

Vladimir Olgart's Older Sister Riva Bateiko



My older sister, Riva Bateiko, in Kiev in 1950. The photo was taken in her flat. Riva was born in Skvira in 1910. In 1926 my brother Mikhail moved to Kiev. Riva followed him shortly afterwards. She got a job as a cashier at the canteen of the Smirnov-Lastochkin garment factory. She rented a room in Podol, not far from the factory. Riva married a Jewish man named Bateiko. I don't remember his first name. He was a dressmaker and a very interesting man. He came from Chernigov. His parents had 13 sons. They all passed away. Riva and her husband had three daughters. Riva quit her job after their first baby was born and became a housewife. During the war Riva and her family had been in evacuation in Novosibirsk. Her husband had been wounded at the front, but survived and returned home. In the 1970s Jews began to move to Israel. Riva's husband died unexpectedly in 1970, and her daughters insisted on emigrating to Israel. My sister left with her daughters. She died in Jerusalem in 2000.