





Research in the communities – mapping potential cultural heritage sites with potential for adaptive re-use – Prijedor (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Prijedor is traditionally an industrial environment, which based its economic development on the exploitation of natural resources of iron ore, gypsum, limestone, clay, quartz sand and wood. A significant mineral-raw material complex, wood mass reserves, as well as fertile land, enabled the development of mining, agriculture, wood and metal industry. Due to the wealth of raw materials on which the metal processing activity (iron ore, etc.) rests, the city of Prijedor is one of the richest regions in the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The economy of the city of Prijedor in past period was based on the development of industrial capacities of the basic industry. The carriers of economic development in the municipality were large business systems in the field of iron ore production and production of cellulose and paper.

In past 30 years, the structure of companies in the city of Prijedor has undergone significant changes due to various factors, starting with ownership transformations, legal changes, restructuring of economic potentials, the introduction of the market concept of business instead of the contract economy and the like.

We identified 10 industrial and military objects in the urban territory of the city of Prijedor, that in part years no longer operate and have lost their previous function and purpose:

- 1. GIK Mrakovica former Prijedor giant in high-rise construction, had their own plant for the production of cement. They employed a large number of workers, who worked and built throughout the former Yugoslavia.
- 2. Žitopromet Prijedor A company that used to be a starting point for farmers to buy grain. It consisted of silos, a mill and its own bakery. They were distinguished by good quality and a safe market for farmers. During the privatization process, this company was closed and only certain parts of it were privatized.
- 3. Kožara Prijedor a factory that was the only one in Prijedor engaged in leather processing. They bought animal skin and processed it into a semi-finished product, which later ended up in the textile industry. It is currently not in operation and is not in the process of privatization.
- 4. Celpak Prijedor Former Prijedor giant that employed 5,000 workers. Celpak is a cellulose and paper factory that was widely known in the country and abroad. The factory was disbanded and its parts and land were privatized. Certain parts of the land of this giant have been turned into a new industrial zone.















5. Confection Borac - A company that dealt with textiles, employed about 200 women. It has placed its products on the domestic and foreign markets. It went through the privatization process twice, but both times were unsuccessful. The current situation is a new privatization process that is ongoing.



- 6. Ceramics Prijedor the only company in the Banja Luka region that was engaged in clay processing and production of ceramics and related products. Under its administration, it also had an alumina site that was used to make tiles. They placed their products on the domestic and foreign markets. It is currently in a devastated state, not in the process of privatization and left to decay.
- 7. Metal industry Prijedor Company engaged in metal processing. In the process of privatization, it was partially privatized and certain parts of it were launched. It used to employ between 150-200 workers. The products have found their way to the domestic and foreign markets.
- 8. Velepromet Trgoprodaja is a company that was part of the big giant Trgoprodaja. The company has been privatized, but the privatization is failing and Velepromet is currently in a state of decline.







9. Ex military warehouse - One part of the facility has been turned into a business incubator. The business incubator has the potential to improve conditions for entrepreneurs. Some of the ideas are to modernize the space intended for entrepreneurs, reduce rental prices for start-ups and increase the infrastructural approach.

One part of the military warehouse was converted into a social home. The community center belongs to the local community of Veliko Palančište. The facility is intended for cultural and social events in that local community. The building itself would increase its social utility by renovating and better arranging it. Through analysis and research in the field, we realized that the intended home needs more reconstruction and modernization. The space in front of the Home provides the opportunity to build a playground for children in order to increase and enrich social life. The existing space with benches and a table intended for relaxation could be covered with a fixed awning that would facilitate the socializing of locals and parents who bring children to the area in front of the Home to play. The area next to the home has a sports field for football and volleyball, which are in poor condition. Reconstruction of these terrains would be useful for young people from that local community, as well as from other local communities in the city of Prijedor. The volleyball court has been decorated several times with beach volleyball and was used by 2 women's volleyball clubs from Prijedor. Due to the lack of funds, the terrain is again neglected and needs renovation.









10. Military quarters - We have identified the military quarters as a potential facility that can be better repurposed and better utilized. Currently, 70% of the capacity of this space is used. The research we conducted showed the need in local community for reuse of the space that has lost it's previuous purpose. The position, infrastructure and surface of the object is very suitable for micro and small enterprises. The investemnts are minimum, object are in good conditions and Prijedor has a good example of military warehouse turned into a business incubator. The Regional Chamber of Crafts and Entrepreneurship Prijedor includes about 3,000 independent entrepreneurs from the area of Prijedor and in his way they would have more favorable environment and facilitate business.

It is very important for small companies to have favorable conditions for renting space, low utility / overhead costs. They are just realizing their 'life on the market', and by using this space they are not burdened with various financial charges and costs so that they can develop faster and better, and grow into medium or one day large companies that will be the main 'economic point' driver.













Map with the objects in Prijedor

