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

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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 Ptju, Kidričevo

Location: south-east edge of Dravsko polje/ The Drava plain
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).
Location: Solkansko polje/The Solkan Plain, between the towns Solkan (in the North) and Šempeter (in the South).
Picture of the Solkansko polje/The Solkan Plain (Regional Archives of Nova Gorica and Museum of Contemporary History).
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).
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).
Location: east part of the Šaleška dolina/Šaleška valley.
Volbenk Pajek, Photo of the Šaleška dolina/Šaleška valley, about 1948 (private collection).
Construction of a new city for the Velenje lignite mine

Photo of the housing settlement in the North of Paka, about 1956 (private collection).
Investor: Velenje lignite mine and Velenje municipality

Urban planning: Janez Trenz

Collaborator: Franc Šmid

Constructed building in the new city centre: administration building of the Velenje lignite mine by Janez Trenz, 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 Trenz with the boundaries of the lignite layer exploitation area Ref. No. 1386/1, 1954 (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. Produkciija Vitel.
Documentary film of Velenje from Vasi pod vodo by Jaka Šuligoj.