



# SMICHOV PATCHWORK

# SMICHOV IN PRAHA



## SMICHOV

84 212 inhabitants according to CZSO.  
--> about 6,5 % of the population of the whole city.

Part of Praha fifth district ( 27 km<sup>2</sup>).

## Smichov patchwork

Smichov is a multi-functionnal borough which knew different phases. The most important thing we wanted to deal with is the possibility we are offered to notice these various periods judging from some clues we can meet when we walk in the borough. We can't avoid the Staropramen brewery or Zlaty Andel crossroad and especially the contrast there exists between the synagogue and the Novy Smichov shopping mall.

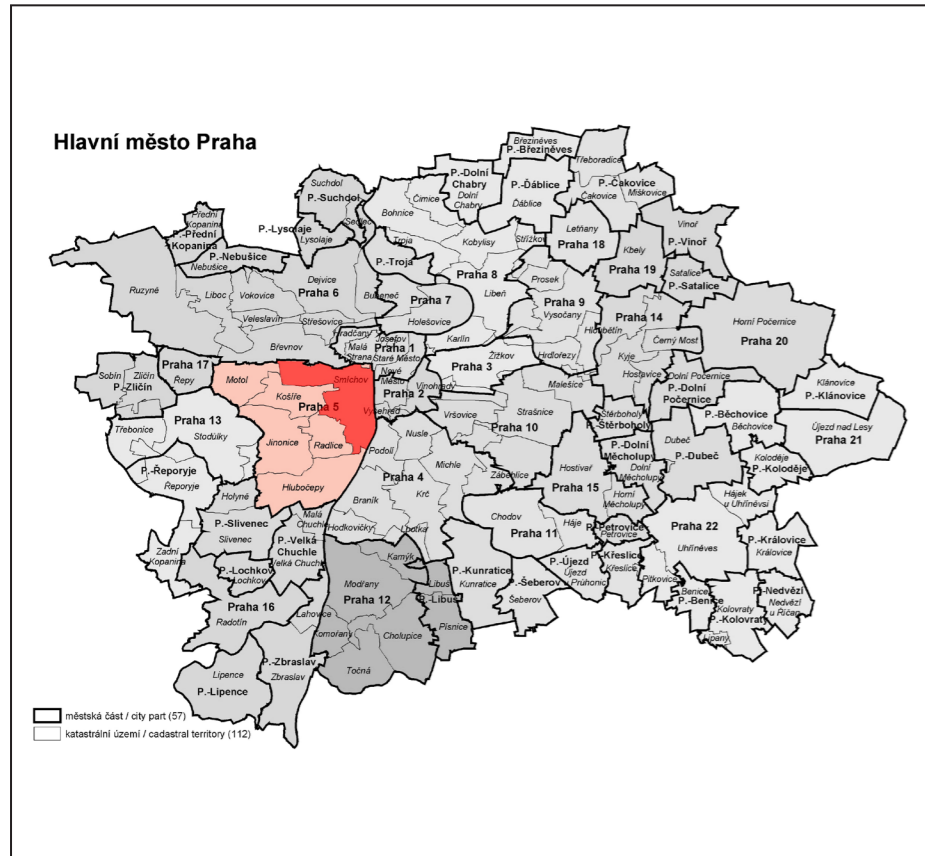
This is the reason why we decided to develop our analysis through case studies whose the aim is to highlight the patchwork aspect which characterizes the borough and the atmosphere split between the northern part and the southern one.

> # CASE STUDY 1 # [Staropramen Brewery](#)

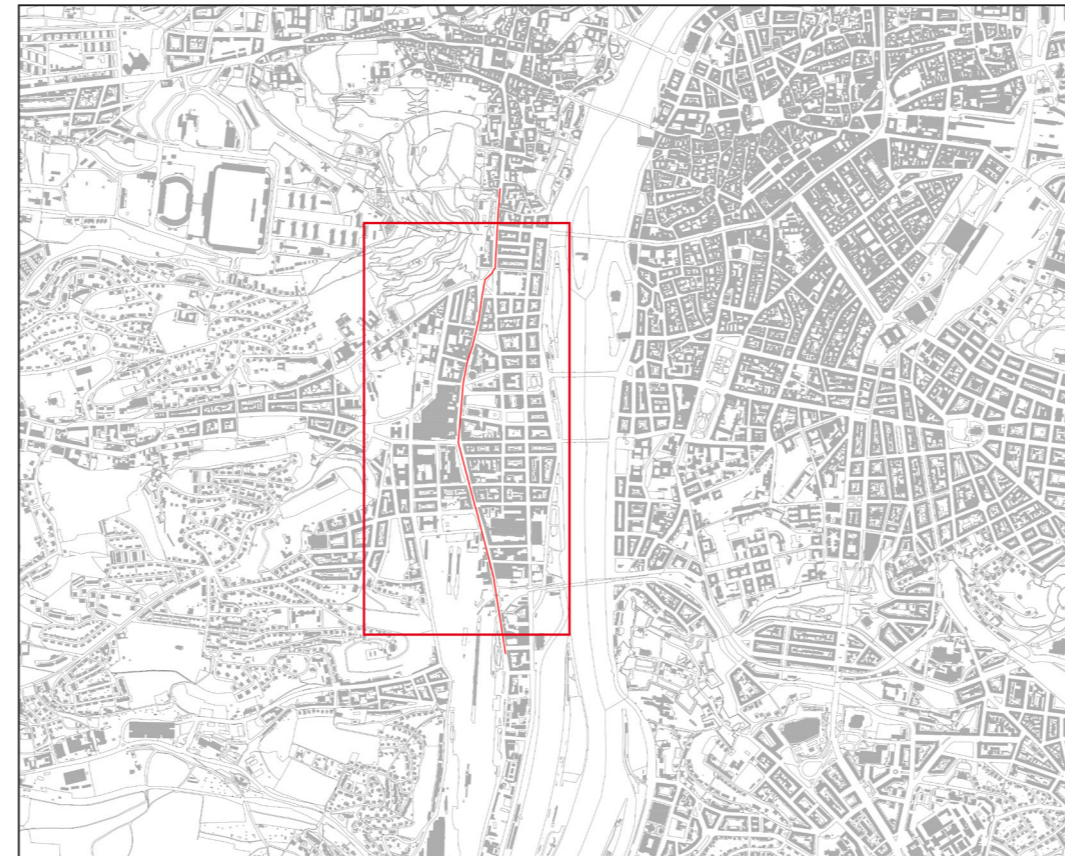
> # CASE STUDY 2 # [Crossing point Zlaty Andel](#)

> CONCLUSION : One place, two atmospheres

# WHICH LIMITS FOR SMICHOV ?



Smichov in the fifth district of Praha \_ from Czech Statistical Office website \_ 2012



Limits we chose : the stripe



Cloud of Czech comments

According to the CZSO, Smichov is an administrative part of the fifth district of Prague. It seems to be well connected to the city centre (Praha 1 and 2) as it has a common border with Mala Strana and with the old city centre through many bridges.

Smichov, independant city from the the beginning of the twentieth century, became a part of the city of Prague in 1923 when occurred the Great extension of the city. Nowadays, Smichov can be seen as an example of a revitalization of former industrial suburbs from the nineteenth century, as Karlin or Holesovice. It was eagerly dynamised and especially by projects made by famous international architects as Jean Nouvel, in 1991.

Judging from our own vision of the site, Smichov appears to be bordered by the river and the hills, as Petrin hill. This narrow urbanized stripe which is developed on a dilated space contained between natural elements goes from Mala Strana to the southern train station Smichov Nadrazi.

Michal, Anet, Simon, Bara, Jakub, Martin, Jindra, Vojtech, Karolina, Kristina, Zuzka are Czech students. They live in Prague since they were born or since they started to study at the Faculty. Even they have different life, they have approximately the same idea about Smichov when we ask them what is the first thing which comes into their mind when we say «Smichov». Most of them think about the Novy Smichov shopping center and especially girls, reachable by metro. The second important idea is the former industrial borough composed with the Staropramen Brewery. People also know Smichov as a meeting point known for efficient connections with the city centre. Then, some of them speak about parks as the Sacre Coeur, especially Jindra who lives in Smichov.

# OUR LIMITS FOR SMICHOV

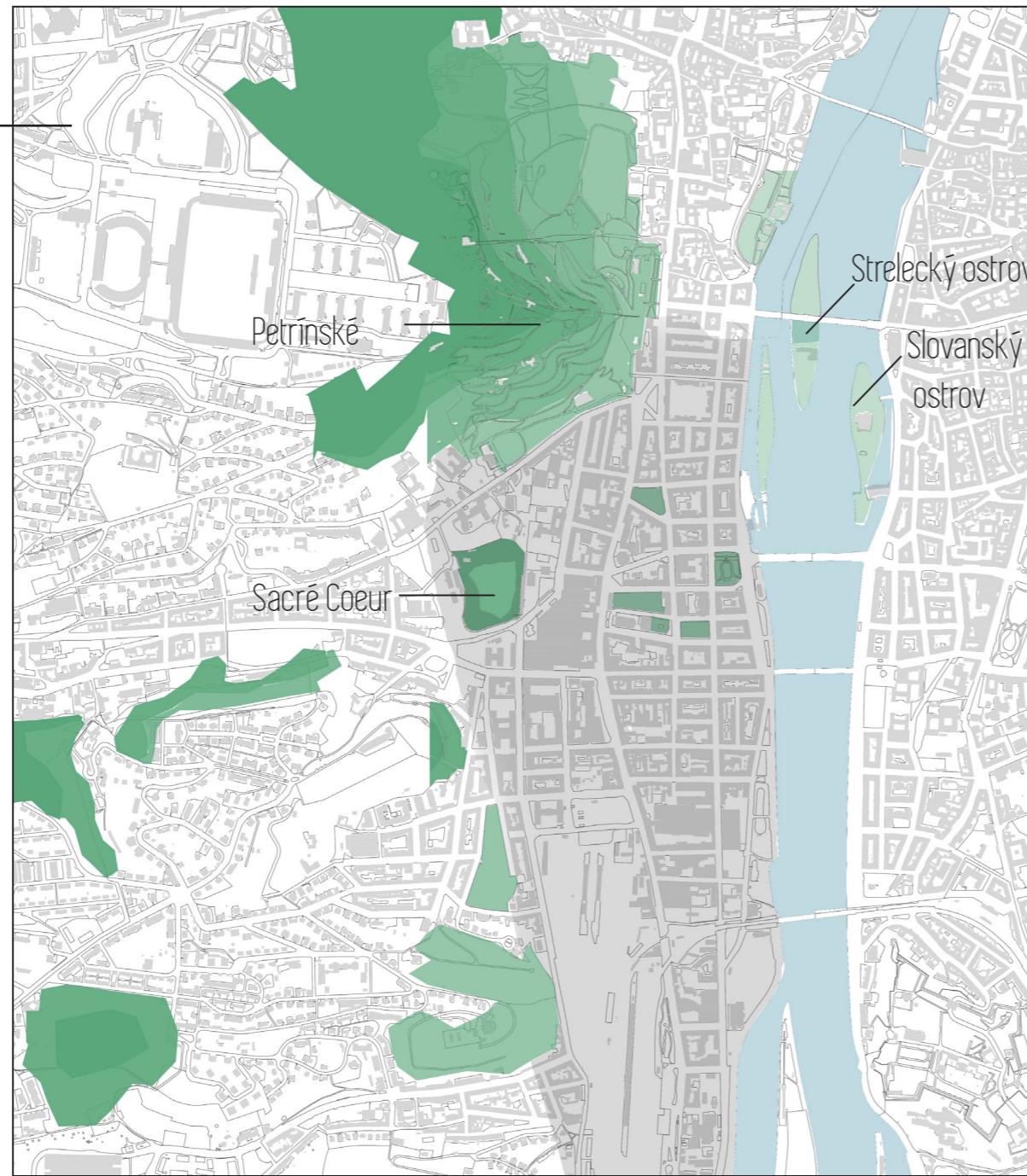
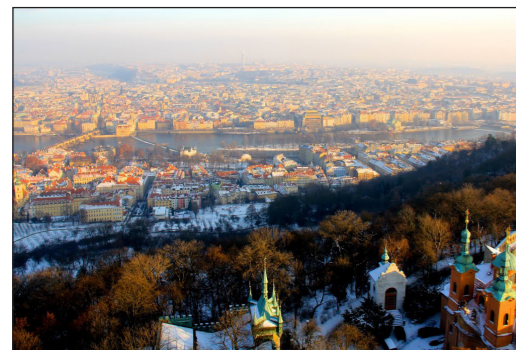
WEST / EAST



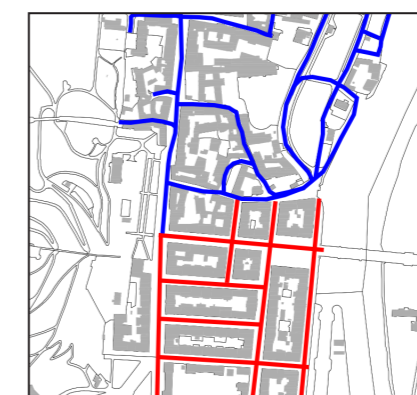
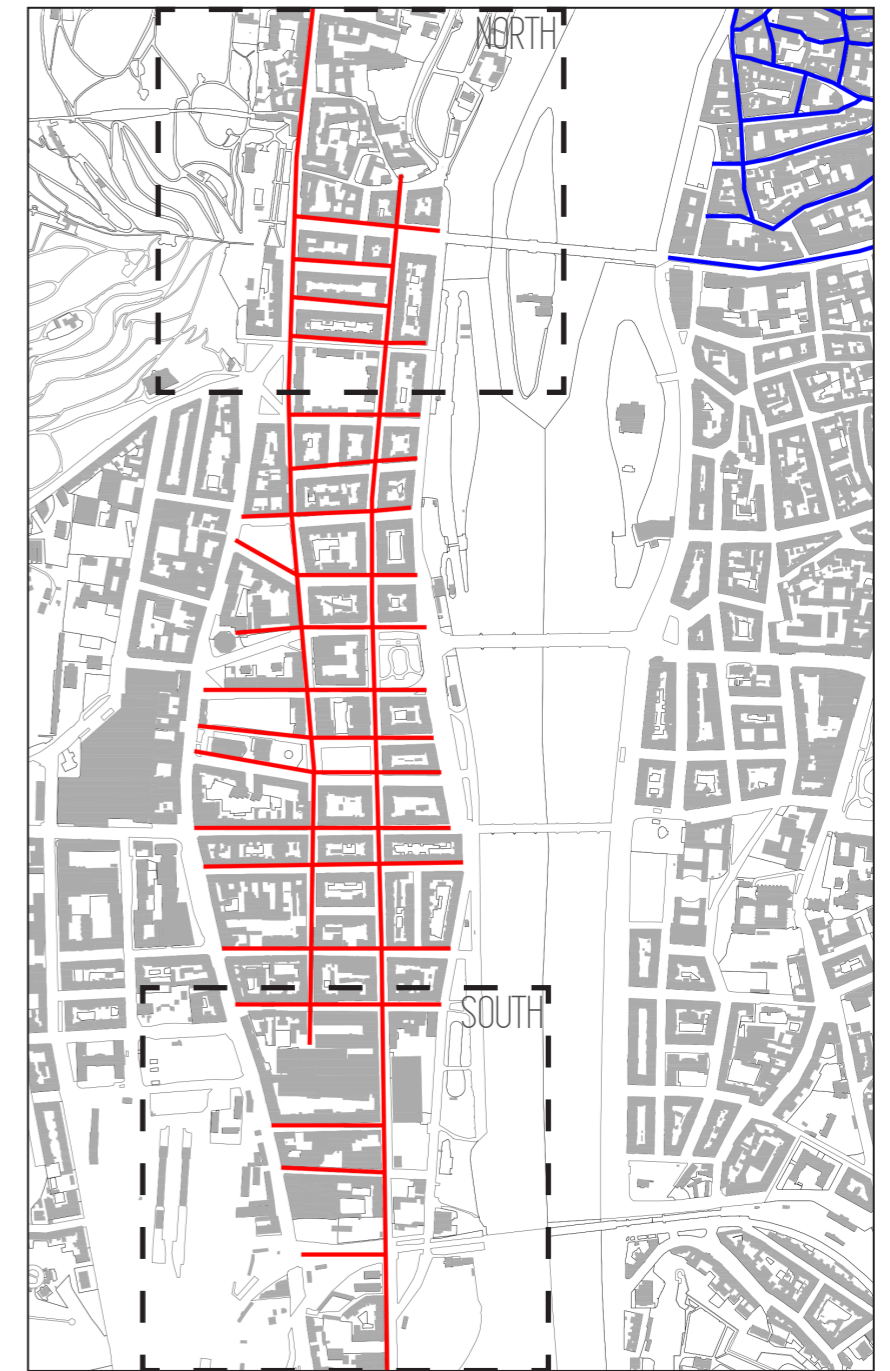
Detsky Ostrov



Petrin Hill



Parks in Smichov \_ 2014



NORTH



SOUTH

Smichov is a borough defined by natural elements such as hills and the river. More than borders, these elements also provide a good way of life because natural spaces are quickly reachable from the city. Indeed, many parks such as Petrin Hill or Sacre Coeur Park let to have a break in such an animated and connected place. Moreover, we can clearly notice how the network changes in this borough compared to Mala Strana one. Indeed, the regular and orthogonal network contrasts with the organic and tight streets' system. In the south, limits seem to be easily definable for two reasons : the train station creates a kind of borough ending and the fact there exists a stronger narrowing between the hill and the river.

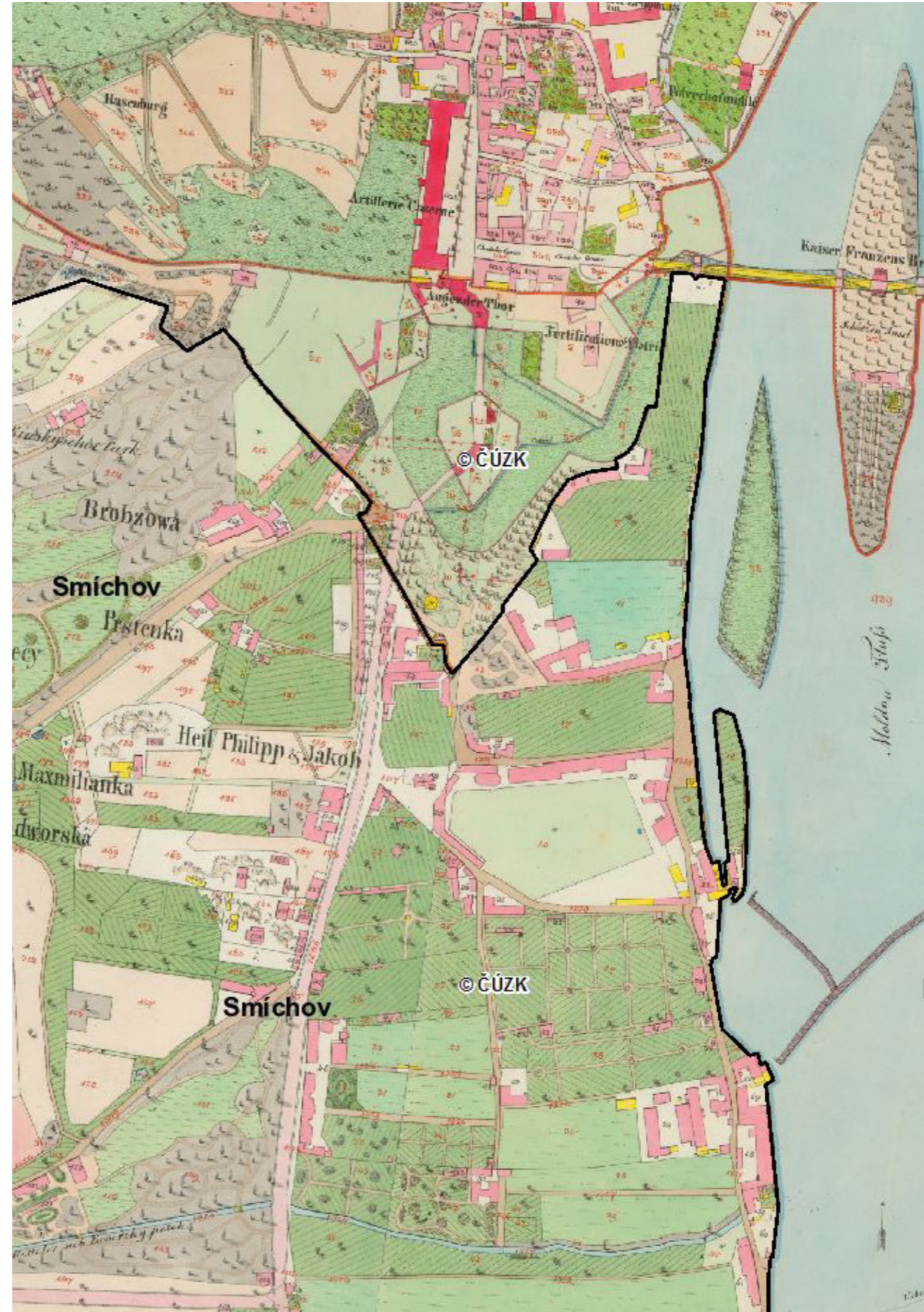
# THE FORMER MAIN STREET



1769

Smichov was a place used for the King Wenceslas coronation which took place in a palace. There was Carthusian monastery which was destroyed by Hussits but it's still the name of the street : Kartouzka ulice.

In the Middle Age, the land is covered by vineyards, hop fields, farms and fields which belong to the Church. There also existed water-mills on the Vltava. At the end of the XVIth century, Bourgeois wanted to build their summer residence. This landscape started to change during the XVIII th century, when factories appeared.

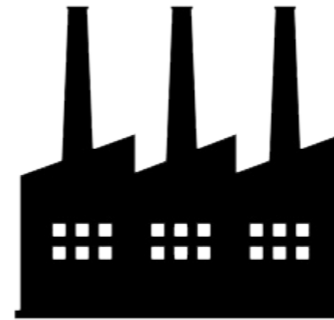


1842

# FUNCTIONNAL EVOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH



Middle of 13th



Middle of 18th - 19th



1990's

1862  
railway from  
West Bohemia

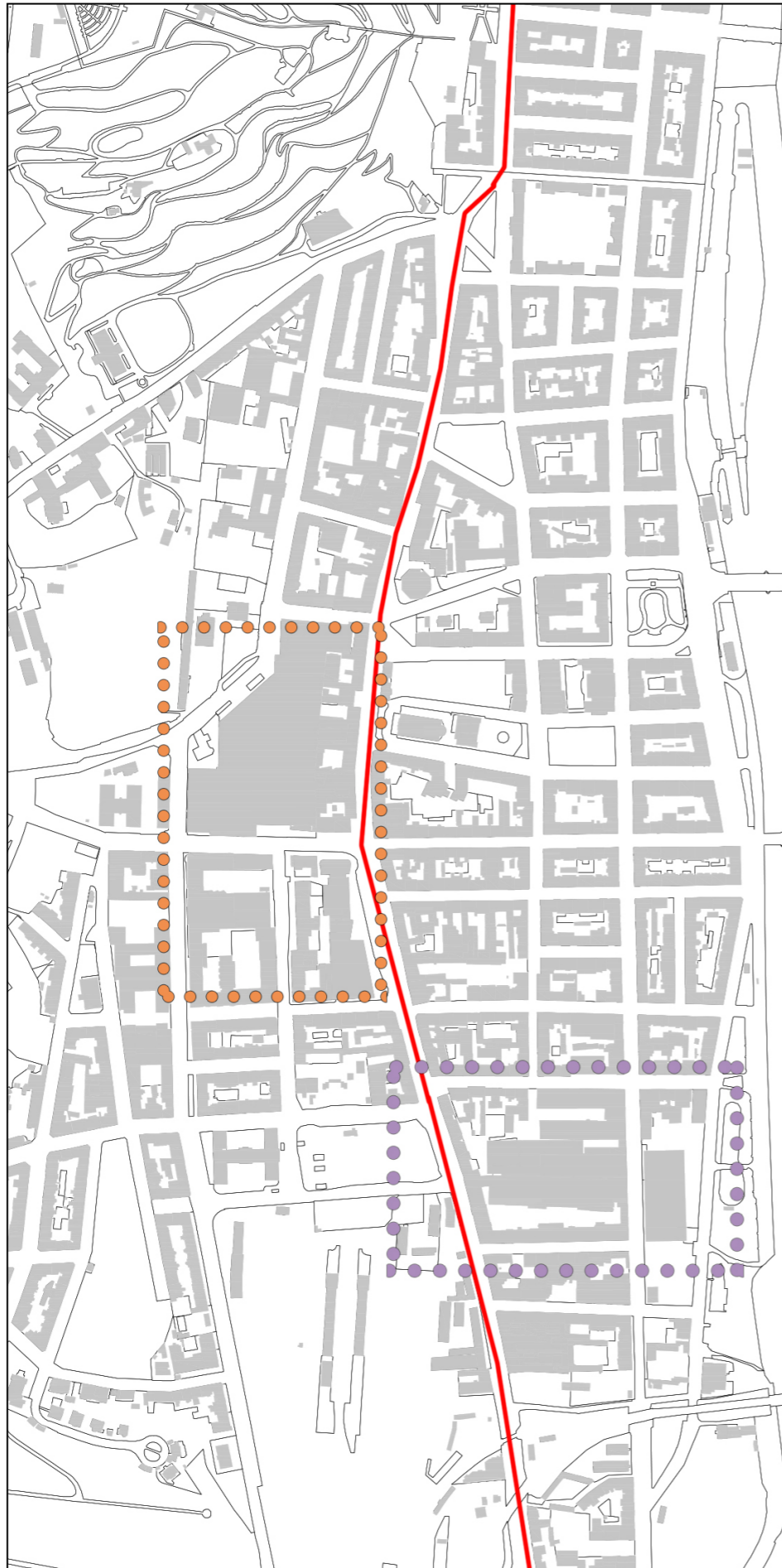
1979-83  
subway yellow  
line



Southern Smichov Nadrazi \_ XIXth century



Construction of the Andel metro station - 1980's

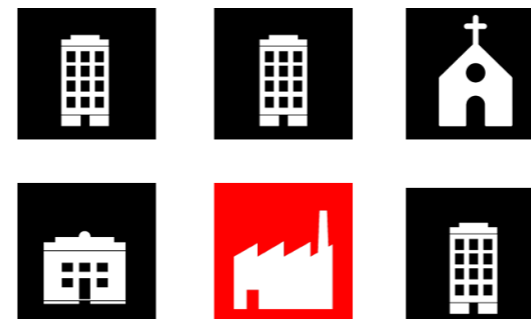


## TWO WAYS TO BUILD SMICHOV

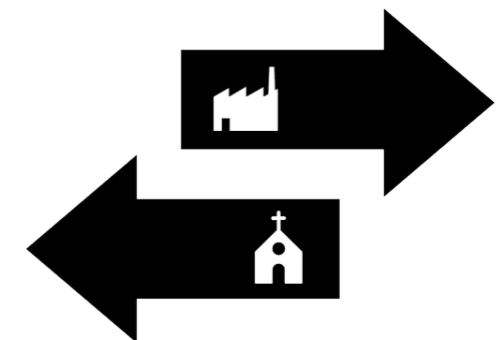
Smichov is a multi-functional borough which knew various phases of activities. These different periods had been split by important events linked with infrastructure improvement. So, railway and then, metro line constitute a watershed in the history of the borough. Nowadays, We can notice two main process of transformation that we decided to call: juxtaposition and substitution.

We will deal with two case studies. If the first one expresses juxtaposition process cause it's still some elements from the past as the brewery (as the second one with the synagogue), the second case study clearly shows substitution process because Zlady Andel cross road or Tatra Block were completely transformed.

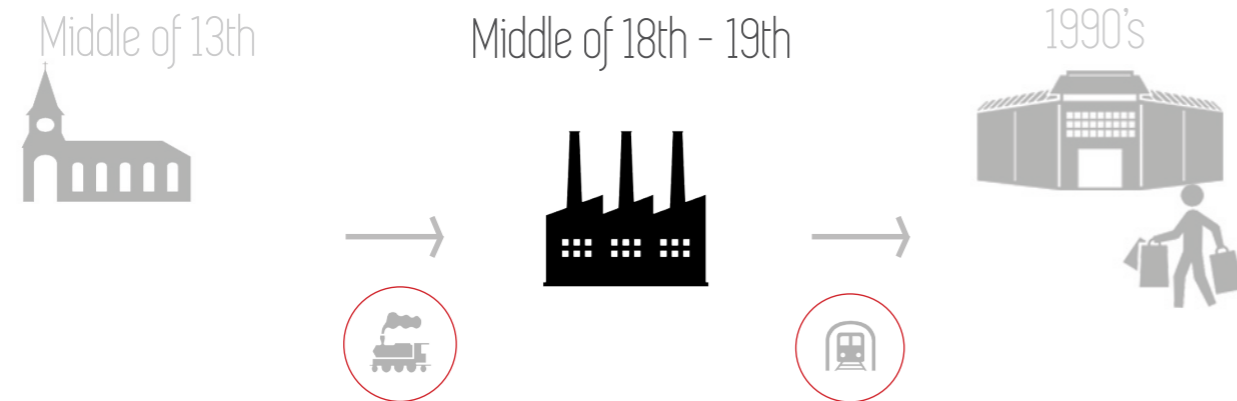
### JUXTAPOSITION



### SUBSTITUTION



# # CASE STUDY 1 # Staropramen Brewery



In the middle of 18th - 19th manufactures and particularly breweries took place in the smichov borough. Staropramen, which is today the biggest brewery in Praha, born during this period. In the same time the development of Smichov involves, and the manufacture was quickly surrounded by lot of housing. Despite of the other manufacture which was in the borough the staropramen manufacture never moove outside of the city.

Smichov, "the city of 100 chimneys"

> Staropramen brewery since 1869

> Ceskomoravská Kolben-Dank factory (moved to Zlicin)

> Ringhoffer factory (railway carriage)

+ Chemical factories, sugar factory, spinning mill factory ...



porcelain factory - 1870



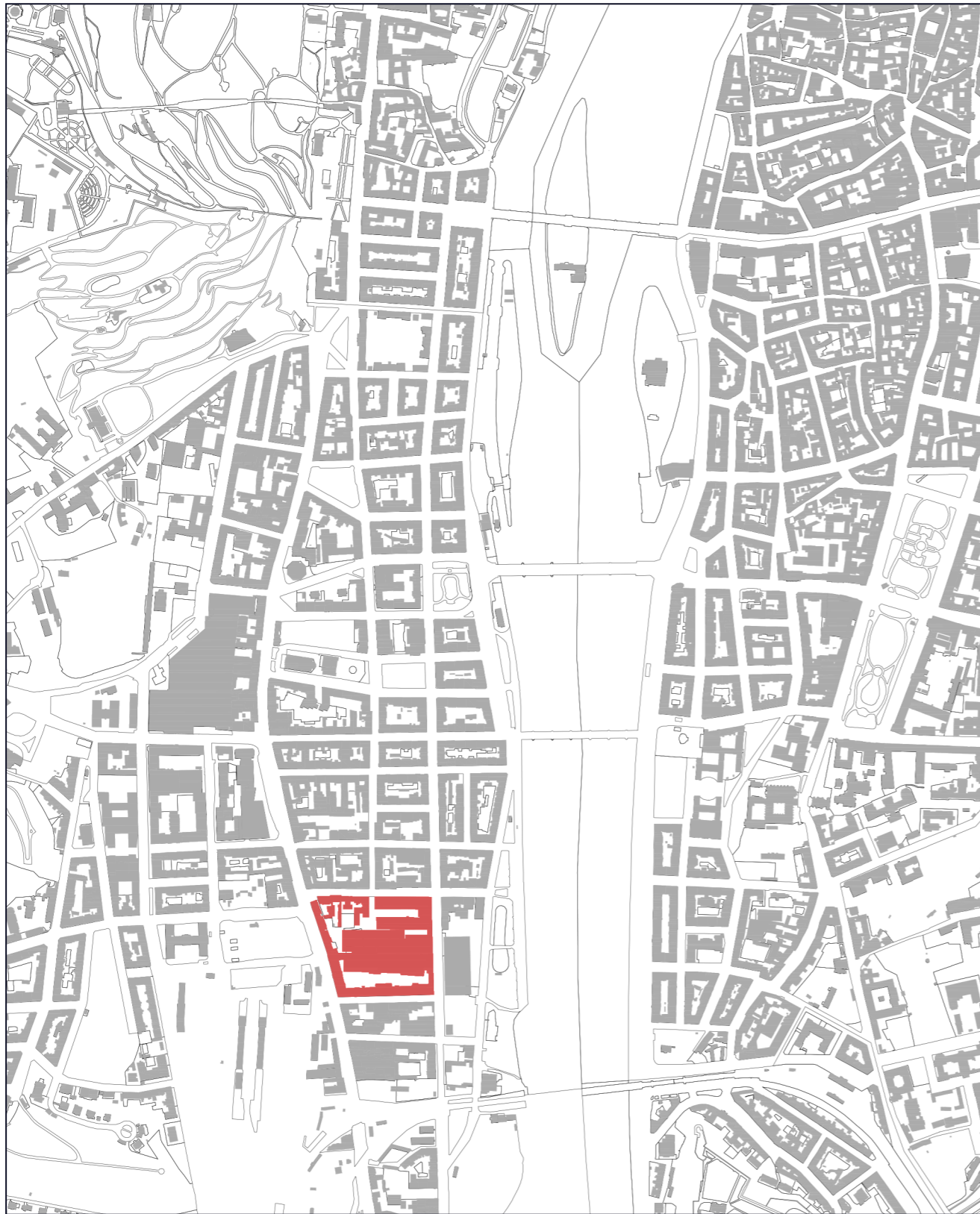
Ringhoffer factory - 1914



Staropramen brewery - 1869







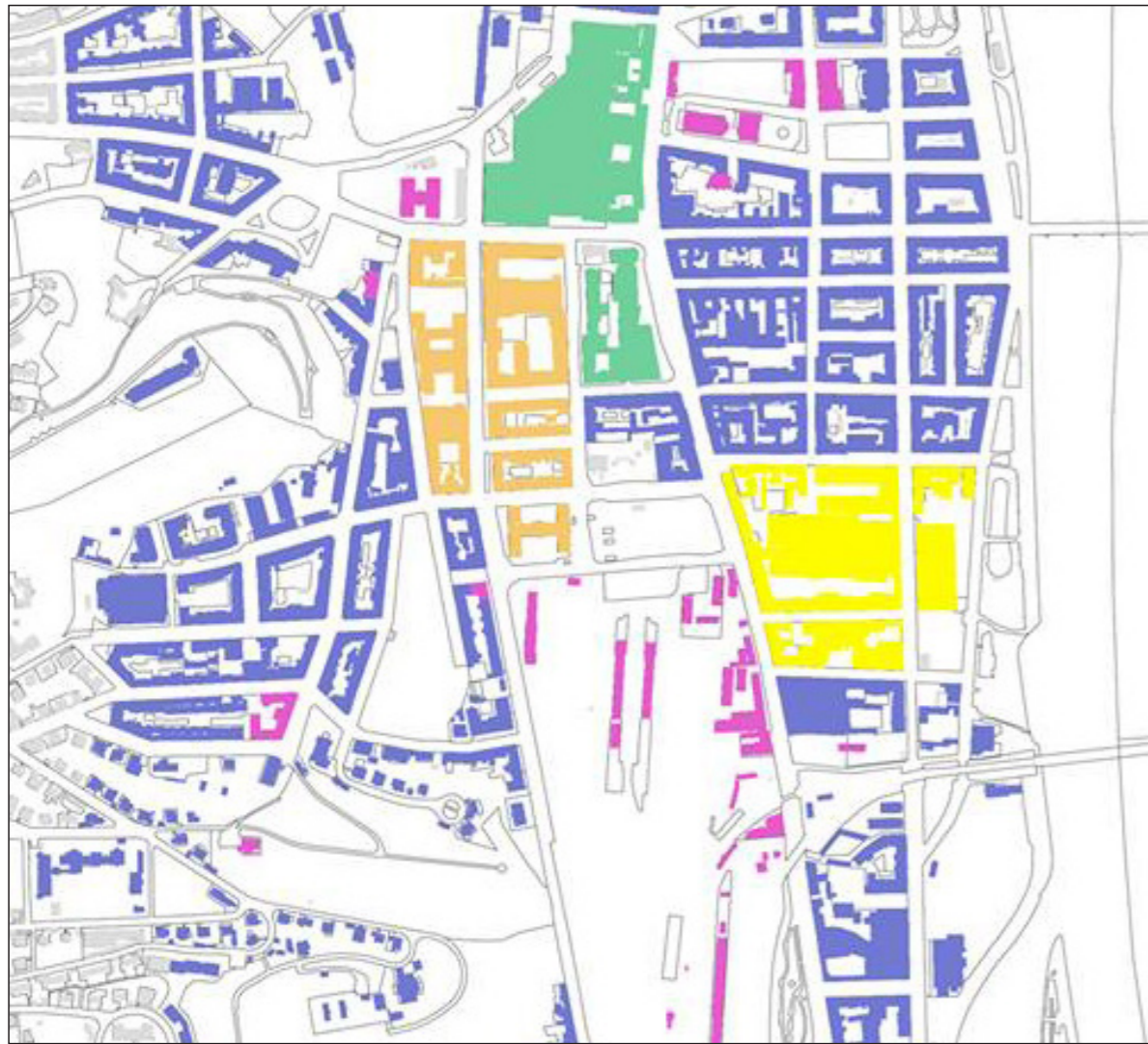
The Staropramen Brewery was built in 1869. After the First World War, in the 1930's all breweries grew and settled in the borough of Smichov during the industrial revolution. Since this expansion, Staropramen became the largest brewery in Prague and in Czechoslovakia, but especially became the symbol of Smichov.



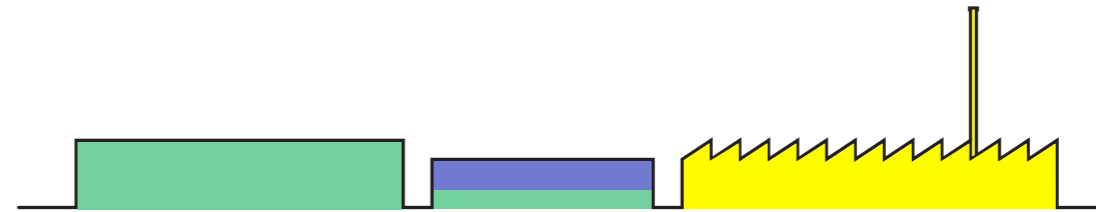
In 1938, the brewery block is located near the Vltava, among housing buildings and other manufactures which disappeared to be replaced by shops and offices.



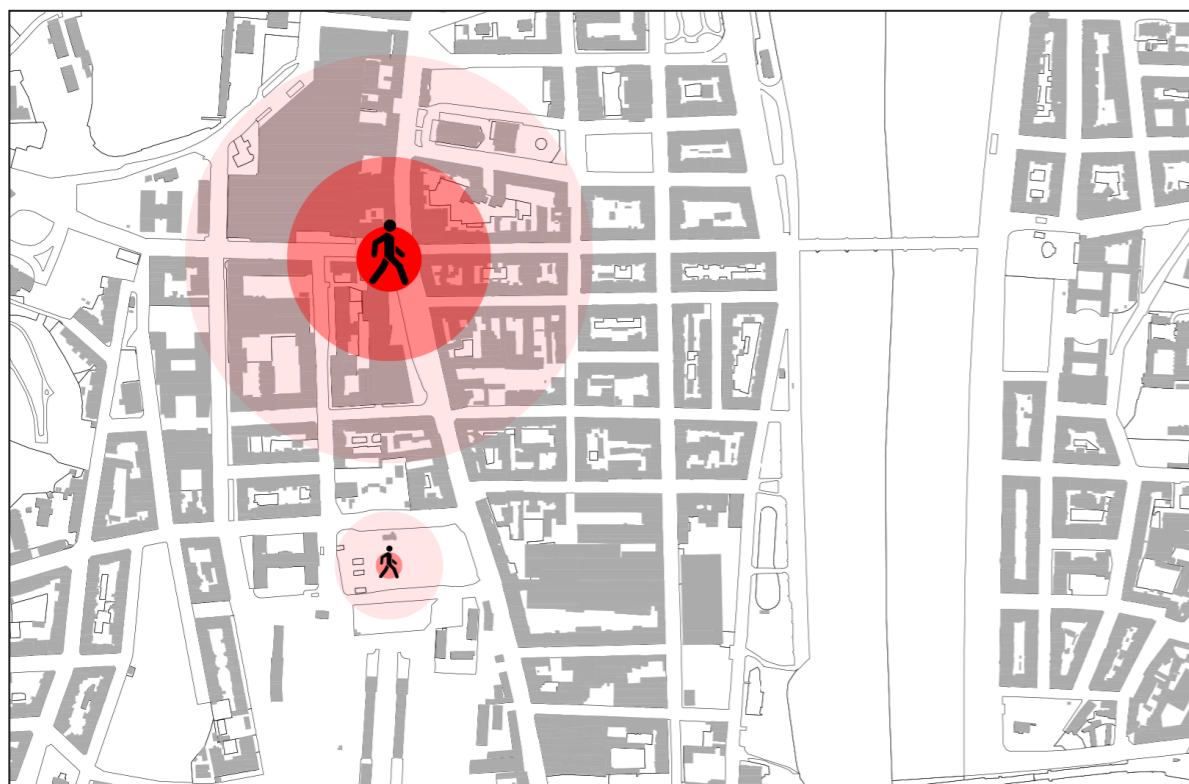
At the beginning of the twenty first century, the brewery needs more place and another part of the factory was built on the other block.



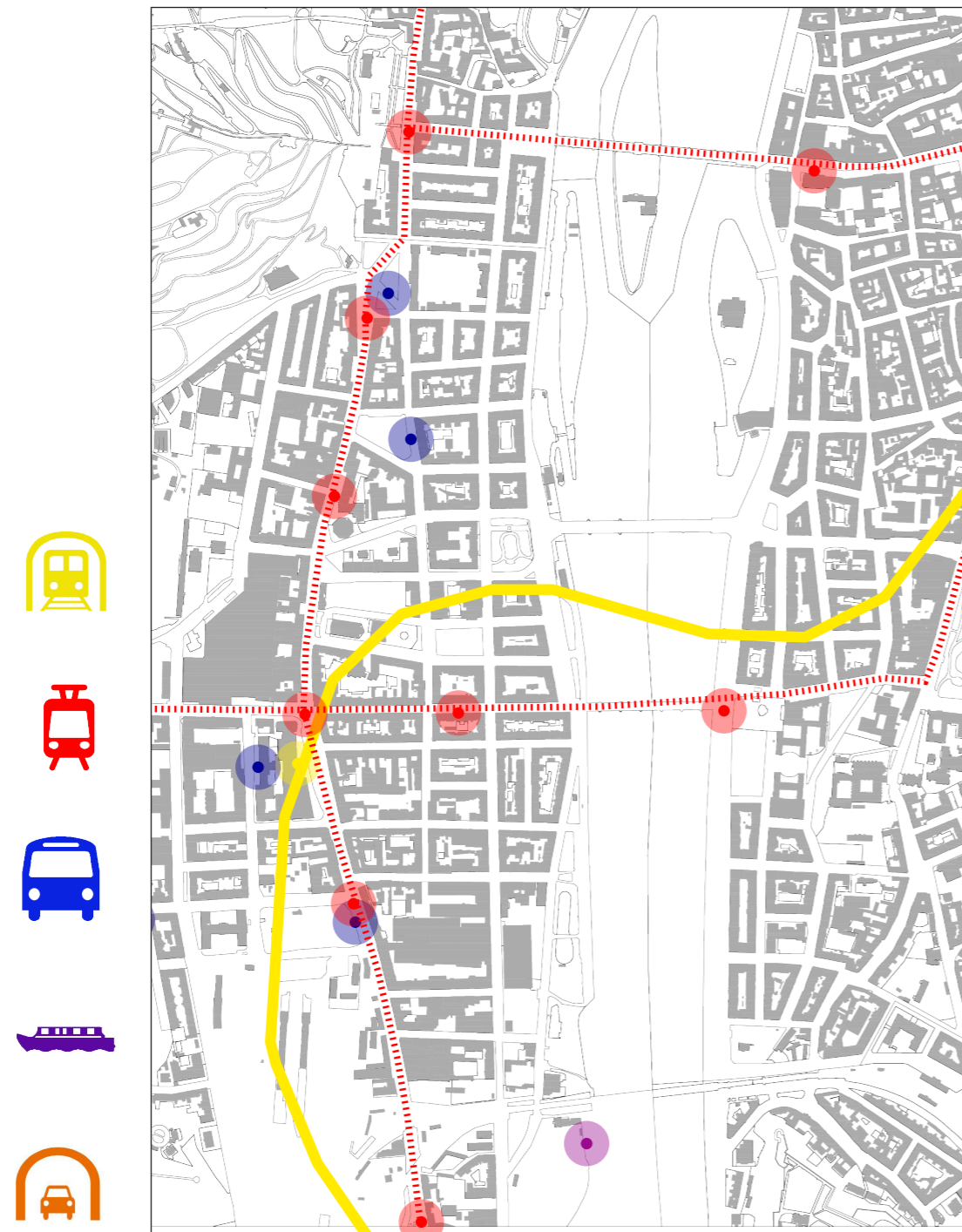
- factories
- residential buildings
- shops
- offices
- public buildings (schools, administrative, churches ...)



As we could see in the following documents, the pedestrian has more space and feel more free in the area where the shopping center is located whereas, close to the staropramen, the pedestrian doesn't feel comfortable.

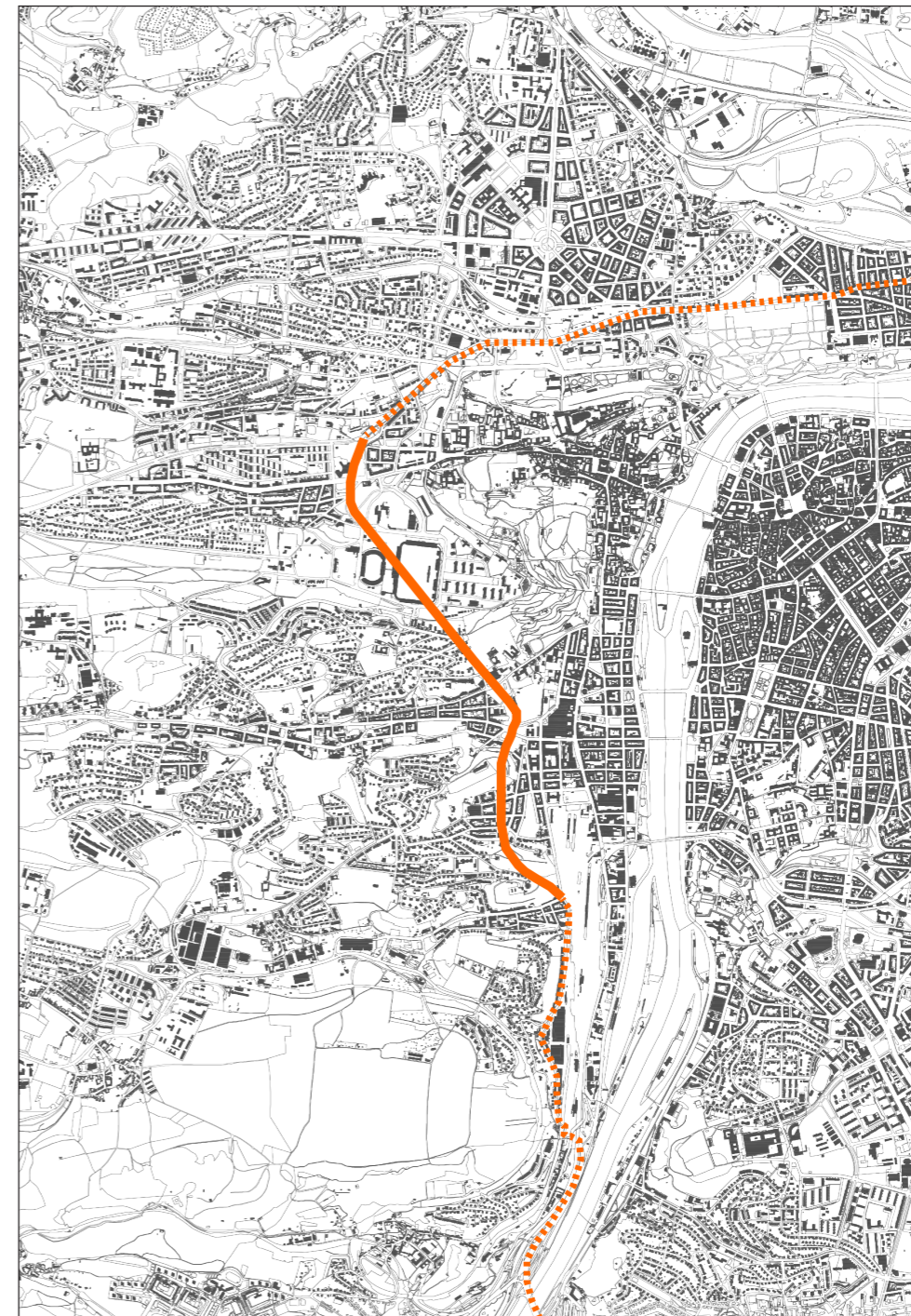


## VARIOUS INFRASTRUCTURES PROVIDING ACCESSIBILITY AND MANY LINKS WITH THE CITY CENTRE



Zlatý Anděl in Smichov is an important core in the city of Prague because many different types of public transports come from this location. This place which constitutes a hub is also well-connected to the outskirts of Prague. Smichov can be seen as a door.

>>> Connection between 9 tram lines and 1 subway line which crosses the city from the west to the north-east.



The tunnel was finished in the mid-90's. It was a huge and expensive construction work which prevents from destroying many buildings in Smichov and to split the borough. Indeed, at the beginning, Local Authorities wanted to create a wide road through Smichov in order to achieve the big loop project to escape the center town by the west side (the east had already one). This is the reason why many buildings were deserted and why, nowadays, there are so many closed down places.

# # CASE STUDY 2 # CROSSING POINT ZLATY ANDEL

Middle of 13th



Middle of 18th - 19th



1990's



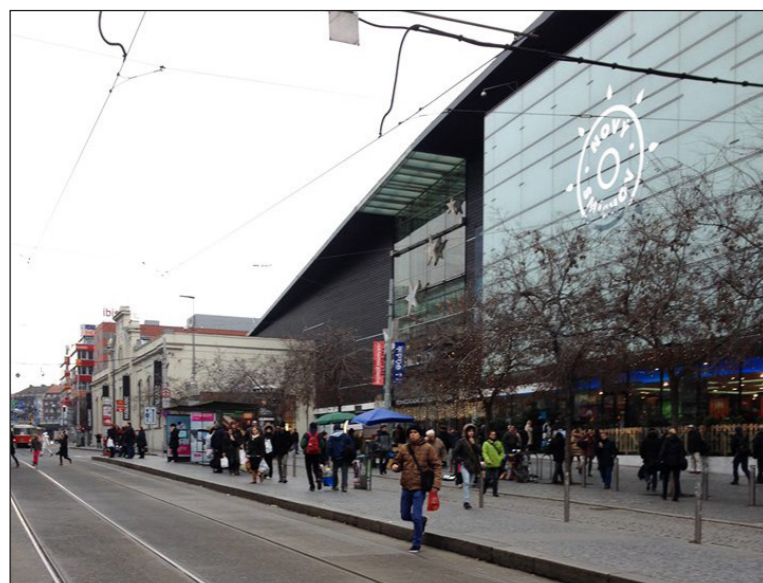
2



Synagoga in Smichov \_ 2014



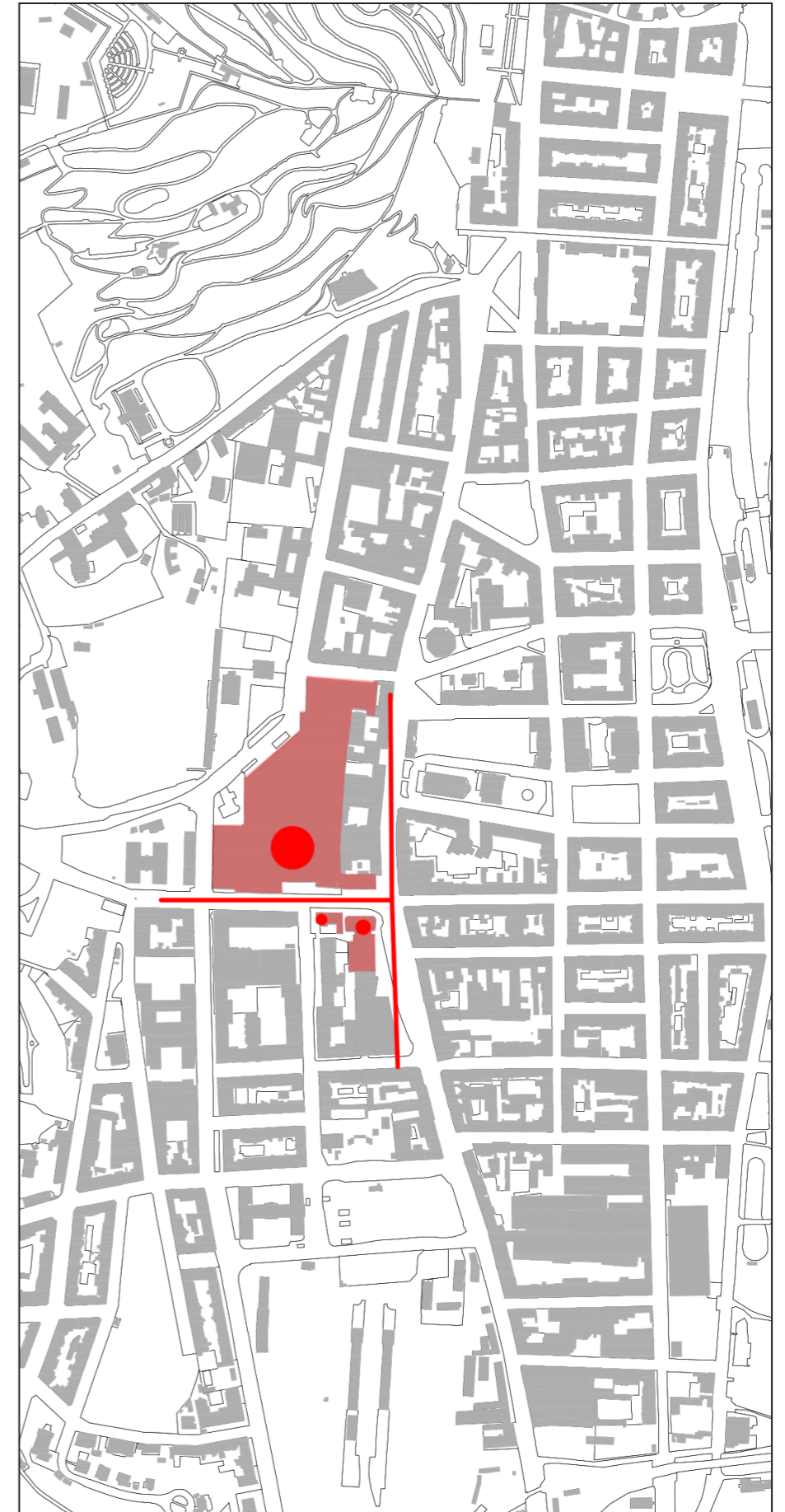
Zlaty AnDEL \_ 2014



Novy Smichov \_ 2014

3

Zlaty AnDEL cross road is recognizable for the buildings which composed it. The synagogue building, the office building made by Jean Nouvel or the shopping mall are all paramount but it deals with different informations and have not the same use. Indeed, the synagogue is more useful because she didn't really change too much and its statut quo lets us to understand what kind of evolutions happened .



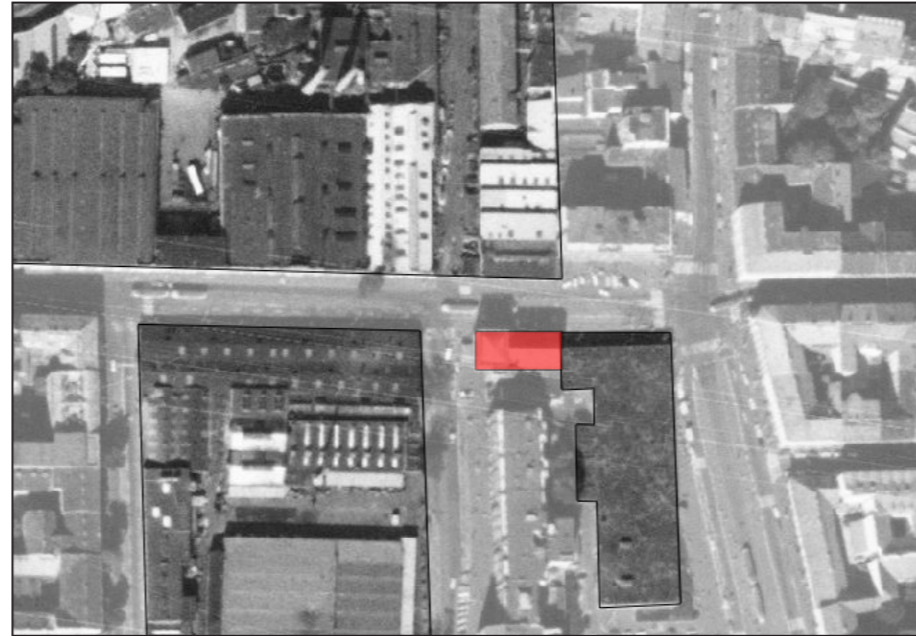
2014

INTEREST POINT IN THE CROSSING POINT

## 1 > Smichov synagogue, clue of juxtaposition process



1930



1986



2002



> 1850: The first synagogue was built and unfinished, so the jewish community built a new one with neo mauresque style indoor and neo romane outdoor.

> 1930 : The synagogue was transformed once again with the architect Léopold Ehrmann in a puriste style. It became the new modern synagogue in Prague.

> 1986 : After the second world war, the jewish community abandoned the synagogue. It was completely destroyed during the occupation so they wanted to demolished it.

> 2002 : The synagogue was saved and was gave back to the jewish community. Then, it was reconstructed as the same as the second period of its reconstruction.

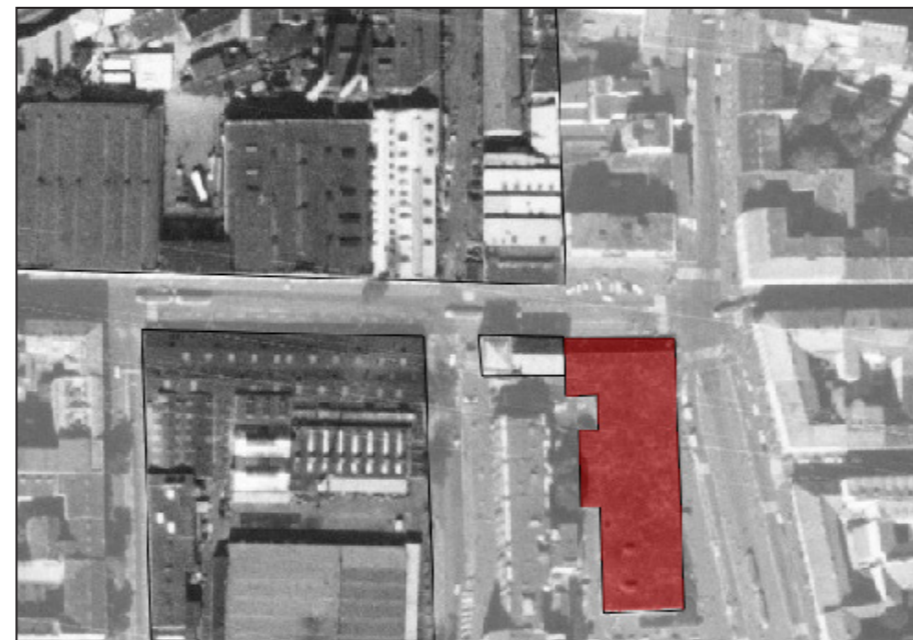


1930

## 2 > Zlaty andel, substitution for recognizable place



1930



1986



2002



Prague crossroad : Andel (The Angel) is named after the house U Zlatého anda (Golden Angel's) from the 19th century, which had the legendary statue in a wall niche above the main entrance. This house was pulled down in 1980, during the construction of Moskevská metro station and gave its place to the project of Zlaty Andel designed by Jean Nouvel since 1991.

The building was created to improve the marker feature of the place. The angular part was designed as a ship bow which gives us an impression of movement due to the sliding floors Jean Nouvel made.

### 3 > Novy smichov, example of substitution process



Usine Tatra



1953



Novy Smichov



2012

Twenty years ago, Smichov was a borough with a strong industrial identity. Tatra factory and workers housing were an important part of the borough. In the middle of the 90's the factory moved to found much more space, farer from the city center : Zlicin.

The industrial equipment was destroyed to built a new project. The initial project was to built housing but the local authorities finaly prefer commercial center more profitable.

# ONE LOCATION, TWO ATMOSPHERES

Residential network

Big mall

Shops

Dynamic

Landmark



Factory

Continuous traffic

few people

no unit

sad



## AREA A



## INFRASTRUCTURE

## AREA B



## IDENTITY



Smichov appeared for us as a dual site. Indeed, the atmosphere changes if you are in Zlatý Anděl, in the area of the Staropramen brewery or near the Smichov train station. The south of the site is strongly filled of the industrial identity where Humans are not really welcome. This is obvious public spaces are not designed for the pedestrians and massive infrastructures as railway, wide roads increase this problem.

AREA A



PUBLIC SPACE

AREA B



PLACE OF PEDRESTRIAN

