



The History of Skobelov City or New Margilan

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Annation. *This article tells about the city of Skobelov, which was founded in the Ferghana Valley during the Soviet period. After some time, the city founded by a Russian general began to be called New Margilon, and in 1924 the current name became known as Fergana.*

Key words: *Russian Margelan, Skobelov, New Margelan, 1876 years, Fergana 1924 years, versts, Central Asia, Russia.*

Skobelov¹ or the Russian Margelan is called New Margelan, in contrast to the Old Kokand Margelan, which is as much as 12, if not 15 versts from here. If all the native cities of Central Asia resemble each other like two drops of water, then the Russian Central Asian cities, in turn, resemble one another to the point of indistinguishability. The city of Margelan is also among the bare steppe. From afar, it is a huge green forest, shaded by distant white pyramids of snowy mountains. There are no numbers of poplars here. There are whole regiments, whole armies of giant poplars, and one is slimmer, one is taller than the other. Our Central Asian military administration planted pyramidal poplar everywhere with special diligence. Askhabad, Samarkand, Tashkent, Kokan, Margelan are, first of all, endless dense alleys of huge poplars.

This tree of the south is really very comfortable. It does not obscure dwellings as much and does not take up as much space as spreading trees; it is neat and beautiful like no other; it grows so quickly and so unpretentiously as no other, and then it immediately makes the landscape of the area a southern landscape. But it seems to me that the military heart, accustomed to the alignment of the formation, to the construction in columns and ranks, also feels an involuntary predilection for this, so to speak, disciplined, compressed and selected tree, which is so easily amenable to a soldier's rank, almost ready to march along straight lines. long streets with their motionless elongated, like an army on review, green rows.

Margelan and other cities of the Ferghana region owe these plantations to the former talented governor of the region, General Abramov, who, together with Governor-General Kaufman, was animated by a special zeal for tree plantations of all kinds. The current governor, Korolkov, is also famous as a lover and expert in tree planting and, as I heard, he was even summoned to the Transcaspian region, to the Bairam-Ali sovereign estate, for meetings on the issue of planting gardens and forests, which he knew well; he proved his readiness for this matter while still being an assistant to the governor in Samarkand, where he so successfully made almost all of his many plantings.

In order to kill in the eyes of the natives the former dominant significance of Kokan and deprive him of dangerous historical prestige, the supremacy of the conquered khanate was transferred to the newly created Margelan, just as during the conquest of the Crimea by Catherine the old Bakhchisarai, the residence of the Gireys, was demoted to a provincial city and had to give its former superiority to the insignificant Ak-Mosque, granted to the provincial city and renamed Simferopol. For the same reason, the very name of the Kokand Khanate was destroyed, which was given its ancient Arabic name - Fergana, Fergana region.

But in addition to endless rows of poplars, in Margelan there are also endless rows of barracks, camps, and batteries. There are two artillery batteries here, of which one mountain, equestrian, especially

¹ <https://rus-turk.livejournal.com/tag/newmargilan>



needed in such areas, three line battalions of 4 companies each, one Cossack regiment - a whole impressive detachment capable of holding in reverence and fear the not quite resigned spirit of various wild-stone Kirghiz, the Kipchaks and other warlike tribes of Kokan, who so recently still fought with us with weapons in their hands. It is no wonder that now everything here is quiet and calm. And withdraw the army tomorrow, and everything will turn upside down. However, the local Sarts reach us even in a peaceful position. Looking more closely after the first fear that Skobelev's defeat inspired in them, they became convinced that the Russian government, not only in words, but in deeds, applies the same measure of law to all Russian subjects, that the Russian court is equally accessible, equally impartial to the Sart and the Kirghiz, as well as to Russian. And so they braved to the point of impudence, comprehended vividly any judicial slander, all sorts of clever geshefts with bills, contracts, pledges, began to take contracts and supplies for the army, learned to understand and speak in Russian everything that they need to say and understand, and, like the Jews in Byelorussia, clinging to each other in an inseparable kahal, they gradually took over all the trade and industry of the region, decisively recaptured all profitable business from the Russians. In Russian Margelan - most of their houses, shops, warehouses - theirs.

New Margelan differs from Tashkent and Samarkand only in greater abundance and greater density of greenery. Positively, this is one poplar garden. The boundless vistas of colossus trees open up in all directions, intersecting with each other. These solid green walls of infinite length, enormous height, are extremely original and beautiful. The merry unceasing murmur of ditches, flowing at their roots, even more transfers the imagination to the sphere of gardens and rural nature.

Governor Street is the main artery of the city. All the local institutions are there; there, by the way, is an excellent two-storey military assembly house with luxurious balconies and terraces in an oriental style, surrounded by flower beds and a garden. Inside there are many tastefully decorated rooms, a huge ballroom with elegant parquet, an elevated platform for concerts and performances, drawing rooms and dressing rooms full of fashionable furniture, reading rooms with all kinds of newspapers and magazines. It is hard to believe that you are in the recent kingdom of Khudoyar Khan, in the country of the Kipchaks and Kirghiz.

The new house of the regional governor is being built on the same street and is almost ready. The current residence of the governor, both in its modest appearance and in its position, is more like a summer house. It is entered through the alleys of Gubernatorskaya Street.

At the other end of this street is a city garden, very shady and cozy. Several wide rammed alleys, lined with tall trees, run along the street, others converge in rays in the central platform. There is a small wooden church, temporarily replacing a new cathedral under construction nearby.

There are two schools in Margelan, one for women, the other for four classes in the city with a six-year course. Both have their own spacious and comfortable houses.

There is also an Asian bazaar, in which there is absolutely nothing interesting and in which all trade, with the exception of some 2-3 Russian shops, is in the hands of local Sarts.

There are decent shops in the city, Zakho, Filatov, and others, but in general, trade here is quiet, although Margelan is the official capital of the Fergana region, the residence of its governor and the highest military authorities of the region.

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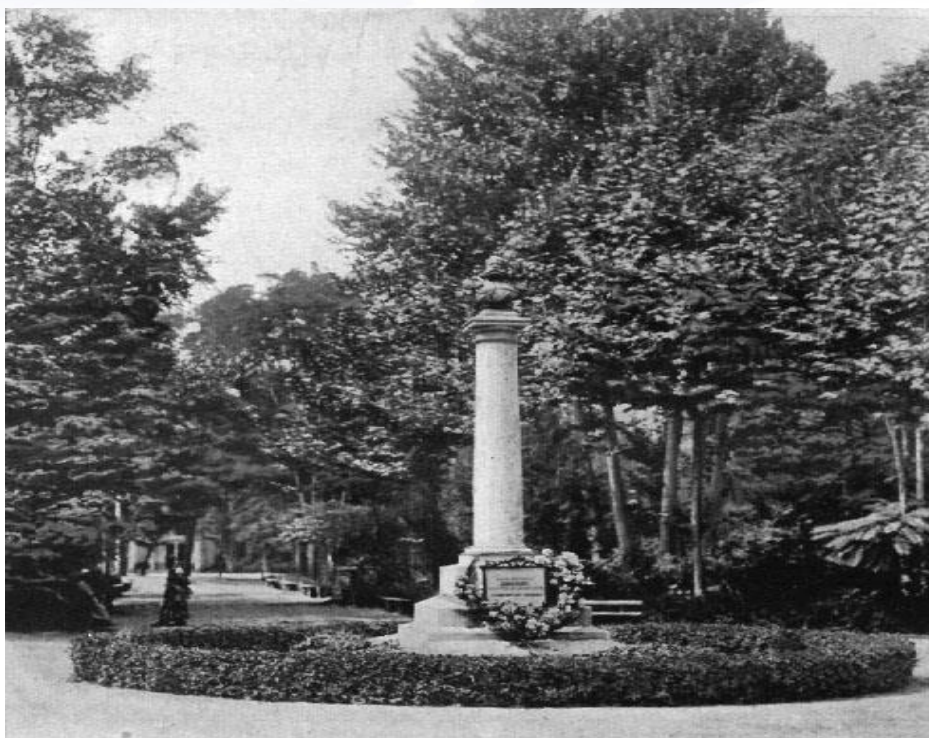
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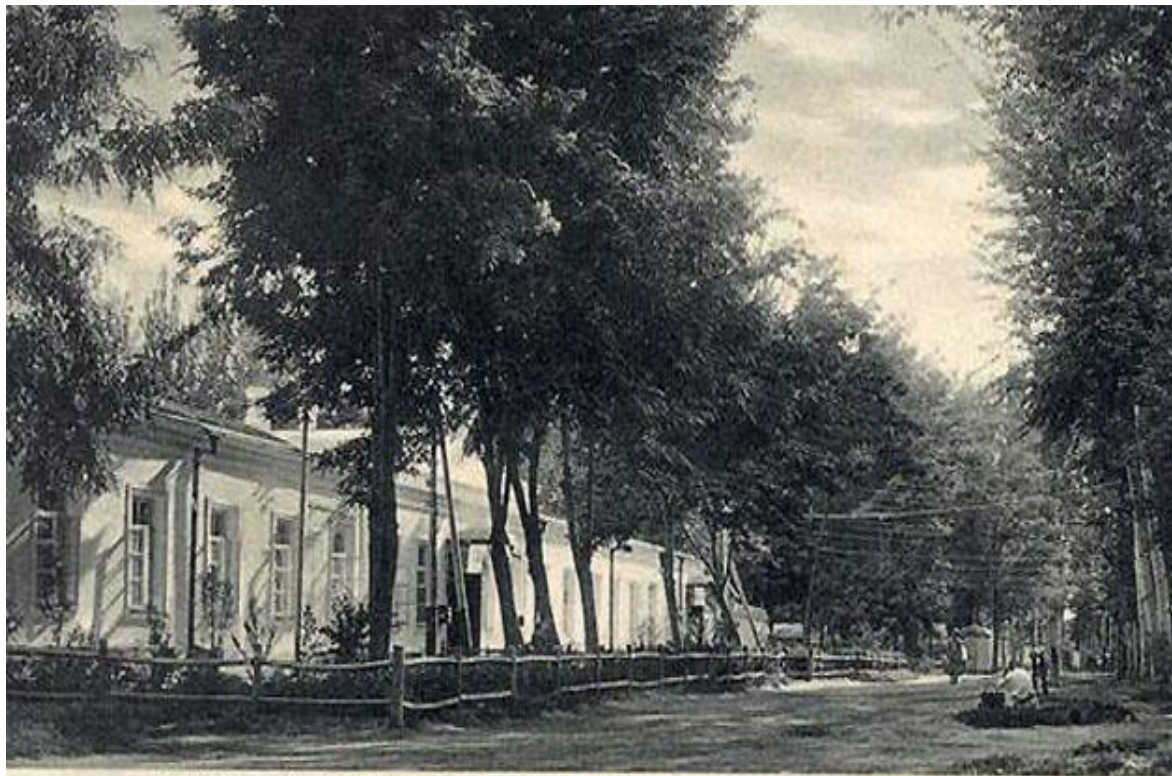
EXTRA INFORMATIONS



The monument of Skobelov 1876-1910



Military unit building at New Margilan



№ 33 г. Скобелевъ. Почтово-телеграфная контора.

Post office of New Margilan(Skobelov)