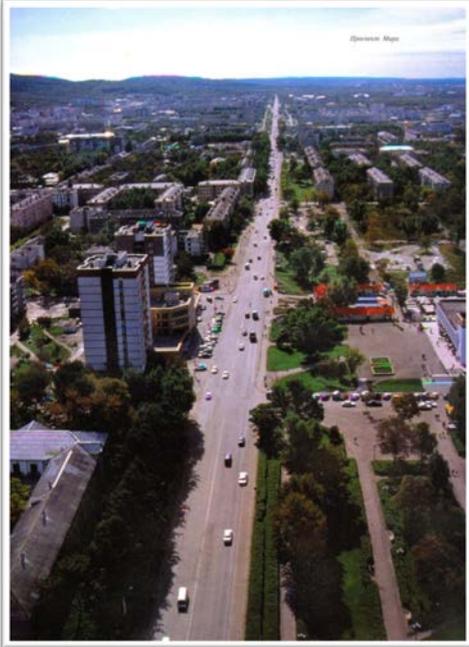
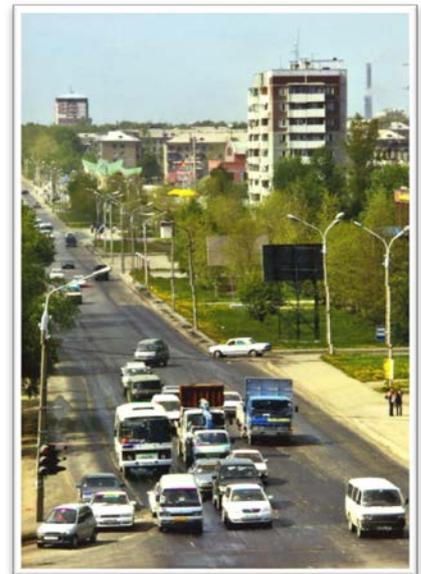


Mira Avenue



Mira Avenue is one of the central streets of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, which crosses the city from the North to the South. Due to its length, it can be divided into three parts: the North, the central and the South. The Northern part from the Rogatka River is an industrial district. Here you can find some of the biggest enterprises: the dairy plant “Yuzhno-Sakhalinsky”, city's supply store, etc.; moving closer to the center – construction materials and electronic goods shops. The central part mostly consists of shopping centers, whilst the Southern part is almost completely constructed with residential districts and the Regional Hospital blocks.

Nowadays Mira Avenue is the main city's highway, so it's reasonably hard to believe that once it was a two-meters wide path from Sakhalinskaya Street to Rybnaya Street, with just some well-footworn lanes from the both sides. In a word, it was outskirts with stumpy one-two storey houses amongst poplars, fir trees and pines. The street started to develop slowly in 1946 and it had been called Predgornaya up until 1965.



In 1949 according to the first general project of city development the Northern industrial district started to grow, as well as it was decided to develop modern constructions in the Southern part of the city. In 1950 a

town's dairy complex' construction was started in Predgornaya Street. Nowadays JSC Dairy Plant “Yuzhno-Sakhalinsky” can be named as one of the leaders in the industry. The complex includes laboratories, refrigerators and workshops.



In the early 60s the Cinderblock Products Plant was also constructed here. It obtained almost all construction projects in the city, providing them with supplies and equipment. But at the time of reconstruction, the plant was separated into small facilities, which were liquidated later.



Nowadays the Southern part is nowhere near as the former hospital territory of the district, which was in 6 km from the city till 1964. In 1957 Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Municipal Hospital was reorganized into the regional one. The regional healthcare institution “Sakhalin regional hospital” is the leading healthcare facility in the Sakhalin region today. This complex includes hospital for inpatients, a

consultative polyclinic and a diagnostic center. There are more than 40 offices as its part. Annually up to 17,5 thousand residents of the Sakhalin region receive treatment in Divisions of the Regional Hospital

The avenue became better and better each year. Old houses gave in to the modern and stylish residential blocks, kindergartens and schools. On 7 May 1965 the executive committee decided to rename Predgornaya Street into Mira Avenue and Yuzhnaya Street into Pobedy Avenue as a deep and thoughtful symbol in memory of the 20th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945). In the 80s a brand-new asphalt highway was paved to Dolinsk, connecting three cities: Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Dolinsk and Korsakov. The first 12-storey house has been built, the construction of the House of trade has been started.

The final step in forming the central part of the street as a cultural and social center was constructing house of culture «Rodina», the House of the Unions, the House of political education, the theatre square. The Sakhalin Korean cultural center was opened here in 2007. Korean classes, computer classes, a library, an assembly hall, a canteen and several hotel rooms have settled down in the 2-storey building. In July 2007 a memorial in honor of Korean miners, who have died in the years of Japanese occupation, was opened.



Each year city's borders are expanding. New shopping centers were opened in Mira Avenue in the last few years. In December 2006 an 8-storey «Pacific Plaza Sakhalin» hotel complex was successfully constructed.

Nowadays Mira Avenue is the main city highway, which was noticeably developed in 2006, due to the increasing of transit cars in the city. The reconstruction included new road lines, developed road cloth, comfortable pavements and green areas. These works are not finished yet, so the Avenue grows bigger and better, becoming a visiting card of the capital.