



KOLESARSKA POT / CYCLING ROUTE

BICIKLISTINJA / The Female Cyclist

posvečena Zofki Kveder / dedicated to Zofka Kveder

Na vrhu Hriba (staro središče vasi / The Old Village Centre)



Jugovzhodna Slovenija
Southeastern Slovenia

Tam, kjer brlzigza puh moderne sopare ...

V pol leta je bila nad vasjo Hrib postavljena parna žaga v lasti italijanskega trgovca De Chesne, zraven je zraslo nekaj lesenih bajt za delavce ter njegova trgovina in gostilna s kegljiščem, ki jo je imel v najemu strojnik na žagi Ferdinand Turnherr. Žaga je omogočala dodatni zaslužek domačinom, ženske so v glavnem zlagale rezan les, moški pa so sekali in dovažali les ter odvažali deske in tramovje pretežno na železniško postajo na Rakek.

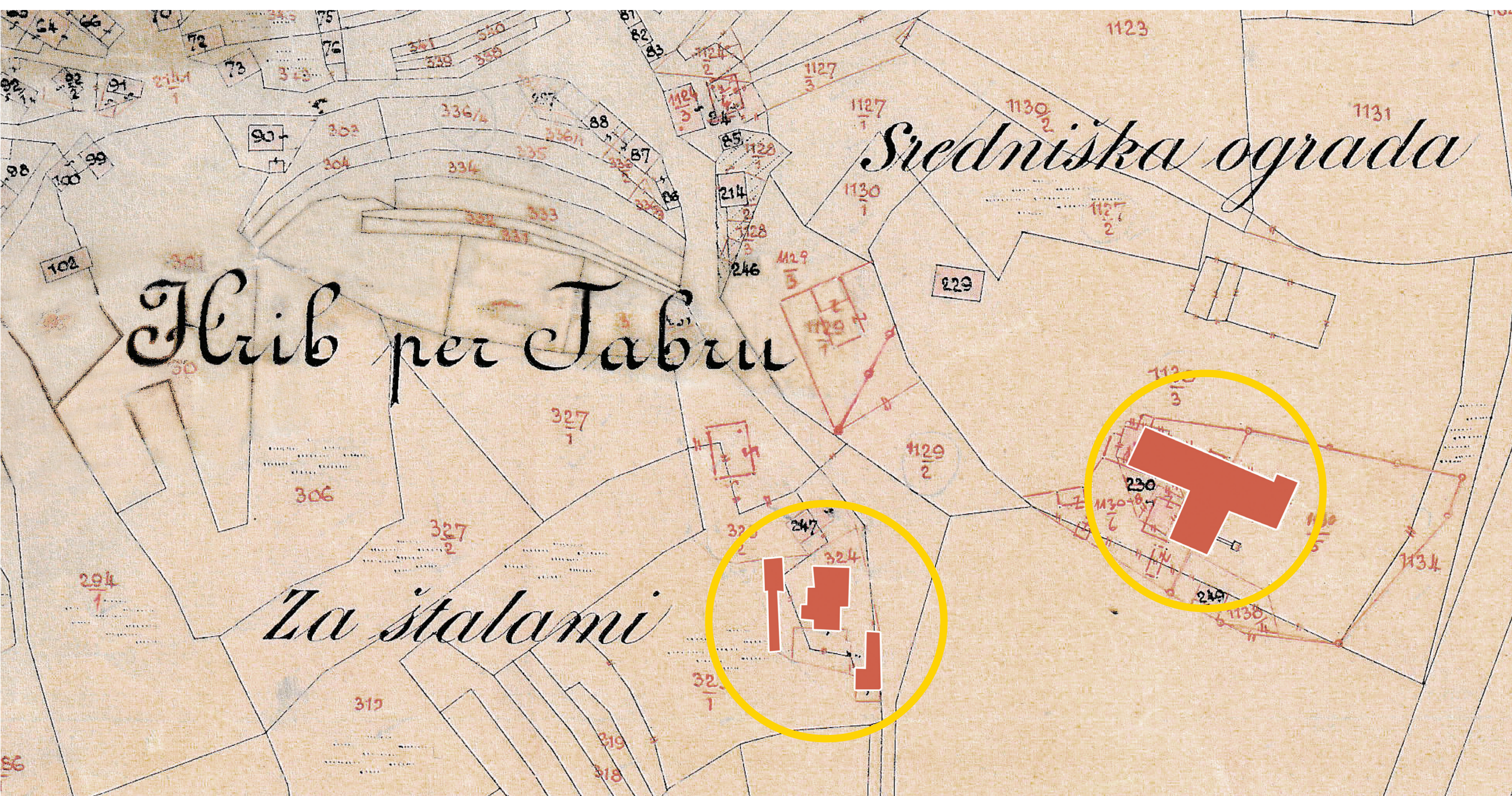
»V gozdovih so zvenele sekire, pele žage, nad vasjo je puhala para, na cesti pa so pokali biči. Kmetje so se sprva razveselili tega živahnega gibanja. Časi so slabi in dobro je, če se zasluži kje kak krajcar. Z vožnjo se je dal dobiti zdaj pa zdaj kak denar in ženske so bile tudi zadovoljne, da so prodajale maslo, sočivje in jajca fabriški gospodi.«

(Zofka Kveder: Na kmetih)

V Zavodah, kakor je Zofka imenovala področje z žago na vrhu Hriba, pa se je odvijalo tudi živahno družabno življenje, za kar so poskrbeli delavci in delavke na parni žagi, furmani, logarji in gozdarji pa tudi ostali, ki so hodili v trgovino in gostilno s kegljiščem.

»Zavode so zares cvetele. Tuji nemški in laški fabriški delavci so med domačini prav pridno razširjali kulturo. Ob nedeljah so samozavestno stopali okrog, posedali po krčmah in zabavljali o zastarelih šegah domačih ljudi. Posebno dekleta so se jim zdela na začetku prave divjakinje. Moj Bog, komaj jih je človek pogledal, pa so zbežale kakor plahe srne. Sčasoma je postalo to pač nekoliko „bolje“, posebno ko so začela tudi domača dekleta zahajati na žago na delo. ... No, in glede na ta napredek so si privoščile vaše mamice vedno češče kak lonček kave, dekleta so si omišljevale bolj živobarvne in pisane robce, šivilje so šivale bolj ozke janke in bolj umetno sestavljene jopiče, fantje so si pripenjali moderne kravate in izza pesti so se temu in onemu belile koketne manšete. Klobuki so dobili hkrati razna podjetno zavihana peresa, vaški krojači pa so v potu svojega obraza vrezavali suknje in hlače po vzorcu kakega modernega časopisa, ki ga je nesreča zanesla v tihe Zavode.«

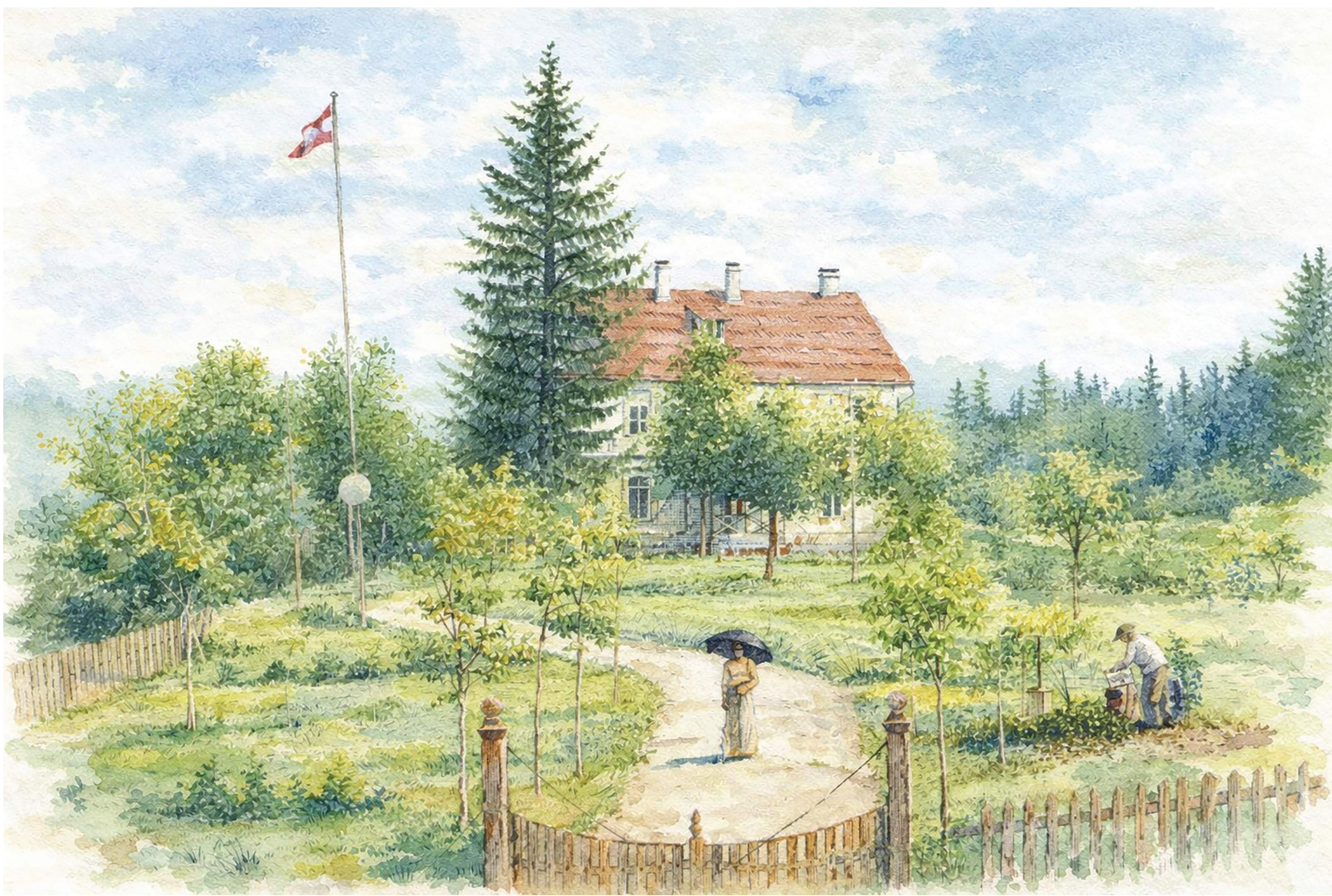
(Zofka Kveder: Na kmetih)



Na desni je označena parna žaga, na levi gostilna s kegljiščem (vir: Katastrski načrt Hrib, 1889, Geodetska uprava Slovenije).
Steam-powered sawmill on the right and the inn with room for playing skittles on the left (source: Surveying and Mapping Authority of Slovenia, Map of Hrib, 1889)



Parna žaga na Hribu; izrez iz razglednice, ki jo je Zofka Kveder poslala prijateljici Ivanki Anžič 13. avgusta 1899 (vir: Narodna in univerzitetna knjižnica).
The steam-powered sawmill on Hrib; detail from a postcard sent by Zofka Kveder to Ivanka Anžič on August 13, 1899 (source: National and University Library)



Upravna zgradba parne žage na vrhu Hriba pred letom 1900 (avtorica slike: Barbara Koblar)
The administrative building of the steam-powered sawmill on top of Hrib from before 1900 (image by Barbara Koblar)

Where the smoke of modern steam rises ...

In the middle of the year, the Italian merchant and owner De Chesne built a steam-powered sawmill above the village Hrib, erected several wooden homes for workers, as well as a shop and inn with a space for skittles, which was leased by Ferdinand Turnherr, the sawmill engineer. The sawmill provided additional income for the locals, with the women mainly stacking the cut wood, and with the men chopping and delivering the wood, and transporting most of the boards and beams to the railway station in Rakek.

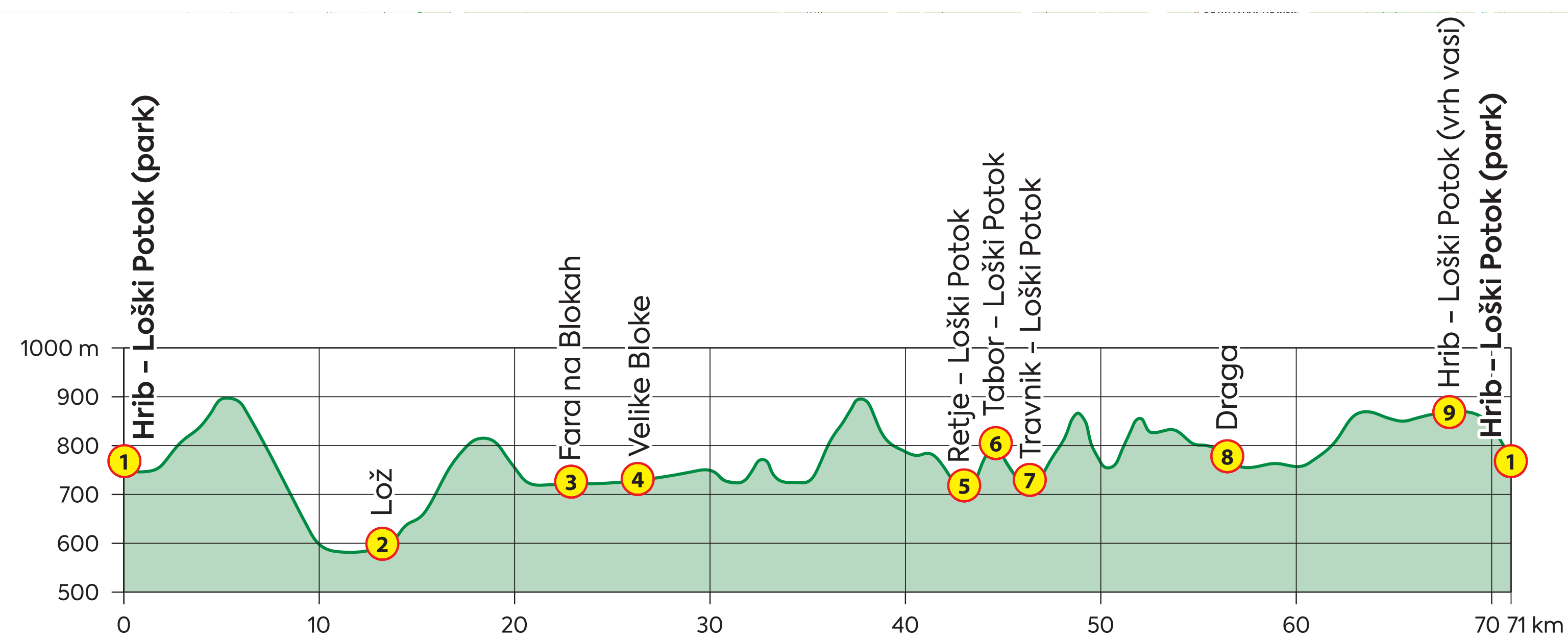
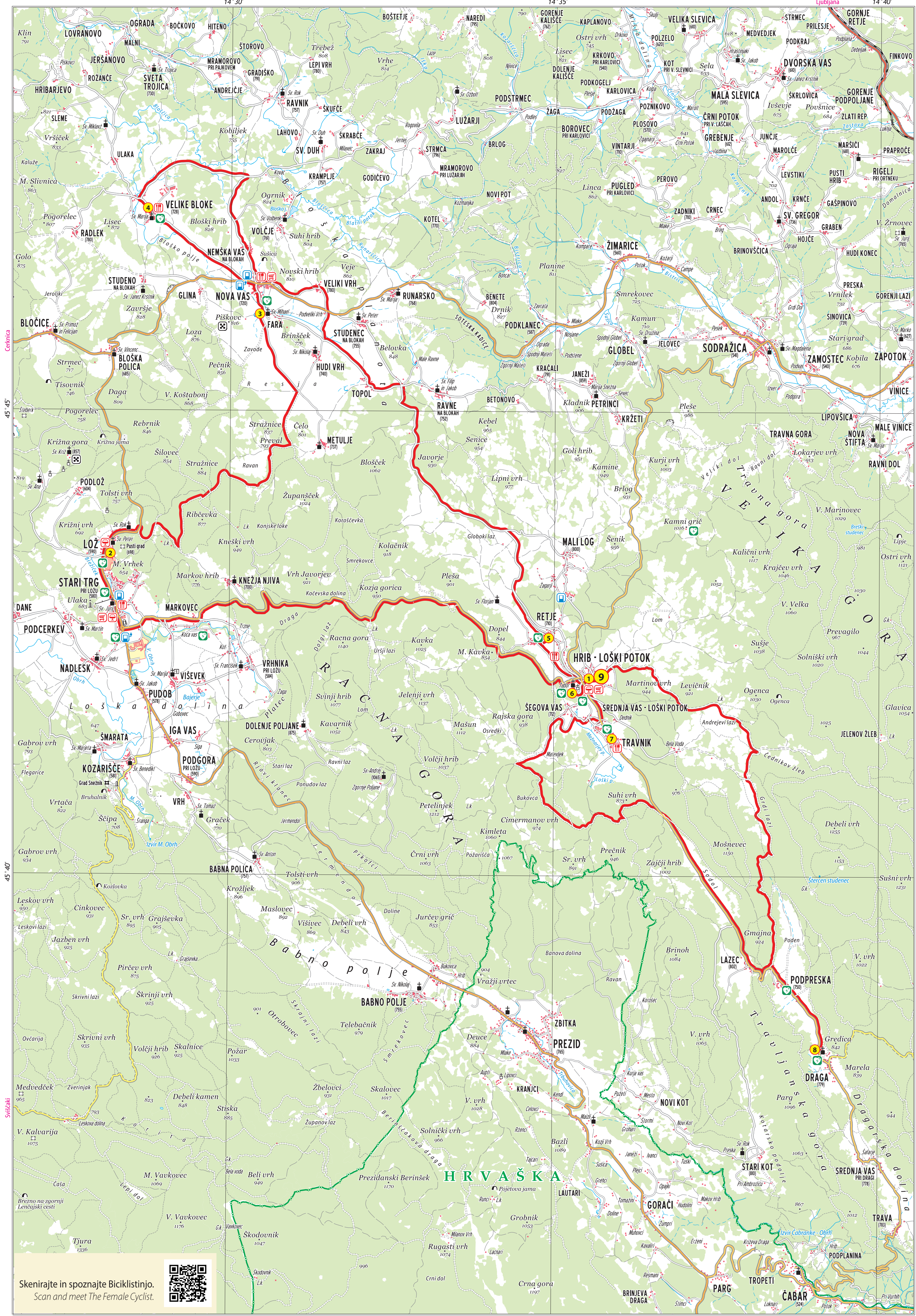
“Axes rang out in the forests, saws sang, smoke rose above the village, and whips cracked along the road. At first, this lively activity exhilarated the farmers. Times are tough, and the few kreutzers one could pick up were welcome. Driving around now and then brought in some money, and the women were also happy to sell butter, legumes, and eggs to the factory gentlemen.”

(Zofka Kveder: On the Farms)

In Zavode, as Zofka called the area with the sawmill at the top of the village, a lively social life emerged, thanks to the workers at the steam-powered sawmill, the carters, the loggers, and the foresters, as well as others who went to the store and frequented the inn and its space for skittles.

“Zavode was really booming. Foreign German and Italian factory workers spread their culture among the locals. On Sundays, they would strut about, sit in pubs, and make fun of the locals’ antiquated ways. At first, they thought the girls in particular were veritable nature children. My God, as soon as a man looked at them, they would flee with deer-like shyness. In time, things got a bit ‘better’, especially when local girls started going to work at the sawmill too. ... Well, and thanks to this progress, the mothers in the village started to treat themselves to the occasional cup of coffee, the girls acquired more colourful and patterned handkerchiefs, the seamstresses sewed narrower skirts and more artful jackets, the boys wore modern ties, and now and again snappy cuffs would peek out from behind their wrists. Hats were adorned with various skillfully placed feathers, and village tailors sweated away as they cut jackets and trousers in the style of some modern magazine that had found its way to the quiet village of Zavode.”

(Zofka Kveder: On the Farms)



Naslednja točka je zaključek oziroma izhodišče kolesarske poti Biciklistinja ob parku kulturnikov na Hribu v Loškem Potoku (današnje središče vasi), ki je oddaljeno 0,8 km. The next stop is the end – or starting – point of the Biciklistinja cycling route at the park of cultural figures on Hrib in Loški Potok (today’s village centre), which is 0.8 kilometres away.

Najprimernejše obdobje za kolesarjenje je med 1. majem in 30. septembrom. Makadamski deli kolesarske trase potekajo pretežno skozi senčne gozdove neokrnjene narave, v katerih sem in tja lahko opazite katero izmed tu živečih gozdnih živali, na nekaterih krajših odsekih pa lahko ostanete tudi brez signala za vaš mobilni telefon.

The ideal time for riding along this path is from May 1 to September 30. The gravel sections of the route run mainly through shady forests of unspoiled nature where you can occasionally spot some of the forest wildlife that lives here. On some shorter sections you may even find yourself lacking a mobile phone service.

Kolesarjenje po kolesarski poti je na lastno odgovornost.

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Za Loški Potok je bilo konec 19. stoletja zelo značilno hrvatarstvo. Hrvatarji so bili fantje in moške, ki so jeseni, ko so se zaključila težja kmečka opravila doma, v večjih skupinah odhajali sekati in tesati v hrvaške gozdove, kjer so ostajali čez zimo vse do spomladi, ko so se z večjim ali manjšim zaslužkom, s katerim so pripomogli k lažjemu preživetju družin, vračali domov.

»Hrvatarji se razkrope v tolpah po daljnih gozdovih in njihove sekire pojo, pojo vso zimo, skoraj brez presledka. Kakor obsedeni so od dela. Široke tesarske sekire žvenketajo ob tramih ob plapolajoči luči bakel pozno v noč, žage cvilijo v ogromnem lesu. Vse okrog je sneg in mraz in zima, srebrno se blešči led, v bisernem prahu se otresa ivje, a ti ljudje, naši ljudje, zamahujejo s svojimi silnimi rokami, da odmeva daleč v temno noč.

Kakor megla jih obdaja sopara, ki se vzdiguje iz njihovih razgretih teles, po prsih jim curlja pot, a oči skele od mraza. Kučme jim pokrivajo glave zadaj do vrata, spredaj jim gleda samo razmršena, divja brada, nos in oči iz zavojev, noge tiče v ogromnih škornjih, preko teh so na debelo omotane vreče. Mlad, štirinajstleten fant jih kliče k večerji. Komaj je odrasel šoli, a zdaj je tukaj za kuharja, skrbi za red v kolibi, za drva, za ogenj, da ne ugasne ponoči; sveti pri delu, pomaga povsod. Pajdaši posedejo po primitivnih pručkah v kolibi, večerjajo, ležejo spat. Trideset kilogramov koruzne moke, 10 kilogramov bele moke, 1 kilogram soli, 1 in pol kilogram slanine, to je deputat posameznega moža na mesec. ...

Celo zimo odmevajo sekire v gozdovih. Ob nedeljah utihnejo in pajdaši hodijo drug k drugemu v vas po sosednjih kolibah, polegajo, kade. Včasih gredo v cerkev v vasi, če niso predaleč. Tri, štiri ure, dlje ne hodijo radi vsako nedeljo. Preoblečejo se, umijejo, čez teden se ne umivajo in tudi ob nedeljah ne, če ostanejo v gozdu. In zapustijo ga redkokdaj. Kaj bi pač hodili v vasi? V krčmah se toči žganje, vino, a škoda denarja v tujem kraju. Zato redko hodijo med ljudi, vsak mesec enkrat, s tem mora biti zadovoljen Bog v cerkvi in grlo v krčmi. Po maši pišejo domov ženam, materi, ljubici.«

(Zofka Kveder: Hrvatarji)



Fotografija hrvatarjev (lastnica fotografije: Fani Debeljak)
Photograph of seasonal forestry workers known as hrvatarji. (photograph owner: Fani Debeljak)



Fotografija hrvatarjev (lastnik fotografije: Janez Turk)
Photograph of seasonal forestry workers known as hrvatarji. (photograph owner: Janez Turk)

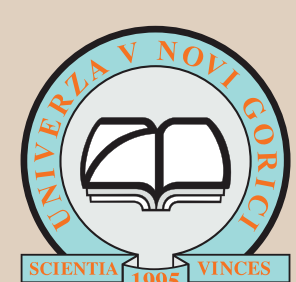
At the end of the nineteenth century, seasonal forestry migration known locally as hrvatarstvo was characteristic of Loški Potok. The hrvatarji were local boys and men who, after the heaviest farm work had ended in autumn, left in organised groups to fell and hew timber in Croatian and other distant forests. They stayed there throughout the winter and returned home in spring with earnings that helped their families survive.

“Hrvatarji disperse throughout the distant forests in bands, their axes singing, singing all winter long almost without interruption. As if they are obsessed with their work. Broad axes clang against trunks lit by the flickering torch late into the night, while saws whine in the vast forest. Snow and cold and winter all around the ice shines silver, the frost shakes itself off in pearly dust, but these people, our people, keep swinging powerful arms, echoes stretching far into the dark night.”

The steam rising from their heated bodies envelops them like fog, sweat drips down their chests, and their eyes sting from the cold. Their fur hats cover their heads down to their necks, only their tousled, wild beards, noses, and eyes peeking out from under their hats can be seen, their feet are tucked into huge boots, over which thick sacks are wrapped. A young, fourteen-year-old boy calls them to dinner. His school days are barely behind him, and now he is here as a cook, taking care of the hut, the firewood, and the fire, making sure it burns all night; he provides light during work and helps out everywhere. His companions sit on primitive footstools in the hut, eat dinner, and fall asleep. Thirty kilograms of corn flour, 10 kilograms of white flour, 1 kilogram of salt, 1.5 kilograms of bacon – that is each man’s monthly ration. ...

The forests echo with the sounds of axes all winter long. On Sundays the axes fall silent and the woodcutters meet up in the village in neighbouring huts, repose, and smoke. Sometimes they go to church in the village, if they are not too far away. They do not like to walk more than four hours of a Sunday. They change their clothes and wash, though they don’t wash during the week or on Sundays if they stay in the forest. And rarely do they leave the forest. For why would they venture into the village? The taverns serve brandy and wine, but they are not about to waste their money in this strange land. That is why they are rarely to be found among others. Just once a month, which has to be enough to satisfy God in church, and their throats in the pub. After mass, they write home to their wives, mothers, and lovers.”

(Zofka Kveder: Hrvatarji)



Avtorstvo besedil in izbor slikovnega gradiva / Text and selection of images: Katja Mihurko, Bogdana Mohar, Vlado Mohar
Prevod besedil v angleščino / Translation into English: Jason Blake
Oblikovanje tabel / Sign Design: Barbara Koblar
Informacijske table so nastale v projektu občanske znanosti Kolesarska pot/Biciklistinja (O6-0322), ki ga je financirala Javna agencija za znanstvenoraziskovalno in inovacijsko dejavnost Republike Slovenije. / The information signs were created as part of the citizen science project Bicyclist's Cycling Route (O6-0322), funded by the Public Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation of the Republic of Slovenia.
Postavitve in izdelavo tabel so financirali: Občina Loški Potok, Občina Bloke in Javni zavod Snežnik. / These signs were funded by: The Municipality of Loški Potok, the Municipality of Bloke, and the Snežnik Public Institution.

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