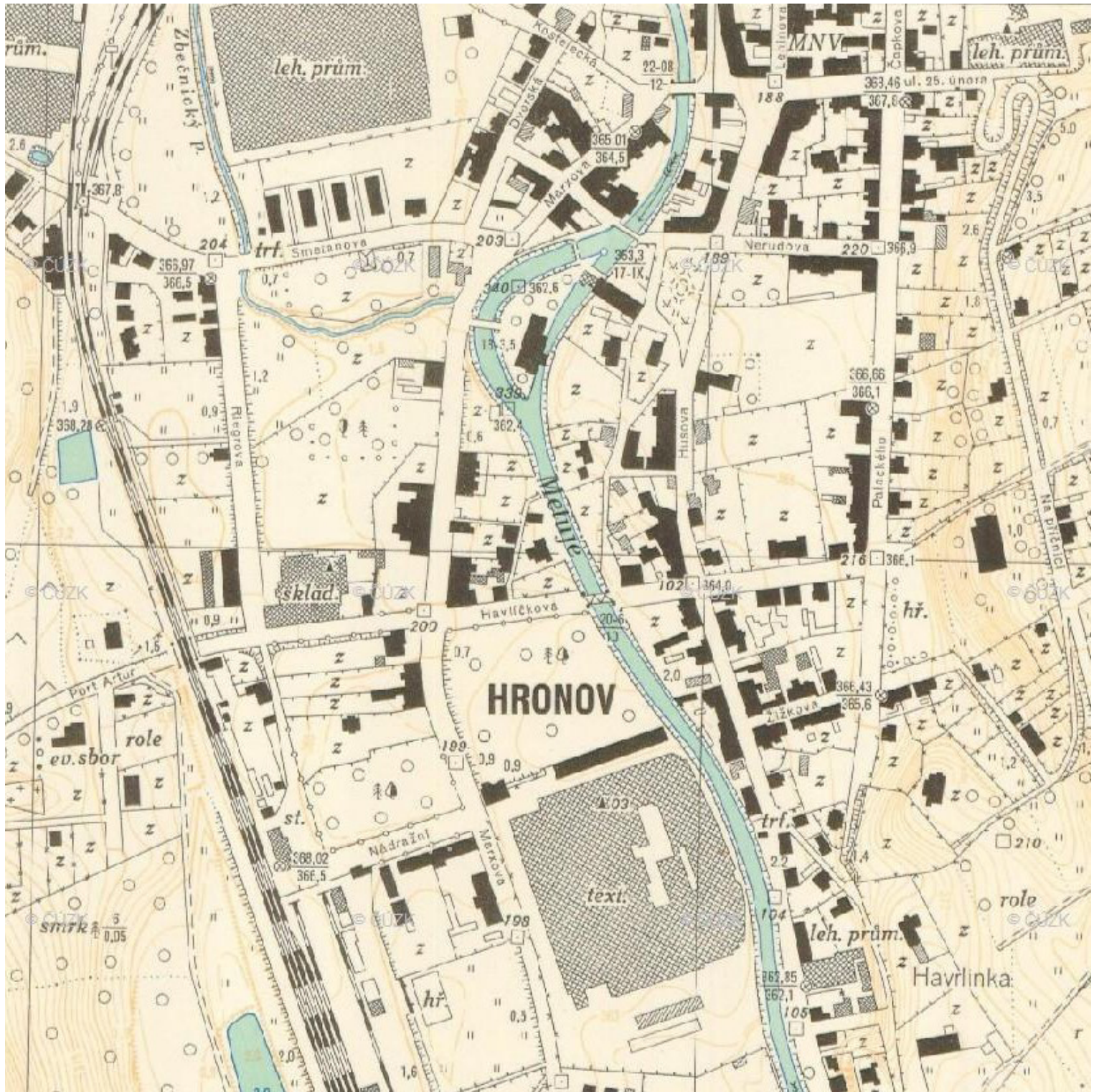




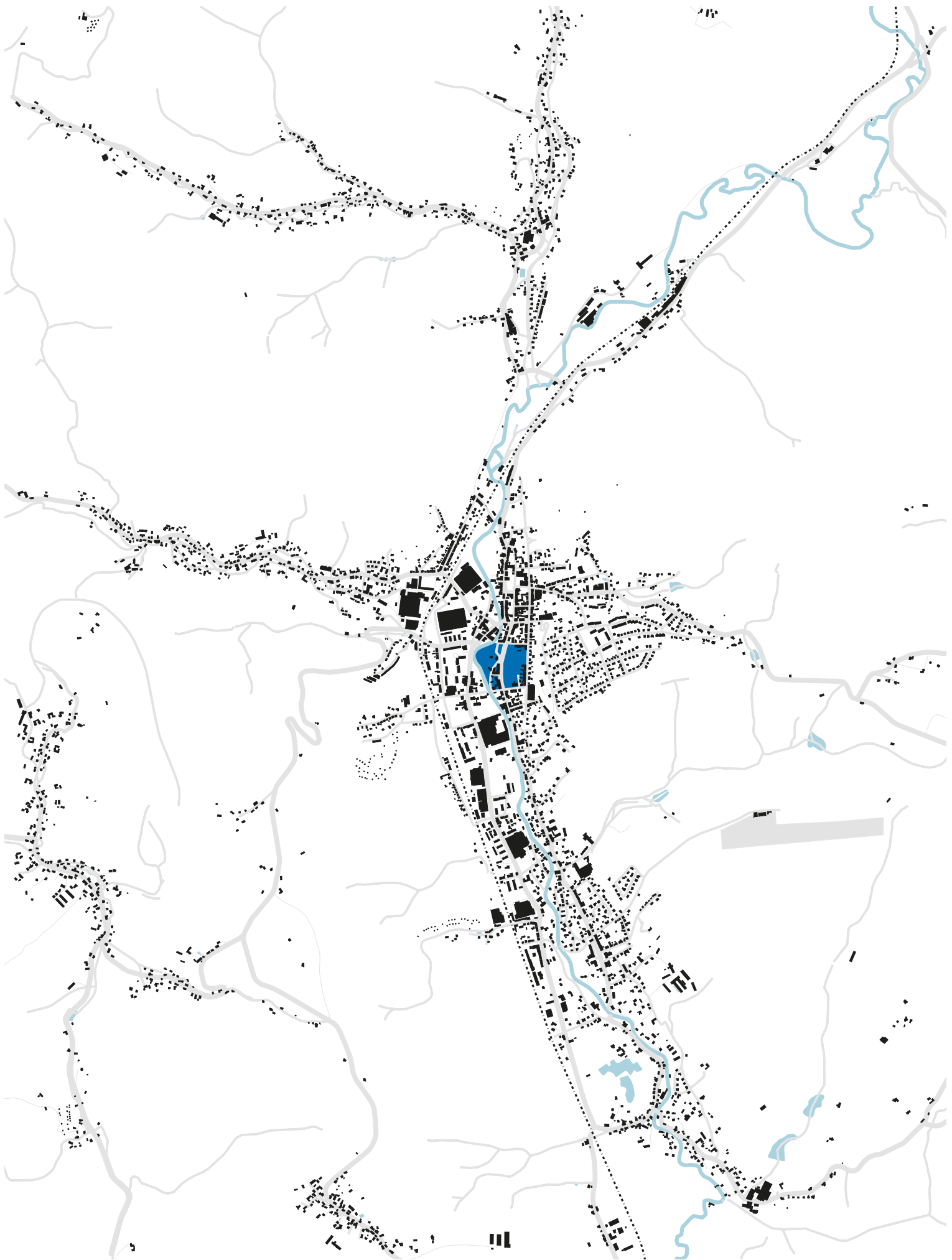
Urban design competition - P.01 Brief



The City of Hronov announces a one phase urban design competition with pre-selection for the design of the Freiwald Square.

The subject of the competition is a proposal for a spatial study for the site of Freiwald Square and the surrounding area, where the City of Hronov

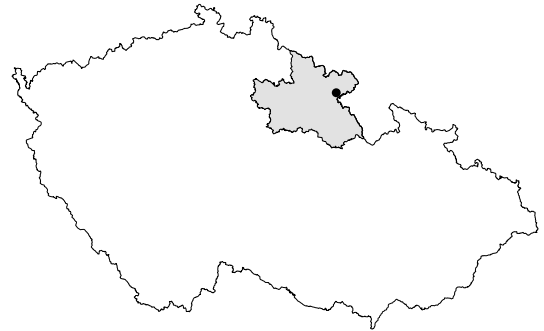
plans to build a retirement home and complete the urban structure using the potential of the site for future urban densification. The aim of the competition is to obtain a proposal that will offer the city a good urban planning analysis of this part of the city and provide a reliable basis for the subsequent urban study.





[1] Hronov

The town of Hronov is located in the Náchod district of the Hradec Králové Region, near the border with Poland. It has approximately 6100 inhabitants. The town is located on the Metuje River and is situated in the Hronov Basin at the southern border of the Broumovsko Protected Landscape Area, on the border of the Broumov Upland and the Podorlice Upland. Hronov is mainly known as the birthplace of Alois Jirásek,



a renowned Czech writer. Under the name of “Jiráskův Hronov”, an amateur theatre festival is held here every year, continuing the long amateur tradition of the town.

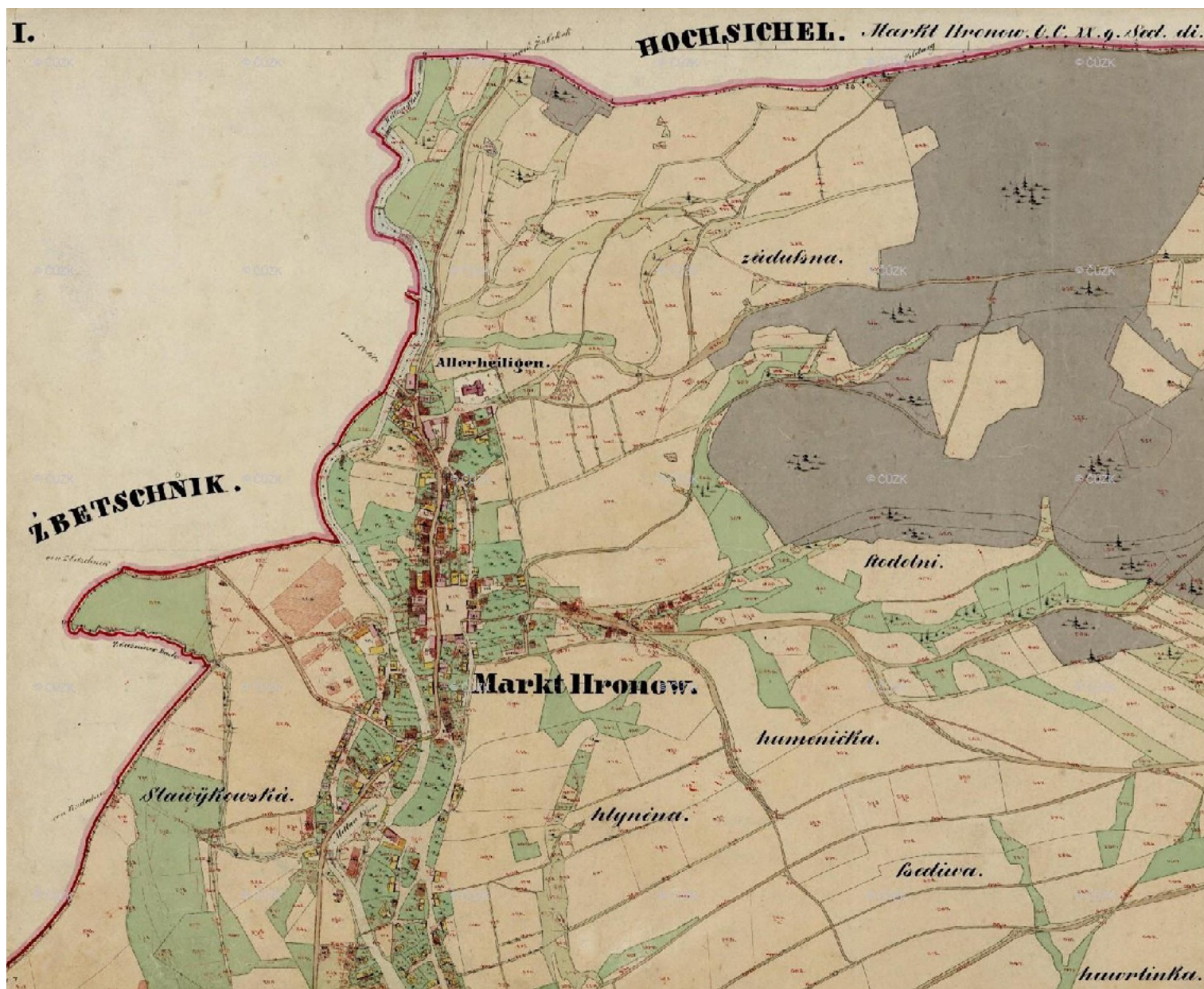




[2] History

From the end of the 18th century until the 1870s, Hronov was a quiet rural town. Timbered houses predominated, and most of the inhabitants of the town and the surrounding villages lived by farming or home weaving. The construction of the railway in 1875 and the subsequent development of industrial production and rapid population growth had a major impact on the modern development of Hronov. Several textile factories sprang up and Hronov began to acquire an urban character, wooden cottages gave way to expanding roads and new construction. After the war, which interrupted the development of the town, building development continued with the con-

struction of both private houses and civic amenities such as the swimming pool, the building of the town savings bank, the new town hall and the Jirásek Theatre. The idea of building a theatre in honour of the native Alois Jirásek (1851-1930), who played with the Hronov amateur theatre and occasionally directed some performances, was conceived in 1921. A Hronov native, Prague architect Jindřich Freiwalda, was approached to design the theatre and he drew up the project free of charge. Jindřich Freiwalda's works include, among others, the Czech Savings Bank in Hronov. As early as 1941, the architect Freiwalda warned about the inappropriate destruction and demo-





lition of significant references of folk architecture. In 1955, as part of the building programme in Hronov, extensive modifications were made, especially to buildings related to Jirásek and his work. The architect Zdeněk Budinka was commissioned to prepare the study. His intention was to sensitively incorporate the historical monuments of the town associated with Alois Jirásek into the further development of the town so that the character of the town as depicted by Alois Jirásek in the chronicle "U nás" and "Z mých pamětí"

(Our home and From My Memoirs) would be preserved. He stressed the need to preserve as many of the existing monuments in the town as possible and recalled the architectural values hidden in the vernacular buildings and the overall layout of the town. Most of Budinka's proposals were not implemented. In the 1960s, a trend of redevelopment reached its peak in Hronov, when most of Hronov's wooden cottages and other old buildings were demolished.

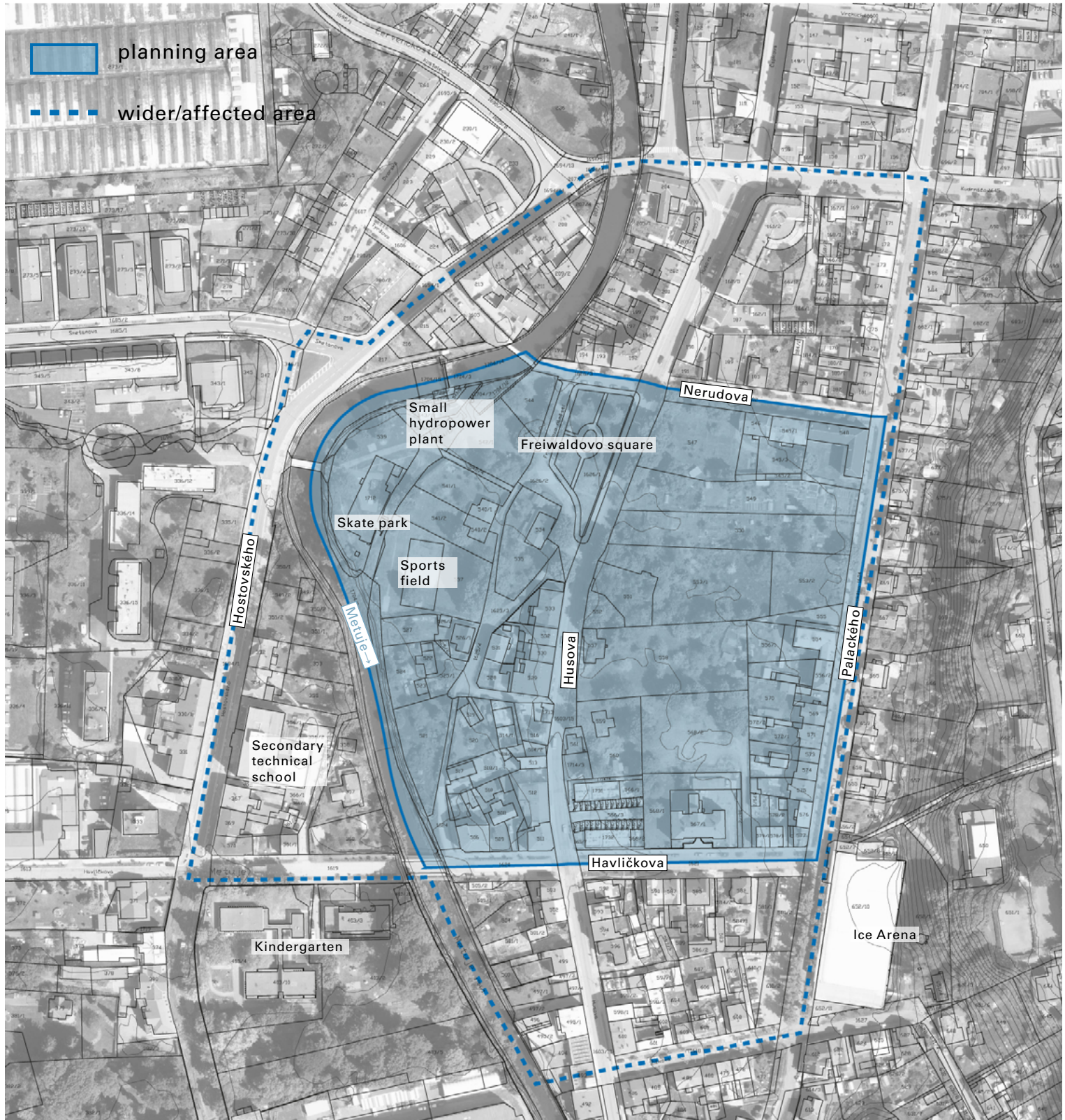




[3] Planning area

The area for the spatial study around Freiwald Square is defined on the west side by the Metuje River and then by Nerudova, Palackého and Havlíčkova Streets. In the centre of the area, in the

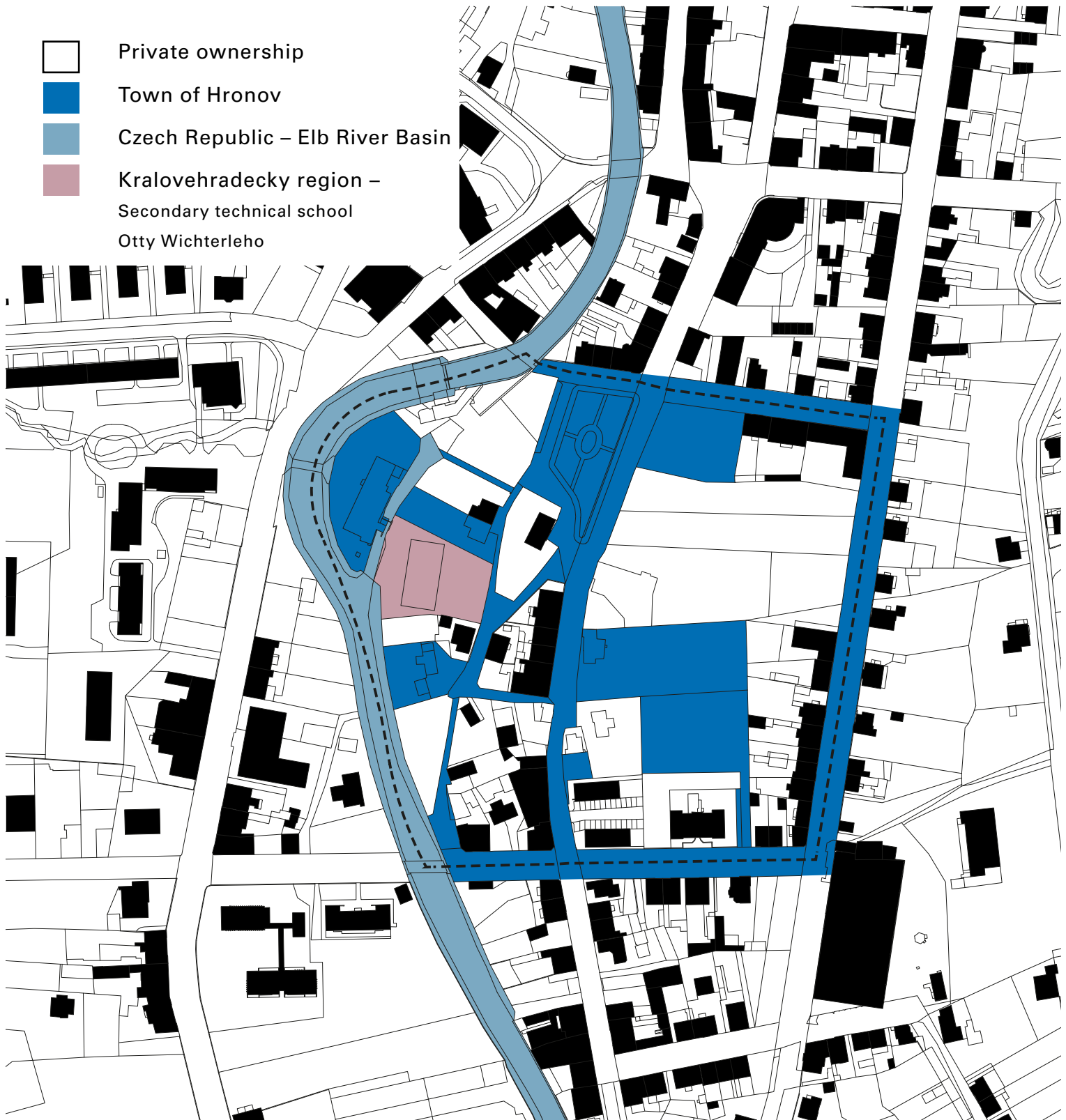
north-south axis, passes Husova Street, which connects Freiwald Square with Československé armády Square in the centre of the town. The total area of the area in question is around 5 ha.





PROPERTY RELATIONS

The spatial study should address the area comprehensively and include land that is not currently owned by the city.





[4] Brief

The basic requirement of the competition is to determine the optimum use and layout of the planned area, which will complete the urban structure and highlight the potential of the site for urban densification. It is the intention of the city to use the site not only for the construction of new housing, but also for the location of a retirement home and at the same time to complement the site with other compatible types of use. The goal is to set an appropriate mix of urban functions and amenities to harmonize both within the area and throughout the city.

The design should work with a vision of an attractive location that will benefit its surroundings in terms of function and urban structure and will be accepted by its residents. The urban design concept should include solutions for functional use, development, and transport. An essential part of the design will be the overall landscape concept of the area, including the specific design of blue-green infrastructure, which should adequately respond to the existing landscape struc-

ture. In assessing the design, emphasis will be placed on the adaptive capacity of the proposed urban structure to climate change. Furthermore, the spatial and aesthetic qualities as well as the practicality and sustainability of the area will be emphasised. The proposed environment should also reflect the desired accessibility with regard to the use of the surrounding area by users of the retirement home.

The aim is for the new form of the area to be both flexible and stable enough to provide the city with a basis for long-term development, taking into account the unpredictable nature of urban development.

Development

The Zoning Plan designates medium density development and a variety of development and activities for the site. It should be predominantly free-standing development with up to three storeys and possibly denser forms of development.



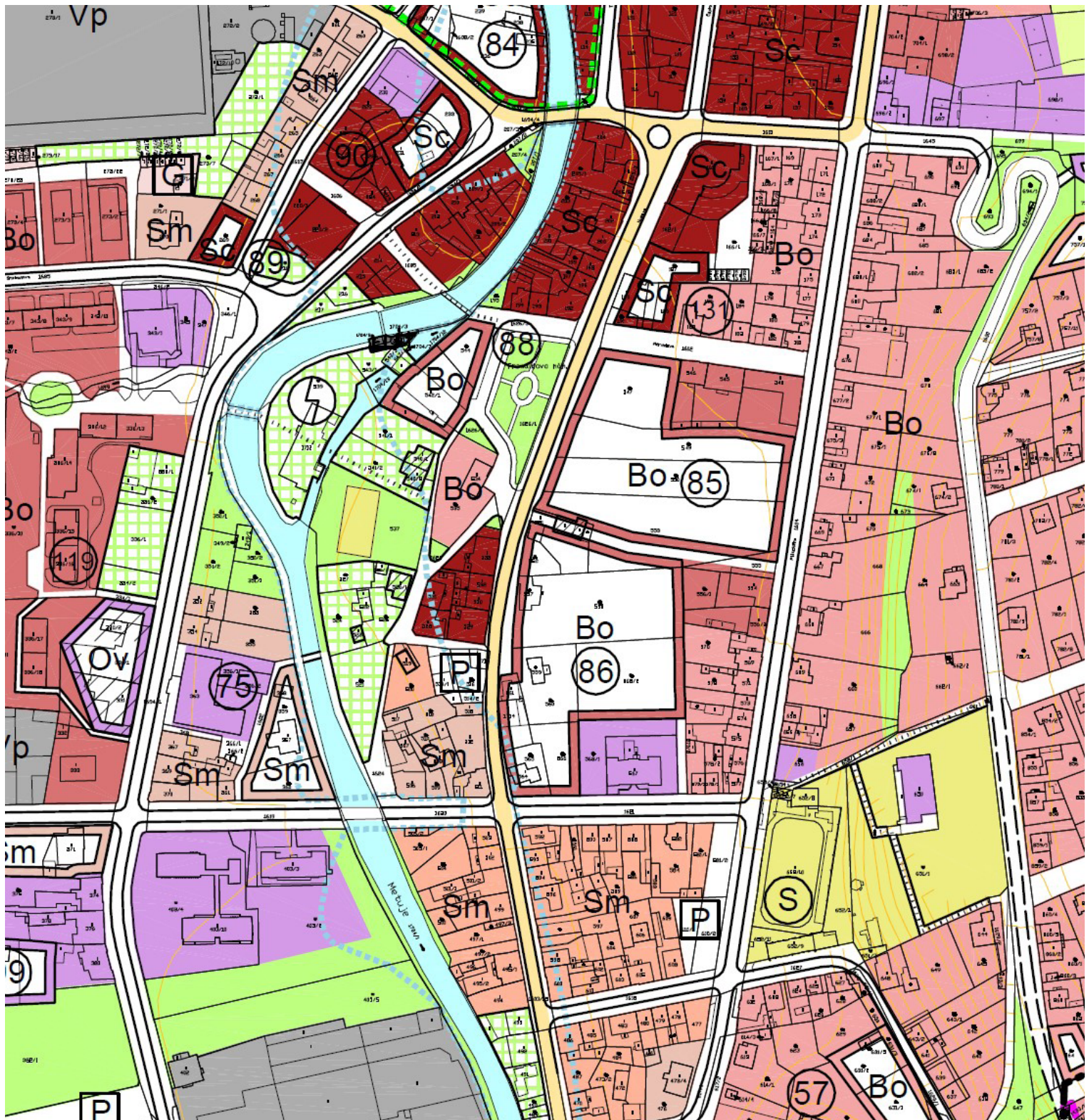


[5] Zoning plan

It is recommended that the proposal should respect the existing zoning plan as much as possible. It is assumed that the spatial study will not be used as a basis for a zoning amendment. However, if the competitors consider and propose that the area would need to be amended within

the current master plan, it is possible to consider in this direction. It is important that any change does not block the planned development at Sites 85 and 86.

www.mestohronov.cz/uzemni-plan-mesta/clanek/uzemni-plan-mesta





[6] Jury

Independent part



Matěj Draslar

Graduate of ETH Zurich, architect with Czech roots living in Switzerland. After his studies he founded his own practice, studio mach. Since 2013 he has been working at agps architecture ltd., where he has been a partner since 2022. With his team he deals mainly with architectural competitions and urban planning. He also lectures and teaches at ETH.



Šárka Jahodová

Architect and urban planner, graduate of the Faculty of Architecture of the Czech Technical University. In practice and research, she focuses mainly on urban topics, development and revitalization of residential areas and the possibilities of innovation of urban planning tools. Currently, she is part of the UNIT architects team, where she leads research and planning projects related to urban renewal and development. She is co-author of the winning design of the international urban planning competition The Future of Brno City Centre (2016) and Florenc 21 (2021).



Alice Boušková

Authorized landscape architect, graduate of the Faculty of Architecture of the Czech Technical University. Her practice focuses on connecting architecture and landscape architecture at various levels. She has collaborated with Flera and YYYY, and is the founder of the landscape studio her architecture. She is involved in blue-green architecture technologies in the city and spreads awareness about the importance and need for landscape architecture in general, for example in Rethink Architecture or ERA21. She is co-author of the winning design for Park u vody in Prague Holešovice.



Matěj Čunát
- alternate

He graduated from the Faculty of Art and Architecture at TUL. After his studies he completed internships abroad in studios in Ghent and Munich. He is a co-founder of the young architectural collective Taktiky, which was founded in 2022. His work focuses on projects at the intersection of public space and urbanism, with an emphasis on social, ecological and economic sustainability.

**Dependent part****Karel Jára**

vice-mayor of the town of Hronov

**Aleš Krtička**architect of the building commission
of the town of Hronov**Petr Koleta**
- alternate

mayor of the town of Hronov

**Věra Bartošová**
- alternate

vice-mayor of the town of Hronov

