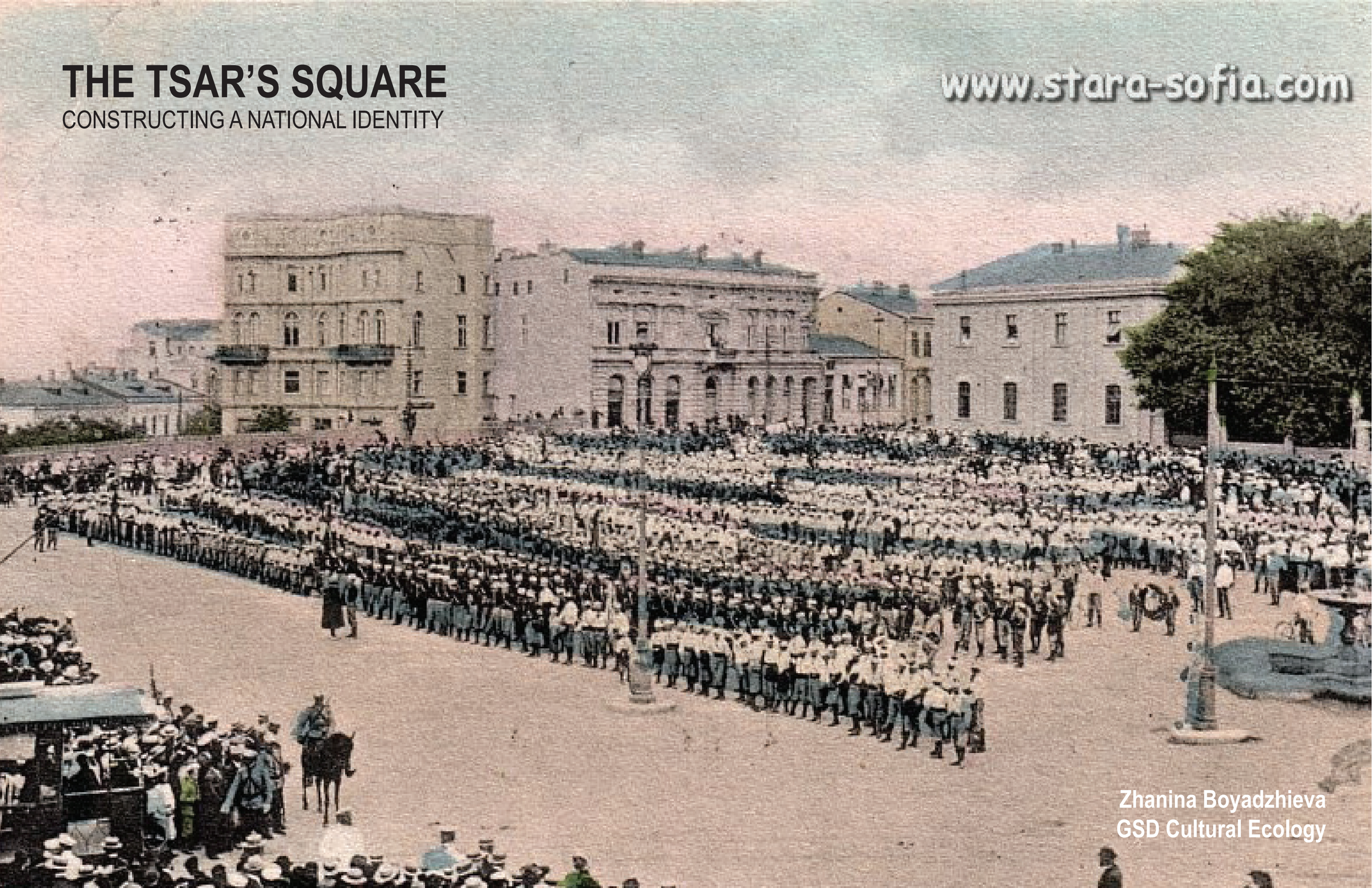
THE TSAR'S SQUARE

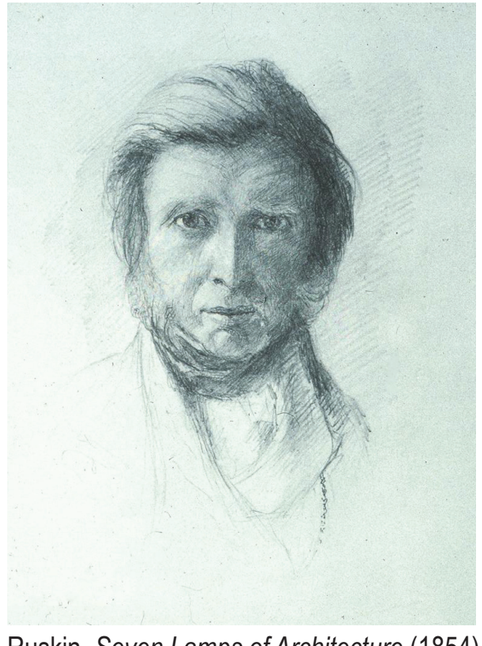
CONSTRUCTING A NATIONAL IDENTITY

www.stara-sofia.com

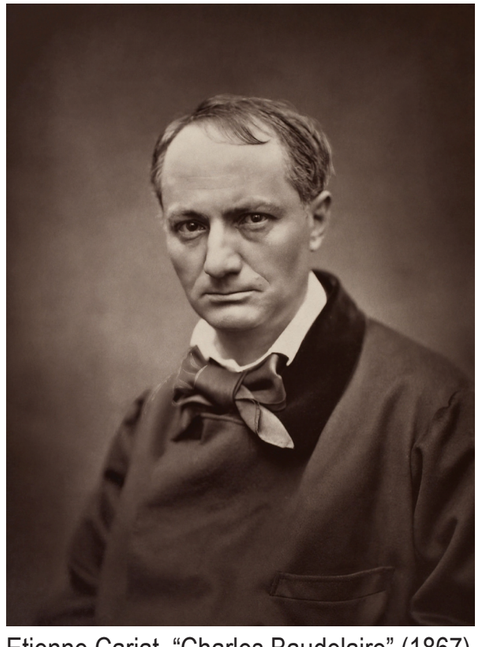


Zhanina Boyadzhieva
GSD Cultural Ecology

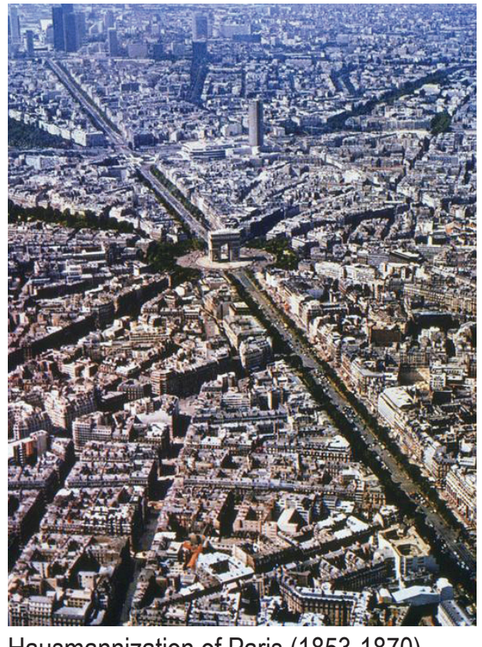
Paul Gavarni, "Le Flaneur" (1842)



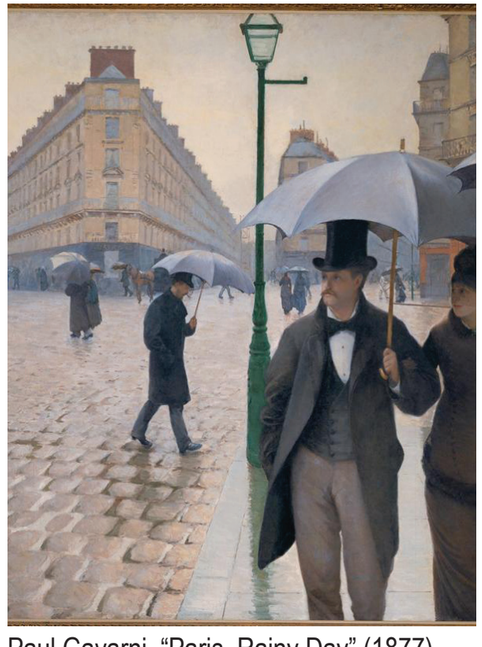
Ruskin, *Seven Lamps of Architecture* (1854)
Ruskin, "Self-Portrait" (1873)



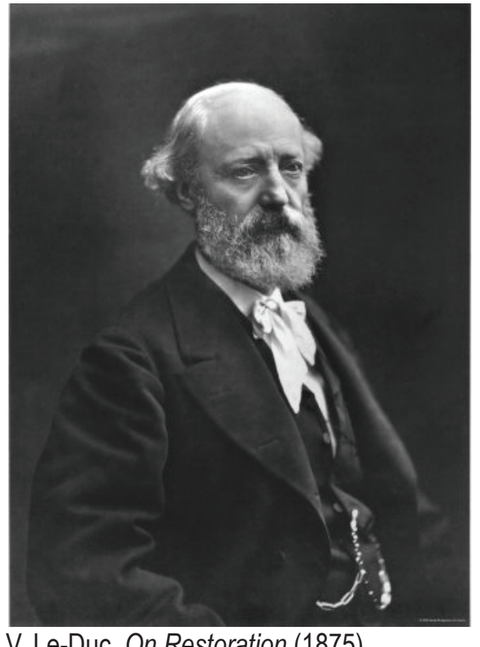
Etienne Carjat, "Charles Baudelaire" (1867)



Hausmannization of Paris (1853-1870)



Paul Gavarni, "Paris, Rainy Day" (1877)



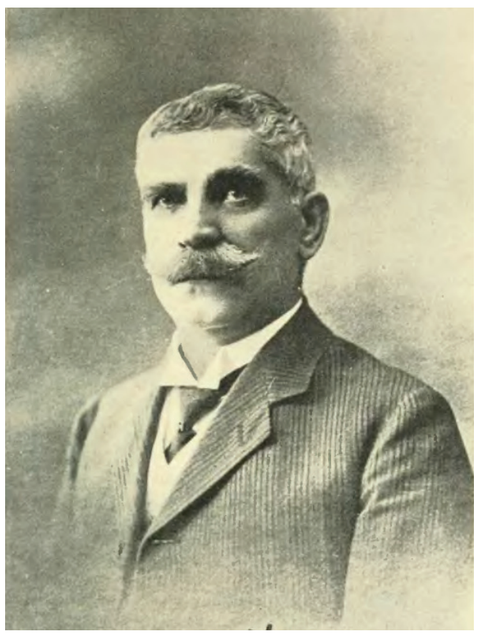
V. Le-Duc, *On Restoration* (1875)
Nadar, "Viollet-le-Duc" (1873)

W. Morris, *Manifesto for SPAB* (1877)
William Morris, "Self-Portrait" (1856)

1840s **1850s** **1860s** **1870s**

TSAR'S SQUARE | BULGARIAN LIBERATION AND SEARCH FOR NATIONAL IDENTITY

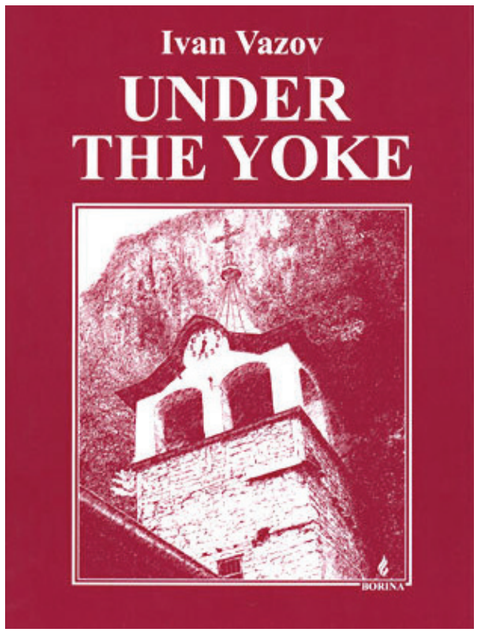
Treaty of San Stefano (1878) - Liberation after 500 years of Ottoman Rule



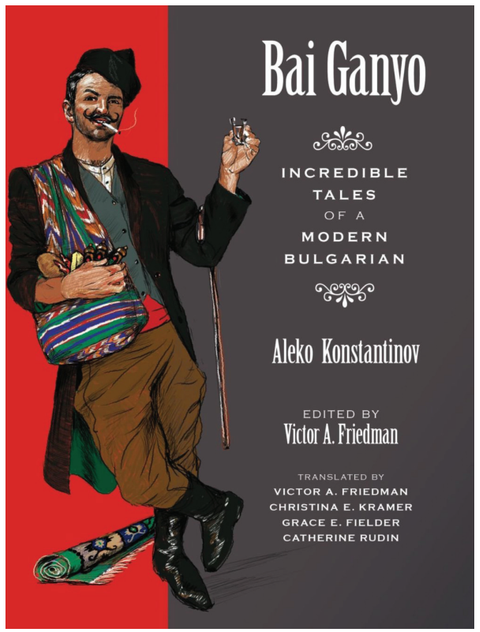
Ivan Vazov, *Epic of the Forgotten* (1880s)

A. Konstantinov, *To Chicago and Back* (1894)

Sofia as a Westernized City



Ivan Vazov, *Under the Yoke* (1888)

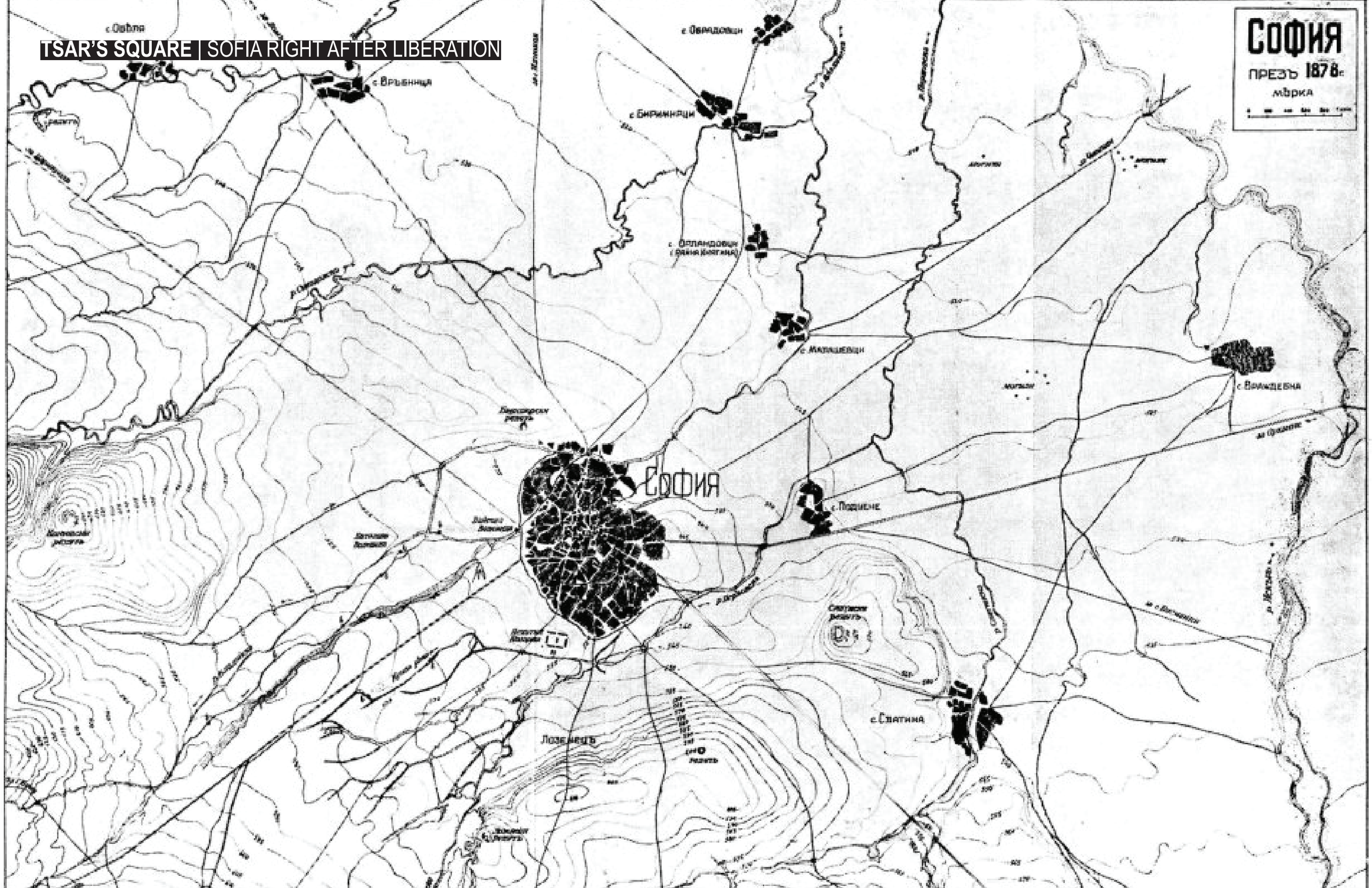


A. Konstantinov, *Bai Ganyo: Incredible Takes of a Modern Bulgarian* (1895)

Postcards of Sofia

1870s **1880s** **1890s** **1900s**

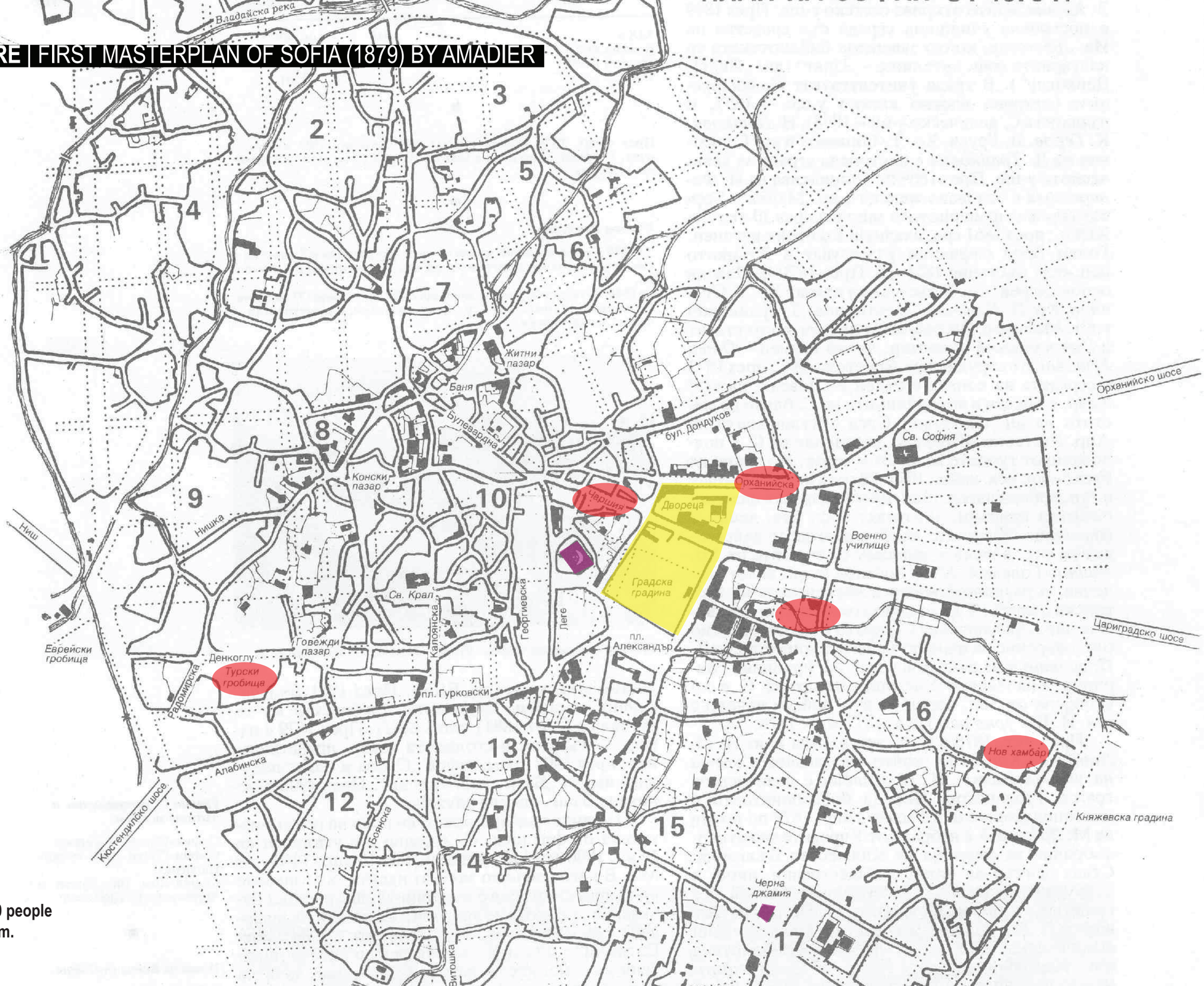
TSAR'S SQUARE | SOFIA RIGHT AFTER LIBERATION



LOSTBULGARIA.COM

LOSTBULGARIA.COM

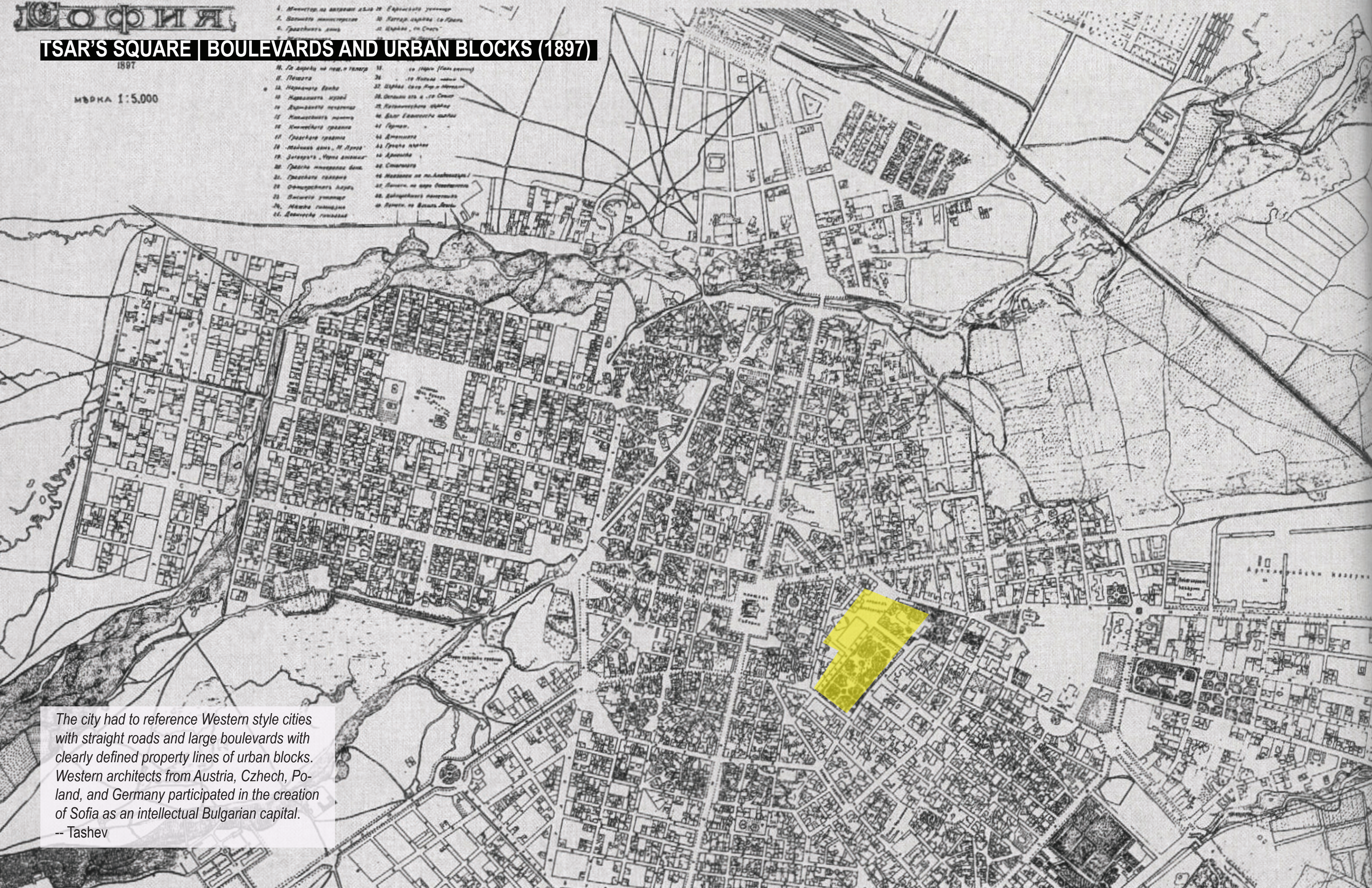
TSAR'S SQUARE | FIRST MASTERPLAN OF SOFIA (1879) BY AMADIER



- Ottoman names
- Ottoman mosques

POPULATION: 18,000 people
SIZE OF CITY: 3 sq. km.

TSAR'S SQUARE | BOULEVARDS AND URBAN BLOCKS (1897)



The city had to reference Western style cities with straight roads and large boulevards with clearly defined property lines of urban blocks. Western architects from Austria, Czhech, Poland, and Germany participated in the creation of Sofia as an intellectual Bulgarian capital.
-- Tashev

TSAR'S SQUARE | THE SQUARE AS CENTER OF NATIONAL IDENTITY

1 Royal Palace

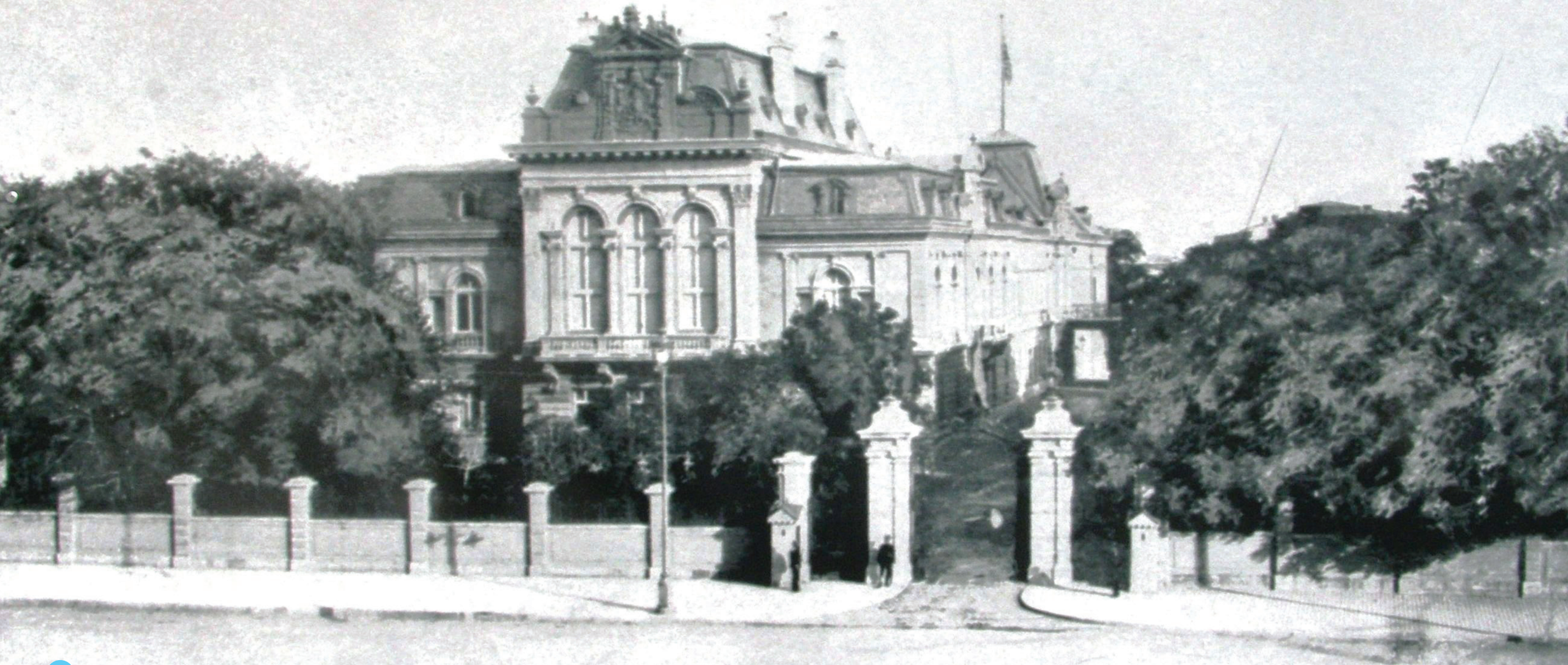
2 Archeological Museum (Old Mosque)

3 Saint Sunday Church

4 Saint Sofia Church

Царскія дворецъ.

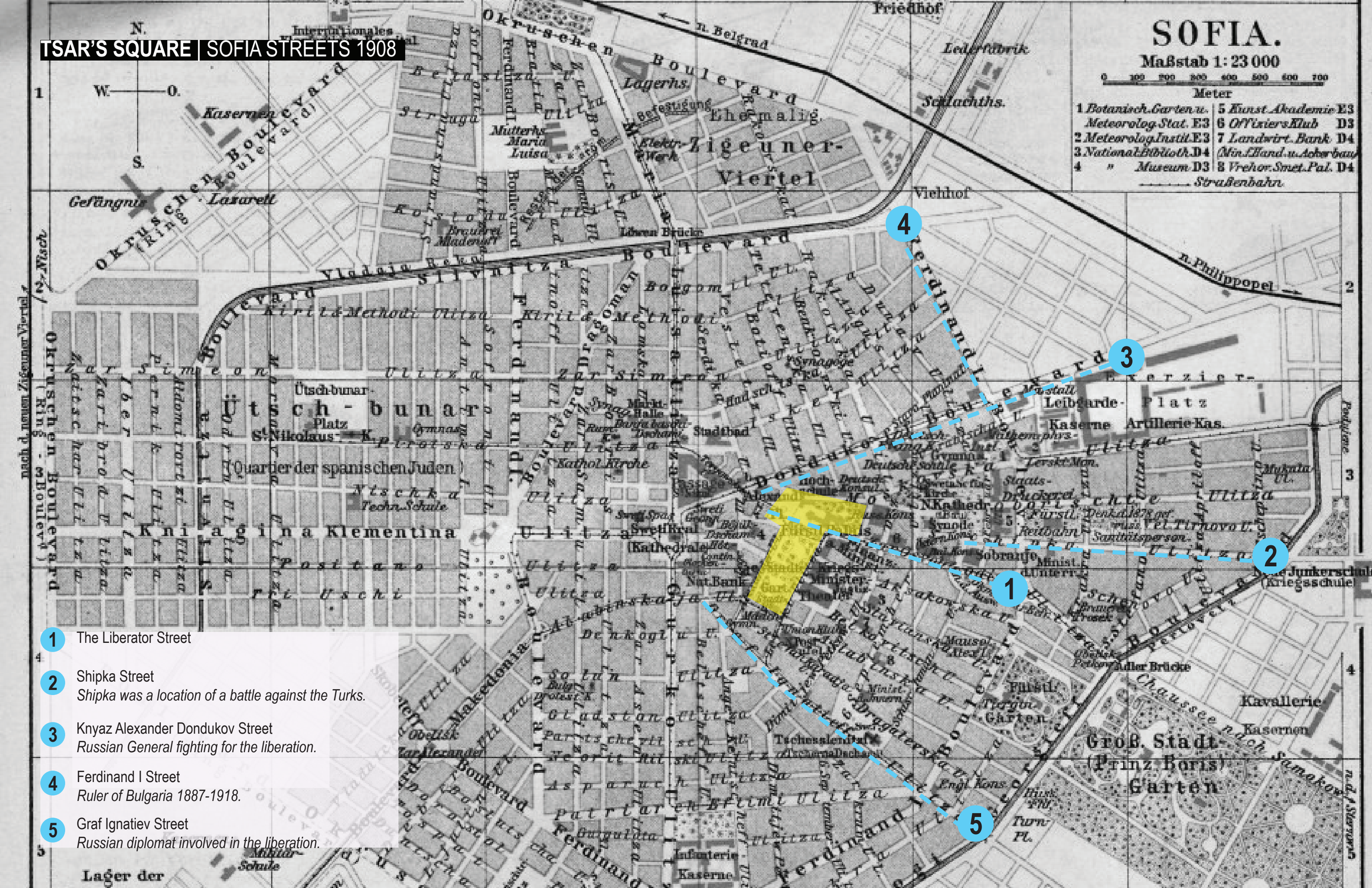
Le Palais du Tzar.



1 Royal Palace of Alexander Battenberg constructed between 1880-1882 by Austro-Hungarian architects under Viktor Rumpelmayer and finished by Viennese architect Friedrich Grünanger.

2 Conversion of Grand Mosque (Büyük camii) into National Museum in 1893.

TSAR'S SQUARE | SOFIA STREETS 1908



1. The Liberator Street
2. Shipka Street
   Shipka was a location of a battle against the Turks.
3. Knyaz Alexander Dondukov Street
   Russian General fighting for the liberation.
4. Ferdinand I Street
   Ruler of Bulgaria 1887-1918.
5. Graf Ignatiev Street
   Russian diplomat involved in the liberation.

TSAR'S SQUARE | NETWORK OF PARKS (1919)

www.stara-sofia.com

TSAR'S SQUARE | TRAM SYSTEM (1930S) | SPACE OF CIRCULATION

SOFIA

TSAR'S SQUARE | SPACE OF CIRCULATION (1930S)

1 Tram stop

2 Merchant's Street

3 Imperial Hotel

1 Tram passage between the palace and the gardens

2 Merchants' Street next to the Square

3 Hotel "Union Palace" built around the 1930s

TSAR'S SQUARE | SPACE OF CELEBRATION (National Heroes 1904)

www.stara-sofia.com

TSAR'S SQUARE | SPACE OF CELEBRATION (24th May 1918)