



Reflections on a Dark Past

the forced labour camps of
the Danube Delta

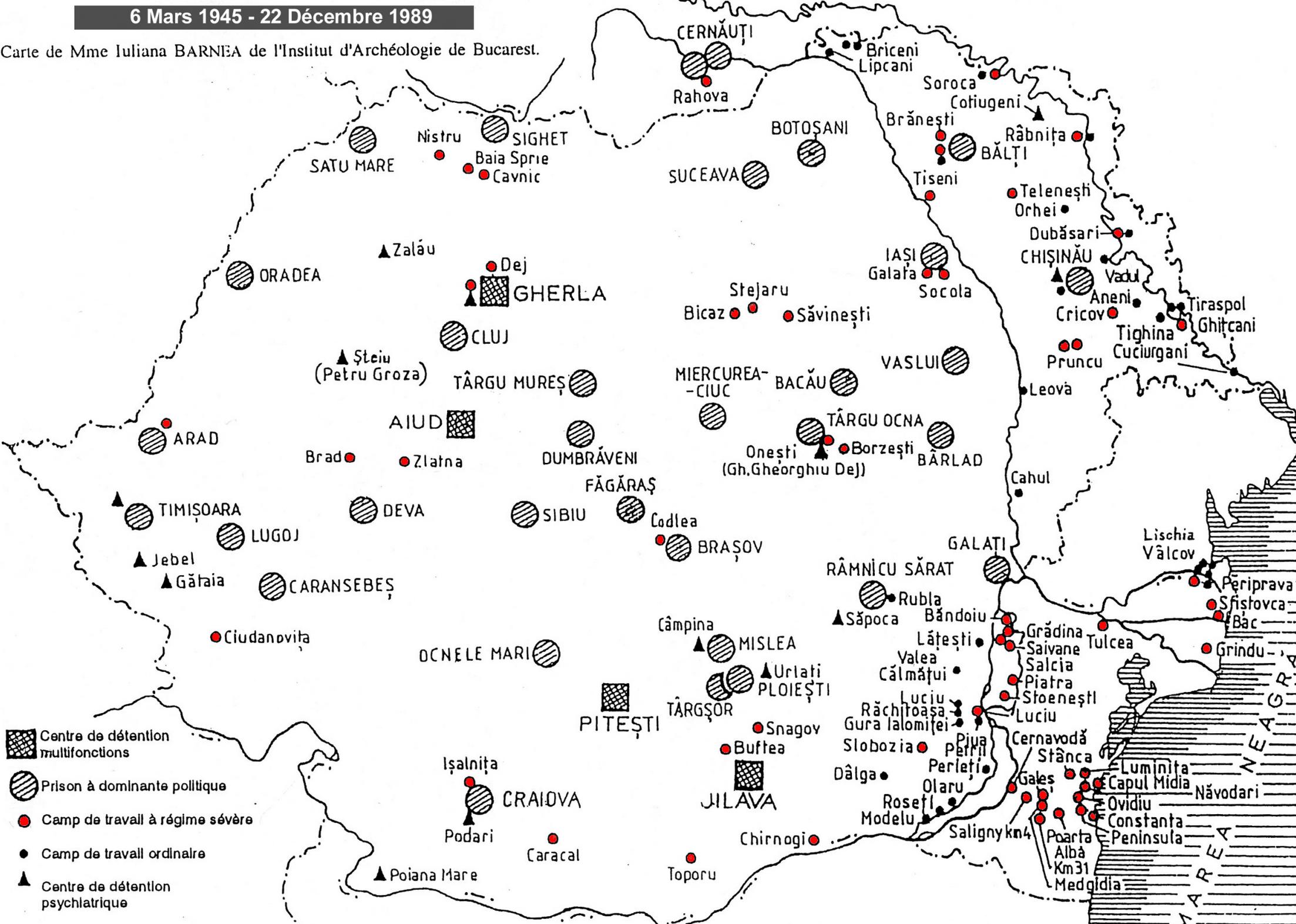
Toni Cherneva

&

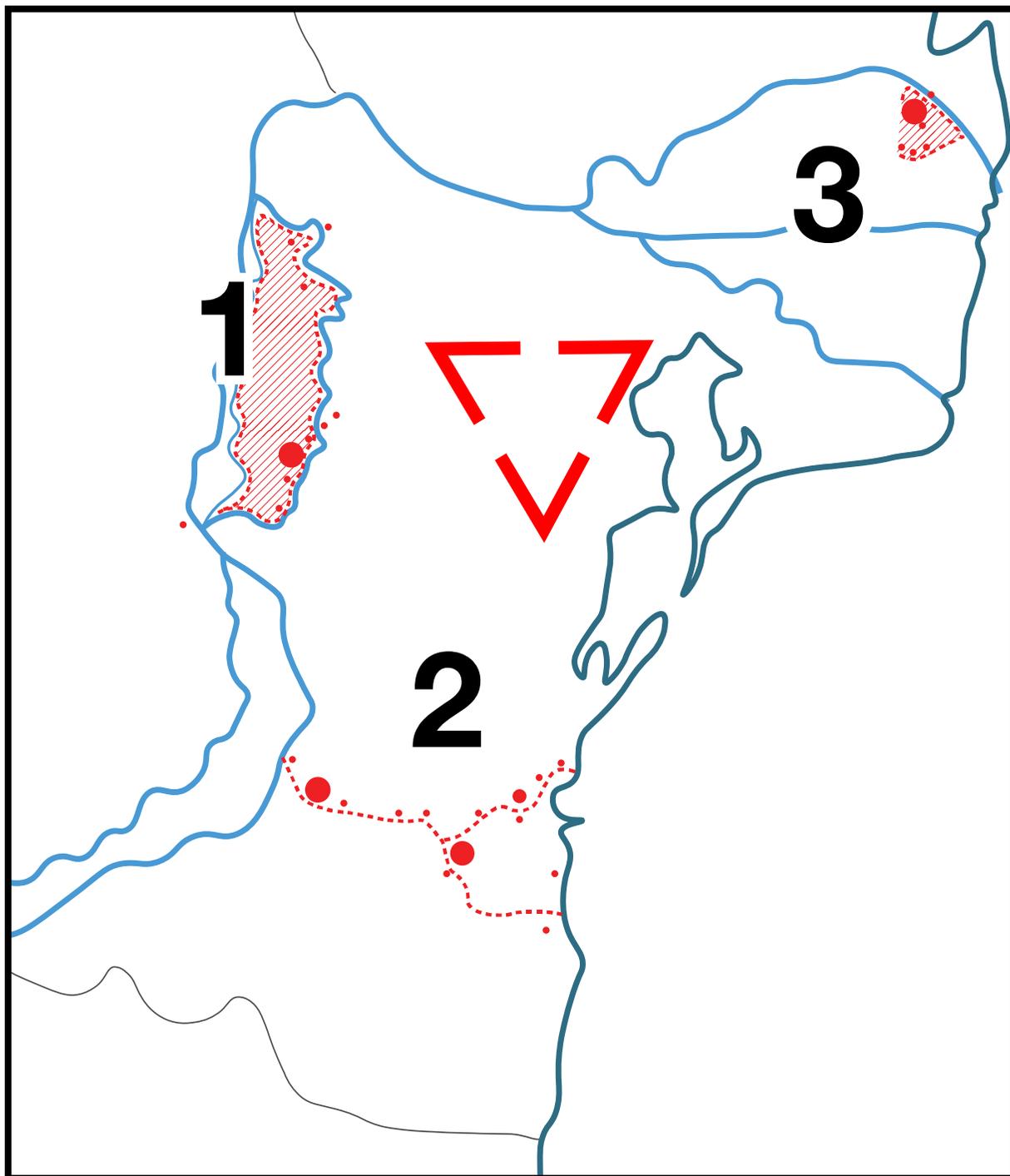
Oana Rotariu

6 Mars 1945 - 22 Décembre 1989

Carte de Mme Iuliana BARNEA de l'Institut d'Archéologie de Bucarest.



-  Centre de détention multifonctions
-  Prison à dominante politique
-  Camp de travail à régime sévère
-  Camp de travail ordinaire
-  Centre de détention psychiatrique



1

Great Island of Braila

Bandoiu, Gradina, Salcia, Piatra, Stoienesti, Luciu

2

Danube - Black Sea Channel

Cernavoda, Saligny, Km5, Km 31, Poarta Alba, Noua Culme, Peninsula, Capul Midia, Eforie, Constanta, Seimeni, Medgidia, Basarabi, Navodari, Castelu

3

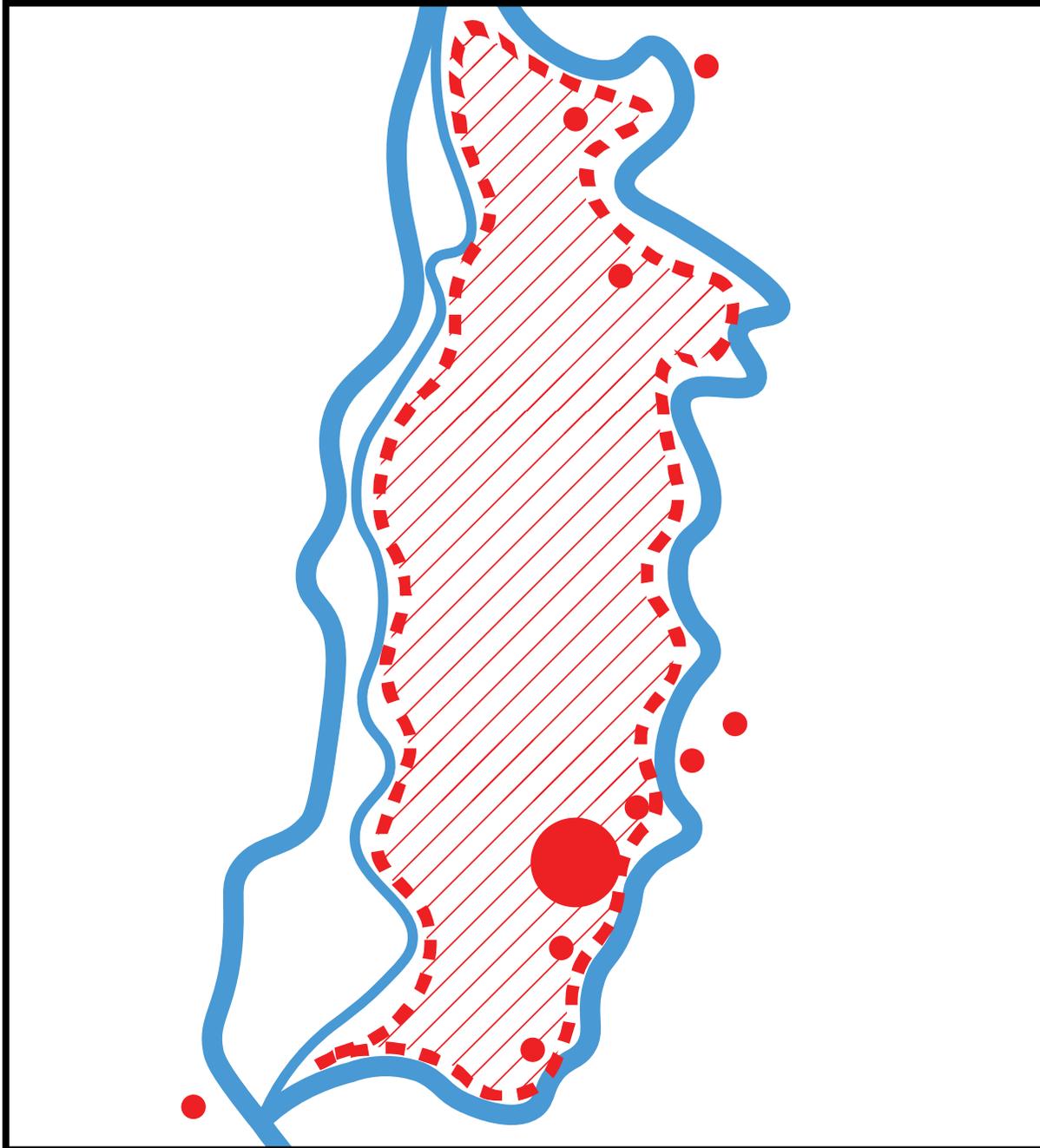
Periprava Area

Periprava, Sfistoca, Grindu, Letea, CA Rosetti

1

Great Island of Braila

Bandoiu, Gradina, **Salcia**, Piatra,
Stoienesti, Luciu



Purpose of Work:

- *build dams and clean area to transform “Swamp of Braila” into dry, fertile land*
- *there are ruins at Salcia, one of the worse labour camps*
- *the area is now one of the biggest / most productive pieces of agricultural land in the country*

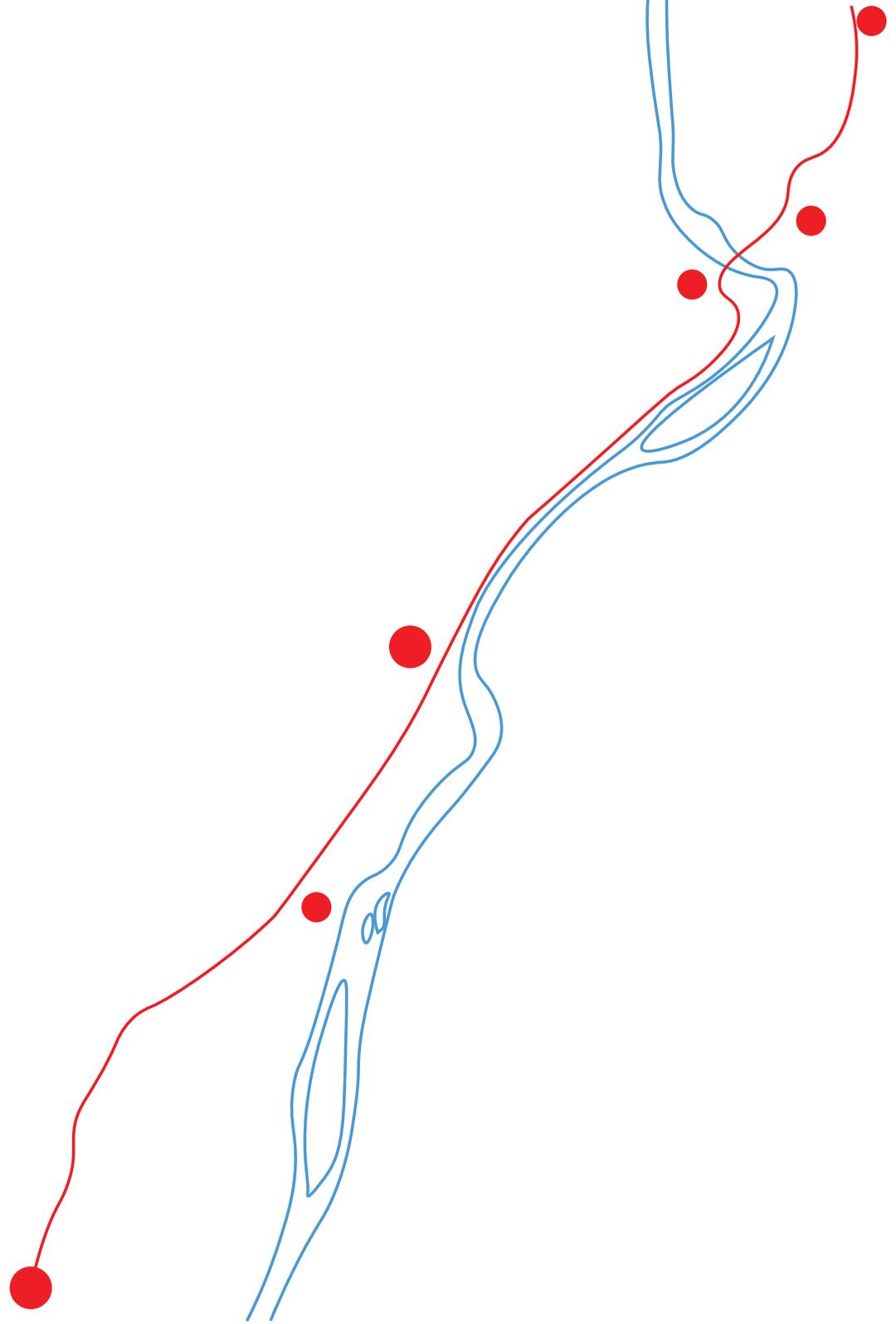
Possible location of memory walk:

*Ostrov - Piatra - Frecatei -
Salcia - Agaua - Stoienesti*

ca. 4h

Theme:

Agricultural production during communism vs. nowadays; the enormous farm was recently bought by a Saudi Arabian sheikh who is to invest heavily









2

Danube - Black Sea Channel

Cernavoda, *Saligny*, *Poarta Alba*, Noua Culme, Peninsula, Capul Midia, Eforie, Constanta, Seimeni, Medgidia, Basarabi, Navodari, Castelu

Purpose of Work:

- *build the channel connecting the Danube river to the Black Sea*
- *one of the biggest construction projects of the communist era; started during the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej regime, and finished by Ceausescu after a break period*
- *Saligny was mainly for female prisoners*

Possible location of memory walk:

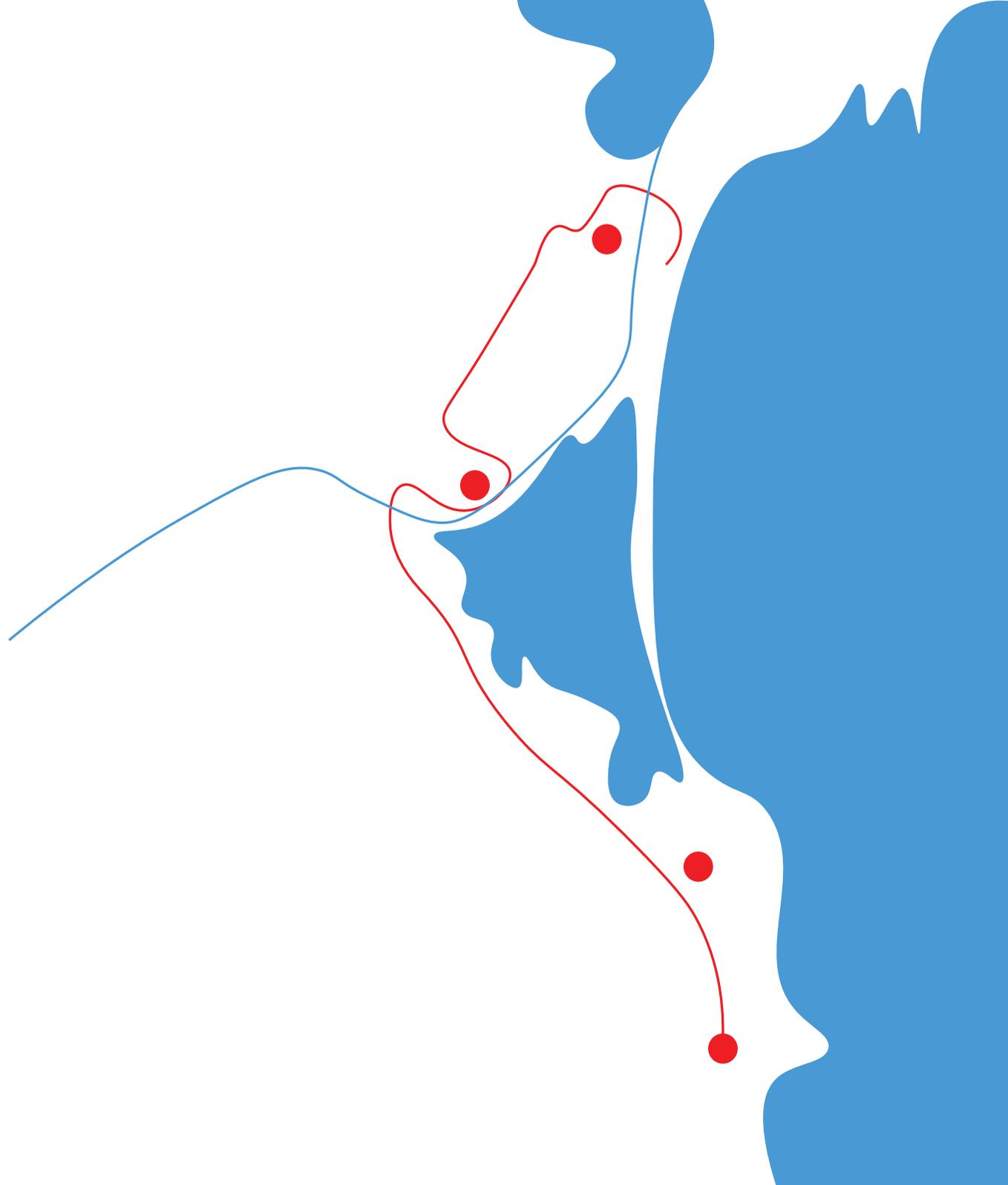
*Mamaia - (Navodari) - Lumina / **Peninsula** - Ovidiu - Constanta*

ca. 5h

Theme:

Saligny was one of five prisons / labour camps for women. Contextualisation of women during the communist regime.

The channel provides an important export route for agriculture products.



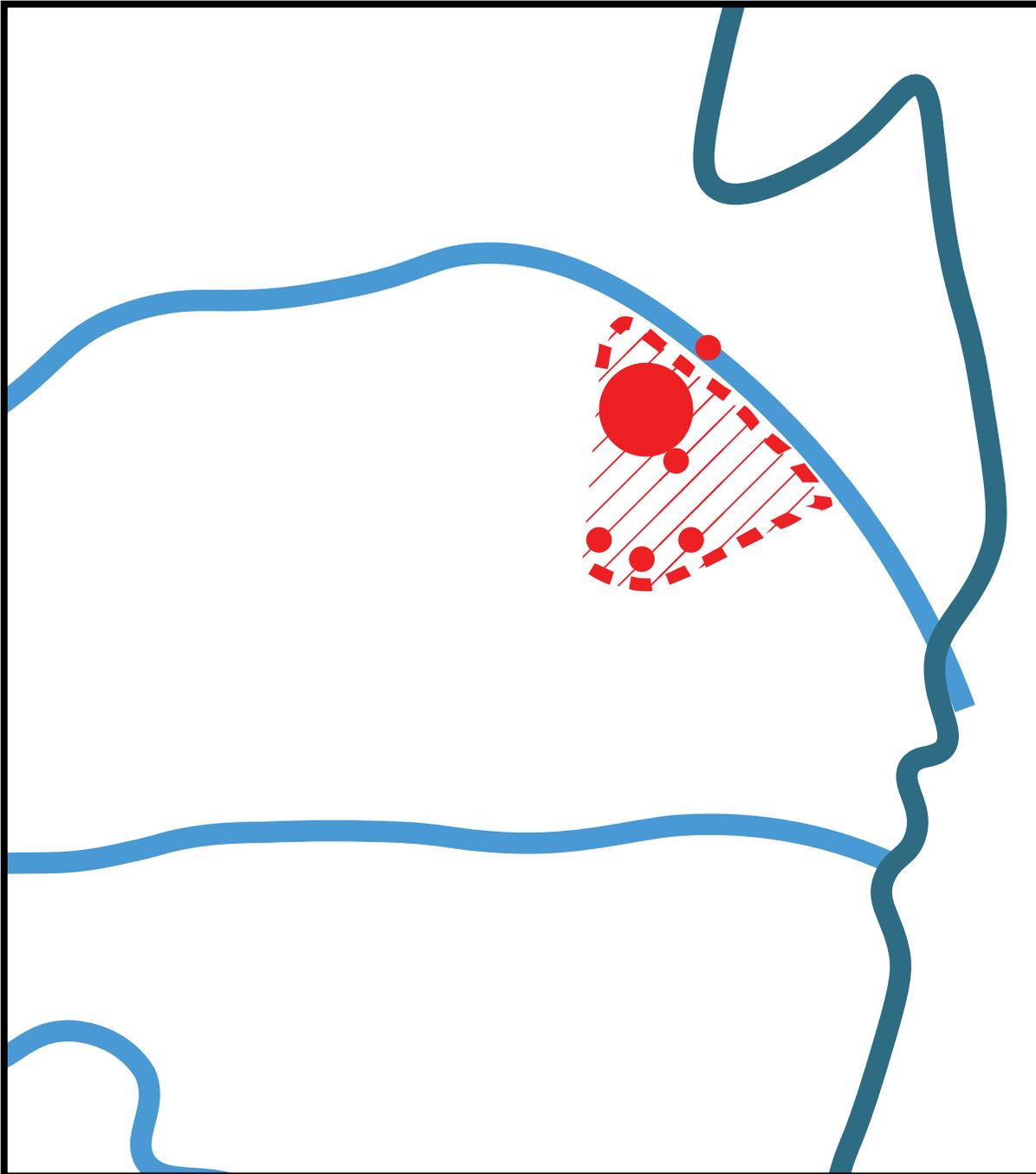




3

Periprava Area

*Periprava, Sfistoca, Grindu, Letea, CA
Rosetti, Bac*

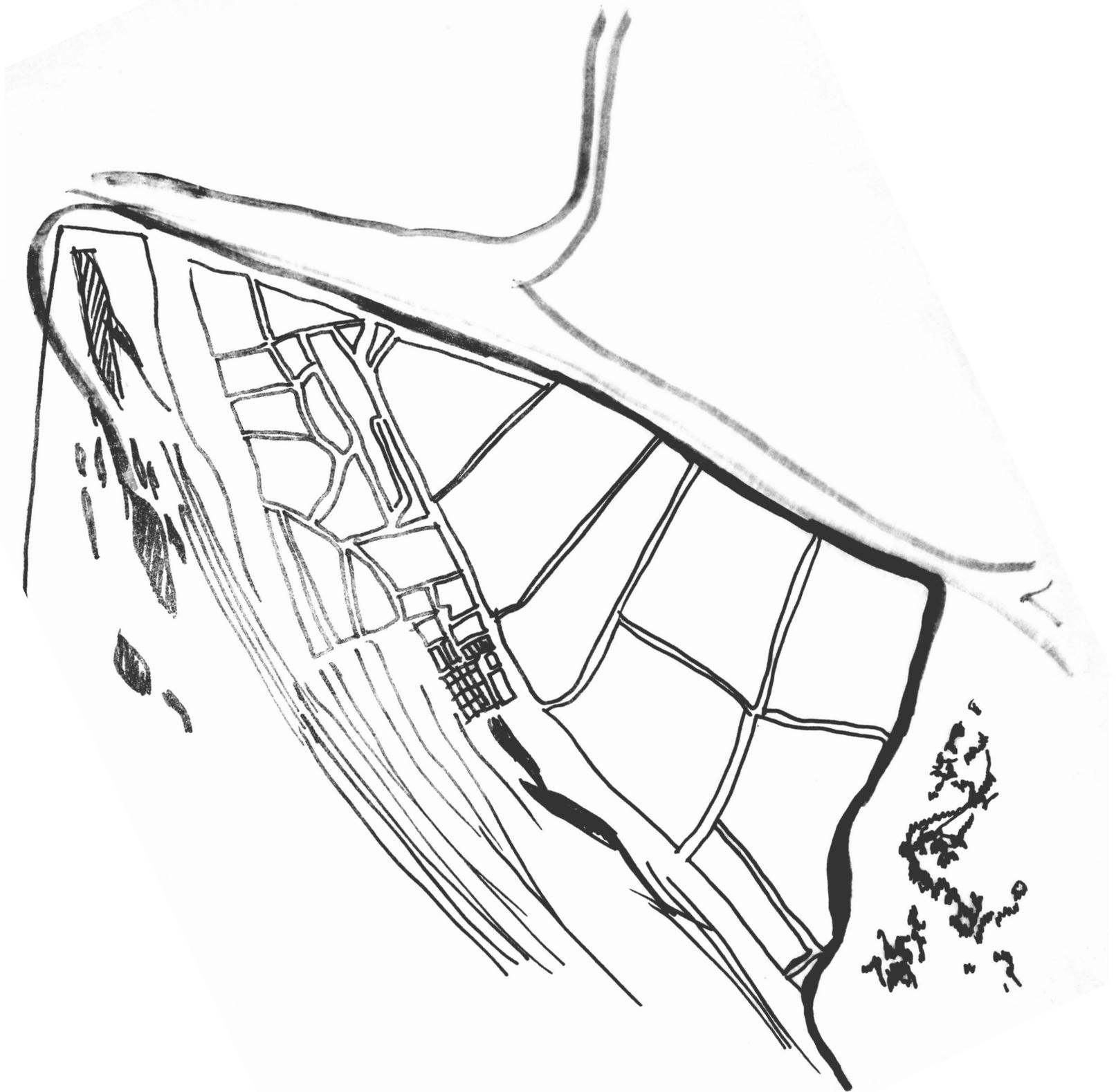


Purpose of Work:

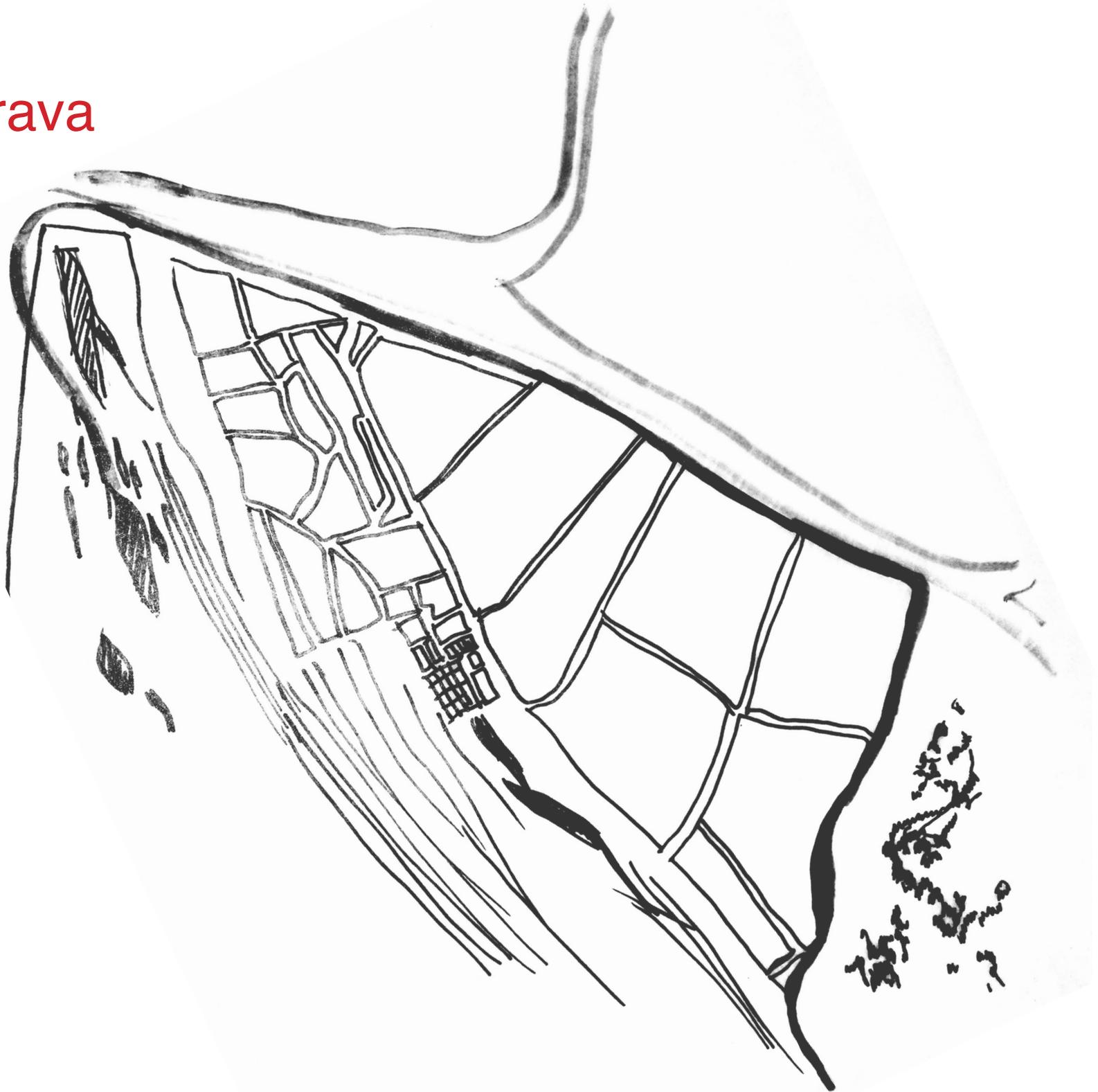
- *build dams and clean land to make the land dry and fertile; harvesting reed.*
- *some of the harshest environmental working conditions*
- *dependances for the guards and officers had developed to form a small city near the village Periprava (ruins)*



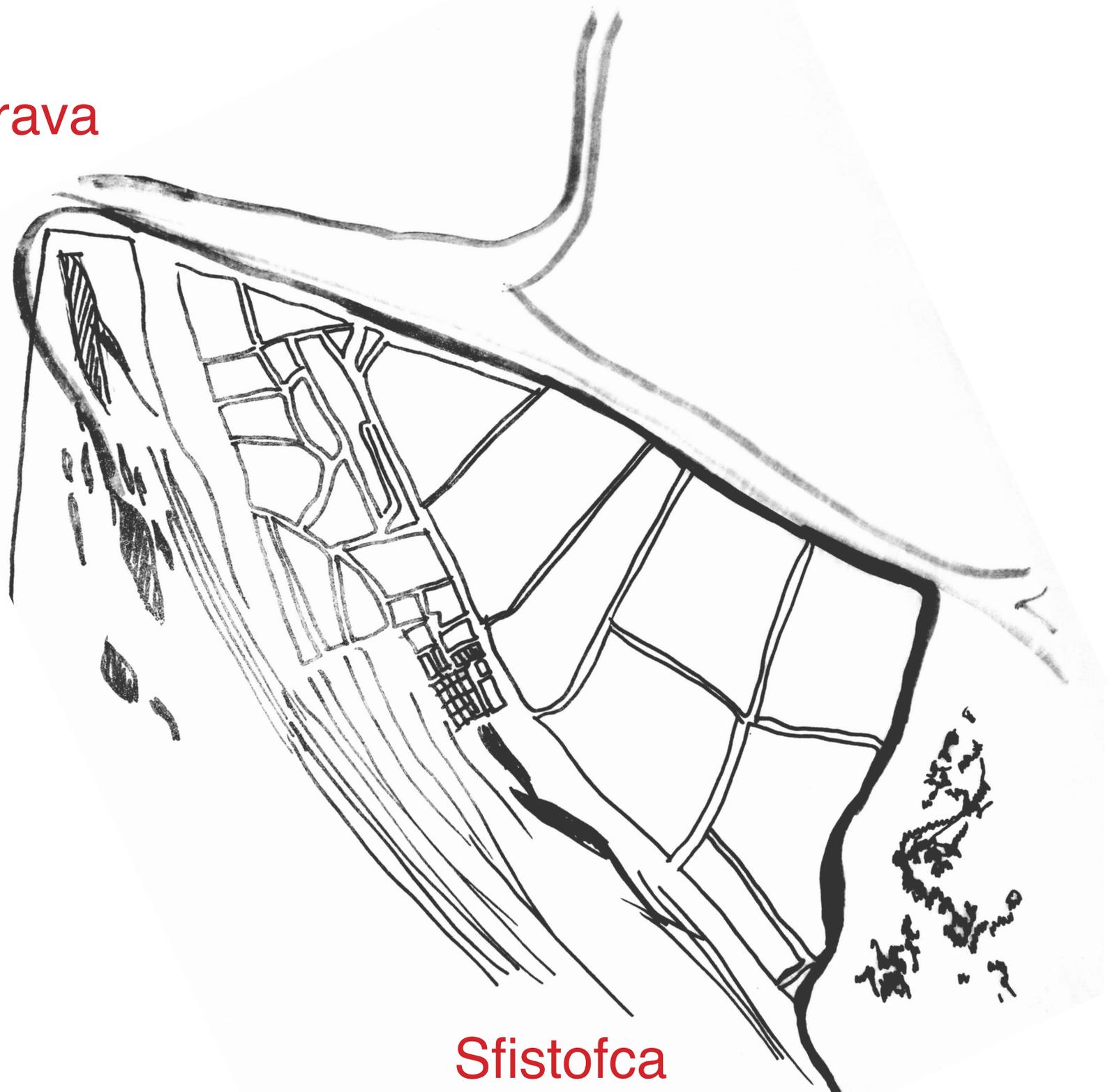




Periprava

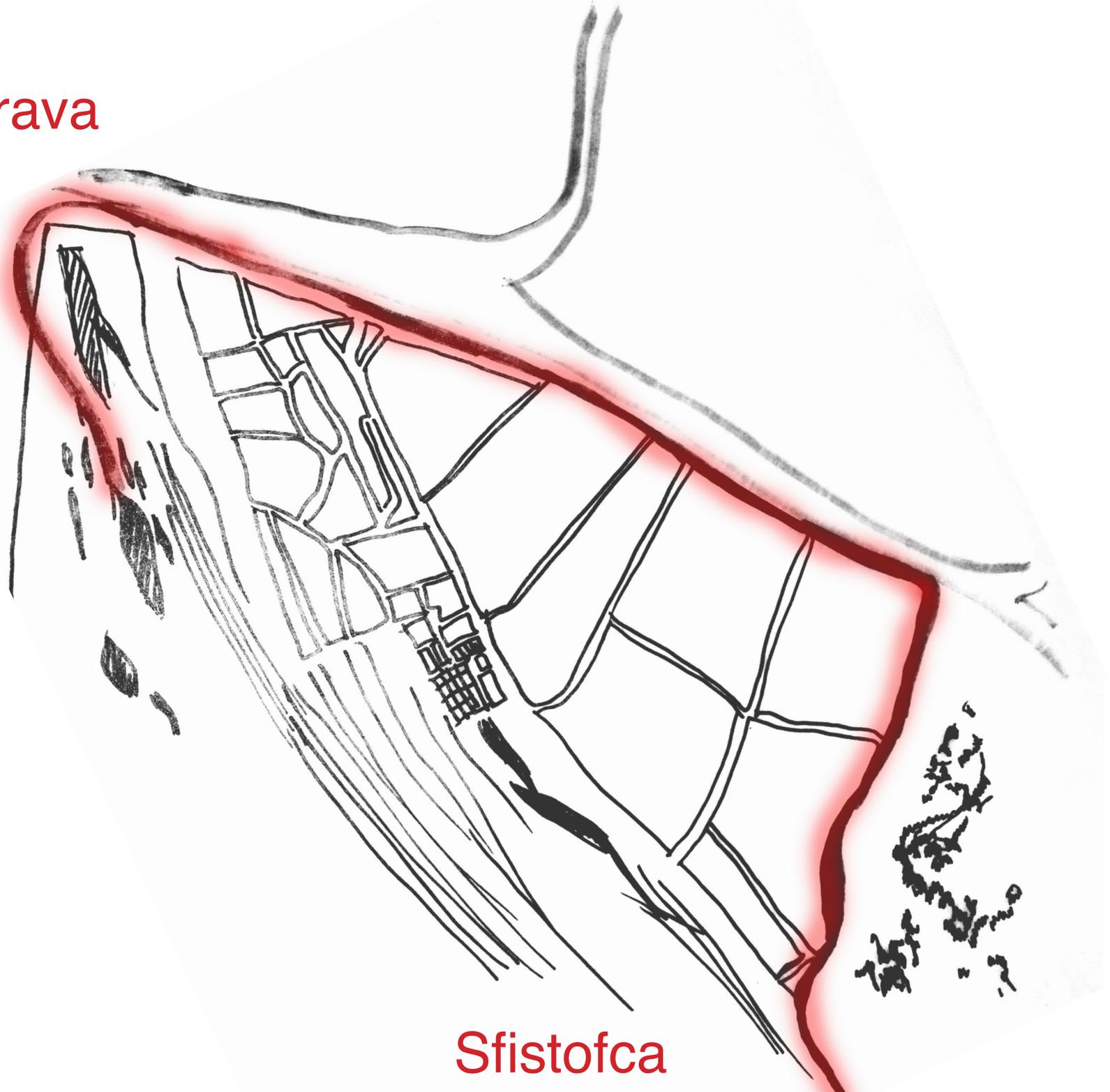


Periprava



Sfistofca

Periprava

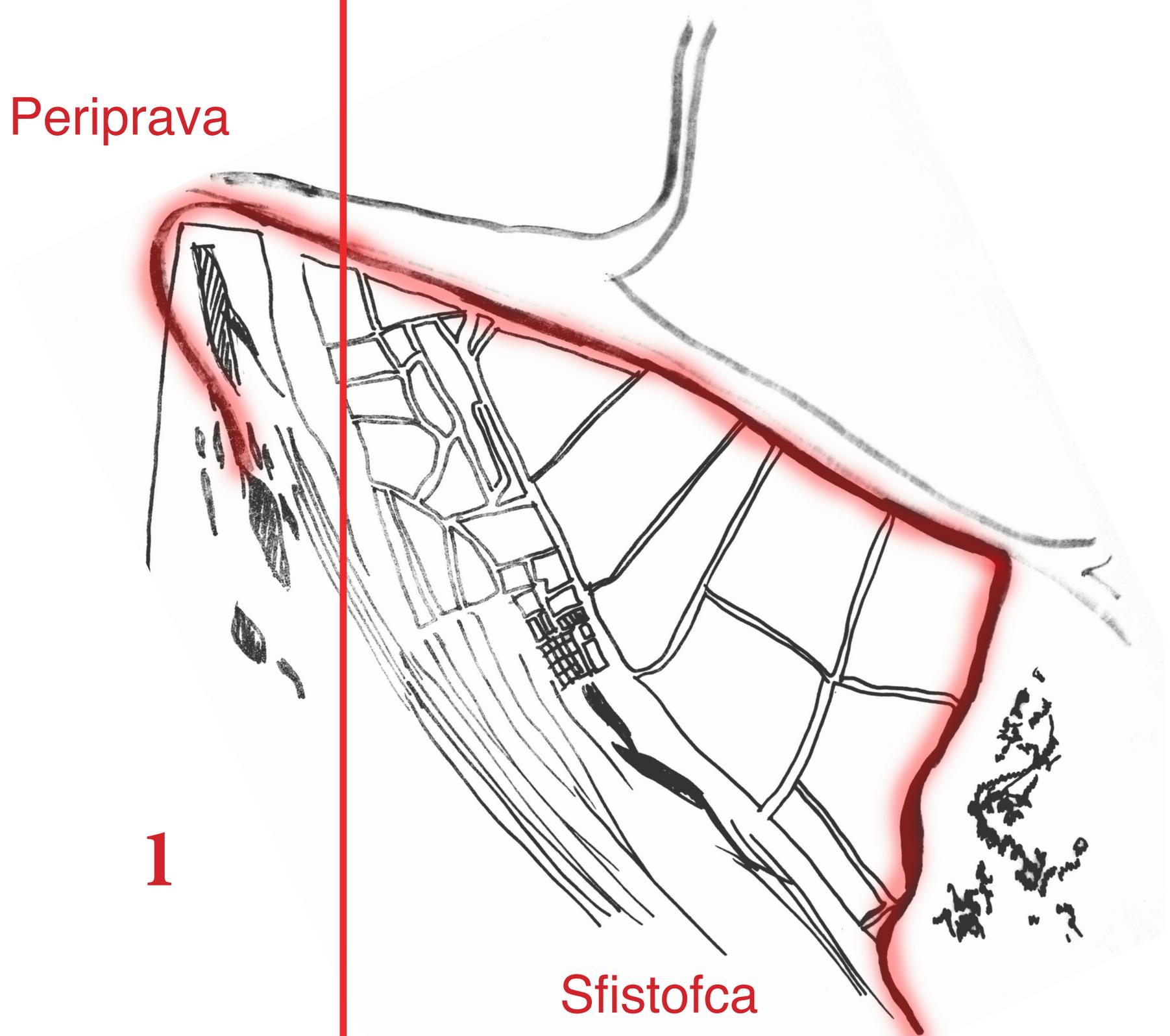


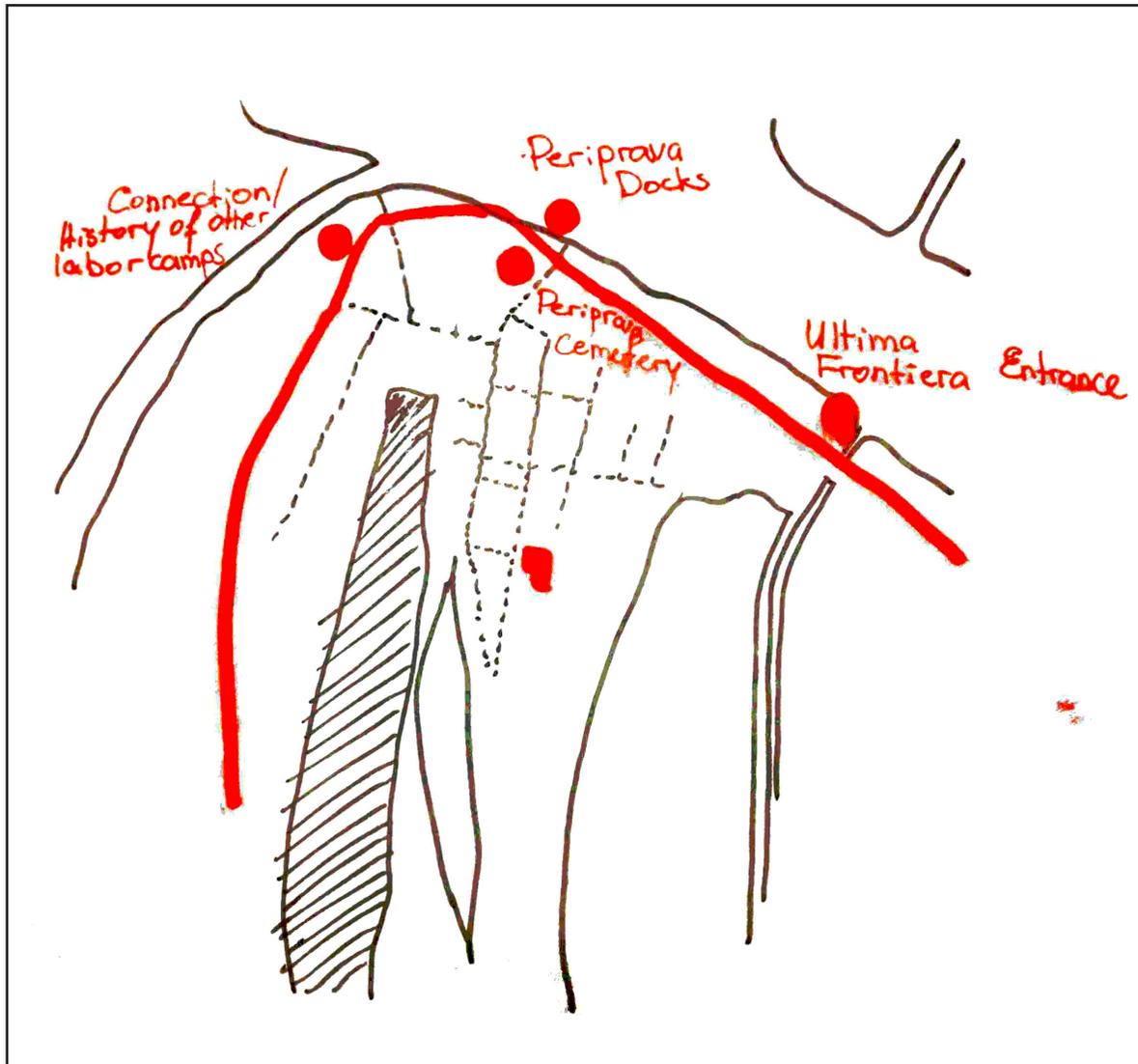
Sfistofca

Periprava

1

Sfistofca



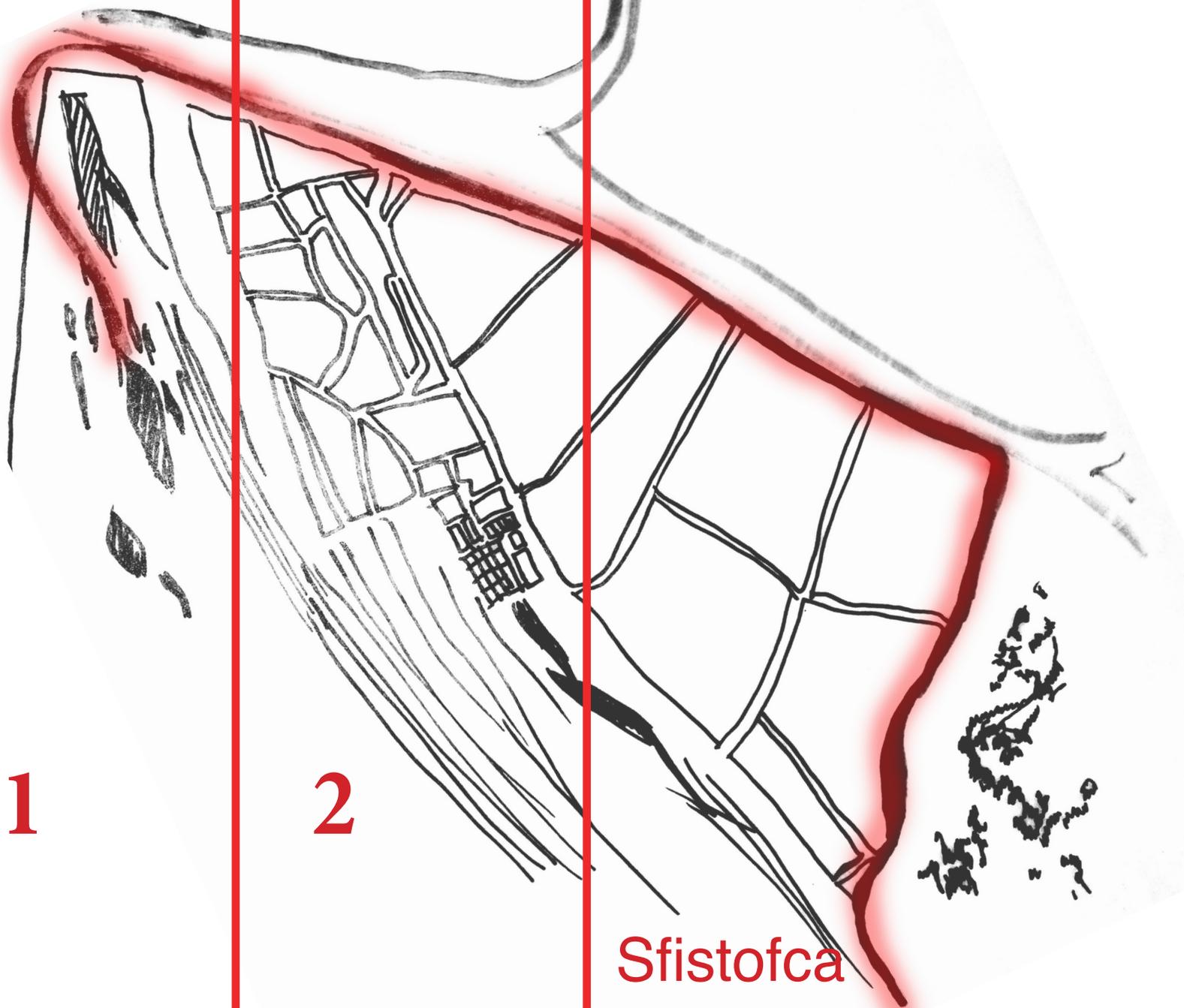


Start points:

4 important stops on the route between the village of Periprava and the first entrance of Ultima Frontiera

- The path to the village - information about the village of Periprava, the docks, the residents, the agriculture, the history, the landscape, the infrastructure
- The cemetery of Periprava and the first connection to the Periprava labour camp
- The first stop on the west - Historical background of the area, connecting Periprava to other labour camps (like to those on the Great Braila Island)
- The last stop of the first section - the entrance to the private property of Ultima Frontiera and the shortcut to the ruins of the formal labour camp

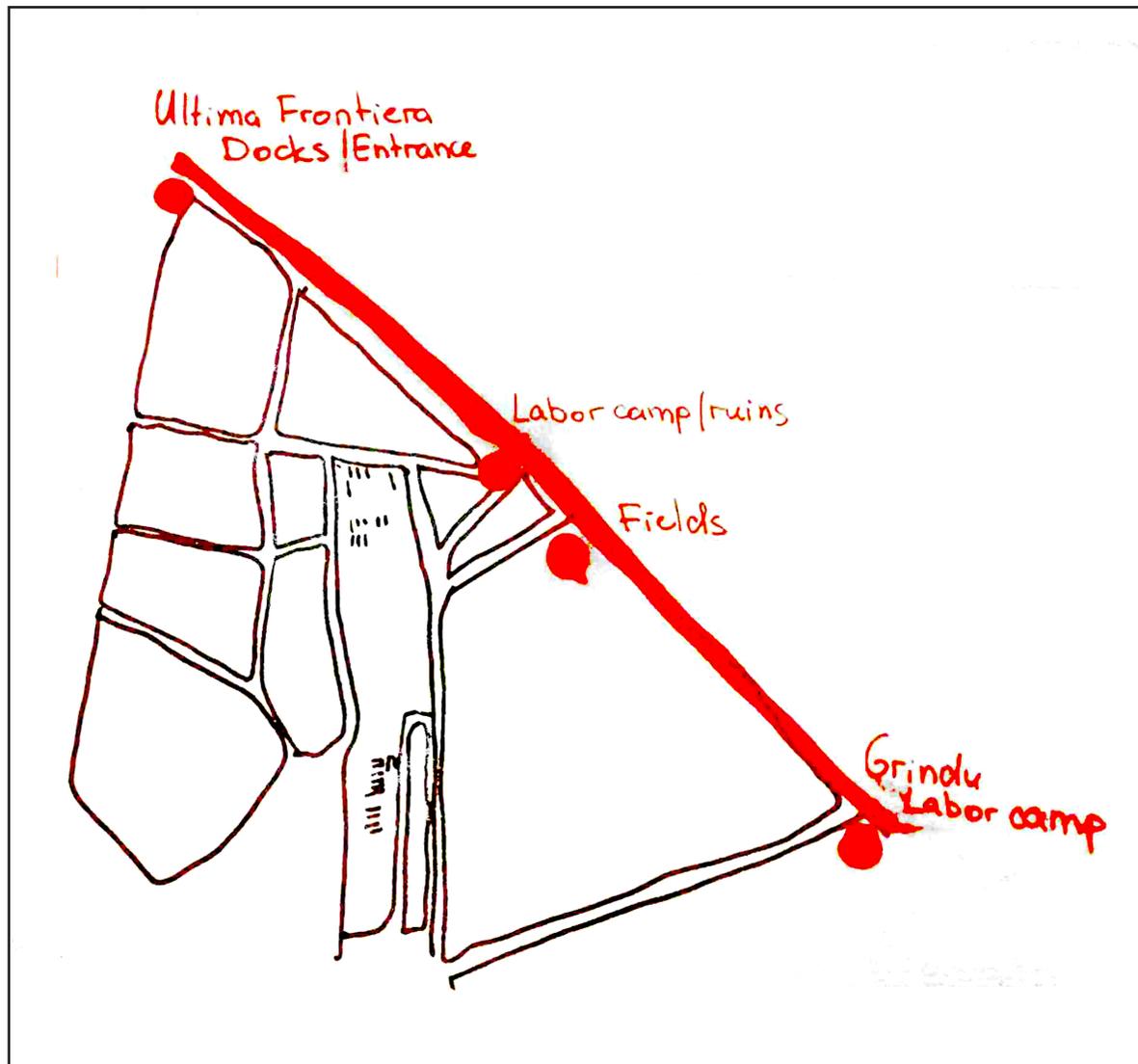
Periprava



1

2

Sfistofca



Labour camp area:

4 important stops on the route near the formal labour camp

- The docks of Ultima Frontiera and a possible entrance to the private property
- The second/longer way to the ruins of the formal labour camp and the formal floating prison. Information about the formal labour camp and a map of the formal structures
- Building a dam prevented the lands from being flooded and made it fertile for farm work
- Information about the nearby formal Grindu labour camp (a branch of the Periprava labour camp)

Periprava

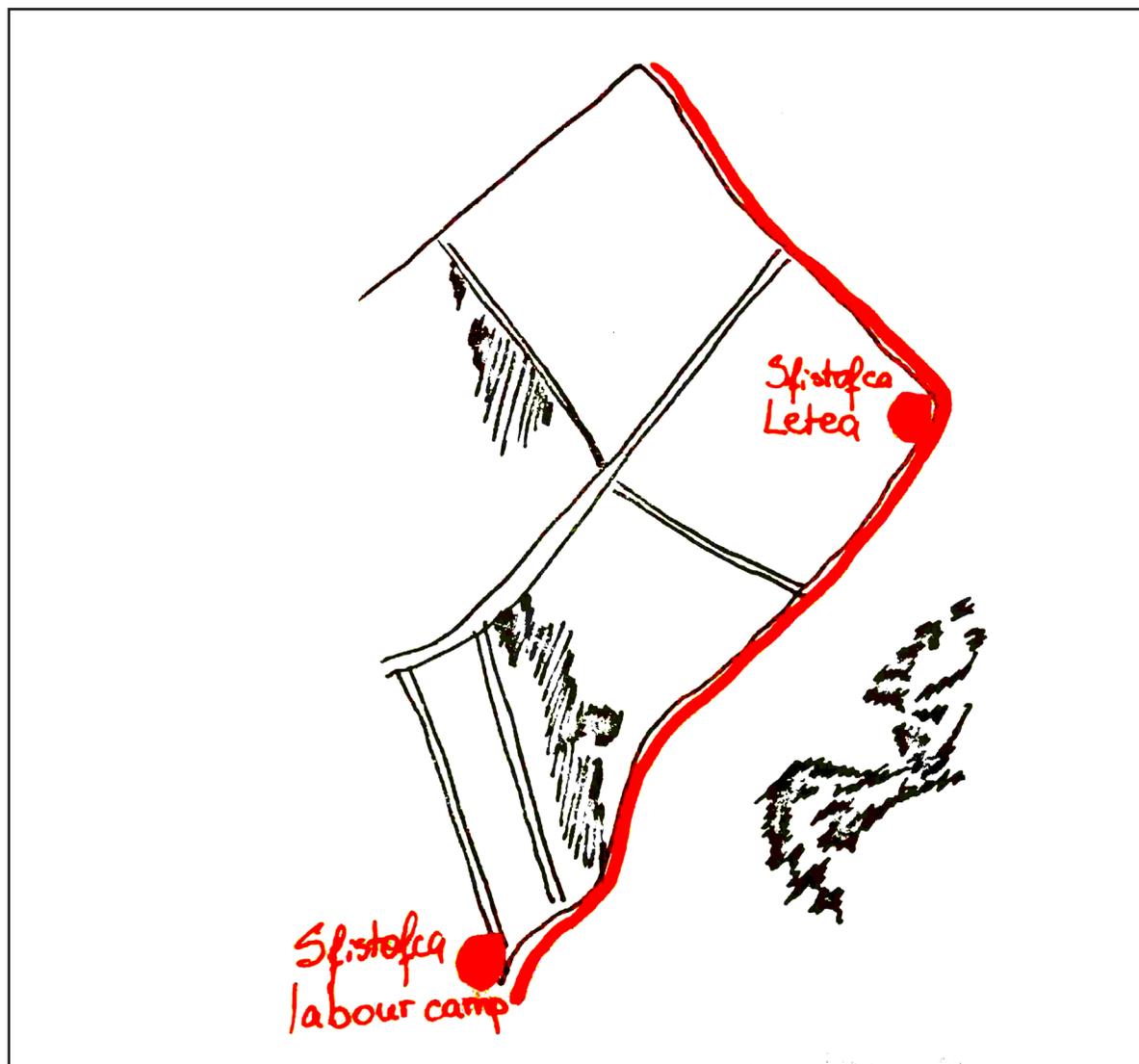


1

2

3

Sfistofca



The path to Sfistofca:

2 important stops on the third sections of the route to Sfistofca

- At the point where the dam takes turn - Connection to other cities and villages in the area and information about the residents, the agricultures, the historical background, the landscape, the infrastructures

- At the end of the memorial walk - Information about the formal Sfistofca labour camp, tightly connected to the Periprava labour camp and others in the area

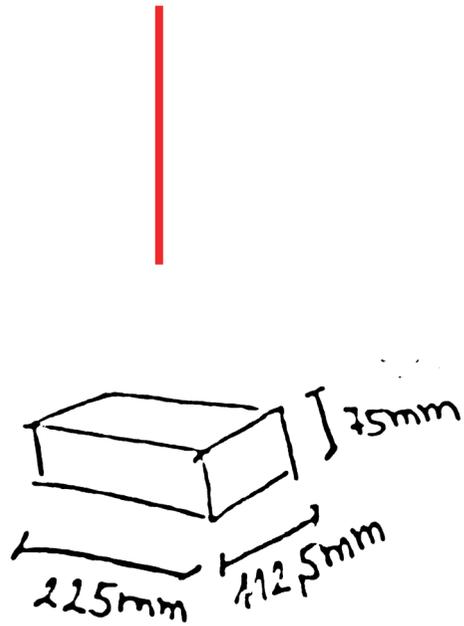
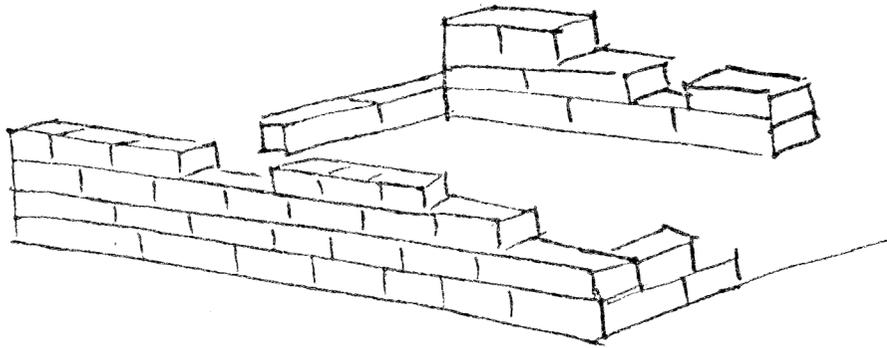


The four aspects of an architectural project:

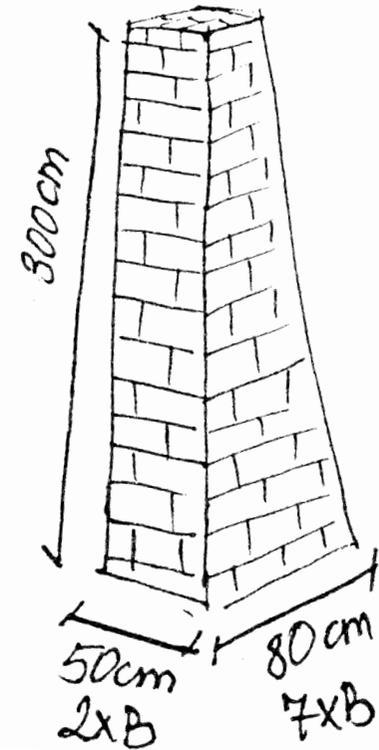
- The place
- The foundations
- The manual labour
- The historical background

- How to take the history out of a private property?
- How to make the history visible?
- How to not only make the work visible but to also create something that respects the effort of the prisoners?
- What to create to represent the connection between the four sides of architecture and to make a point on how they can't be observed separately?
- How important are materials for the project?

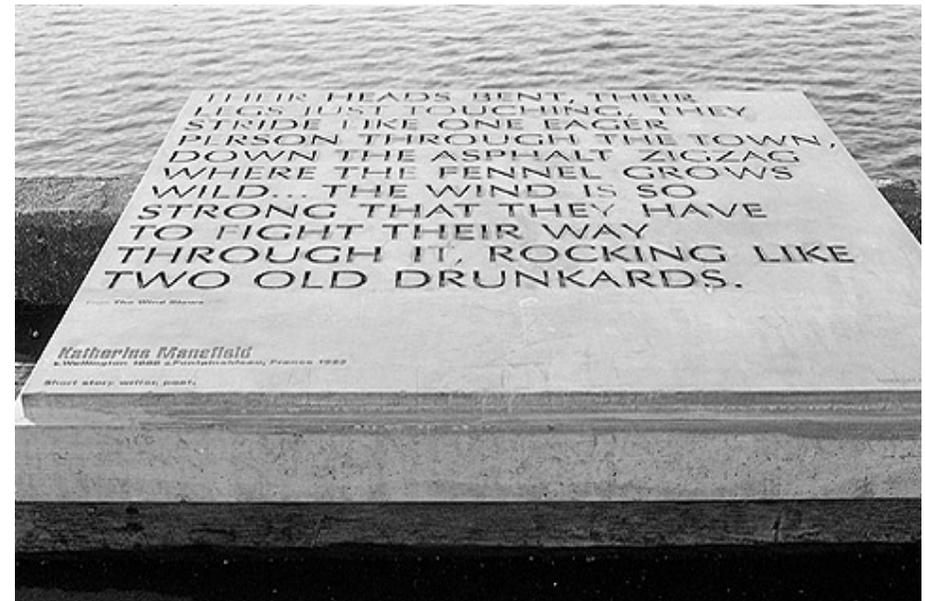
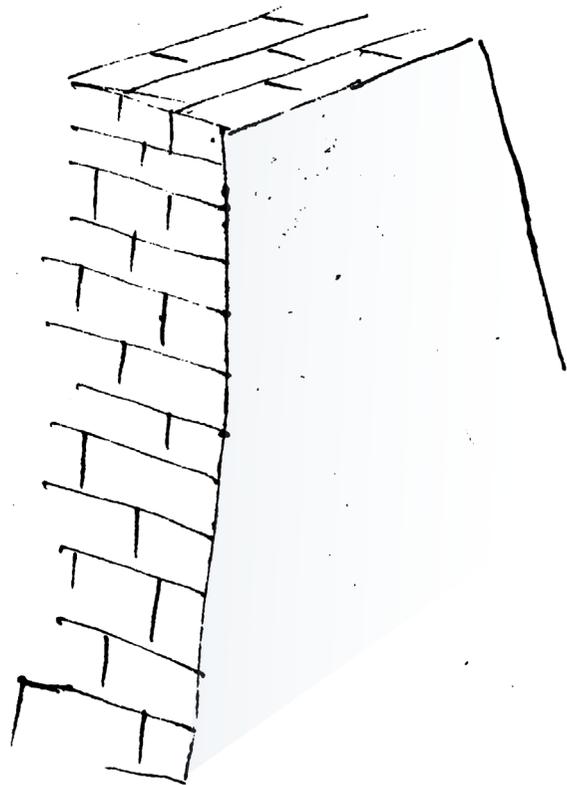
How to take the history out of a private property?

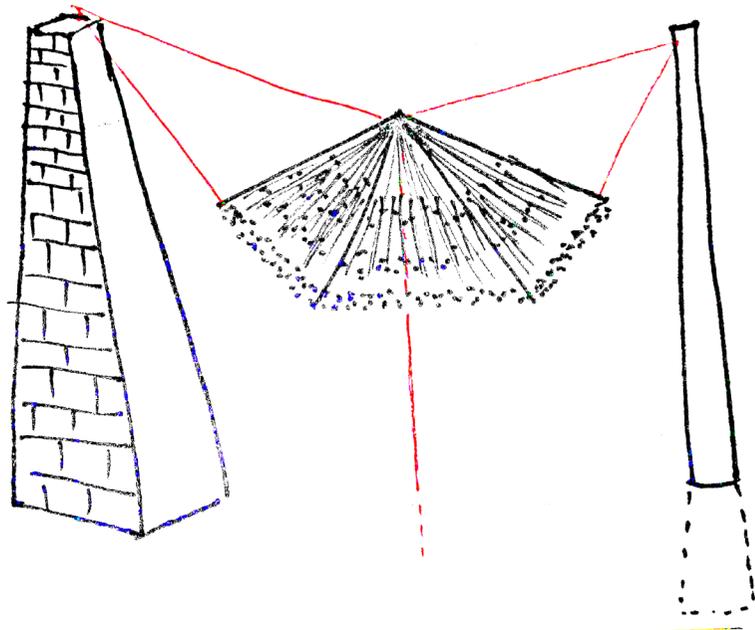


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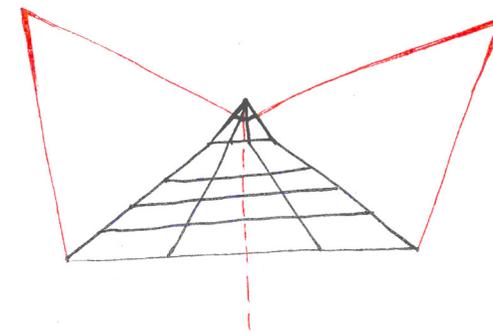
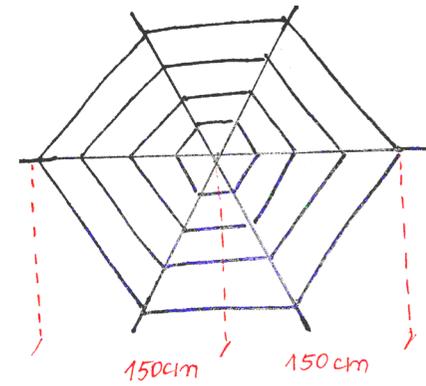
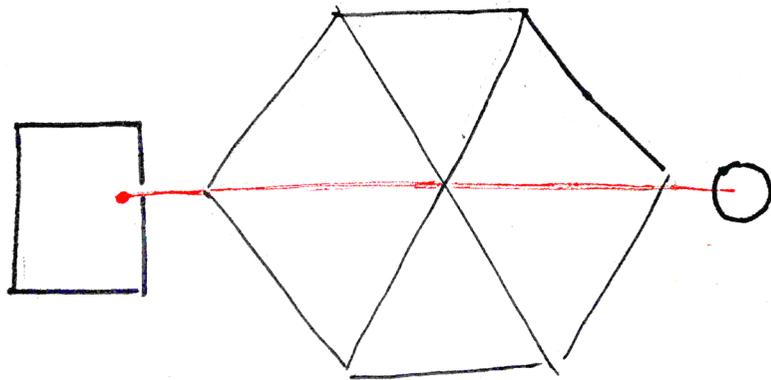


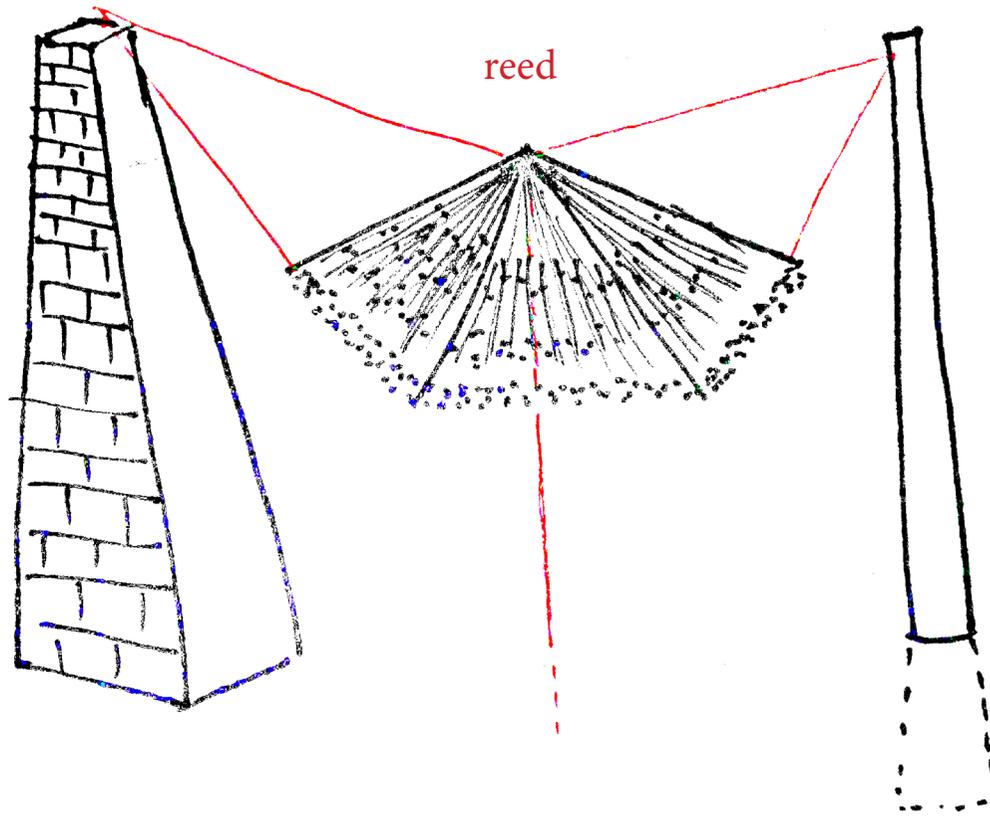
How to make the history visible?





What to create to represent the connection between the four sides of architecture and to make a point on how they can't be observed separately?





bricks + concrete

thin connection between

wood

- foundation
- place
- manual labour
- history

How important are materials for the project?

- Three independent elements of the structure - Three different materials
- A temporary structure with a permanent idea
- If one of the elements would fall off the whole structure wouldn't be useful anymore
- Only the history column is made of materials that can't be easily destroyed by time or bad weather conditions - If the structure falls apart the history will still stand there

