

# Participation process & master plan to expand the Gusen Memorial

## Phase 1 (Analysis phase) Part 1 – Summary



# Table of contents

<b>3</b>	Initial situation
<b>4</b>	About this paper
<b>5</b>	Participation process
<b>9</b>	Short version
<b>15</b>	Planning analysis
<b>25</b>	Prospect
<b>27</b>	Imprint

## Initial situation

**In the years to come, the existing Gusen Memorial will be significantly expanded. A broad-based participation process has been launched to engage international, national and regional interest groups.**

The Gusen concentration camp was a branch camp of the Mauthausen concentration camp. It was built from the end of 1939 onwards. In May 1940, the first prisoners were registered there by the SS. At the beginning of 1944, the Gusen concentration camp was expanded to include the Gusen II camp. The prisoners held there had to build a tunnel system for the armament industry in St. Georgen under the code name "Bergkristall" (Rock Crystal). In December 1944, the Gusen III camp was opened in Lungitz, several kilometres away. It was used for supply purposes. From its construction until its liberation in May 1945, at least 71,000 prisoners originating from almost 30 nations were imprisoned in the three Gusen camps. More than a half thereof did not survive imprisonment.



After the liberation of the camps, most of the buildings in the three Gusen camps were demolished within a short period of time. Large sections of the Gusen I and II camp areas were built over with a housing estate, whereas others were used for industrial purposes. In 1947, the Soviet occupation forces tried to destroy the "Bergkristall" tunnel system with explosives, which was only partially successful. The victims' cemetery laid out by the U.S. liberators was abandoned in the late 1950s. The remains of the deceased from the Gusen camps were transferred to the Mauthausen Memorial.

Most of the former camp areas and most of the few surviving buildings or archaeological remains are now privately owned. Post 1945, they have been used privately for various purposes and frequently rebuilt.

In the 1960s, international survivor organizations had the Memorial de Gusen built, which was inaugurated in 1965. The cremation furnace of the camp has been preserved in its interior. Since 1997, the Republic of Austria has been responsible for maintaining the Memorial. In 2004, a visitor centre and exhibition were opened adjacently.

At the beginning of the 2000s, the Republic of Austria also assumed responsibility for the remains of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system. This was partially filled in by the Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft (The Federal Real Estate Company) for safety reasons. Around a quarter of the original facility has been preserved and secured. A part of it is now open to visitors several days a year. In 2020, the Mauthausen-Gusen-St. Georgen Awareness Region unveiled the "House of Remembrance" at the entrance to the tunnel system.

Since 2000, the Lungitz camp has been commemorated by a memorial stone on its original site. In 2020, a cemetery was inaugurated after the ashes of deceased concentration camp prisoners were found.

In recent years, the Republic of Austria has been negotiating with private owners of properties located at the former concentration camp sites in Langenstein and St. Georgen an der Gusen.

In 2021/22, it finally bought several properties located in the area of the former concentration camp Gusen I, where two former SS buildings, the stone crusher and parts of the former roll call square are located. It also acquired a piece of land in the entrance area to the "Bergkristall" tunnel system in St. Georgen an der Gusen.

All new sites are to be designed as memorial sites in the coming years, connected to the existing concentration camp memorial sites around the Memorial de Gusen and intertwined with existing commemorative interventions. The existing memorial site is thus going to undergo a major expansion.

In order to ensure the widest possible engagement of all interest groups and stakeholders from the start, the first step in the project involved a participation process to develop a master plan with design and functional guidelines. After carrying out an award procedure in accordance with the Federal Public Procurement Act (direct award), the art:phalanx Kommunikationsagentur GmbH and heri&salli Architektur ZT GmbH consortium was commissioned to carry out this process. Art:phalanx are responsible for the participation process, whereas heri&salli, as the team of architects, are responsible for drawing up the master plan based on the results obtained in the participation process.

After an extensive baseline study, the contractors launched the participation formats in August 2022. Phase 1 (analysis phase) was completed at the end of 2022 and was followed in the first half of 2023 by Phase 2 (consolidation phase). The master plan is to be completed by mid-2023 and will subsequently form the basis for policy makers to further develop the Gusen Memorial through design competitions. The aim is to expand the Gusen Memorial into a European memorial site that will allow for a dignified commemoration of the victims of the Gusen concentration camp.

## About this paper

The aim of the already completed analysis phase was, initially, to obtain the expertise of the various interest groups and to determine their expectations and needs for a newly designed and expanded Gusen Memorial. The participation formats developed for this purpose included interviews, workshops and information events (see detailed description below).

This paper summarises the analysis phase of the participation process. It will also be presented at a public information event and tabled for discussion.

The aim of the paper is to present all the opinions, positions and expectations expressed in the various participation formats in their entire scope, even in cases where they contradict one another or go beyond the actual framework of the participation process. In this way, a discursive field is to be defined, which is to be worked on in the subsequent consolidation phase and substantiated with a view to a common consensus.



The summary of the analysis phase thus forms the basis for a consolidation phase in which a moderated exchange between the interest groups will take place with further interviews and workshops. Groups and individuals who cannot participate in the participation formats will be able to contribute their points of view to the process via a survey. The results will eventually be summarised in a final report and shown in the master plan, which will determine:

- Functions that the expanded Gusen Memorial is intended to perform
- Specific uses of areas, places, buildings
- Design guidelines
- Infrastructural and traffic development of the area

## Participation process

### Basic principles of the participation process

- An open, transparent procedure
- Participation in partnership with stakeholders and interest groups
- A clear definition of objectives in general and for individual participation formats in particular
- The development of different participation formats (tailored to the respective stakeholders and interest groups)

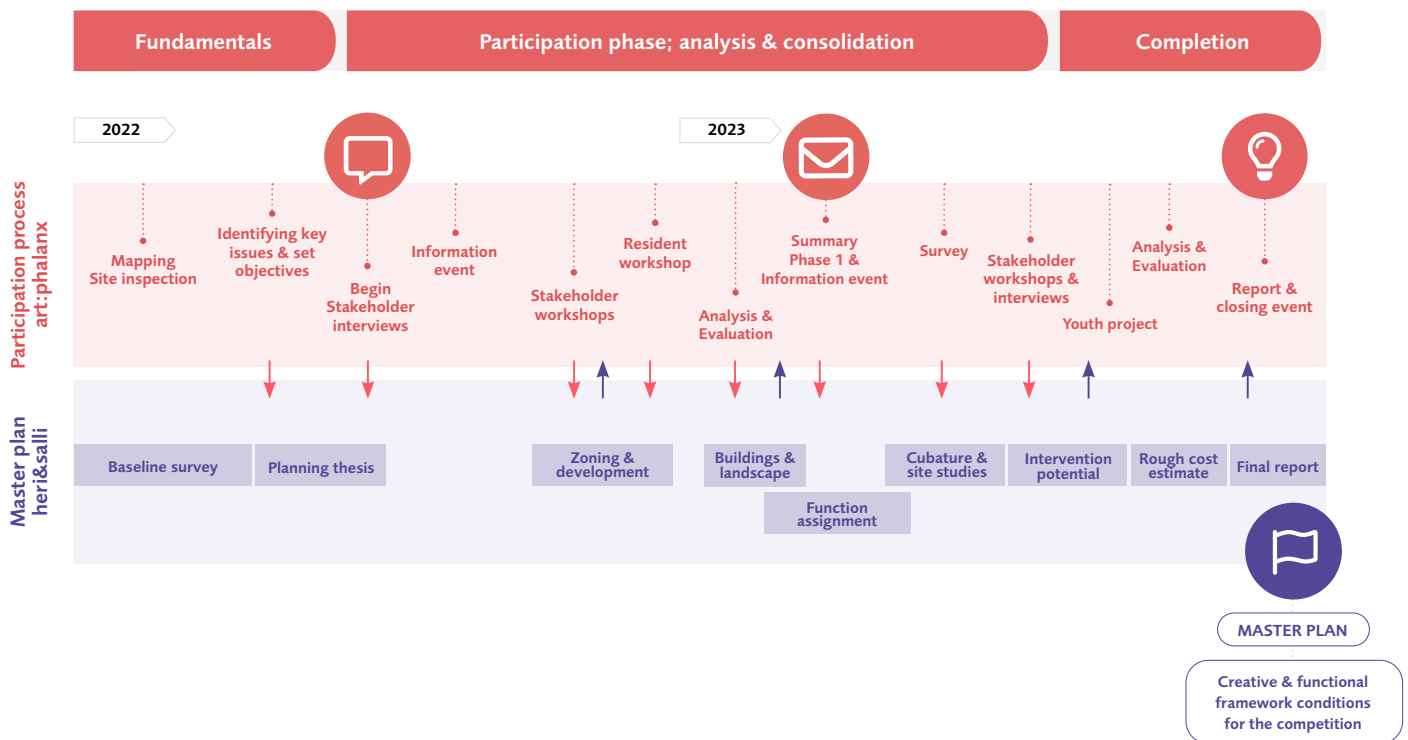


Fig. 1: Presentation of the overall process

### Interest groups

Together with the client, the Mauthausen Memorial, the main stakeholders and interest groups were identified at the start of the project. This analysis has already clearly shown the diversity and heterogeneity of the groups and their actors, taken into account in the conception of participation opportunities.

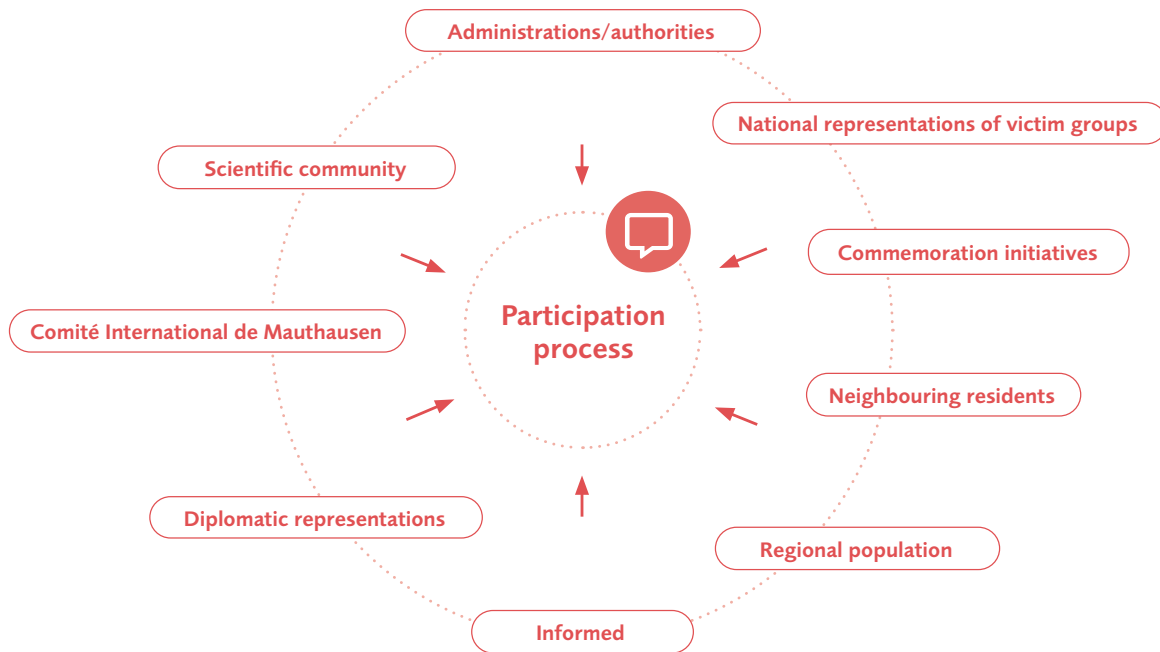


Fig. 2: Interest groups engaged in the participation process

### Participation formats

In order to be able to guarantee an open, transparent and partnership-based engagement of all stakeholders throughout the entire process, the methods were individually tailored to the respective interest groups. In this context, the following participation formats were developed and held from August to December 2022:

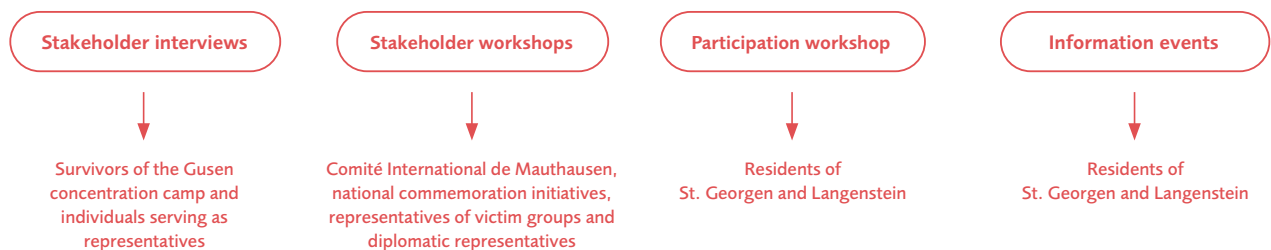


Fig. 3: Presentation of the participation formats

### Stakeholder interviews

- 13 semi-structured interviews with survivors of the Gusen concentration camp as well as individuals serving as representatives of the interest groups identified in coordination with the Mauthausen Memorial
- Objective:
  - To obtain expertise
  - To inquire about expectations and needs
  - To deduce key issues

### Stakeholder workshops

- 3 full-day stakeholder workshops with up to 15 representatives of the interest groups identified in coordination with the Mauthausen Memorial (the Comité International de Mauthausen and its respective country representatives, national commemoration initiatives and representatives of victim groups as well as diplomatic representatives)
- The representatives were nominated directly by the interest groups
- Objective:
  - Substantive participation and brainstorming
  - To identify key issues, expectations and needs

### Participation workshop

- 1 full-day participation workshop with up to 30 participants from the population of St. Georgen and Langenstein
- Open registration option, communicated via the municipalities
- Objective:
  - Substantive participation and brainstorming
  - To identify key issues, expectations and needs

### Information events

- 3 information events with residents and interested parties from the population of St. Georgen and Langenstein
- Open events or open registration options, communicated via the municipalities
- Objective:
  - To provide information about the process and opportunities to participate therein
  - To identify additional key issues, expectations and needs

## Methodology & Evaluation

The core statements from the 13 interviews with stakeholders as well as from the three workshops and the participation workshop with a total of over 60 representatives of regional, national and international interest groups and the local population were included in the evaluation. Using the qualitative content analysis according to Philipp Mayring, thematic main categories were formulated on the basis of the interview transcripts and workshop protocols and several subcategories were assigned thereto. The text passages conveying content were then assigned to the categories following their paraphrasing. The evaluation is based on the key question: "What expectations do the interviewees and workshop participants express with regard to the expansion of the Gusen Memorial?" A precise description of the evaluation methodology and the detailed results are contained in part 2 of this report (detailed data evaluation). These form the basis for the conception of the content of the consolidation phase and are incorporated into the drawing up of the master plan. A summary of the results is presented on the following pages.

### Main and subcategories formulated from the interview transcripts and workshop protocols



Fig. 4: Presentation of the main and subcategories



## Short version

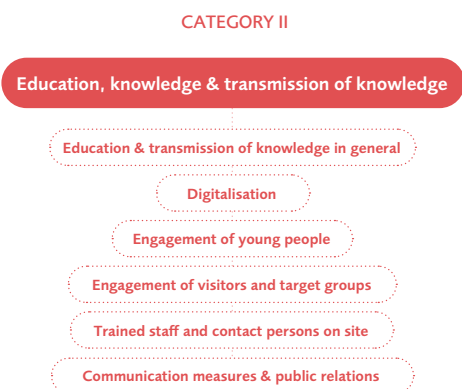
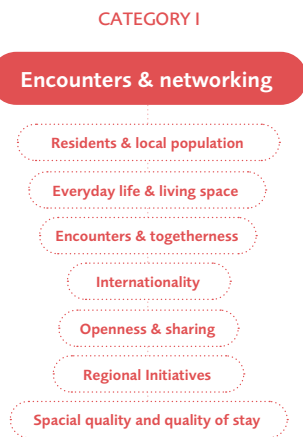
### ENCOUNTERS & NETWORKING

The engagement of **the local population** in the further development of the Gusen Memorial is perceived as very positive and should be pursued throughout the entire process from the point of view of the interviewed partners and workshop participants involved. It is important to understand the location **as a living space** and to facilitate the enjoyment of **a good togetherness** between the population and the visitors of the memorial site.

From the respondents' point of view, the setting up of **public recreation and lodging areas** could result in an added value for the population, facilitating a **stronger level of identification** with the location and **strengthening the level of awareness of Gusen's history**. Furthermore, a potential related to the **positive development of the character and appearance of the locality** and to the **improvement of the reputation of the municipalities was seen**. Key issues for local residents were the consideration of their privacy and ensuring noise and privacy protection.

The desire for **encounters** was frequently expressed in addition to the frequent proposal to create an **open meeting place**, allowing for high-quality encounters not only between people of all ages, but also with the **memories of the victims** and their stories. Such a place should also enable visitors to **be invited to an exchange** with the local population.

As stated by many of those engaged, **regional initiatives** performed important **memorial and relationship work with victims and their relatives** in the past, which should be strengthened by the further development of the memorial site. In addition, a **complementary cooperative collaboration** between the Mauthausen Memorial and regional partners is considered essential. Possible coordination or networking tasks of the commemoration initiatives should be considered in the overall concept allowing for the long-term planning of adequate resources.



### EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE & TRANSMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE

There was broad agreement among the respondents that **young people are regarded as an essential target group**. Specific programs for students and especially for international youth groups are required to establish the Gusen Memorial in the long term as a place of education standing for **self-determined, open learning** and a **critical examination of history**. Such programs would, in addition to visits to the Mauthausen Memorial, promote an **in-depth examination of history and post-war history** and thus open up the **potential for multi-day stays** in the region. In relation thereto, the creation of an **international youth meeting place** and the required infrastructure is regarded by many respondents as an important investment in the future of the memorial site.

The **diversity** and **heterogeneity** of other target groups were discussed, which is why the greatest variety of methods as well as a **modern, interdisciplinary approach** should be pursued during the conception of knowledge transmission offers and content. **In-depth information** based not only on facts but also **emotionally** easy-to-understand should be offered. In this context, the **integration of individual fates and biographies** was also frequently proposed. The so-called "shock pedagogy", considered to be outdated, should be avoided.

Respondents agreed that **the use of digital media is an essential key** to the dealing with the existing voids and the lack of relics. Audio-visual media, virtual reality and the use of apps were mentioned particularly frequently. In addition, the important target group of young people could be strongly reached by the presence in **social media**, which is why this form of communication should be upgraded further.

The respondents agreed that the **communication measures and offers should be pursued on an international level** and that they should promote the **social exchange** between different groups and the local population. Accordingly, the programs should consider **linguistic diversity** and create an **interaction and discussion space**.

### CATEGORY III

#### Remembrance culture

Place of silence

Representation & engagement of nationalities/victim groups

Role as a memorial site

## REMEMBRANCE CULTURE

From the point of view of many participants, a memorial site should be created that **represents all victim groups equally** and offers **space for individual symbolic acts and rituals**. Therefore, this site should be designed in an **international, inter-cultural and inter-religious** manner that allows all victim groups to feel invited to contribute to the commemoration. The memorial site should stand for the values of **solidarity, dignity and togetherness**.

Oposing views were voiced regarding the **representation of the victim groups**. Some of those engaged thus advocated **not to have the nationalities of the victims** at the forefront, but rather to represent them as individuals, **regardless of their nationality, culture or religious affiliation**. Whereas other participants spoke out in favour of representation according to nationalities. The respondents agreed that **internationality** should be at the forefront and that the interpretation of the memorial site from a purely Austrian perspective should be avoided.

Many of those engaged envision a sheltered sanctuary functioning as a "**place of silence**" that invites people to contemplate and reflect on the collected impressions. Respondents agree that such a site requires **high-quality architectural measures** and that **areas for commemoration functions are to be clearly defined**.

Some respondents also proposed to **change the name** to "Mauthausen-Gusen Memorial" (German: "Gedenkstätte Mauthausen-Gusen") to avoid forgetting and to commemorate the prisoners.

CATEGORY IV



## INFRASTRUCTURE

With regard to the issue of infrastructure, functional requirements such as the creation of **meeting places with a high quality of stay** and the erection of **lodging for multi-day stays** were mentioned particularly often. Especially for youth groups and travelling cyclists, affordable overnight accommodation would be necessary. In relation thereto, the creation of a **catering offer** was also proposed, which could open up a go-between with the **local population**. The **spatial infrastructure** for transmission of knowledge should allow for **dynamically uses, by international groups**.

Regarding the issue of **mobility**, an **innovative, environmentally friendly overall concept** was demanded, ensuring **good public accessibility** and **connection to the different places of the memorial sites** and taking into account existing **cycle trail connections**. Furthermore, a sensible solution for the parking situation for car and bus traffic is considered important, since accessibility should by no means become a point of conflict.

A comprehensive indoor and outdoor **guidance system** is considered necessary for spatial orientation, emphasizing the relationship between the locations of Mauthausen, Gusen and St. Georgen. The Danube Cycling Trail should also be taken into account if possible.

According to some respondents, **sustainability** should be pursued as a central criterion in all development steps, especially in relation to the **preservation of green areas**, the **use of existing buildings** and the **economic feasibility** of the overall project.

CATEGORY V



## CONTENT & TOPICS

It is important to those interviewed that the Gusen Memorial is not only considered a place of remembrance, but also a **contemporary history learning location** and "**site of communication**" which builds a bridge between the past and the future.

In addition, it was often noted that, in terms of content, a **holistic approach** should be pursued, considering and contextualising the former Gusen concentration camp as a central functional element of the **Mauthausen-Gusen-St. Georgen** concentration camp complex. The historical specificities of Gusen and its significant differences to other concentration camps as well as the **relevance of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system** in the overall system should be elucidated.

The majority of respondents also consider the future Gusen Memorial an **education and information centre for Austrian post-war history**, whereby it should substantively focus on the **subsequent use of the former Gusen concentration camp area**. The causes and consequences of **supressing the history of the Gusen concentration camp** from the collective memory and the disappearance of the concentration camp should be highlighted in addition to the **change in the politics of memory** in the Republic of Austria after World War II.

The respondents believe that there is a need to distinguish the site from the Mauthausen Memorial **by clearly defining their respective museological and educational functions**, assuring the complementing of narratives and the avoidance of redundancies. Visits to both memorial sites should complement each other as far as possible, thereby opening up the potential for **multi-day stays** and thus for a **comprehensive examination of history**. The aim should be to make Gusen a site that makes Mauthausen readable and vice versa.

It was pointed out by several respondents that the newly purchased properties and the relics located there can be used to address a wide range of aspects of the history of the concentration camp, in particular **Gusen as an industrial site exploiting forced labour**, but also in relation to the **history of the perpetrators** and their **connections to the civilian population**.

Furthermore, the establishing of **links between past and presence** is regarded as the central task of the site to generate **relevance for young people** - by way of issues such as **discrimination, human rights and moral courage**. Overall, Gusen should become a site of **empowerment and inspiration**.

Lastly, the respondents spoke out for the **securing and displaying of the existing architectural structures and remains** of the former concentration camp. A reconstruction of structures is seen critically and the various **time strata and interventions at the site should remain visible and be preserved**. There is general agreement that the **purchase of the former Jourhaus** as an essential symbolic location within the former concentration camp complex should continue to be pursued and be taken into account as much as possible in the overall concept.



## LOCATIONS

Those engaged regard it as a great opportunity **to make the dimensions of the former concentration camp more apparent** through the newly purchased properties **and to make the area more accessible**. At the same time, they called for a **sensitive handling** of the historically burdened sites. Different opinions were voiced regarding the **opening of the area**. Frequently, an **open, accessible memorial site** was proposed. However, some respondents regard it as very important not to make all areas freely accessible and to provide for a **balance between opening and protecting the area**. To that end, the partial opening of an area as a **"park-like" meeting zone** to be developed via a **sophisticated guidance system** and **safe, barrier-free routes** was proposed.

To elucidate the **entirety of the former concentration camp complex** and its connection to the **"Bergkristall" tunnel system**, the **spatial axis from Mauthausen via Gusen to St. Georgen** should be stressed e.g. by referencing historical connections (e.g. former railway connections). An additional increase in relevance of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system could be achieved by providing **more frequent access options** or through

the **permanent opening of a section of the tunnel system**. The development of the properties purchased there should work in synergy with the "**House of Remembrance**" managed by the Mauthausen-Gusen-St. Georgen Awareness Region.

The respective potential and characteristics of the newly purchased properties and the relics located there were discussed. It was proposed several times to leave the former **roll call square** vacant and undeveloped and to use it as a **memorial area**, for example for events. On the other hand, it was also proposed to dedicate it to **erecting monuments**. Many of the respondents regard the **vertical accessibility of the stone crusher** a great potential for establishing a **point of reference and vantage point**, where the scale of the former concentration camp becomes apparent. The **property in front of the Memorial de Gusen** should be included in the overall concept. Many respondents spoke out in favour of preserving an unobstructed view of the Memorial. According to some respondents, in addition to a possible future purchase of the former Jourhaus, the **purchase of further properties** (e.g. the stonewalled former prisoner quarters) should be aimed for.

The **archaeological assessment, sustainable securing and visualisation of the existing structures** of the former concentration camp were mentioned as essential issues related to handling relics. Visitors need recognizable references to the past, which can also be supported via **creative measures** or the **use of digital media**. The aim is, for example, to make a "**time window**" apparent through archaeological measures.

Opposing views were voiced with regard to the **design of the memorial site**. Several respondents spoke out in favour of creating an attention-attracting **architectural landmark**. According to other respondents, however, a **simple, plain appearance** would be worth pursuing. The **design of green areas** and a **park**, where several **thematic stations** related to the **existing structures of the former concentration camp** can be integrated, were mentioned as well.

## COMMON VALUES & PRINCIPLES

In light of the key question, the following common values and principles with regard to the development of the memorial site were recorded during the stakeholder workshops and the participation workshop:



Fig. 5: Values recorded in the stakeholder workshops weighted according to frequency of mentions

## Planning analysis

The discussion results of the participation process are shown in a spatial master plan. A master plan is an instrument for the development of urban planning strategies and methods and, in addition to the functions that the extended Gusen Memorial is intended to perform, it will also contain specific uses for areas, locations, buildings and design guidelines. In addition, the infrastructural and traffic-related development of the area is worked out.

The master plan will be developed in the course of the participation process together with all relevant (regional, national and international) stakeholders and interest groups and will define the creative and functional framework for a subsequent competition. The new areas are to be conceived as an expansion of the existing concentration camp memorial site in Gusen. The aim is to reach a broad regional, national and international consensus on the future master plan.

The master plan is constantly worked on throughout the process. Parallel to the participation formats, the analysis of the current situation has already begun. The figures on the following pages illustrate the planning analysis of this current situation and indicate the first design parameters. Based on this, the master plan will be further concretized during the consolidation phase in order to gradually obtain more detailed specifications for further design.

The current state of the entire area is presented according to the following overarching priorities:

### Overview of properties (p. 17)

- Distances and relationships between the properties
- Integration of adjacent municipal properties in St. Georgen - "Bergkristall"; These properties are located in the area of the tunnel system, are not owned by the Republic of Austria, but are to be included in the master plan in the future.

### Historical functional areas

#### (Prisoner camp / Guard & SS area / Forced labour area) (p. 18)

- The former Gusen concentration camp was divided internally into the prisoner camp, guard & SS area and forced labour areas. During the analysis phase, those engaged repeatedly emphasized that the aspect of forced labour is particularly crucial for understanding the concentration camp complex.

### **Semantic links and relationships between the properties (p. 19)**

- The properties are semantically linked based on original functional links, which can still be read and felt today. The properties are fragments of an original unit. This unit should be maintained with regard to a future design.

### **Existing infrastructure (p. 20)**

- A functioning mobility concept will be important for the future concentration camp memorial site – especially in connection with the existing Mauthausen Memorial. Based on existing transport connections, solutions are required for how visitors arrive at the memorial site, stay and move between the properties (e.g., parking, public transport, catering, toilets).

### **Within the individual properties, the following key points of analysis were set (see p. 21-23):**

- Superposition of historical and current plans (concentration camp development – current development) including archaeological findings – this automatically reveals the potential for possible and non-possible interventions and thematic priorities
- Accessibility of the properties both from outside and subsequently from inside - guidance of visitors
- How can the existing buildings of the former concentration camp be integrated into the future memorial complex. Can they be assigned functions or should they remain "untouched"?
- Discussion of axes of vision, communication and movement
- Geo-referencing of historical photo documentation
- Which qualities of stay are currently available at the property and how do they result from historical references (extroverted - introverted - public - semi-public - private)?
- Relationships between the properties and the adjacent surroundings: Discussion of visual relationships with regard to adjacent private areas as well as possible far-reaching views and overviews of the area, contract-based demarcations, servitudes, etc.)
- Significant tree population



**Analysis**

**Overview of properties**



Fig. 6: Overview of properties

**Analysis**

**Historical functional areas of the properties**



Fig. 7: Historical functional areas of the properties

Analysis

Semantic links

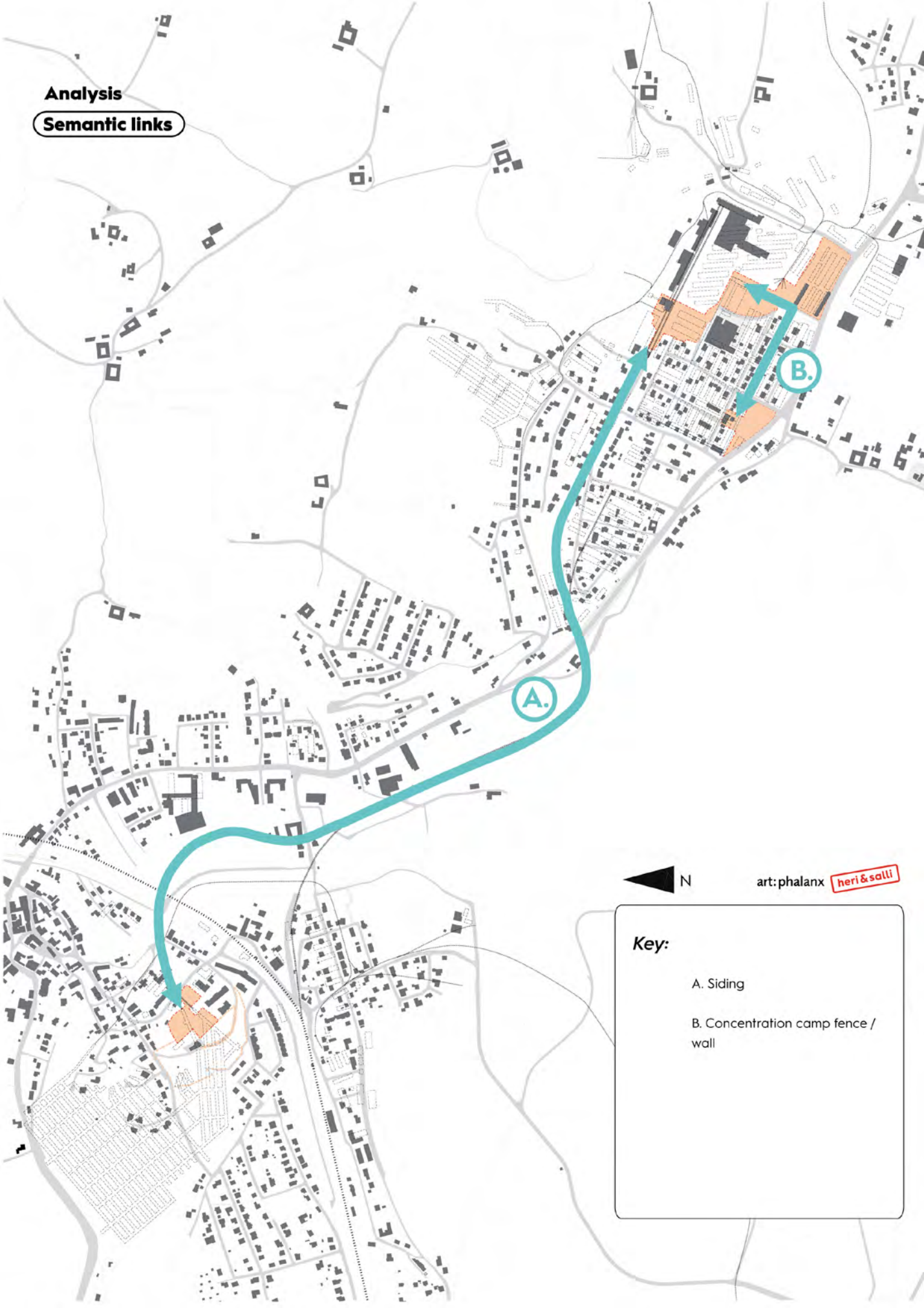


Fig. 8: Semantic links

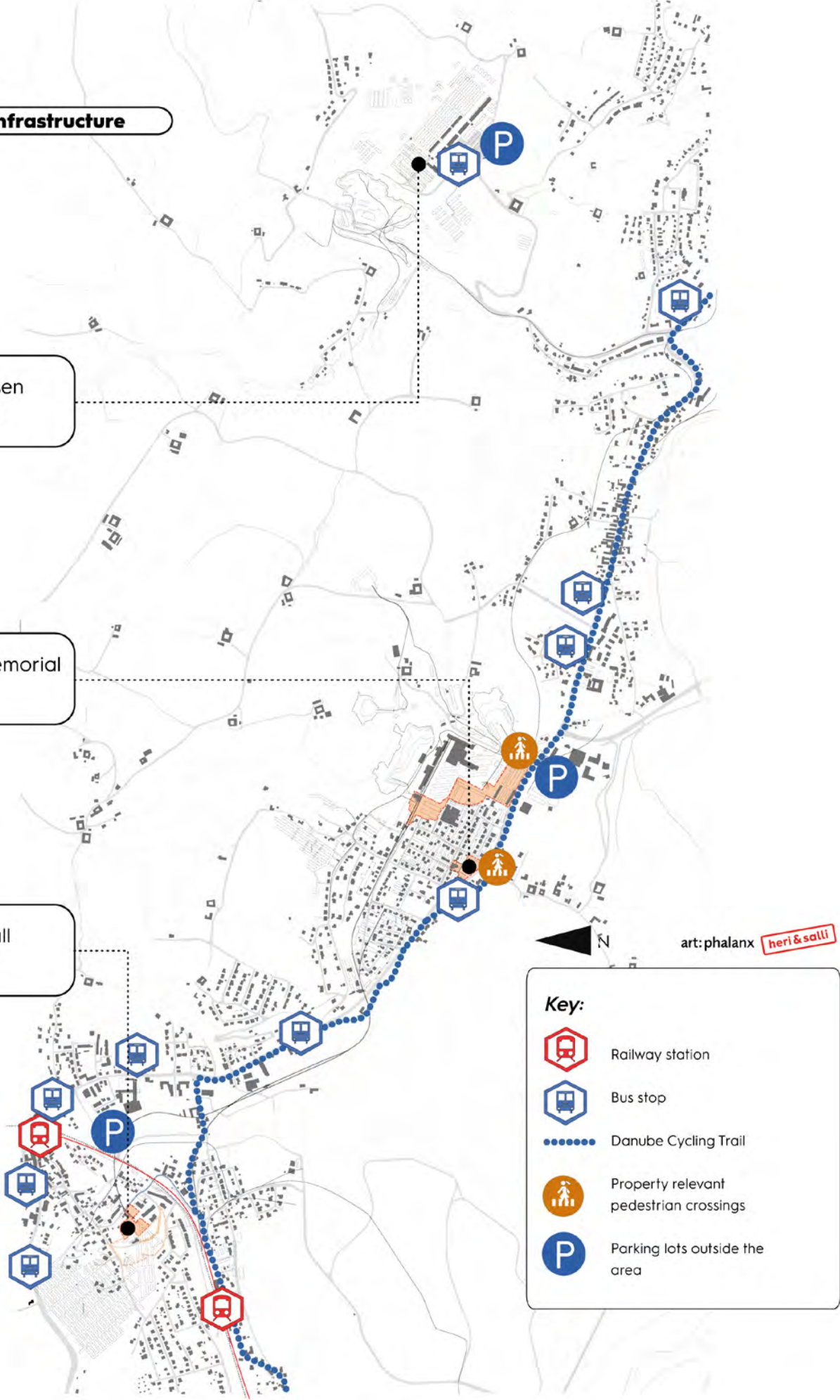
### Analysis

#### Existing infrastructure

Mauthausen Memorial

Gusen Memorial

Bergkristall Memorial



**Key:**

- Railway station
- Bus stop
- Danube Cycling Trail
- Property relevant pedestrian crossings
- Parking lots outside the area

Fig. 9: Existing infrastructure

Analysis

Property: Roll call square

**Key:**

- Property border
- Property owned by the municipality
- According to the Zoning plan border between the sunbathing area/playground and residential area
- According to FLW border between the special and residential area
- Railway
- Light railway
- Former concentration camp buildings
- Siding
- Presumably extensively destroyed archaeological remains
- Other undocumented archaeological objects
- Archaeological findings
- Archaeological findings (not visible)
- Still existing buildings on new properties
- Still existing parts of the tunnel system
- Buildings connected to the history of the concentration camp
- Cycling trail
- Cars
- Sightlines historical images
- Symbolic connection between the building sites
- Inverted
- Extroverted / Clear
- Private road (entrance and exit only for the roll call square)
- Transition zone
- Fence
- Account for view of private properties
- Account for walkway connections
- Beginning of the audio walk
- End of the audio walk

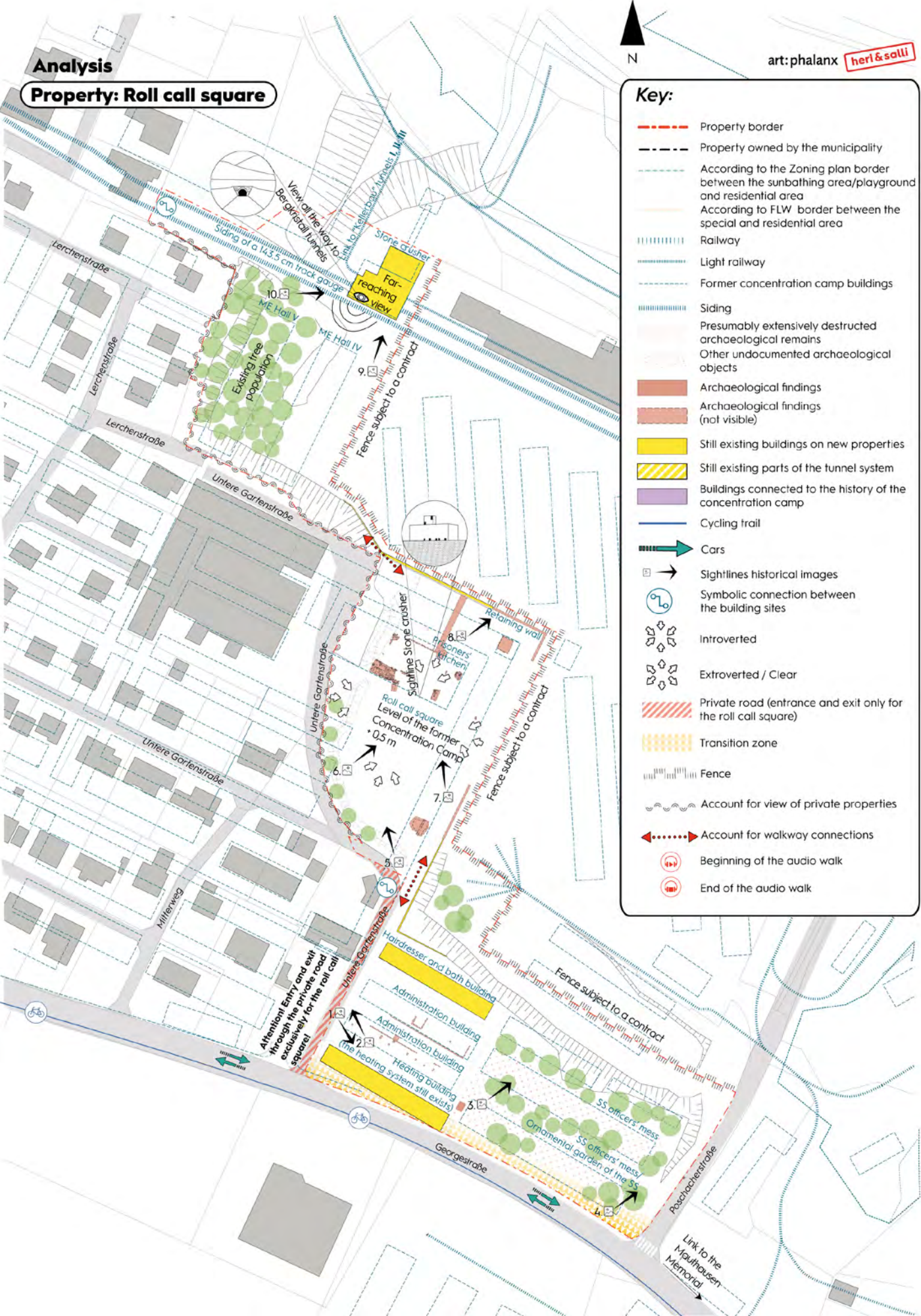


Fig. 10: Property: Roll call square



**Key:**

- Property border
- Property owned by the municipality
- According to the Zoning plan border between the sunbathing area/playground and residential area
- According to FLW border between the special and residential area
- Railway
- Light railway
- Former concentration camp buildings
- Siding
- Presumably extensively destroyed archaeological remains
- Other undocumented archaeological objects
- Archaeological findings
- Archaeological findings (not visible)
- Still existing buildings on new properties
- Still existing parts of the tunnel system
- Buildings connected to the history of the concentration camp
- Cycling trail
- Cars
- Sightlines historical images
- Symbolic connection between the building sites
- Introverted
- Extroverted / Clear
- Private road (entrance and exit only for the roll call square)
- Transition zone
- Fence
- Account for view of private properties
- Account for walkway connections
- Beginning of the audio walk
- End of the audio walk

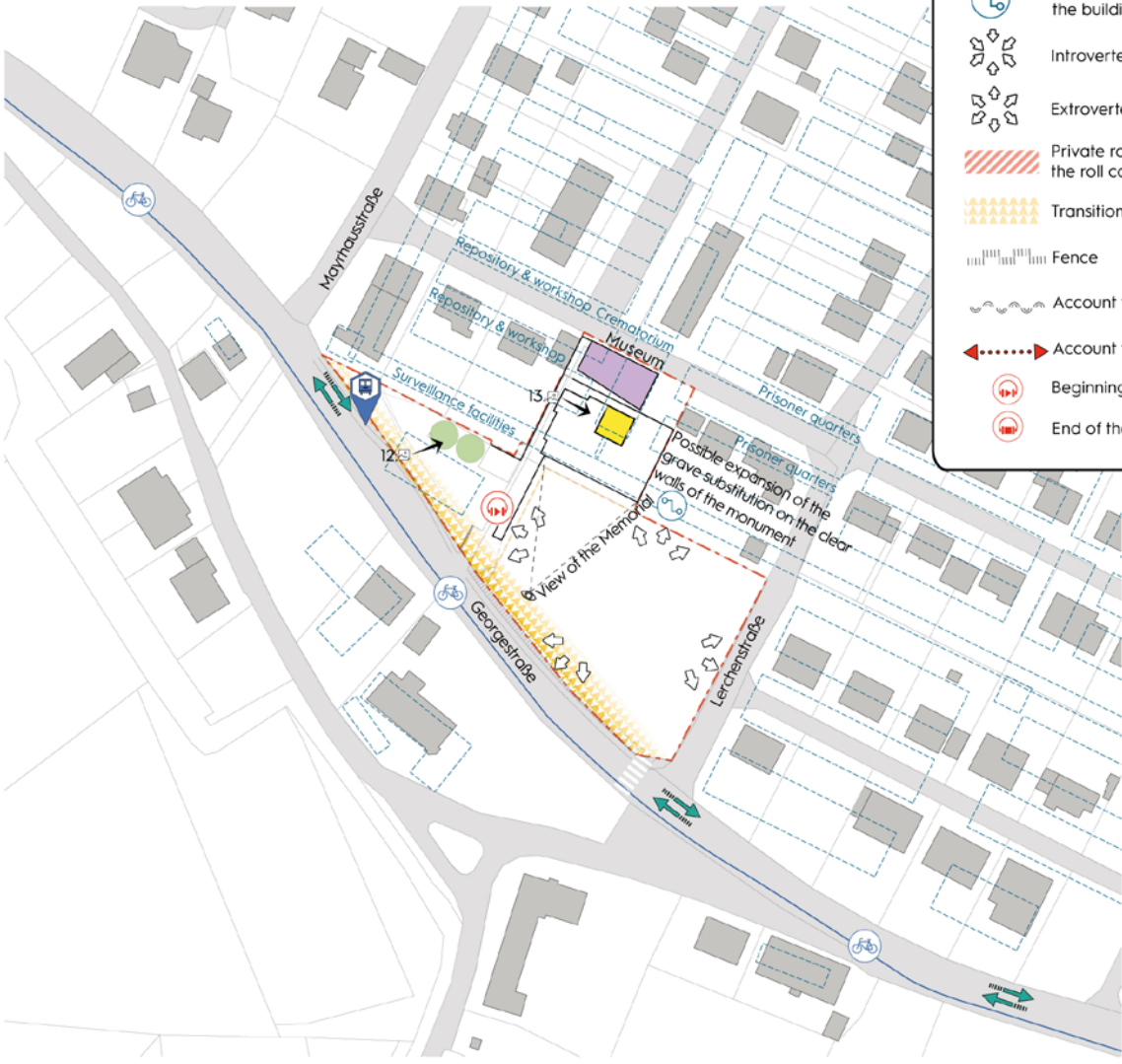


Fig. 11: Property: Memorial

**Analysis**

**Property: Bergkristall**



art:phalanx **heri & salli**

**Key:**

- Property border
- Property owned by the municipality
- According to the Zoning plan border between the sunbathing area/playground and residential area
- According to FLW border between the special and residential area
- Railway
- Light railway
- Former concentration camp buildings
- Siding
- Presumably extensively destroyed archaeological remains
- Other undocumented archaeological objects
- Archaeological findings
- Archaeological findings (not visible)
- Still existing buildings on new properties
- Still existing parts of the tunnel system
- Buildings connected to the history of the concentration camp
- Cycling trail
- Cars
- Sightlines historical images
- Symbolic connection between the building sites
- Introverted
- Extroverted / Clear
- Private road (entrance and exit only for the roll call square)
- Transition zone
- Fence
- Account for view of private properties
- Account for walkway connections
- Beginning of the audio walk
- End of the audio walk

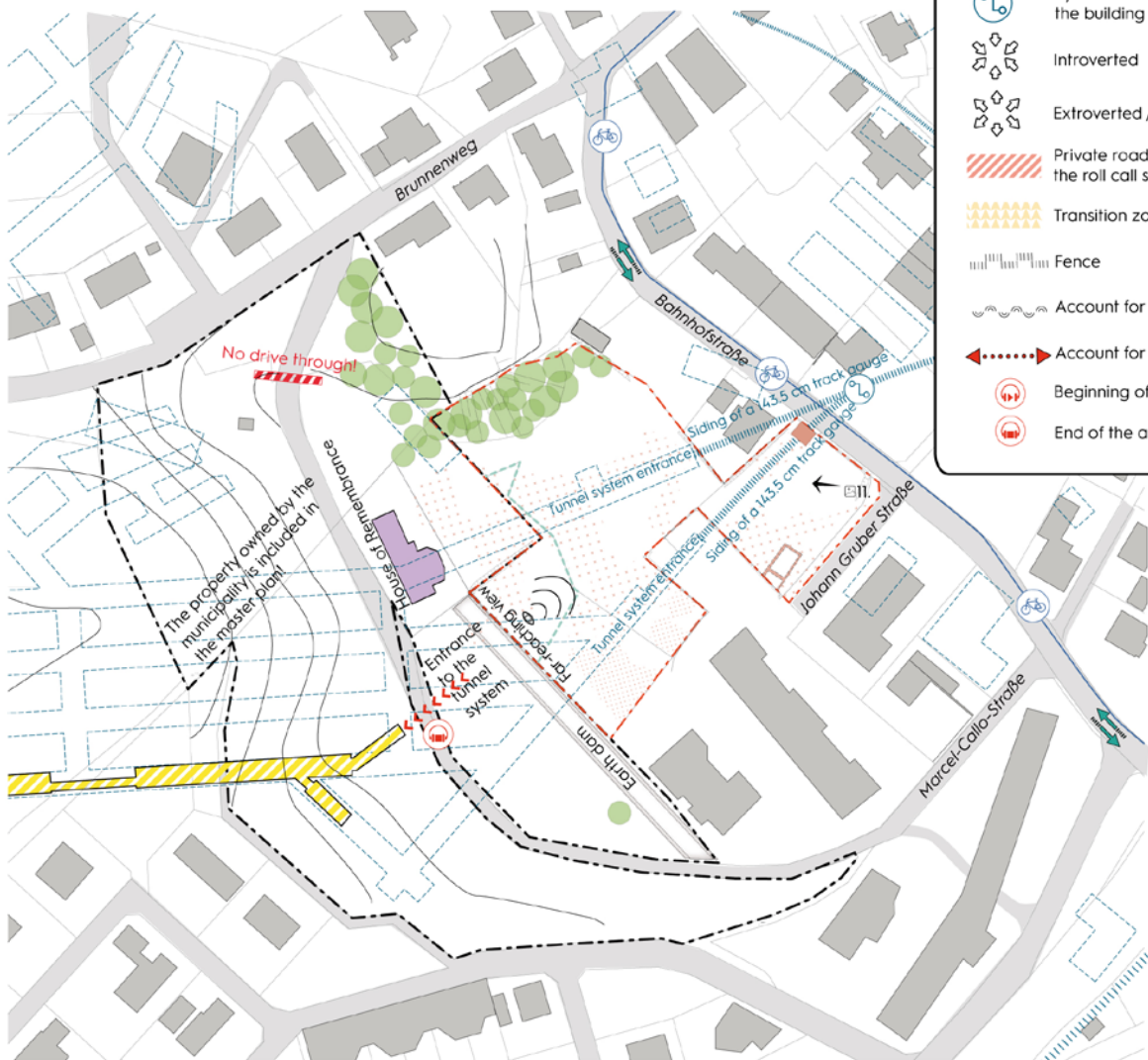


Fig. 12: Property: Bergkristall

**Historical images**



SS guard building, probably dating to spring 1943 (Museu d'Història de Catalunya, Fons Amical de Mauthausen)



Roll call square, after May 5, 1945 (Mauthausen Memorial, Jerzy Ginter Collection)



Stone crusher, June 2, 1963 (Alfred Herzog Collection)



Gusen, 1947 (Simone Bonnet private collection)



Kitchen barracks under construction, spring 1940 (Museu d'Història de Catalunya, Fons Amical de Mauthausen)



Bergkristall 1990s (Franz Walzer Collection)



SS concentration camp commander Fritz Seidler and his wife in front of the SS officers' casino, 1942 (private possession of the family)



Northern retaining wall, probably spring 1943 (Museu d'Història de Catalunya, Fons Amical de Mauthausen)



Panorama image Gusen, 1949 (Mauthausen Memorial, Henri Bussel Collection)



Concentration camp commander Fritz Seidler and his wife at the SS ornamental garden, presumably 1942 (private possession of the family)



Crematorium Gusen, 1949 (Simone Bonnet private collection)



Roll call square, after May 5, 1945 (Mauthausen Memorial, Jerzy Ginter Collection)



Stone crusher, after May 5, 1945 (Mauthausen Memorial, Jerzy Ginter collection)

Fig. 13: Historical images



## Prospect

The collected findings open up a broad all-round view of the interests of the stakeholders and those engaged in the process in relation to the expansion of the Gusen Memorial. All in all, the results offer a meaningful basis for the consolidation in phase 2 of the participation process and thus also for drawing up the master plan.

The present summary is also an expression of the great commitment of all those engaged, a result of their meaningful contributions and constructive, respectful discussions that were held within the framework of all participation formats.

The findings contained in the present summary of phase 1 (analysis phase) form the content-related basis for the consolidation phase. The recorded expectations, recommendations and viewpoints are integrated into the thematic conception of the other planned participation formats.

To enable an in-depth examination of key issues, **four additional stakeholder workshops** will be organised in April 2023 as part of phase 2 (consolidation phase).

**These workshops are structured according to four different topics.** Short lectures by experts from the relevant fields serve as impulses and an information basis for debates of the participants. The **following topics** should be dealt with and discussed in relation thereto:

- **Workshop 1: Transmission and exchange of knowledge**  
Functioning as an international meeting and learning site incorporating modern knowledge transmission methods with a focus on digitalisation
- **Workshop 2: Commemoration and representation**  
Creation of an international memorial site and representation of different groups of victims
- **Workshop 3: Visibility and locations**  
Dealing with relics, connection and accessibility of the different site on a spatial and content-related level
- **Workshop 4: Infrastructure and mobility / green and open areas**  
Infrastructural development and transport links to the area, design and localisation of green and open areas

While the workshops in phase 1 (analysis phase) were organised according to interest groups, in the consolidation phase each workshop will consist of members from different interest groups. This **moderated exchange between interest groups** is essential for a broad, consensus on the master plan for the future development of the Gusen Memorial. The selection and assignment to the respective thematic workshops is carried out by nomination within the organisations and by the curating principle by the project team. The mayors of the municipalities of Langenstein and St. Georgen an der Gusen are engaged in the nomination of participants from the local population. The invitations will be sent as of calendar week 9/2023.

Further **stakeholder interviews** planned in phase 2 (consolidation phase) are used to obtain expertise, to enquire about expectations and needs and to review theses for the development of the area.

A **survey** will also be drawn up and sent as of March 2023 to all **households in the municipalities of Langenstein and St. Georgen an der Gusen** and distributed to interested parties. An **online survey for international stakeholders** will also be offered. These open up various possibilities for expressing personal expectations and opinions in writing. Here, the questions will also be based on the results of phase 1 (Analysis phase).

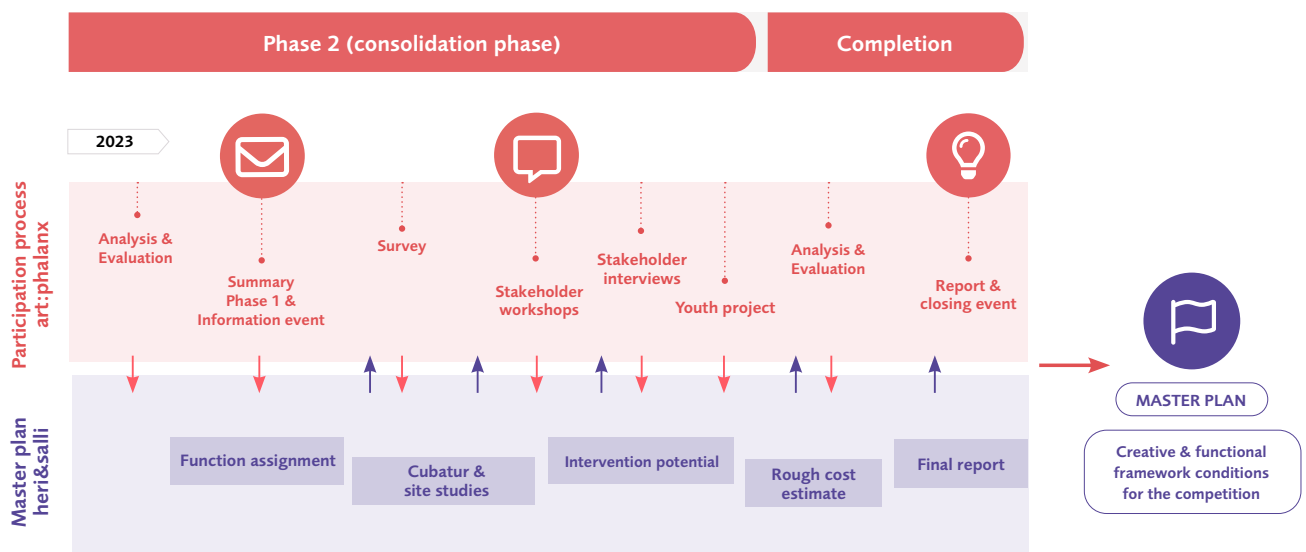


Fig. 14: Process graphic of the consolidation phase

One demand expressed by all stakeholders and interest groups concerns the engagement of young people in the future design of the memorial site. In order to enable this already in the participation process, a two-day **youth encounter project** will be organised, during which students from several nations will develop joint ideas for the redesign of the Gusen Memorial.

Complementary **information events** for the committees and the regional population, in which the main project steps and results are presented and put up for discussion, are also planned.

The aim is to collect guiding statements and recommendations on the central issues in the consolidation phase and to secure the broadest possible consensus among those engaged. After the evaluation and analysis, the ensuing results will be integrated into the master plan. This is to be completed by mid-2023. The master plan forms the basis for policy makers to further develop the Gusen Memorial through design competitions. The aim is to expand the Gusen Memorial into a European memorial site that will allow for a dignified commemoration of the victims of the Gusen concentration camp.

## Imprint

Mauthausen Memorial  
Erinnerungsstraße 1, 4310 Mauthausen  
T +43 7238 2269-0  
[www.mauthausen-memorial.org](http://www.mauthausen-memorial.org)  
[www.gusen-memorial.org](http://www.gusen-memorial.org)

art:phalanx Agentur für Kultur und Urbanität  
Neubaugasse 25/1/11, 1070 Wien  
T +43 1 524 98 03  
[www.artphalanx.at](http://www.artphalanx.at)

heri&salli Architektur ZT GmbH  
Schottenfeldgasse 63/5, 1070 Wien  
T +43 1 9078299  
[www.heriundsalli.com](http://www.heriundsalli.com)

Plan representations by: heri&salli  
Figures by: art:phalanx, Mauthausen Memorial /  
Bernhard Mühleder, Julius Sevcik

© Mauthausen Memorial, art:phalanx,  
heri&salli, 2023. All rights reserved.