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*Construction Plans for the University City in Belgrade 1947–1951*

*Summary*

Following World War II, the inherited lack of premises for classrooms and accommodation for students of the Belgrade University deteriorated even more because of war damages and a large increase of the number of students. In the first post-war years, the state and university bodies made considerable efforts and investments in order to solve the issue of insufficient educational and accommodation premises by repairing existing facilities, building new ones, and by seeking additional educational facilities and providing private flats for students. Settlement of the issue was strongly encouraged in 1947 by the provisions of the Five-Year Plan which envisaged vast investments in expanding the capacities of the university schools and student institutions with the aim of alleviating and speeding up the formal education of the planned number of cadres. In the forties, within this framework, ambitious, grandiose plans arose aimed at finally and completely settling the issue of educational and accommodation premises at the Belgrade University. The plans envisaged the construction of a University City, a large university complex with facilities for schools, institutes, institutions, laboratories, flats for lecturers, scientists and other staff, student homes and restaurants, as well as numerous facilities for entertainment, fun and cultural and sport activities of its inhabitants. These plans were at the beginning linked to a then suburban part of Belgrade called Marinkova Bara, but there were also suggestions to implement the project on the territory of New Belgrade, as well as on some other locations. However, because the plan was overambitious and due to lack of resources and other reasons, the construction was not even initiated and remained just an idea on paper. Instead of it, in the late forties and early fifties, resources were invested in the construction and reconstruction of certain university school buildings and student homes which presented a partial, but realistic way of solving the problem.