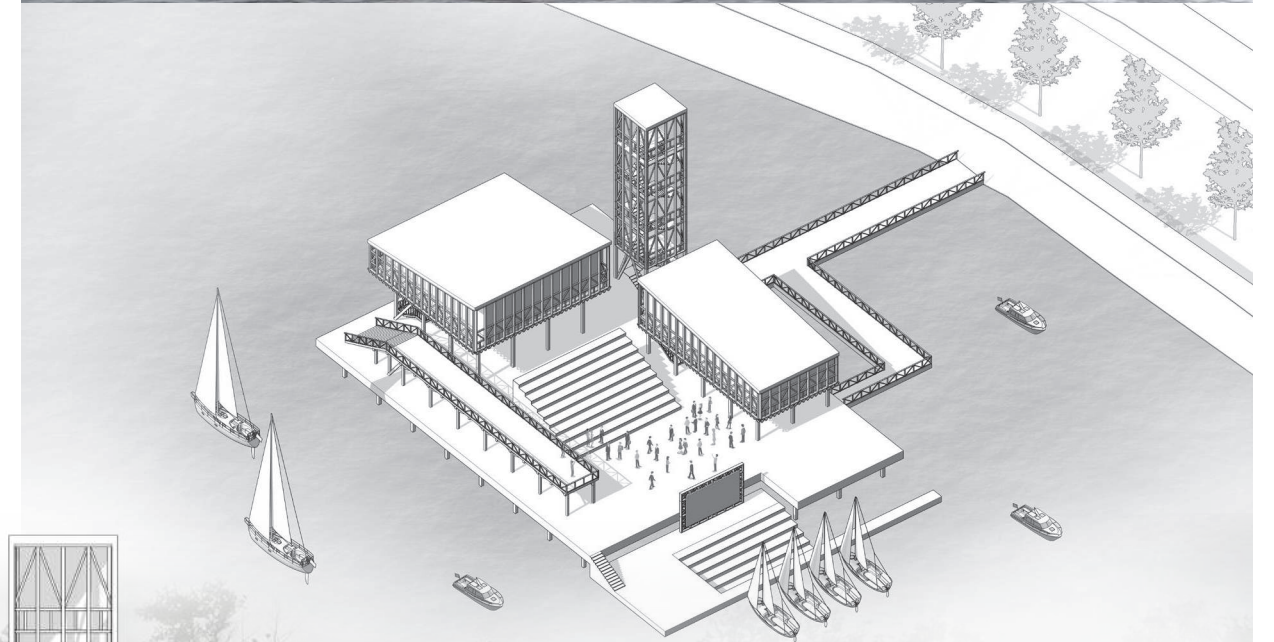
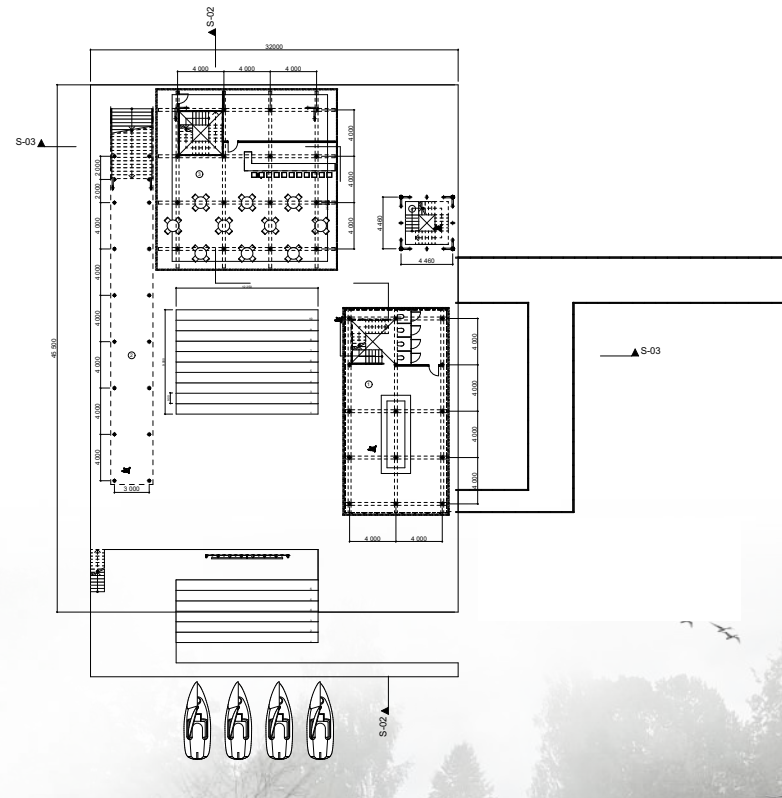
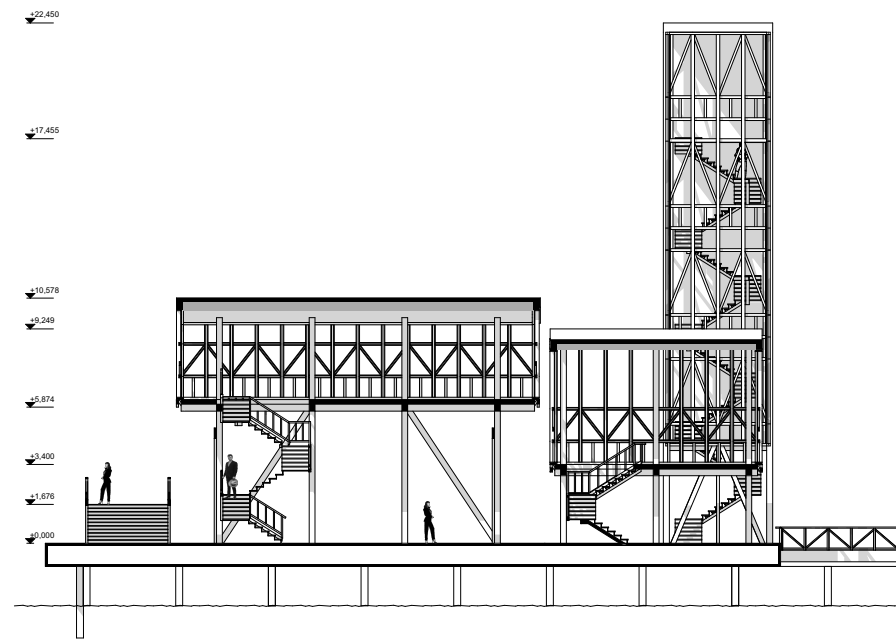
## 01 / MARINA COMPLEX

Place: Central riverfront of the Uglich

Total area: 1.600 sq. m.

Main functions: lighthouse, observation platform, cafe, movie theater, gift shop

In the summertime, the route from the waterfront is the most important, as most tourists come to the town by line boats and land on the quay. Not far from it the first proposal object is located - the Marina Complex. It consists of several buildings on the same platform. The buildings have the following functions: lighthouse, observation platform, cafe, movie theater, gift shop. In summer, such annual events as “Arthouse Film Festival” and “Cinema Parade in Uglich” can take place here. The legendary products of the Uglich Watch Factory will now be available in the gift shop. The first ever cafe on the water will appear in Uglich. Standing on the observation platform, one will be able to see the following landmarks of the town: Church of Tsarevich Dmitry on Blood, Hydroelectric Power Station, Church of Saints Flor and Lavr.





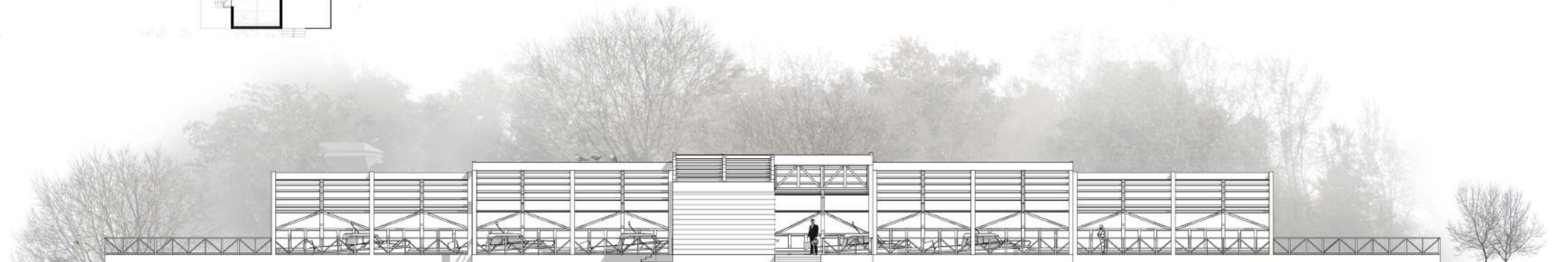
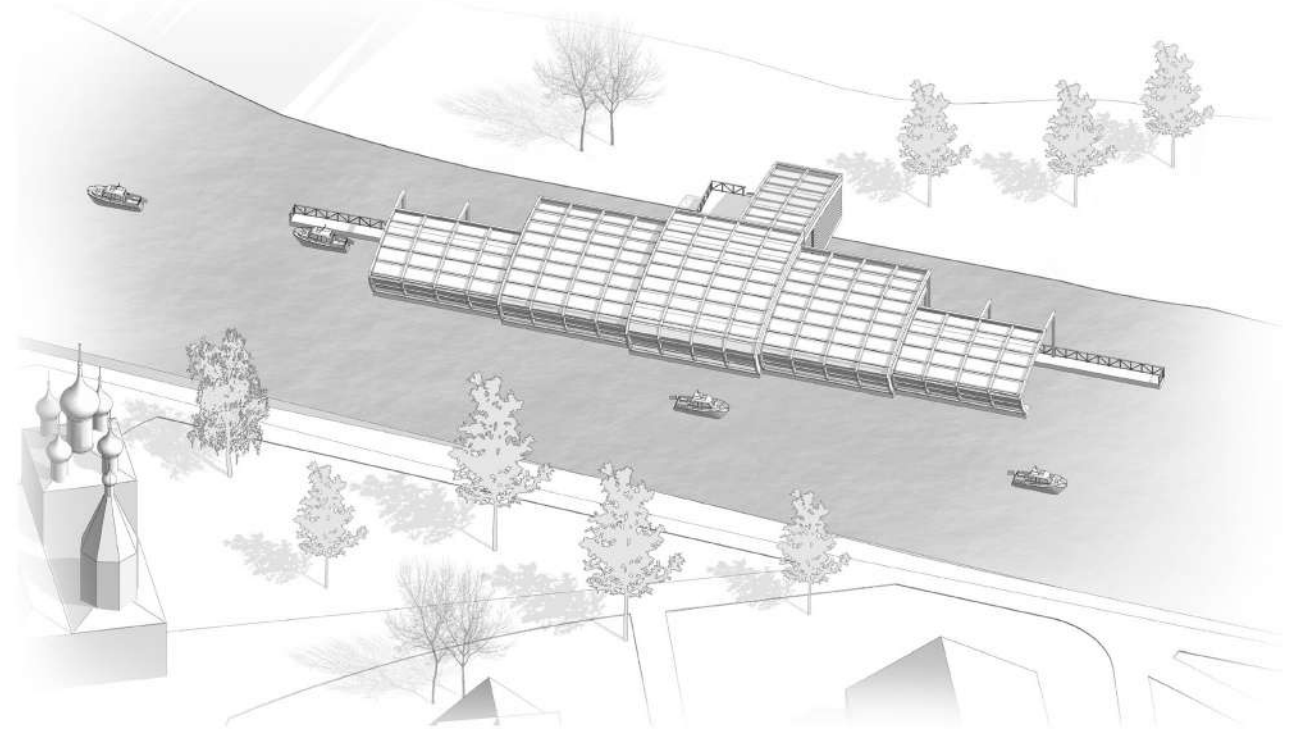
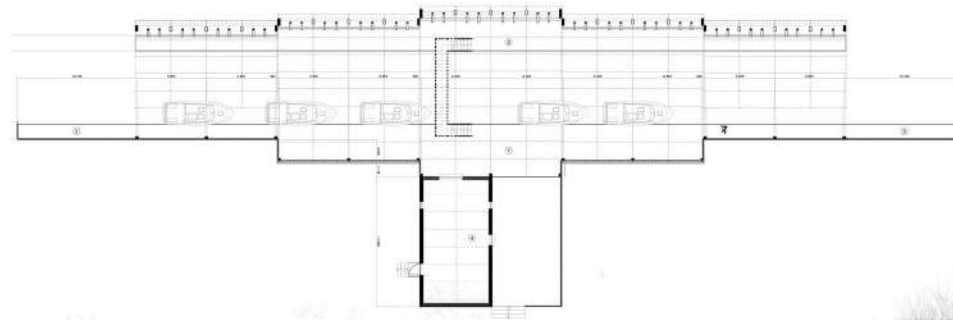
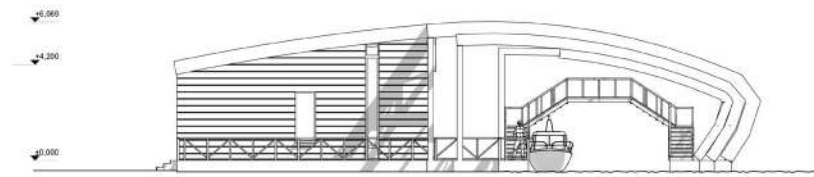
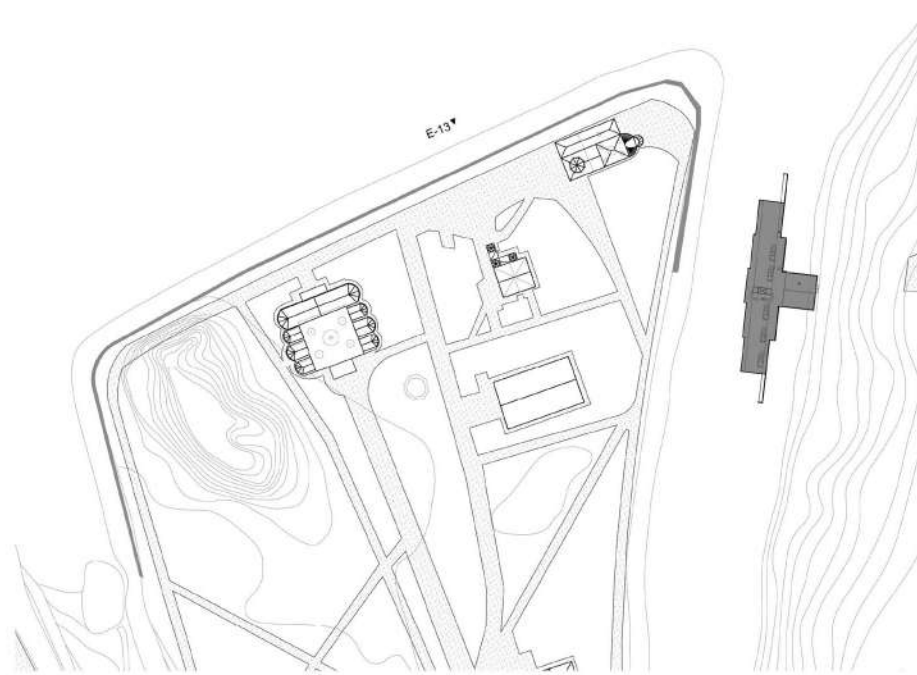
## 02 / BOAT STATION

Place: riverfront near Victory park

Total area: 350 sq. m.

Main function: tourist routs

From the river one can reach the main viewpoints of the town, which are not accessible from the land. Boat trips along the Volga should become more affordable and comfortable. Therefore the old boathouse, which has neither facilities for equipment nor roofing, would be better replaced by a new one. Its convenient location in the backwaters near the Kremlin will be maintained. Here tourists and locals will be able to rent boats, as well as to use long-term parking spots under the canopy. The station includes the following areas: ticket office, equipment room, parking space for boat owners, municipal motor boats and catamarans for rent. If developing boating, Uglich could become the “Venice of the Golden Ring”.





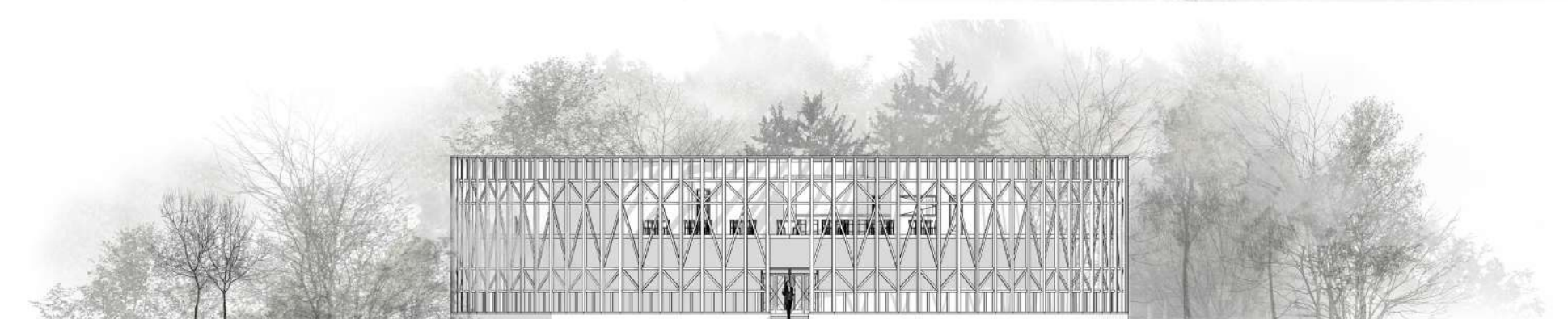
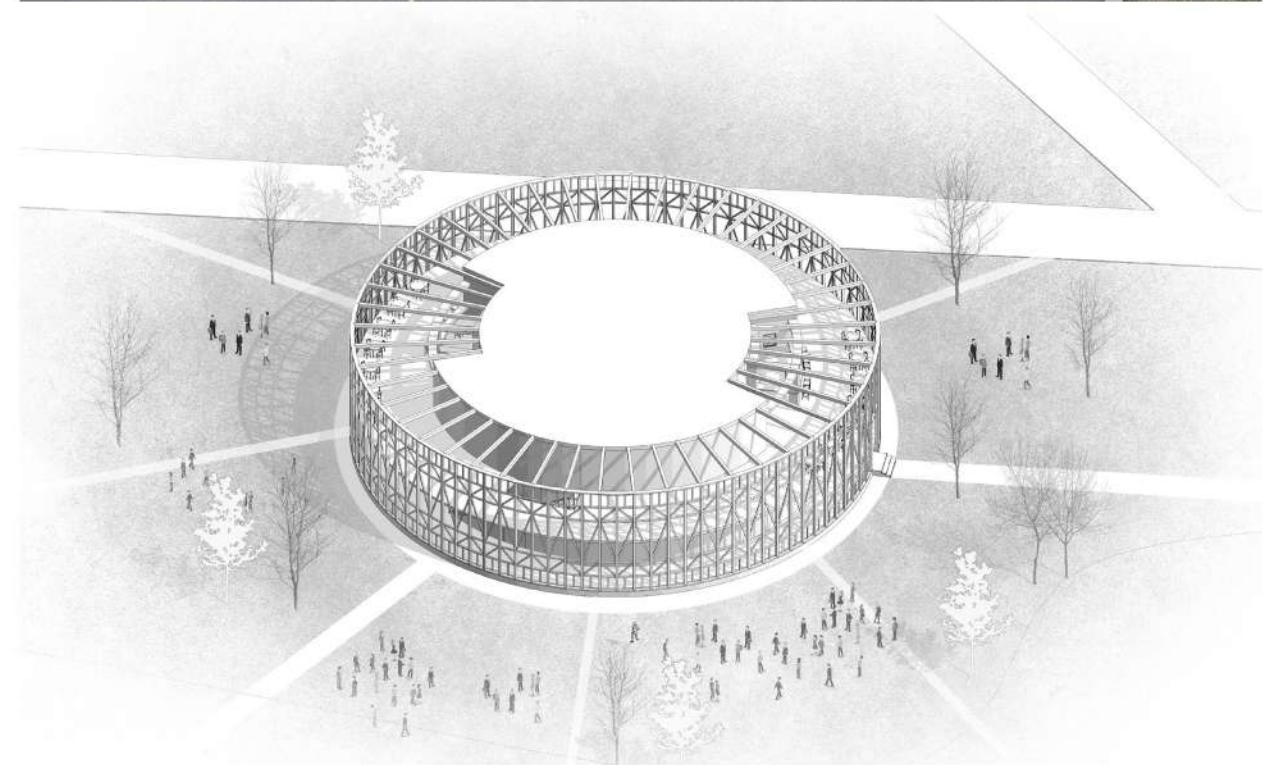
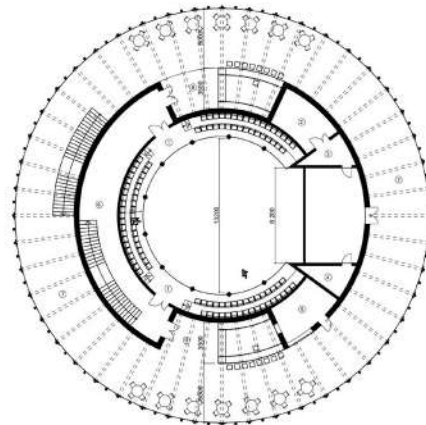
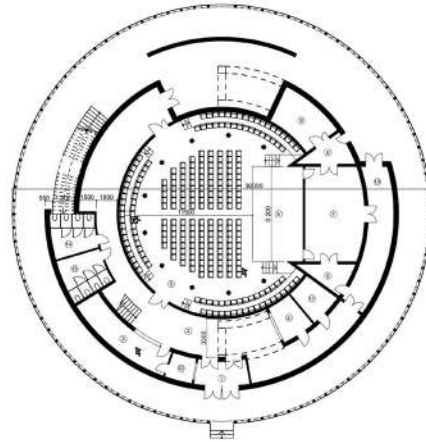
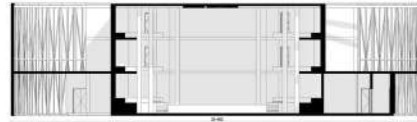
## 03 / COMMUNITY CENTER

Place: Victory Park

Total area: 1.200 sq. m.

Main functions: entertainment and education

A large number of festivals and concerts take place in Uglich annually, while there is the only one Community Center in the town, and it is difficult to reach. Hence the decision was made to design a new Community Center in the Victory Park in the center of the town. The building is formed by two volumes: the inner cylinder, in which an auditorium and a stage are located, and the outer shell, which contains a hall and a summer terrace. The main feature of the theater is its connection to nature and its surroundings. By creating a transparent external shell, the boundary between the theater and the park is blurred. Especially important are the viewpoints on the summer terrace. On the west side they offer a view of the Kremlin and the History museum, on the east side one can see the memorial to the Heroes of the World War II.





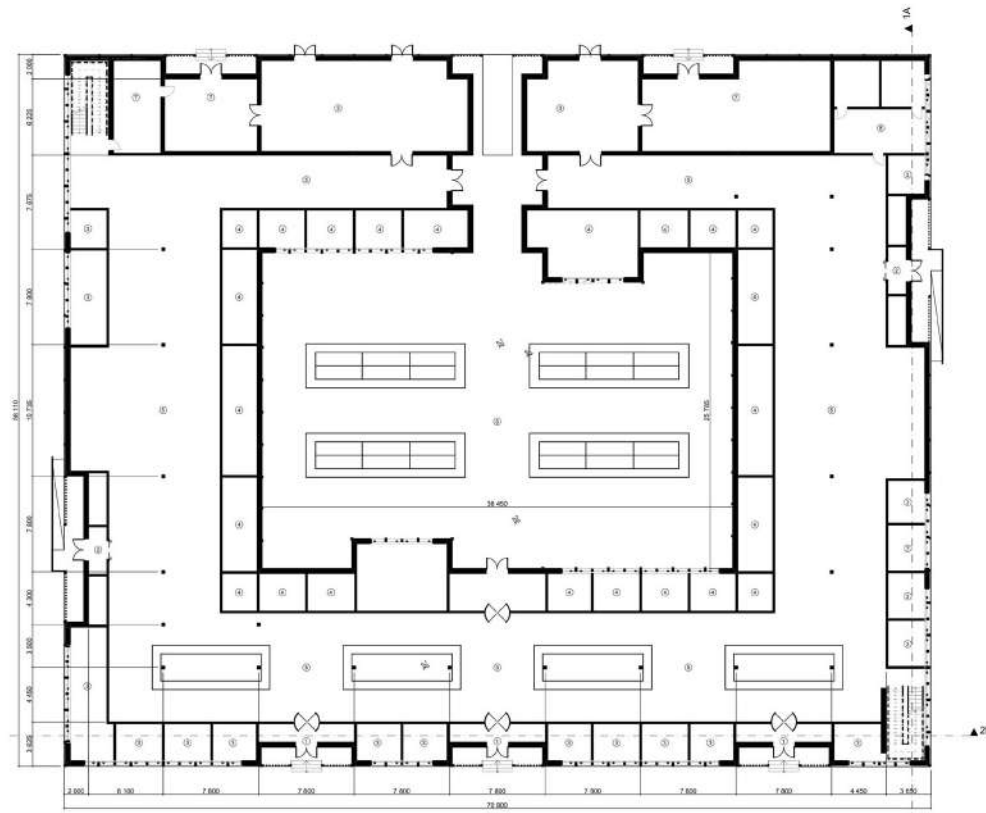
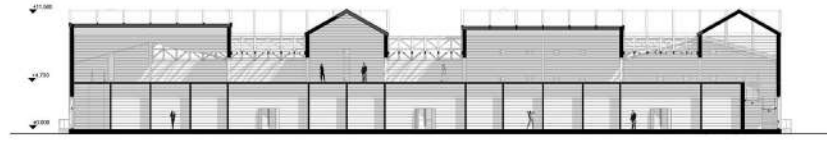
## 04 / MARKET

Place: Olga Bergoltz Street

Total area: 3.725 sq. m.

Functions: trade area, workshops, cafe

This market near the bus station becomes a starting point for the tourists arriving from Moscow and Yaroslavl by bus. The location of the trade area remains the same, however it needs a new building due to the decay and destruction of the existing one. The two-story rectangular building contains rows of shopping stalls along the perimeter and an open space for seasonal trade in the middle. The ground floor of the building has a trade area and storage facilities. The second floor is dedicated to local products and workshops. It might host: a cheese making workshop, a pottery workshop, a souvenir shop, the sale of honey and alcohol, a cafe. The main feature of the market is its plan permeability and multifunctionality, visitors can enter the building from any of 6 entrances depending on their route and visit purpose.





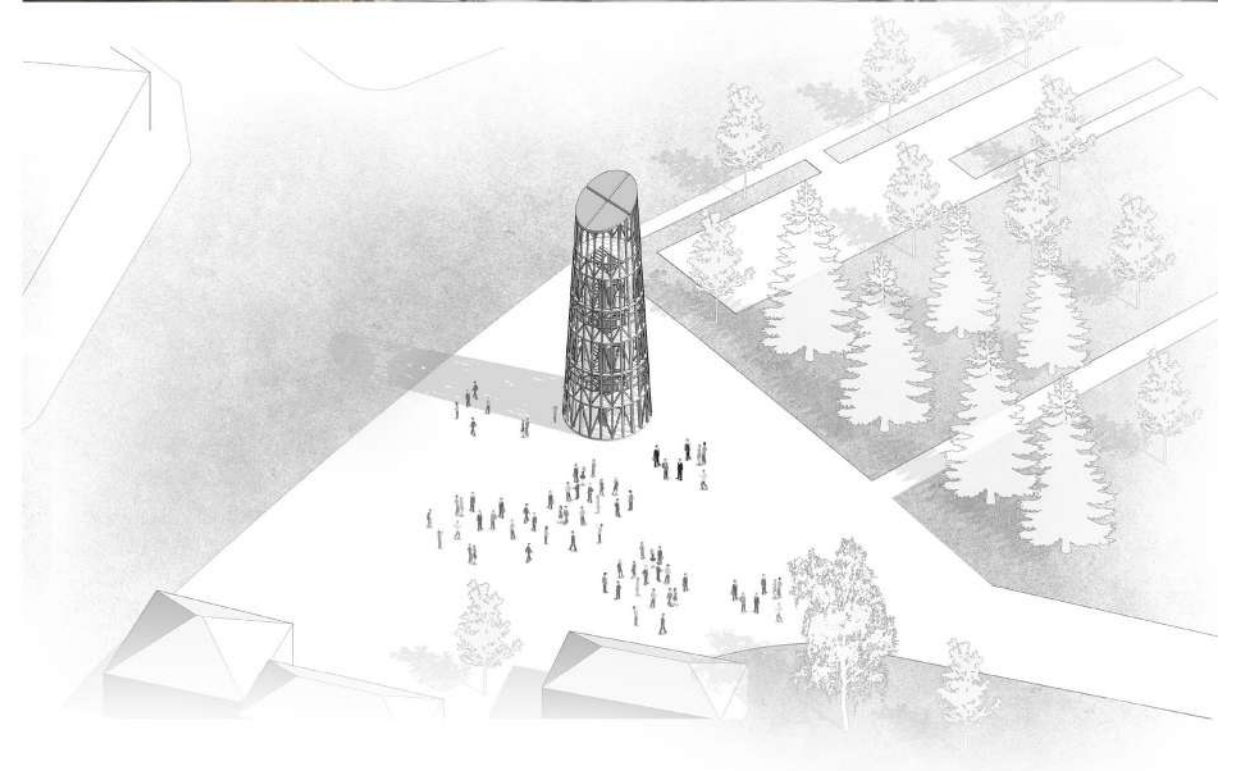
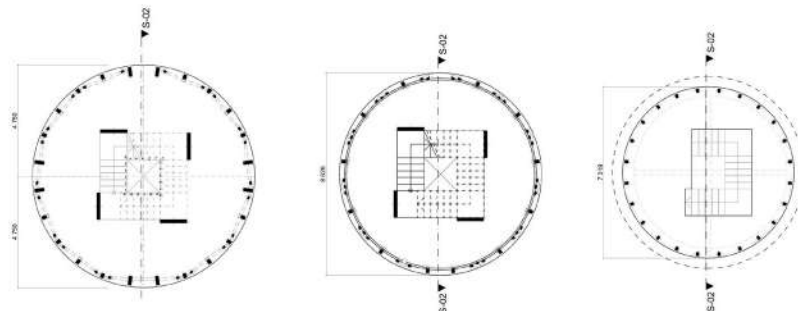
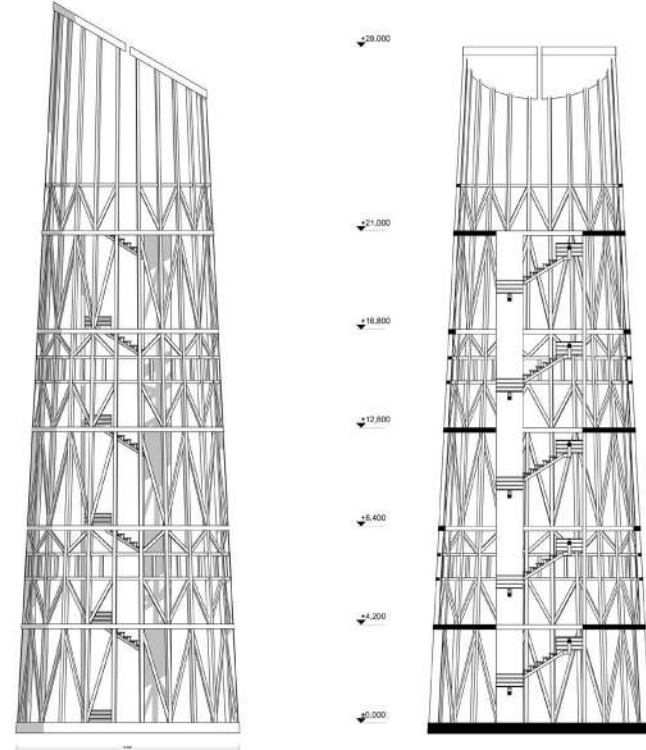
## 05 / OBSERVATION TOWER

Place: Uspenskaya square

Total area: 400 sq m.

Functions: observation, library, historical exhibitions

In the 19th century, an architectural complex consisting of shopping arcades and a church used to be the main center of attraction in the town. In 1921, the wooden shopping mall was almost completely lost due to the fire. The Church of the Assumption was destroyed by the Bolsheviks with the advent of Soviet rule in 1930. Thus, the central square of the town in the 20th century has lost its dominating structures. At the moment, this area is empty. The exception is summer festivals. While holding them, the town comes to life. Considering the above, the decision was made to create an architectural dominant that would fill the place with a message. Such an object will be a tower built on the very place of the bell-tower of the destroyed Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1799). On the one hand, the structure serves as a viewing platform, on the other, this tower is a symbol of the churches destroyed in Soviet times. An open access digital library with materials illustrating these events will occupy the lower floors. Temporary installations and photos will be placed along the staircase. So that going up stairs to the viewing platform visitors could study the history of Uglich. Among the features of the building, it is worth highlighting a cross-shaped rooflight. At noon, the sunlight coming through this hole will fall onto the ground floor interior in the shape of a cross, reminding of the church that used to be in this place.





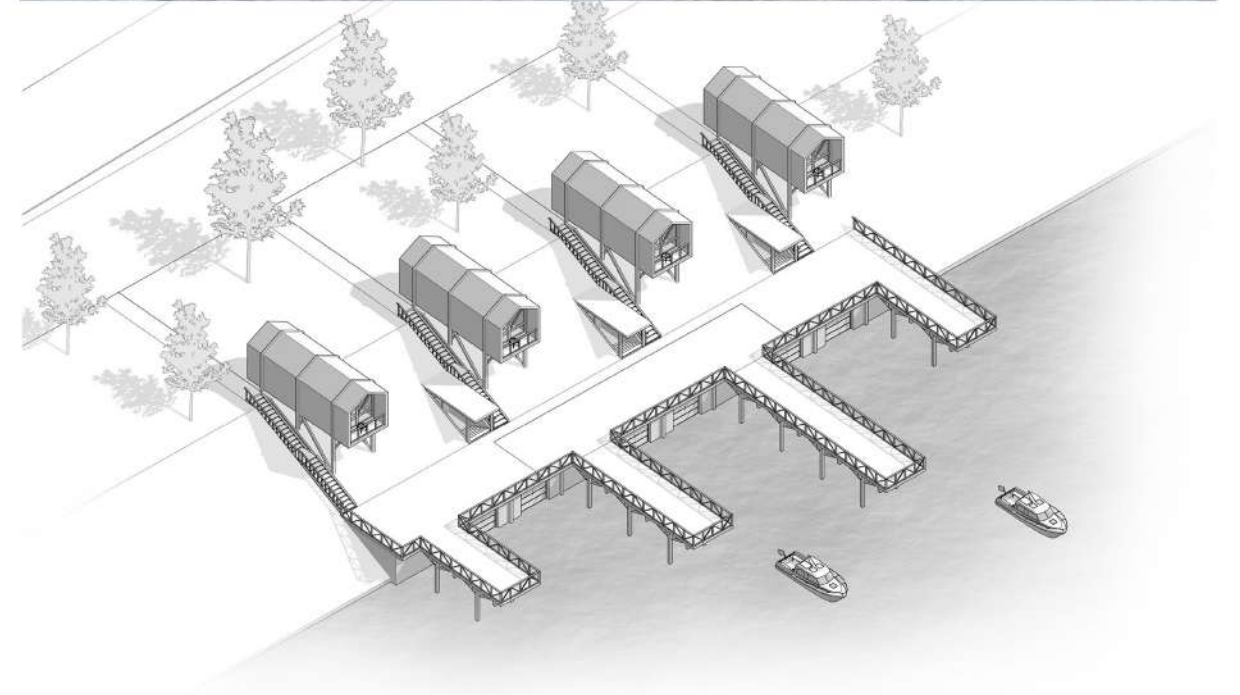
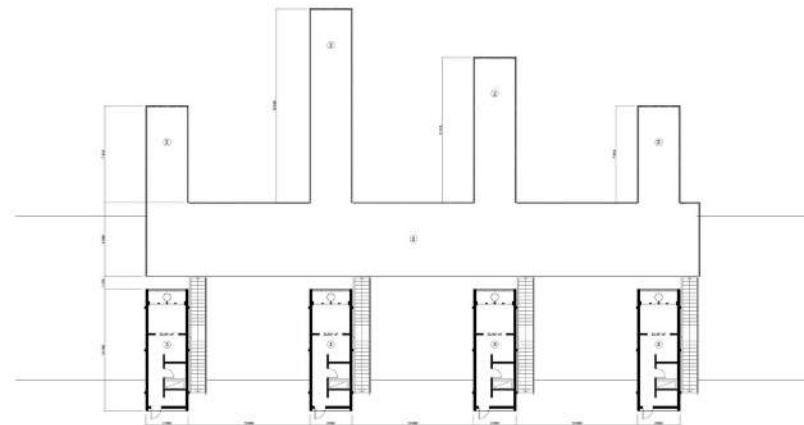
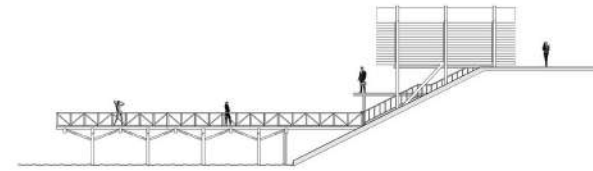
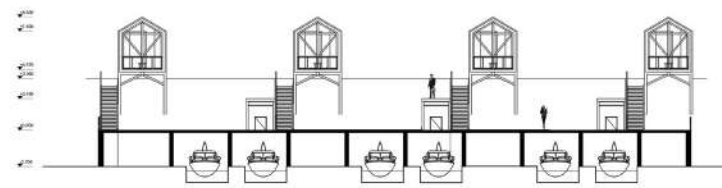
## 06 / GUEST HOUSE

Place: Riverfront near from the Kremlin

Total area: 780 sq. m.

Function: private hotel

This private Guest House is located near the Kremlin. This area is one of the most quiet and picturesque of the town. Nearby there are the Church of the Rozhdestva Ioanna Predtechy (1690) and the Sviato-Voskresenskiy Monastery. The hotel offers detached houses either per day or for a long-term rent, with the views of the Volga and the architectural complex of the Uglich Hydroelectric Plant. The complex contains several one-story houses of a small area and a viewing platform over the river. Moreover, there is a boat storage under the main platform. The point of the hotel is that each guest can ride a boat for free or just go to a small pier for fishing.





# VIEWPOINTS



MARINA COMPLEX



VIEW FROM THE BOAT



OBSERVATION TOWER



MARKET neighborhood

GUEST HOUSE

COMMUNITY CENTER

