

Key Events 2001-2002

Year 2002

Andrejsala is located in the protection area of the Riga Historical Centre – an area which is on the UNESCO World Heritage list, therefore elaboration of its development plan should be seen as a very significant project, into which architecture students of Latvia have also invested their effort.

In early 2002 six development projects for Andrejsala, created by MA course students of Riga Technical University were reviewed and evaluated. In their works students have proposed to create „a city in a city”, allotting plenty of space to various business and leisure facilities and a considerable part of the territory for recreational purposes and green area. In their works students have voiced their opinion that in the future Andrejsala has to serve all the community, and should not be restricted by port operations alone. Such vision forms also the basis of „Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums” Ltd. intended territory development concept; therefore students’ ideas were welcomed with great interest.

Year 2001

The year 2001 is the foundation year of „Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums” Ltd. The company was founded on September 10. Its founders are the Riga Freeport Authority and the Norwegian company’s Varner Gruppen AS subsidiary Port Pro AS. Initially share capital of the company constituted 100 000 US dollars, in equal parts invested by both shareholders.

The idea of establishing the Company is to clear Andrejsala and the adjacent territories from cargo handling business, port industry, derricks, railway tracks and, by means of integration, create a sports, entertainment, culture and business centre with modern buildings. The following advantages will result from the project implementation: ships will have to sail a 15 km shorter distance up to cargo handling terminals; obsolete terminals will be replaced by new ones; environmental pollution will be reduced; the city will attain a new business and recreational centre with a modern infrastructure.

With a view to get an insight into similar waterfront projects already implemented in Scandinavia, „Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums” Ltd. arranged an excursion for representatives of Riga City Council and Riga Freeport Authority, and journalists. During the excursion the following waterfront areas were visited:

Orestaden – the largest city development project implemented in Europe in 2001. Project analysis helped to better understand the planning process, expenditure of time at the planning stage, the importance of investments attraction and other issues.

Bo01 – city of the tomorrow located in Malmö – a modern housing area. In the context of this project ecological, social and technical aspects, as well as amenities were considered. As this is a waterfront area, it has a lot in common with Andrejsala.

Helsingborg – port area running along the bay, which has been transformed into a modern housing area with quaysides for private vessels.

Eriksberg – a territory which from a heavy industrial territory has been transformed into a modern housing and business area.

Aker Brygge – one of the biggest and most successful port projects in Scandinavia, within the framework of which an old dockyard was transformed into a modern housing area in Oslo. The main objective of the trip was to give a better understanding of visions seen by „Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums” Ltd. when thinking of the future of Andrejsala.