



CURRENT RISKS AND CHALLENGES FOR HISTORICAL TERRITORIES

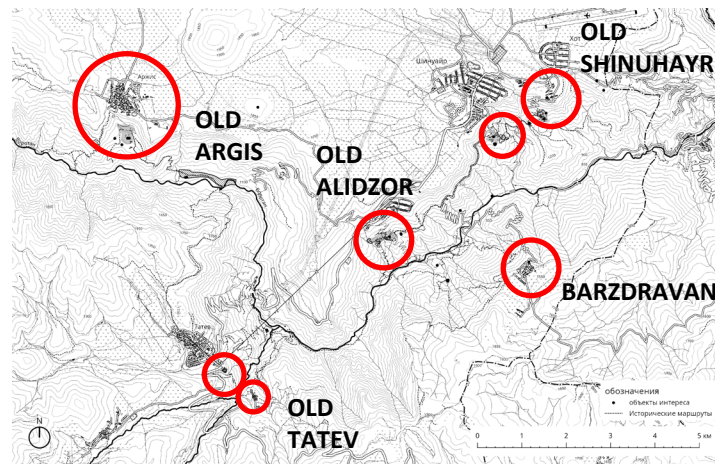
**using an example of Tatev Monastery, Tatev
Hermitage and Vorotan Gorge in Syunik, Armenia**

**Tyutcheva Narine
Scientific Director of RE-school Armenia
RE-school, National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia,
Yerevan, RA
ICOMOS expert
IAA professor**

narinyutcheva@gmail.com

2024 Syunik

The Tatev Monastery, the Tatev Hermitage and the territories of the Vorotan Gorge are located in the southeast of Armenia, not far from the borders with Azerbaijan and Iran.





Tatev Monastery

1995 - nominated
for inclusion on the
UNESCO World
Heritage List

Tatev Monastery was founded in the 9th century and played a crucial role in Syunik since the 13th century onwards. The area combines stunning natural landscapes with expressive architecture and ancient historical evidence, creating a unique cultural landscape unchanged since at least the 19th century.



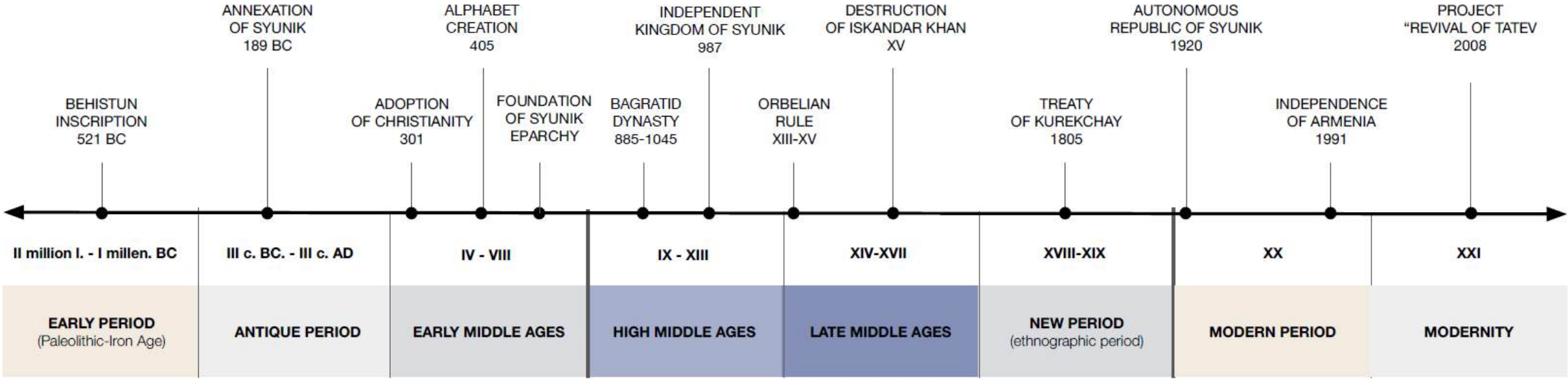


THE HISTORY OF FORMATION

TIMELINE



TIMELINE



Zorats-Karir
megalithic complex



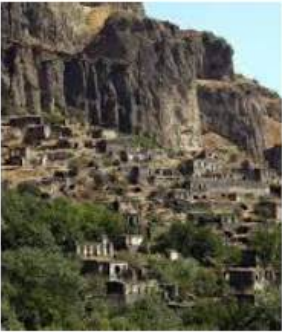
Cave settlements



Tatev Monastery



Tatevi Mets Anapat



"Old" settlements



"New" settlements



Ropeway "Wings of Tatev"

POPULATION EVOLUTION

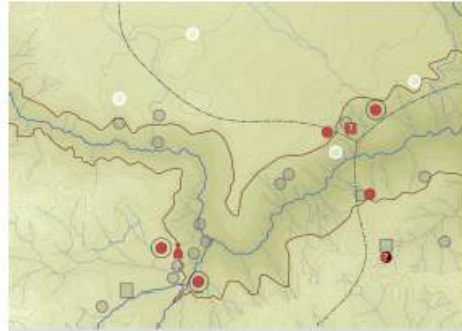


EARLY PERIOD

THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE VOROTAN GORGE AND THE EXTENSIVE SURROUNDING TERRITORY OF MODERN ARJIS, VARIOUS OBJECTS DATING BACK TO EARLY PERIODS ARE LOCATED.

THESE OBJECTS REQUIRE ADDITIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS TO DETERMINE THEIR SPECIFIC EPOCHS.

THE MAP INDICATES THAT THE TERRITORY HAS BEEN INHABITED SINCE ANCIENT TIMES.



EARLY MIDDLE AGES

DURING THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES, THE TERRITORY WAS ACTIVELY SETTLED.

THE SOURCES CONTAIN THE FIRST MENTIONS OF SETTLEMENTS DATING BACK TO THE 5TH-6TH CENTURIES AND THE SHINUHAYR FORTRESS OF THE 7TH CENTURY.

IT IS BELIEVED THAT A CHURCH FROM THE 5TH CENTURY WAS LOCATED AT THE SITE OF THE MONASTERY, WHICH WAS BUILT IN THE 9TH CENTURY.

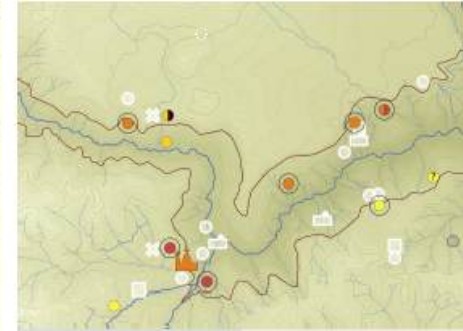
STARTING FROM THE 5TH CENTURY, THE SYUNIK TERRITORY WAS DIVIDED INTO 12 GAVARS.



HIGH MIDDLE AGES

LATE MIDDLE AGES

THE PERIODS OF HIGH AND LATE MIDDLE AGES WERE CHARACTERIZED BY TWO STAGES OF PROSPERITY - THE 9TH CENTURY AND THE 17TH CENTURY. THEY CONTRIBUTED TO THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORY. IN THE 9TH CENTURY, TATEV MONASTERY WAS BUILT, AND THE FIRST MENTIONS OF SETTLEMENTS APPEARED. BY THE 13TH CENTURY, TATEV MONASTERY OWNED ABOUT 677 SETTLEMENTS. THE CARAVANSERAI NEAR ARJIS WAS BUILT IN THE 14TH CENTURY, WHILE THE CARAVANSERAI NEAR NOVY BARDZARAVAN WAS CONSTRUCTED IN THE 17TH-18TH CENTURIES. THE MAJORITY OF PARISH CHURCHES IN SETTLEMENTS, AS WELL AS THE ARAN, SHNKHER, AND TATEV DESERTS, DATE BACK TO THE 17TH CENTURY.



NEW PERIOD
(ethnographic period)

MODERN PERIOD

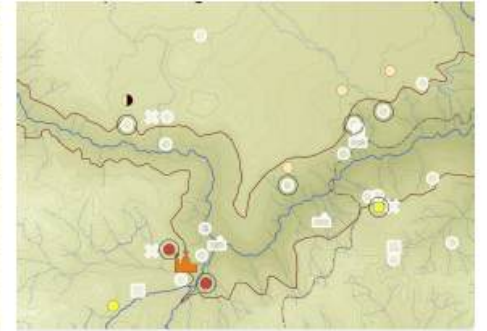
DURING THE TURKISH-PERSIAN WARS IN THE TERRITORY OF ARMENIA AND THE UPRISINGS AGAINST PERSIAN DOMINATION IN THE 18TH CENTURY, MONASTERIES AND DESERTS MAINLY SERVED DEFENSIVE PURPOSES.

IN THE 19TH CENTURY, THE SYUNIK DIOCESE WAS DISSOLVED.

WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE IN THE 20TH CENTURY, THE TERRITORY OF THE MONASTERY AND NEARBY SETTLEMENTS WERE LOCATED WITHIN THE ZANZEGUR DISTRICT.

THE FIRST CENSUS WAS ORGANIZED IN 1831: SHINUJR - 244, TATEV - 313, ALIDZOR - 58, ARJIS - 79, KHOT - 173.

IN 1931, AN EARTHQUAKE OCCURRED, SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGING THE MONASTERY ITSELF AND THE SURROUNDING SETTLEMENTS.



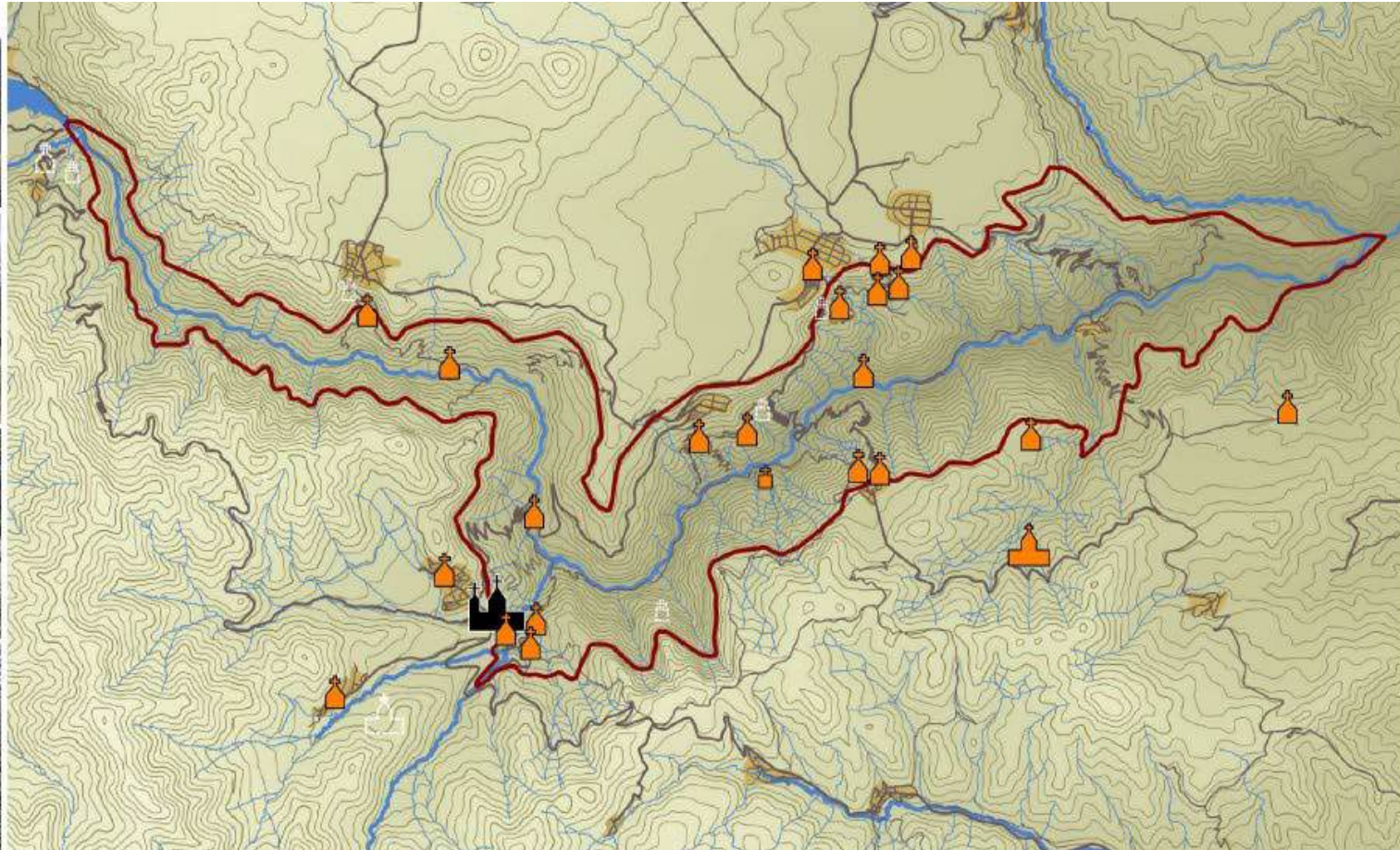
MODERNITY

IN THE 20TH CENTURY, WORK BEGAN ON THE RESTORATION OF MONASTERY OBJECTS.

THE SETTLEMENTS OF ARJIS, ALIDZOR, SHINUJAR, AND KHOT WERE RELOCATED FROM THE VALLEY TO THE PLATEAU.

THE TERRITORY WHERE THE TATEV MONASTERY AND SETTLEMENTS ARE LOCATED LIES WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES OF THE TATEV COMMUNITY, WHILE THE VILLAGE OF BARDZARAVAN LIES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE GORIS COMMUNITY.

IN 2008, THE TATEV REVIVAL PROJECT WAS INITIATED.



HISTORY OF FOUNDATION SACRAL



LEGEND



- - Used
- - Not used officially
- - Not used

- - Ruined
- - Emergency condition
- - Satisfactory condition

LIST

Monasteries

Bgheno-Noravank

Churches:

- Holy Mother of God of Tamalek
- Holy Mother of God of Svarants/Tsura (in Tandzatap)
- Tsakut
- Holy Minas of Tatev
- Holy Minas of Tandzatap
- Holy Minas of Harzhis
- Holy Minas of Halidzor
- Holy Minas of Qratak (Bardzavan)
- Hazaraprkich (Holy Saviour's of Svarants)
- King Alan's Church
- Saint Stepanos of Shinuhayr
- Saint Stepanos of Ltsen
- Agarak Vnsar (near Halidzor)
- Saint Hripsime (Bardzavan)
- Saint Hripsime (Pasharajur, near Bardzavan)
- Church of Mazra
- "Vank" Church of Shinuhayr
- Church of Old Khot
- Church in Southwest Cemetery of Old Khot
- Church of Margadzor (Old Khot)
- Church Khoti Vank
- Holy Grigor Tatevatsi (Shinuhayr)

Chapels:

- Chapel of the Shahandukht Princess
- Khach(Holy Cross) chapel (chapel of Anahit) (Harzhis)
- Saint Paul and Peter (near Haranc hermitage)
- Chapel near Agarak Vnsar
- chapel in Shinuhayr

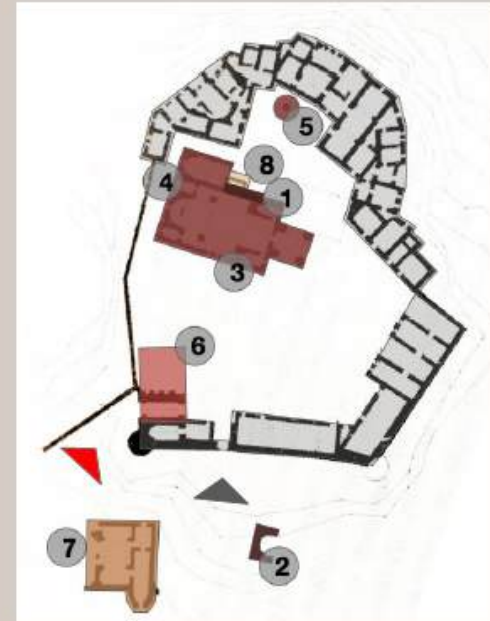


THE FORMATION HISTORY THE HISTORY OF TATEV MONASTERY



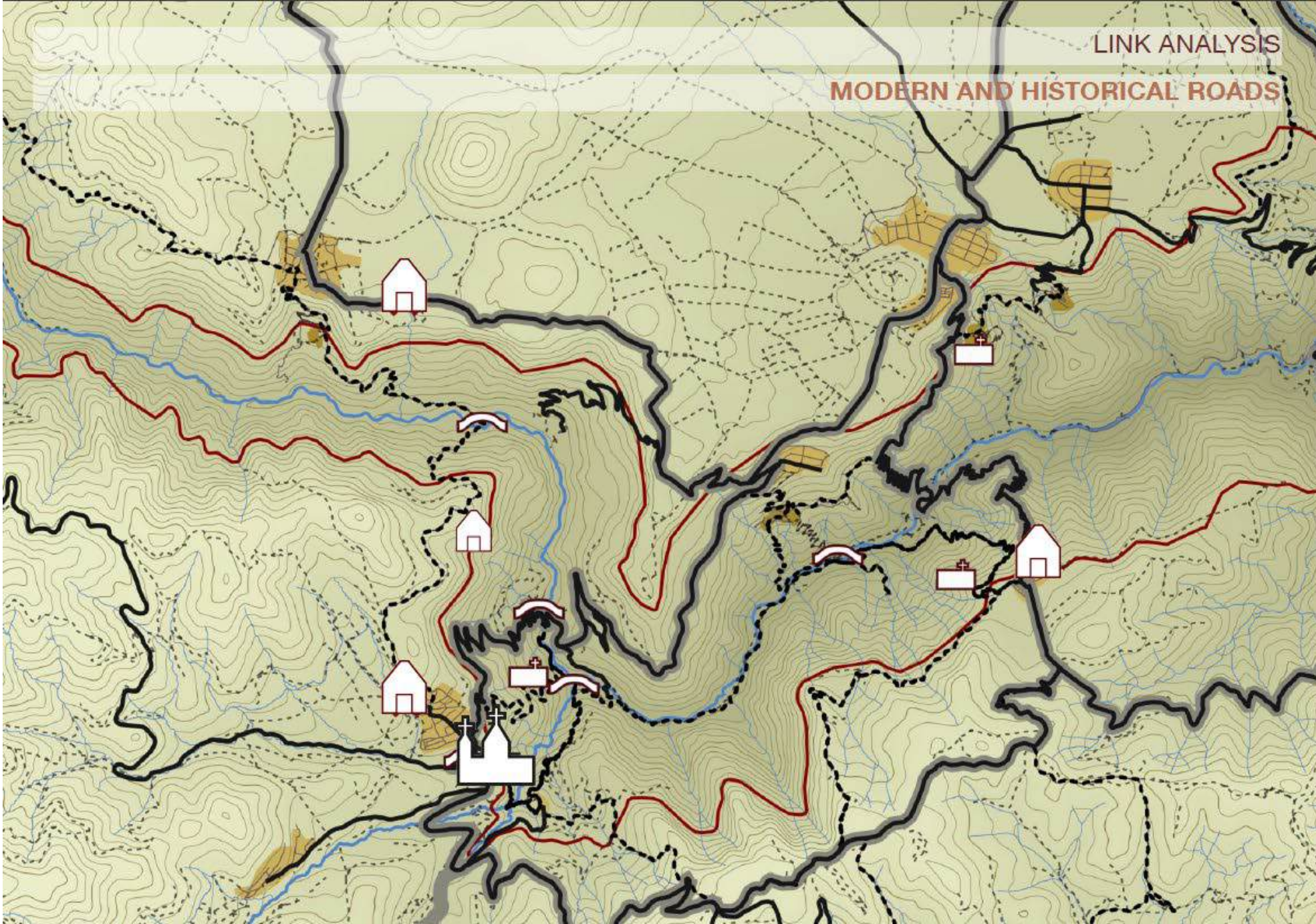
BRIEF HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

- Tatev Monastery was founded between 895 and 906 by the suzerain of Syunik, Ashot, and his wife Shushan, as well as by Prince Grigor Supan II of Gegharkunik and Prince Dzagik of Balas. The monastery also housed a manuscript school;
- In 1170, during an attack on the Baghaberd fortress, approximately 10,000 manuscripts were burnt;
- In 1373, Tatev University was established in the monastery by Ovaness Vorotheni, remaining the sole functioning university in Eastern Armenia for half a century. The Tatev illuminated manuscripts school thrived alongside the university;
- The university existed until 1435, when the cavalry of Shah Rukh, the younger son and successor of Timur, burned down the monastery;
- In 1931, Tatev Monastery suffered extensive damage from an earthquake;
- The restoration of Tatev Monastery began in the 20th century and continues to this day;
- In 1995, Tatev Monastery was considered for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List;



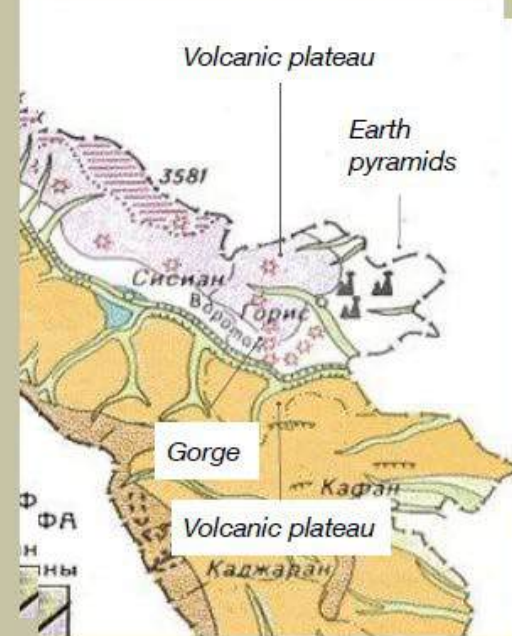
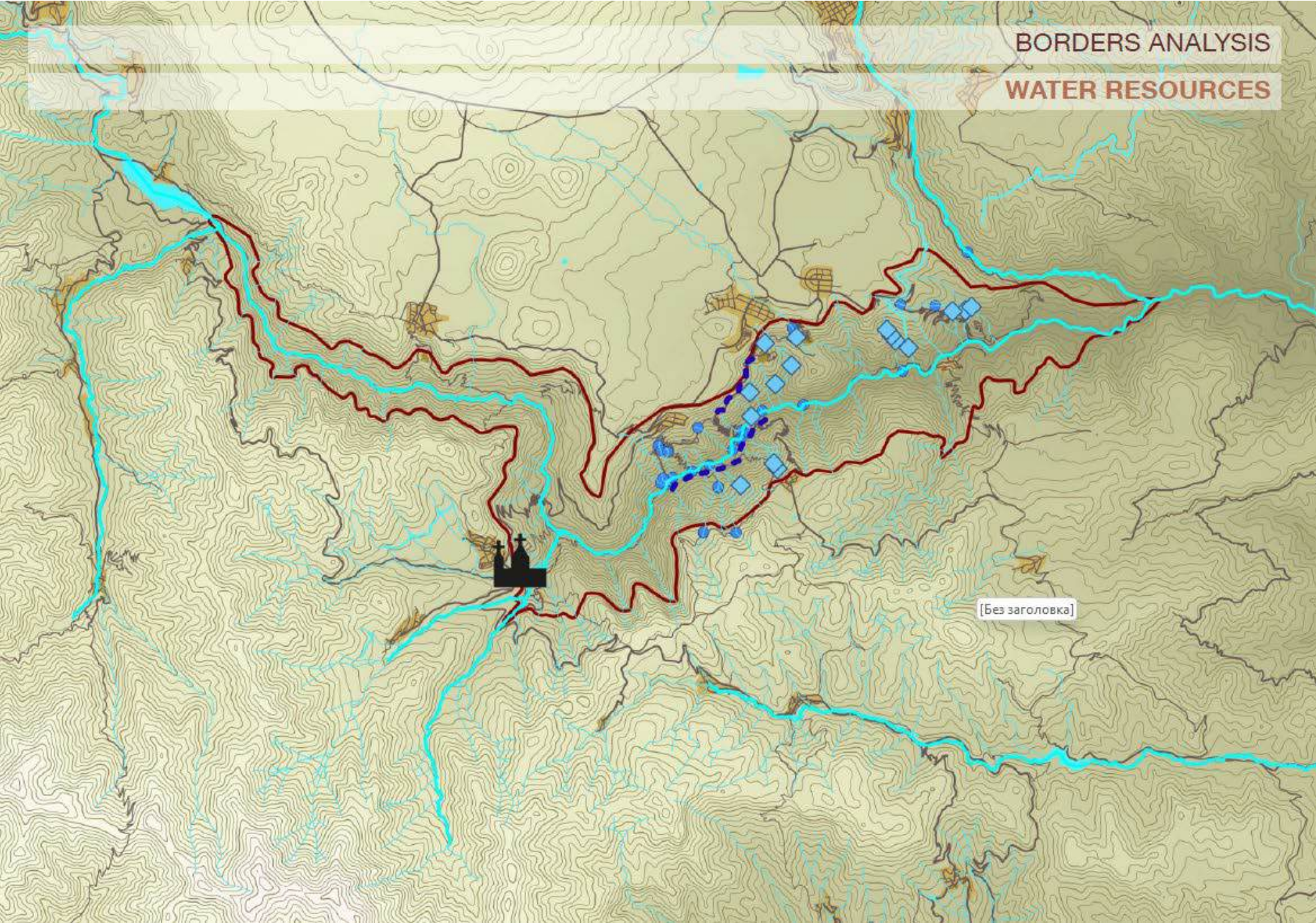
- 1) PROBABLY THE RUINS OF THE CHURCH WHERE GRIGOR TATEVATS WAS BURIED;
- 2) MEMORIAL, 6th-7th century.
- 3) CATHEDRAL OF SURB POGHOS PETROS, 895-906 AD.
- 4) CHURCH OF SURB GRIGOR LUSAVORICH, mid-9th century.
- 5) GAVAZAN, 904 AD.
- 6) CHURCH OF SURB ASTVATSATSIN, 11th century.
- 7) OIL PRESS OF DZITAN, 17th century.
- 8) TOMB OF SURB GRIGOR TATEVATS, 1787 AD.

LINK ANALYSIS
MODERN AND HISTORICAL ROADS



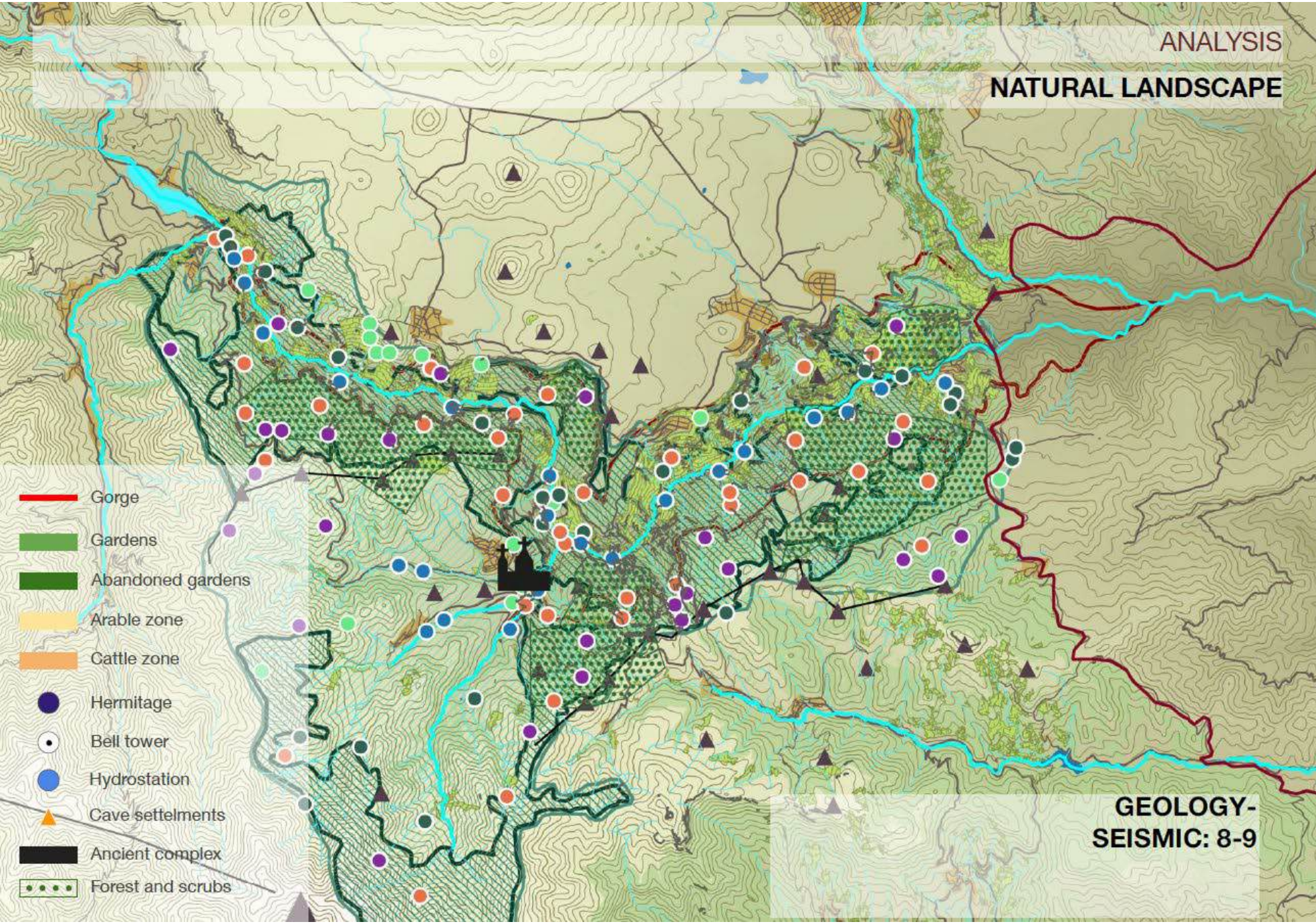
BORDERS ANALYSIS

WATER RESOURCES

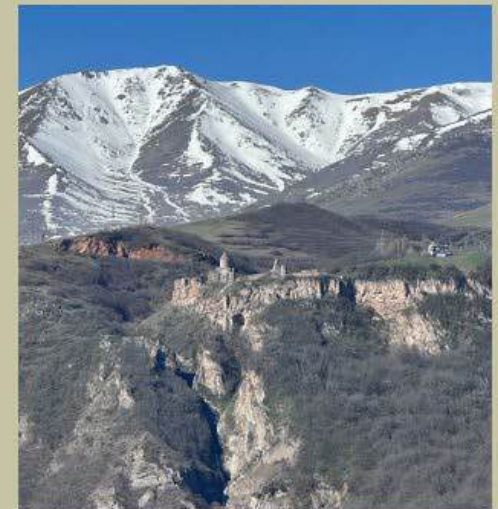




ANALYSIS NATURAL LANDSCAPE



**GEOLOGY-
SEISMIC: 8-9**



SETTLEMENTS

TATEV



ARGIS



SHINWIRE



KHOT



ALIDZOR



SETTLEMENTS

TATEV



TANDZATAP



OLD HARZHIS



SETTLEMENTS

HALIDZOR

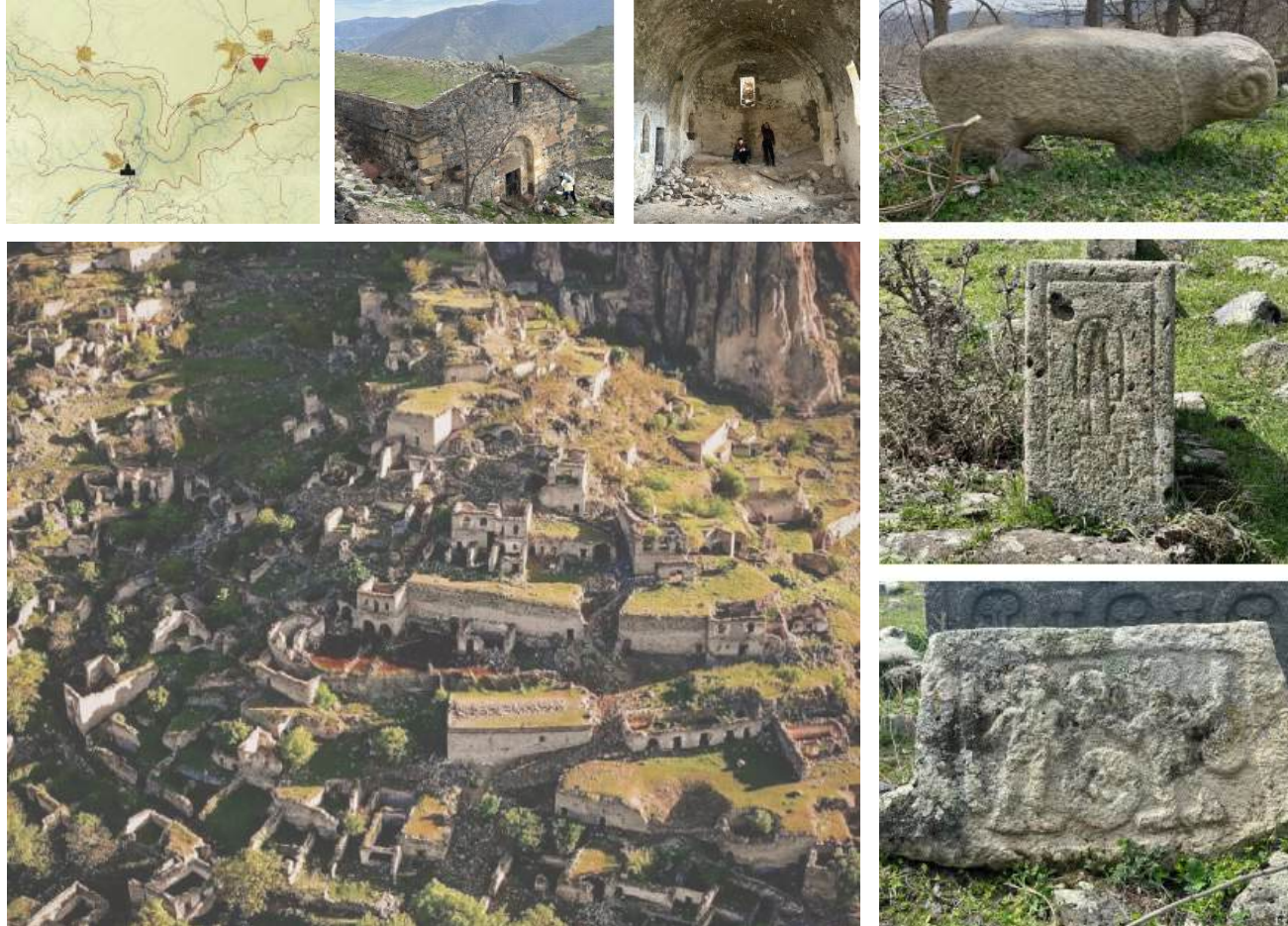


SHINUHAYR

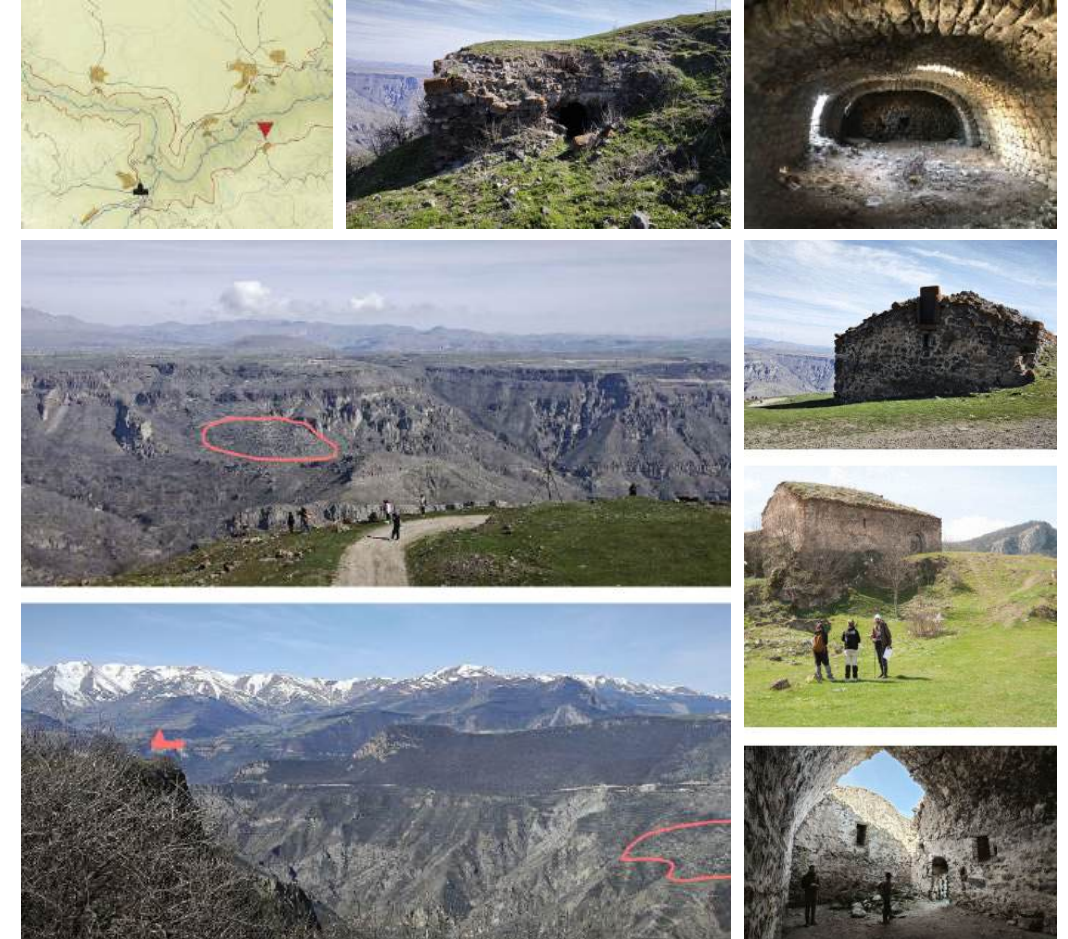


SETTLEMENTS

OLD KHOT



BARDZRAVAN



SYMBOLIC VALUE



THE MEMORY OF PLACE

MANUSCRIPTS AND EPIGRAPHIC
EVIDENCES
KHACHKARS, TOMBSTONES



SUSTAINABILITY

THE INFLUENCE AND ROLE OF THE
MONASTERY THROUGHOUT THE
CENTURIES HAS SHAPED THE
ADMINISTRATIVE AND SOCIAL
STRUCTURE OF THE TERRITORY THAT
HAS BEEN CONSOLIDATED TO THIS DAY



&

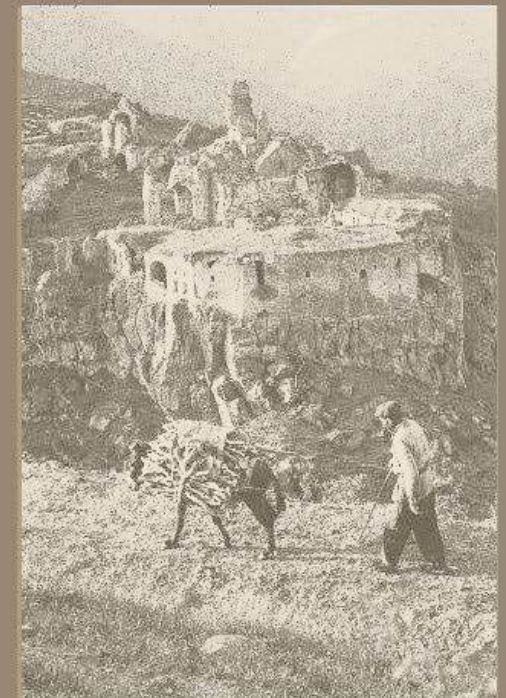
AUTONOMY

THE PRINCELY FAMILY OF ORBELIANS, WHO
INFLUENCED THE HISTORY AND
DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE DURING THE
MONGOL INVASION, AS A HISTORICAL
EXAMPLE OF DIPLOMACY AND INTERACTION
THAT INFLUENCED THE DEVELOPMENT OF
CULTURE DURING THE DEVELOPED MIDDLE
AGES. THE PLACE RETAINED ITS ENCLAVE
DURING THE TURKISH-PERSIAN CONQUESTS
OF THE 17TH CENTURY AND HOSTED
WESTERN ARMENIANS DURING THE
GENOCIDE OF 1915



CONTINUITY AND SUCCESSION

THE FEATURES AND SPECIFICS OF THE
SYSTEM OF EXISTENCE THROUGHOUT
HISTORY AND IN CONDITIONS OF
DIFFICULT TERRAIN HAVE BEEN STEADILY
ENTRENCHED IN GENERATIONS OF LOCAL
COMMUNITIES.



THREATS AND RISKS



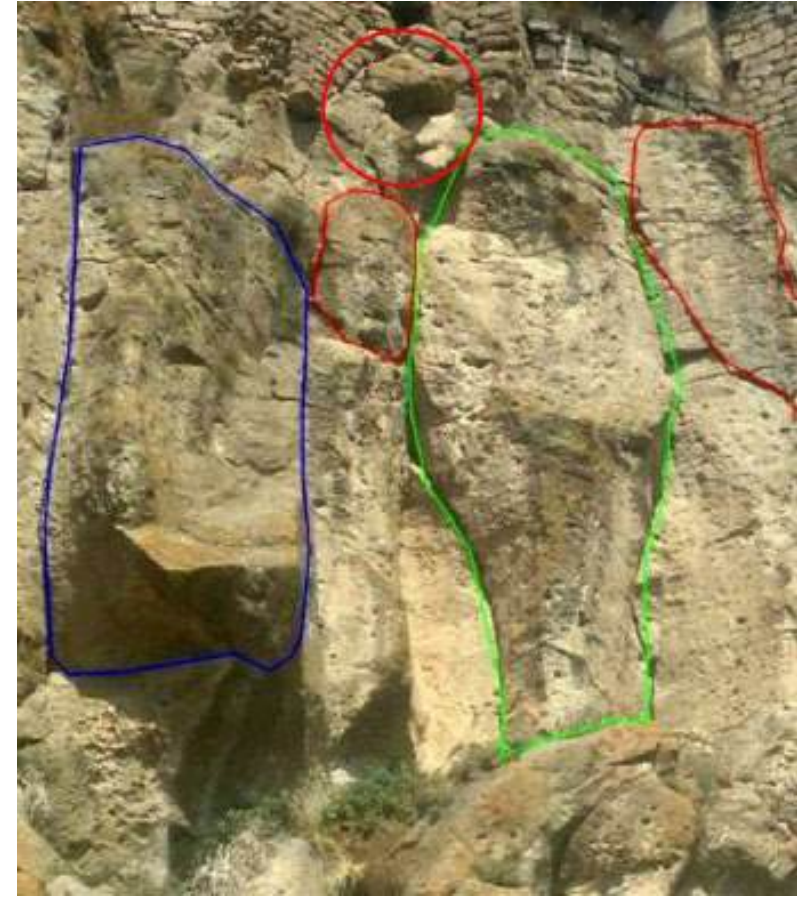
GEOPOLITICAL RISK



ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS: SEISMIC ACTIVITY



GEOMORPHOLOGICAL PROCESSES



UNREGULATED TOURISM



SPONTANEOUS MANAGEMENT



LACK OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION IN THE FIELD OF HERITAGE PRESERVATION





OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

“TATEV - THE HEART OF SYUNIK”

**ENSEMBLE OF TATEV MONASTERY,
VILLAGES OF VOROTAN GOARGE
AND THEIR AGRO PASTORAL
LANDSCAPE**

Tatev Monastery in the system of preserved ancient pilgrimage and trade routes, as well as in the complex with other sacral structures and settlements located in the Vorotan Valley reflects the process of civilization formation for at least X centuries.

The Tatev monastery complex and its system of hermitage are the main Christian sacral center of Marz Syunik, Armenia and the Armenian Apostolic Church. For many centuries they have been the repository of culture and have ensured the interaction of the territory with the rest of the world, despite constant external and natural influences, border changes and attempts to suppress culture, becoming the embodiment of the preservation of Armenian identity.

*Address: Armenia , Syunik,
Tatev community*

*Coordinates : 39.37943,
46.25012 39.37943, 46.2501*



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM PARTNERS

Re-school is an independent, non-governmental project, moreover, it is a network project, which implies the possibility of expanding the number of Re-school partners.

Currently, Re-school's partners include NUASA (Armenia) and École de Chaillot (France). École de Chaillot is a partner with whom Re-school has been collaborating since its foundation.



RE-SCHOOL

Re-school is a scientific and educational project aimed at the professional development of an integrated interdisciplinary method of studying, preserving, and developing historical territories and buildings. It has been in existence since 2017 and is based in Russia.

REstoration



REconstruction



REvitalization



REgeneration



REvalorization

APPROACH

Re-school approach emerged as a systematic attempt to answer the questions:

- *What is the role of historical heritage in rapidly developing modern cities?*
- *What is its value today?*
- *Why preserve it?*
- *How to preserve it?*
- *For whom?*

To find answers, we needed to rethink the role of the architect. Working within an established historical context led to the creation of a multi-disciplinary program. Significant contributions to architectural practice in our program have come not only from architecture students, but also from economists, art historians, engineers, lawyers, and sociologists.



5 MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONTEXTS

/ **NATURAL LANDSCAPE**

/ **ARCHITECTURAL AND SPATIAL**

/ **SPATIAL CONNECTIVITY**

/ **SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND MANAGERIAL**

/ **CULTURAL**



STAGES OF RESEARCH

/ **CONTEMPORARY PORTRAIT OF THE AREA**

/ **HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT**

/ **PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS**

/ **SWOT ANALYSIS**

/ **TERRITORY TOMORROW I MASTERPLAN**

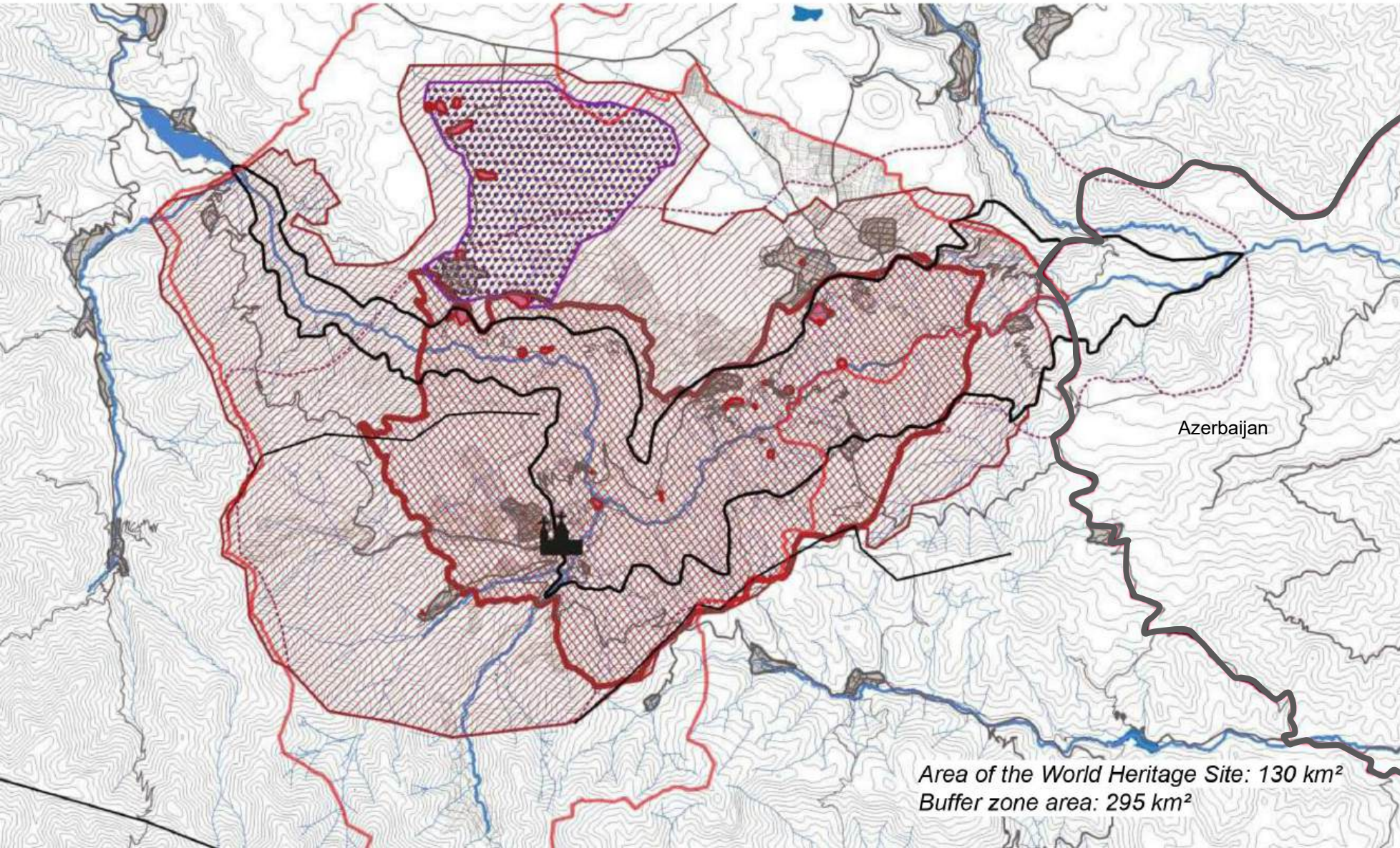
APPROACH

We consider our cities and territories as a unified anthropogenic cultural landscape composed of different layers or contexts.

The research is conducted in the following order:

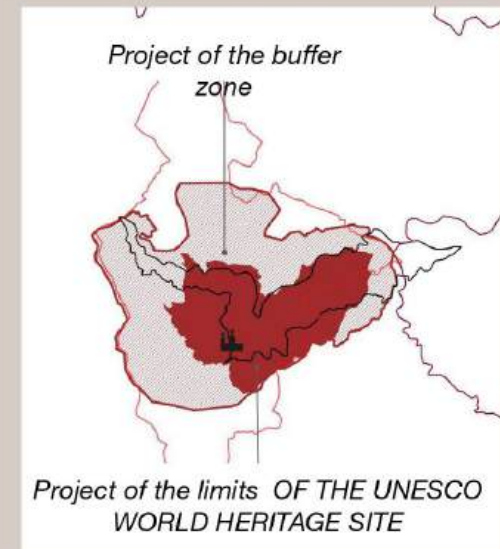
1. Formulating a modern portrait of the city or territory.
2. Performing a retrospective analysis based on archival sources to understand how and why the city evolved to its present state.
3. Identifying problems and prospects (SWOT analysis).
4. Developing a master plan for the research area and a project proposal for the local area.
5. Investigating and creating a project proposal for key objects related to the territory.

TENTATIVE BORDERS OF THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

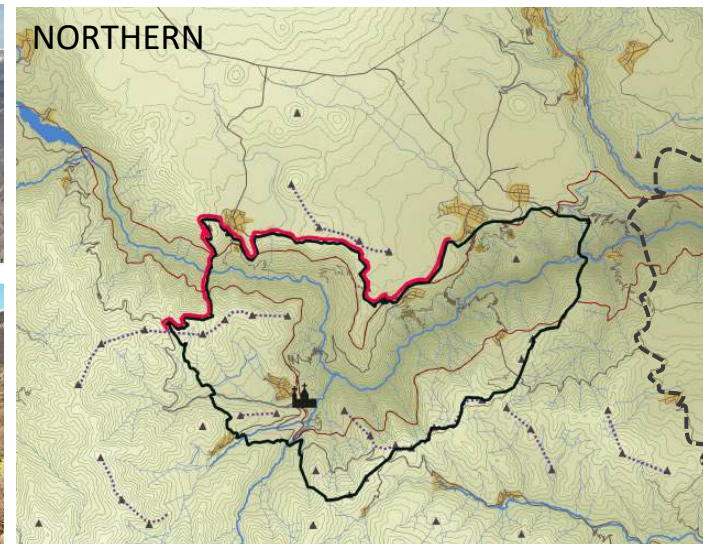
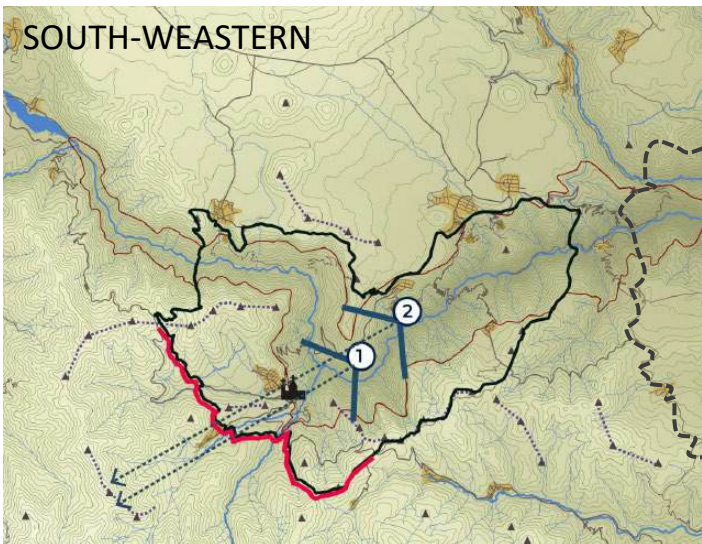
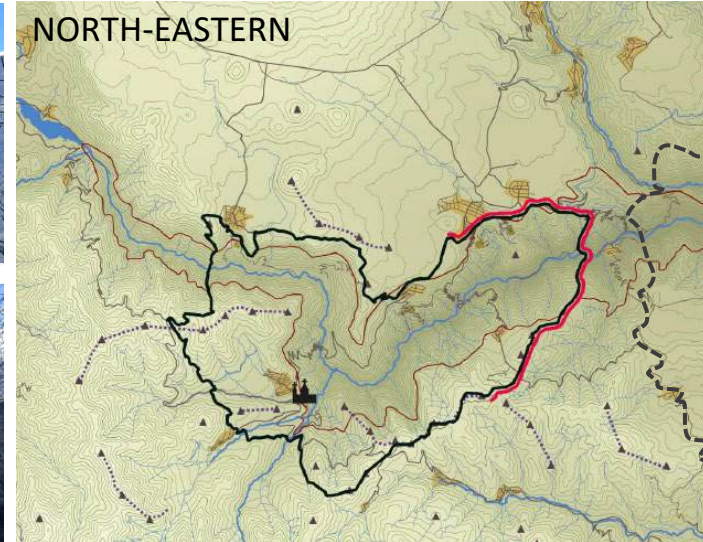
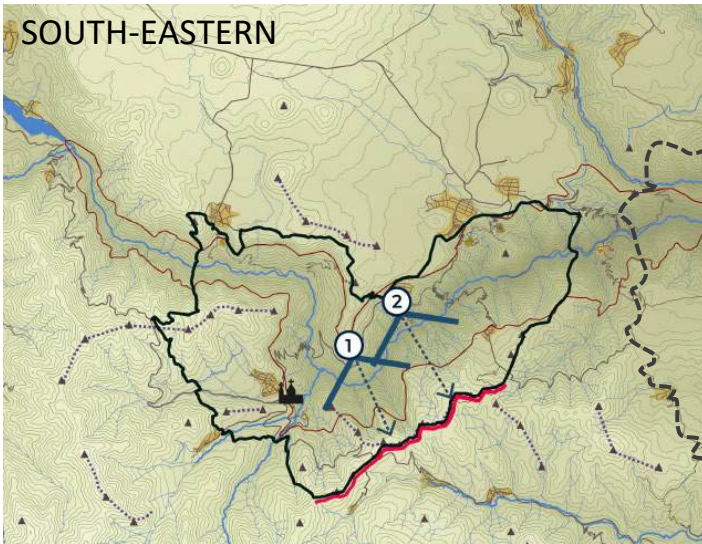


Factors determining the boundary and buffer zone:

- location of cultural sites
- Tatev community boundaries
- boundaries of the visual basin
- Vorotan Canyon boundaries
- landforms
- future National Park
- presumed ancient complex at Ardzhiz



BOUNDARY FORMATION



The **south-western** border is formed by the boundary of visibility - active mountain relief of the Borgushat Ridge with the Aramazd peak dominating over it

The **northern** part of the boundary is formed by the natural forms of the canyon and the boundaries of cultural sites, including a presumed archaeological complex forming a buffer zone

The **south-eastern** border runs along the spurs of the mountain massif, limiting visual perception within the boundaries of the Vorotan Gorge and forming a characteristic silhouette image opening from the territories of the villages

The **north-eastern** border is formed by the boundaries of Vorotan Canyon, and the buffer is formed by the inaccuracy of the existing Armenian-Azerbaijani state border - 1 km from the site boundaries



MANAGEMENT





ADDED VALUE MENTAL CATEGORIES

7 interviews
with administration
representatives

11 conversations
with experts



50 people
shared their thoughts and
knowledge



3 interviews
with church representatives

15 conversations
with residents and tourists

KIND LAND CULTURE
TATEV MONASTERY
ARCHITECTURE WE VALUE
MEMORY HISTORY WE DEVELOP TOURISM
SETTLEMENTS LACK OF FUNDING
WE AND THEM

VALUES

"We've always been here."

*"I have always been interested and inspired
by the ancient history of our places."*

*"In the old settlement there is a record of our
family"*

EXPECTATIONS

*"We would like our culture to be
preserved"*

*"Of course we would be glad if
tourists start coming to us"*



WHAT DOES THE INSCRIPTION ON THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST BRING?



REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

REGION (MARZ)

LOCAL COMMUNITY (HAMAYNK)

OPPORTUNITIES

- Protection and preservation of Armenian heritage, enhancing the visibility of Armenian culture worldwide
- Reputation of a state that preserves its national cultural heritage
- Factor for the national interests protection
- Driving economic growth through increase in tourism
- International granting opportunities

- Potential increase in foreign and national investment,
- Governmental funding for the development of infrastructure

- Increase in employment opportunities
- Opportunities for entrepreneurship: horeca, guiding services, crafts etc.
- Increasing tax revenues through the development of entrepreneurship
- Improved local services and infrastructure due to increased government attention and investment in the territory
- Stimulating the development of local industries, including agriculture

CHALLENGES

- Improving legislation in the field of cultural heritage management
- Ensuring adequate funding for the maintenance and preservation of the site and related infrastructure which might require reallocating budgets from other areas,
- Development of the strategy in tourism development that would help the territories economically benefit

- Increasing load on infrastructure
- Balancing tourism infrastructure development with the preservation of the site's integrity and authenticity
- Coordinating between various local entities and aligning regional policies with national and international preservation standards

- Implementing effective visitor management strategies to prevent overcrowding and degradation of the site,
- Regulating local businesses development to preserve the atmosphere and aesthetics of the site
- Balancing state and private interests in
- Regulating the relationship between public and private interests in the conservation and use of cultural heritage sites as part of creating a regulatory system
- Compliance with regulations

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

- Legislation: enforce national heritage protection laws that safeguard the site and ensure compliance with UNESCO Convention
- Funding: allocate national budget resources for conservation, infrastructure development and management
- Monitoring: establish a national monitoring system to regularly assess the conservation status of the site and the effectiveness of management strategies
- International cooperation: serve as the primary contact between UNESCO and local management bodies, facilitating international cooperation and funding
- Initiatives: establishing a support mechanism for cultural heritage conservation initiatives
- Developing and adopting a master plan for OUV site management

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

- Coordinating conservation commitments with private and state owners
- Monitoring compliance with construction regulations and standards
- Seeking and attracting local patrons as an additional source of financing
- Supporting entrepreneurship

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

- Developing and maintaining pilgrimage infrastructure (collaboration with the international funds)
- Supporting the spiritual life and religious rituals that are an integral part of the site's cultural heritage
- Participating in the process of the site preservation and complying with the restrictions

OWNERS

- Signing the conservation commitments
- Adhering to established regulations and restrictions
- Participating in the process of the site preservation



BEFORE THE NOMINATION

AFTER THE NOMINATION

1

CONDUCTING ADDITIONAL
HISTORICAL, ARCHAEOLOGICAL,
SOCIOLOGICAL, AND CULTURAL
RESEARCH

JUSTIFICATION OF OUV BASED
ON DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE,
ACADEMIC SOURCES, AND
PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

2

NOMINATION PROCESS

NOMINATION FILE PREPARATION

MANAGEMENT PLAN ELABORATION

- SETTING OBJECTIVES THAT SUPPORT THE PRESERVATION OF OUV
- ROADMAP ELABORATION (IN COLLABORATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS)
- TOURISM DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
- STRUCTURE FOR THE SITE MANAGEMENT
- PROGRAM FOR THE PROMOTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION
- RISK MANAGEMENT DOCUMENT

GOVERNMENT

DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN PLANNING DOCUMENTATION AND CONDITIONS
NECESSARY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF UNESCO SITES

ELABORATION OF A BUDGET PROPOSAL

COMMUNITY

RESEARCH AND EMERGENCY RESTORATION

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- VOLUNTEER EFFORTS TO STUDY AND MAINTAIN THE AREA
- EDUCATION ON UNESCO HERITAGE AND PROMOTION OF THE SITE'S OUV

3

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
MANAGEMENT PLAN

NOMINATION STEPS



CARRYING OUT RESTORATION RESTORATION WORKS

DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT

DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN PLANNING DOCUMENTATION AND CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF UNESCO SITES

ELABORATION OF A BUDGET PROPOSAL

CONDUCTING
ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL,
ARCHAEOLOGICAL,
SOCIOLOGICAL, AND
CULTURAL **RESEARCH**

JUSTIFICATION OF OUV
BASED
ON DOCUMENTARY
EVIDENCE, ACADEMIC
SOURCES, AND
PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

NOMINATION FILE PREPARATION

MANAGEMENT PLAN ELABORATION

- SETTING OBJECTIVES THAT SUPPORT THE PRESERVATION OF OUV
- ROADMAP ELABORATION (IN COLLABORATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS)
- TOURISM DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
- STRUCTURE FOR THE SITE MANAGEMENT
- PROGRAM FOR THE PROMOTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION

DECEMBER 2026

BEFORE THE NOMINATION

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NOMINATION

