



**Romanov News**  
**Новости Романовых**

*By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky*

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Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich (1876 -1918)

## The murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich was discussed in Perm

On 16-17<sup>th</sup> of November "The November reading of history and archives" took place at the Perm archive of recent history. It was a scientific conference devoted to "Russian Empire on the eve of revolutionary upheavals. On the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution of 1917".

As the name implies, the conference dedicated to the situation in the Russian Empire on the eve of the February and October revolutions. Scientists discussed the state of the economy in this period, inter-ethnic relations, the everyday life of the Russian society and other issues.

In addition, several round tables were organized. One Round table titled "The abduction and murder in Perm of Grand Duke Mikhail Romanov" was held in conjunction with the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation. They discussed versions of the crime, the search for documents and evidence in the archives, and the work on how to find the remains of the Grand Duke in Perm and the surrounding area.

## Perm investigators took up the murder case of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich

18.11. - Investigative Committee of Russia's Perm region took up the murder case in Perm of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, brother of Emperor Nicholas II. Investigators rely on archival documents and work in tandem with historians. What have been found out in this case?



Former hotel "Royal Rooms", where Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich Romanov spent his last days. In 1918, the brother of the Emperor under guard was taken to Perm. Michael was accompanied by his personal secretary Brian Johnson. Both persons were secretly taken by Perm Cheka and police in the direction of Levshino and shot in the woods. In the archived documents, there is information about the organizers and participants of the crime. In a photo - security officer Andrei Markov, who shot the Secretary Brian Johnson. There is evidence that he withdrew from Johnson's hands a silver watch. And for many years he wore it as a trophy. Markov was proud of involvement in the shooting of the representative of the Imperial House.

Ilya Papulov, deputy head of the department of Perm State Archive of Contemporary History:  
- Andrey V. Markov wrote detailed memoirs about the case. And he considered it his life's work. And at meeting with the pioneers, he spoke about this episode, but did not disclose details. Arguing that he had given his word to Lenin personally never speak in detail about this event.  
Russian Investigative Committee deals with the murder case of Romanovs. Perm episode highlighted in a separate proceeding. They engaged local forensics - in collaboration with the archivists. Those help investigators collect and examine all the remaining documents. Some of them offer new details of the crime.

Sergey Neganov, Director of Perm State Archive of Contemporary History:  
- Of course, we had to adapt to the specifics. Because one thing, how historians estimate document and another - how it applies to investigators. Who is looking for a place where the murder took place, and the remains. That has not yet been found.

International fund «SEARCH» is engaged in the search for the remains. It was created by Peter Sarandinaki from the US - a descendant of Russian nobility immigrants. It organizes exploratory expedition. Their members - legal archaeologists, criminologists from Britain, USA and Russia. They come every year in Perm and are digging into the alleged murder scene. Use modern equipment, detection dogs.

Peter Sarandinaki, director of the Foundation «SEARCH» (USA):  
- And I can not leave this job, of course, here in the city of Perm. I started it, and as long as there is power, and as long as people give money for this work, we come and do.  
Volunteers search engines, historians, investigators gathered at a special conference in Perm. Here they summarize the information and outlined further steps to unravel the age-old detective.

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### **Perm Calvary of Grand Duke Mikhail - And the possibility to acquire his remains**

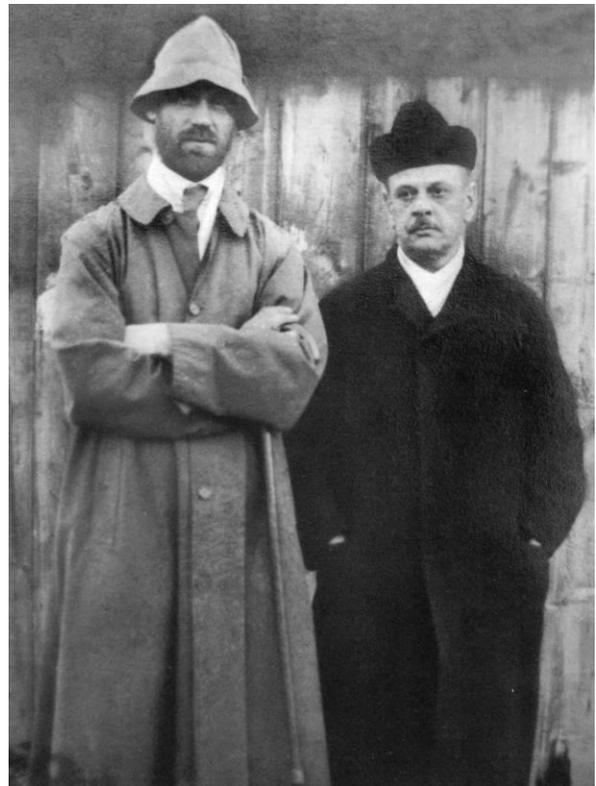
*By the President of the Foundation Memory of Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House, Doctor of Law Y. Zhuk*

March 9, 1918 proposal of Petrograd Cheka chairman M.S. Uritsky "On the expulsion of the former Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich and others to Perm region" was presented at the meeting of the Committee of the Soviet Government (SNK RSFSR).

On the same day, at a meeting of the RSFSR SNK in Moscow under the chairmanship of V. Ulyanov (Lenin) after Uritsky report "On the expulsion of [Grand] Duke M.A. Romanov and others in Perm it was agreed to "take note of the [draft decree], as amended," and "expulsion M.A. Romanov to charge. Uritsky. "

March 9, 1918 SNK RSFSR stated: " send to the Perm province the former Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich Romanov, his secretary Nicholas Johnson, Clerk of the Gatchina Palace Alexander M. Vlasov and former chief of the Gatchina railway gendarmerie Peter Znamerovsky."

However, before we continue our story, it should be clarified who was N.N. Johnson, whose fate is inseparably linked with the fate of the Grand Duke.



*Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich and his secretary Nicholas Johnson*

Until now, many researchers believe that N.N. Johnson was a British citizen. However, this is not true. In fact, Nicholas Johnson, was a subject of the Russian Empire. His father - Nikolai Krutikov was Russian and his mother - Anna Krutikova Johnson had English roots. Young Coca (family nickname of little Nicholas Johnson) was born in St. Petersburg and was baptized Orthodox rite. The information is not available today, what his father was doing. It is only known about his mother that she "taught music at the Royal court."

Relationship of N. Johnson and Grand Duke was held in the beginning of the century, that is, at a time when the Great Prince was undergoing Sciences at the Mikhailovsky Artillery School, and N.N. Johnson mastered profession of artillery officer in its walls.

Position of the Personal Secretary of the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich N.N. Johnson won only in 1912, ie at a time when his adjutant - Staff captain A.A. Mordvinians submitted once again to resign, not wanting to have any consequences associated with morganatic marriage of his sovereign ...

And from that time, Johnny (so friendly Mikhail called him) was almost permanently at especially the Grand Duke.

In addition to N.N. Johnson, Grand Duke's valet V.F. Chelishev, cook G.F. Mitreveli and driver P.Y. Borunov (as Mikhail had brought with him to Perm your personal car "Rolls-Reuss") went to self-imposed exile.

Being exiled to Perm, the Grand Duke was immediately imprisoned, but soon released and then lived at first in a hotel at the Noble Assembly, and then to one of the city' best hotels - "Royal Rooms".

Staying in Perm as expelled person with the right of free residence, Grand Duke often appeared in public, visiting theaters, shops and other crowded places, constantly crowds of enthusiastic inhabitants gathering around him. Besides that, Mikhail made outings in the surrounding area of the city and not only once crossed the Kama river in a motor boat, hiked in the area of holiday villages Lower and Upper Kuria and artillery range of the Perm gun factory with N.N. Johnson and P.L. Znamerovsky.

The nearest village was a suburb of Perm Motovilikha where was the factory (above mentioned). Head of factory's Bolshevik organization which Gabriel Miasnikov, nicknamed "Ganka", released at the time of the February Troubles events from of Orel convict prison. Gangster from 1905, an authorized person of known at the time gang of A.M. Lbov nicknamed "Bream" (engaged in the 1900s looting under the guise of 'revolutionary expropriation '), he was simply burned with fierce, hatred all representatives of the propertied class and, above all, to "Romanov gang ", as at the time revolutionaries of all stripes called members of the Russian Imperial House of Romanov.

Gradually a plan to assassinate the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich, under the pretext of the abduction of him by underground officers' organization was matured in Ganka's head. (Subsequently, G.I. Miasnikov even write a work that would call "murder philosophy or why and how I killed Mikhail Romanov") To implement his plan, he picked people he knew well, from among former fighters, known since 1905 for its bloody exploits and after the October revolution of 1917, occupied in Perm and Motovilikha key positions.

Namely:

- chief of Perm Police V.A. Ivanchenko;
- assistant of Chief of Motovilikha factory settlement police and a member of the Perm District Emergency Committee, N.V. Zhuzhgov;



- commissioner for the nationalization of the property of the bourgeoisie and the management of cultural institutions A.V. Markov;
- member of the Board of the Perm District Emergency Committee and Head of the Audit Commission of Public Utilities I.F. Kolpaschikov.

At midnight from 12 to 13 of June 1918, the group of conspirators drove up to the "Royal Rooms" on the two covered chaises. Myasnikov and Ivanchenko Markov remained, Kolpashchikov and Zhuzhgov went upstairs. Going into the room occupied by the Grand Duke, they charged him with false mandate of the Perm District Emergency Committee and offered to follow them. Mikhail initially refused, citing the malaise, but in the end, was forced to submit to brute force, at gunpoint.

Seeing such a turn of events, N.N. Johnson categorically stated intruders that for anything in the world will not leave Mikhail Alexandrovich alone and follow along with him. This fact, changed criminal program, as originally, they planned to kidnap only Grand Duke and Johnson's presence was not part of the plan.

Conspirators put potential victim in different phaetons and left. Myasnikov, who did not have place, had to borrow a cart with the horse in Chrezkome and with chekist V.A. Drokin to go after the "kidnappers."

According to preliminary agreement, the criminal group along with their victims made brief stops in the yard of Motovilikhinskiy police. (This was done in order to be able to take safety in the case they caught in a chase by police after receiving an alarm that "Michael was kidnapped by unknown persons.") Almost immediately after them Maysnikov entered the police courtyard, from whom the criminal quartet, received final instructions and was ready to move on. However, the plan of the conspirators was again adjusted. Pleshkov who was in the police building, quite reasonably suggested that he would go at some distance from the main "tuple", again in case of the chase he could detain it by his power as police chief. And as his coachman, he offered I.G. Novoselov - one of the police officers on duty at night.

They decided to do it, and then drove off, leaving Myasnikov to wait for their return.

Meanwhile, crews moved in the following sequence. Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich, was sitting in the first one next to Ivanchenko, and for the driver - Zhuzhgov. In the second en route to a distance nighttime visibility on a moonlit night, Johnson was next to Markov, and for the charioteer was Kolpashchikov. The third crew with Pleshkov and Novoselov also was at a respectful distance.

Even then, when the crew took Mikhail Alexandrovich away from the room, he asked his kidnappers: for what purpose and where he was being taken? Zhuzhgov replied that one of the nearest railway sidings a train will be served, where he will be transferred to other persons, which will take him to Mogilev. (In fact, the phrase "send to Mogilev" or "in the Mogilev district" in the slang of chekists of the time meaning - to shoot or give death, or in any other manner so as the name itself associated with the tomb.)

Crossing Small Yazov river that flows along the edge of Motovilikha, all three crews traveled uphill Tower-2, went to Solikamsk path and moved along the railway line, that runs parallel to the river Kama. And then, as they say, different interpretations begin.

In his memoirs, written in February 1924 for the Ural Istpart, A.V. Markov says that he was taking the Grand Duke, by the way, later attributing to himself the role of the main regicide.

"Thus, - recalled Markov – *pass a kerosene depot (former Nobel), which is about 6 miles from Motovilikha. There was nobody on the way; after driving even a mile from kerosene warehouse, turned sharply on the road to the right into the woods.*"

From the memoirs of G.I. Myasnikov:

"- Good. So, across a small Yazov?"

In turn, the former Chairman of the Perm OkrChK P.I. Malkov, working in the diplomatic service and being from time to time in Moscow boasted among the old party members, he personally burned the Grand Duke in one of the furnaces Motovilikha plant. (However, in his old age he is probably rusty - the plant at the time did not work!)

But a prominent security officer M.F. Gorshkov-Kasyanov, once assured everyone that he personally participated in the shooting of the Grand Duke, who was taken to an unnamed island, located in the middle of the Kama River, just opposite the factory between its right and left banks. (In 1918-1919 on the island, which is called "dead", the Bolsheviks really committed numerous executions.)

Another prominent party member - former deputy chairman of the Perm OkrChK A.A. Shamarin writes in his official biography (for getting the Personal pensions of Union value ) that the presence of "a new tsar-savior irritated the working class, and we have taken into account that the workers opinion is identical to the decision of the people and led their desire to pass. In the month of April (!) 1918 in the house of the former Commercial Bank, corner of Siberian street and the Monastery street, by the decision of the Executive Committee and the Perm Gubcheka, Mikhail Romanov was executed. Powerful waves of Mother River Kama, forever buried the remains of the tsar's throne of Romanov Russia. The operation involved Comrades Malkin, Barandohin M., Shamarin A., Vorobtsov and others.

It is interesting, is not it? And there are a lot of such "memories" still abound.

And if to take into consideration the fact that around the secret grave of Mikhail Romanov were composed numerous, engendered in the people legends, it would be just terrible to think how to start to look for it.

Well, for example, that Mikhail Romanov was reburied in a mass grave along with the Red Army fighters, who died in 1919. Or this: his secret grave is in the Tatar section of the city cemetery Egoshihinsk.

So, professional local historians, and random people running from place to place trying to check all these legends and to "catch the tail bird of happiness".

By the early 1990s, when it was possible for ordinary mortals to gain access to previously inaccessible archives of Communist Party, materials that were previously not subject to disclosure start to appear in the most varied literature and periodicals. And, in particular, about the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich.

The basic document in this case become memories of A.V. Markov, therefore, the main directions of searching of local ethnographers reduced to this place - Solikamsky tract - Nobel warehouses. So it is no coincidence that of a lot of work has been written and all kinds of researches...were in this direction.

And suddenly, like a bolt from the blue! Former Head of the Archive of the Perm Regional Party Committee N.A. Alikina in February 1990 in the newspaper "Evening Perm" published an article entitled "To weigh on the scales of history", which recalls one of his last meetings with A.V. Markov, in which he admitted that Mikhail Romanov was taken not at the Nobel warehouses, but in the area of small river Arhireyka.

Because of this, a new round began in the "Romanovsky case". But the result is proved to be particularly disastrous. Perm land did not want to give out the secret ...

June 13, 1996 on the outskirts of Perm worship the cross was set, at its consecration was reported that it is here, "was killed the last Emperor of Russia."

A new and very significant matter of perpetuating the memory of the Grand Duke was the opening in June 1998, a memorial plaque on the building of the former "Royal Rooms".

And then, as they say, it rolled ...

And it is the perpetuation of the memory of one of the most worthy sons of the Fatherland and the last Emperor of Russia, Mikhail II Alexandrovich turned into a PR of local importance. That is, exactly like mushrooms worship crosses began to appear, almost each of them on the alleged murder scene.

Not wishing for the time being to "reveal map", I will say straight out that the real killer Mikhail Alexandrovich and faithful Johnson was not Andrei Markov, but Nikolay Zhuzhgov, who rode in the carriage with Vasily Ivanchenko. And when they turned off the road into a thick spruce, he stopped his horse, literally, pulled the Grand Duke by hand (at this time Ivanchenko was holding the horse by the bridle, as she was afraid of shots), and then, with the second shot broke the Earth Path of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich. But this happened only when Zhuzhgov heard, resounded in the distance from him Markov's shot took the life of Nicholas Johnson.

Catching for twenty-three years, the theme of the death of the Royal Family, the study of the circumstances of Alapaevsk drama and, of course, everything that is connected with the tragic death of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich, I have been in Perm more than once. And I am proud that September 4, 1998 on my initiative and with the support of the local administration, local historian Lev Pereskokov and architect Rudolf Vedeneyev, we were able to install Worship Cross in memory of the Tsar's servants Faithful - Countess A. Hendrikov and E.A. Schneider at Yegoshikha Cemetery.

At the same time, I'm pretty thoroughly worked in the collections of local history museum, and having considerable experience in the field of prospecting works the former battle, even worked in the district Acid cottages, where previously were Nobel warehouses.



*Left - Road "to death" in Perm. Right - Doctor of Law Yury Zhuk, President of the Foundation Memory of Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House*

In May 2013, "Memory Foundation of the New Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House" was registered. Its main task is publishing and educational activities.

As part of it, in the early to mid-November of this year I was able to visit Perm again with a group of like-minded people - Vice-President of the Fund A.S. Vygolov, expert T.M. Karpova and local ethnographer V.F. Gladyshev. Once again, in place to check the version of the burial of Michael Romanov in the area of small river Arhireyka.

After visiting this place, we saw a sprawling over the years, a cottage village, but the proposed forest, it has not yet touched that first instilled some hope for the possibility of exploration this place during warmer time of the year, as the precipitated shortly prior to our arrival thin snow cover, does not add optimism.

However, in the course of acquaintance with some newly discovered facts, we can say with considerable certainty that to acquire the remains of the Grand Duke either it is not possible at all or hope for success is increased by several times!

From my point of view, the search for the remains of the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich - public and state affair. Therefore, professionals must deal with it, not all kinds of amateurs with an adventurous

streak. So, first of all, we must once again do a lot of analytical work, with the assistance of specialists in various directions: from historians, archivists and local historians to specialists in the field of cartography and aerial photography to GPR exploration. Only in the case where the analysis of the research results fully coincides with the synthesis of scientific findings, it will be possible to talk about any concrete results.

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## Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

### For the first time, church celebrated a prayer in Poroosenkov Log, where the remains of Nicholas' II family were found

November 15 - The first public prayer blessed by Metropolitan Kirill was at the memorial of the Romanov family - in Porosenkov Log on the day of the birth of Grand Duchess Olga Nicholaevna.

- "It was a historic event. In addition, that it was on the birthday of Grand Duchess Olga Nicholaevna, it was the first service at the memorial, with the blessing of the Metropolitan. During 25 years of confrontation it has never happened. Father of the Church Abroad, was there. From our church - someone would come by themselves, but under the cover of night to avoid being punished. Vincent did not allow it, but now Kirill has blessed one priest of the city and the Dean of Ganina Yama" - told activists who keep order at the memorial.

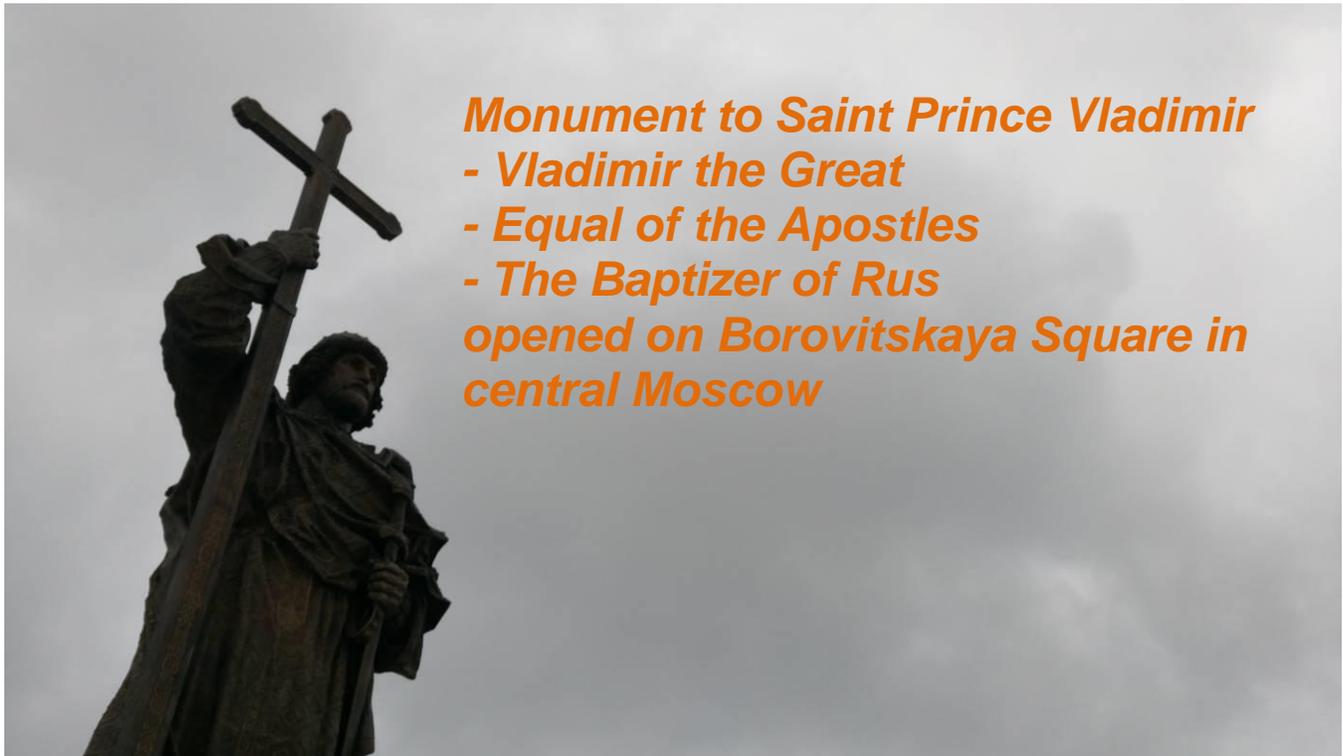


The service began on November 15 at 18:00. It was already dark and temperature - minus 20 C. There, every year come those people who have no doubt that in the Log was found the remains of the royal family. The Official Site of the memory of the Romanovs - in Ganina Yama - does not recognize dumping of the remains on the Koptyakovsky road. But prayer is still possible.

- "We have been addressed by archaeologists working on the site, with a request to hold a prayer service as an ordinary citizen can apply, for example, about the birth of the child. Since it is the birthday of the Grand Duchess Olga, we have responded to this request. The clergy of the monastery made a prayer at this place. This is not a formal recognition of someone's merits, but spiritual help to archaeologists who here have invested their strength - said Bishop Eugene Cullberg, Vicar of Ekaterinburg Diocese.

Video - [http://vesti-ural.ru/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/oleben.mp4?\\_1](http://vesti-ural.ru/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/oleben.mp4?_1)

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***Monument to Saint Prince Vladimir  
- Vladimir the Great  
- Equal of the Apostles  
- The Baptizer of Rus  
opened on Borovitskaya Square in  
central Moscow***

On 4 November, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy attended the opening ceremony of the monument to Saint Prince Vladimir - Vladimir the Great - Equal of the Apostles - The Baptizer of Rus - on Borovitskaya Square in central Moscow.

About 200 guests were invited, and most of them met at the office of the Russian Military-Historical Society, where buses then took them to the Borovitskaya Square a couple of hours before the start of the opening ceremony, as the entire area was closed off for traffic. The waiting time could be passed in a nearby house, where warm refreshment was served, while one could watch old documentaries related to Moscow



Kremlin. The very first ones showed Emperor Nicholas II at a parade in front of the Grand Palace. Another showed the destruction of the monument to Emperor Alexander II stood inside the Kremlin.



The monument was erected at the initiative of the Russian Military-Historical Society and the Moscow City Government. It was sculpted by Salavat Shcherbakov, People's Artist of the Russian Federation.

The opening ceremony was attended by President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, Minister of Culture Vladimir Medinsky, Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin, Government members, deputies, members of NGOs, and representatives of science, culture and the arts.



President Vladimir Putin said - "This is a major, significant event both for Moscow and the entire country and for all Russian compatriots. It is symbolic that the opening is being held on Unity Day here, in central Moscow, by the walls of the ancient Kremlin, the very heart of Russia. The new monument is a tribute to our prominent ancestor,

*an especially revered saint, national leader and warrior, and the spiritual founder of the Russian state. Prince Vladimir went down in history as a unifier and defender of Russian lands, and a far-sighted politician who created the foundations of a strong, unified, centralised state, which eventually united different peoples, languages, cultures and religions into one big family. His epoch was full of achievements, and the Baptism of Rus was of course the most important, defining and essential of them. This choice was the common spiritual source for the peoples of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine, and laid the foundations of our moral standards and value priorities which continue to define our lives to this day. It is this solid moral foundation, unity and solidarity that helped our ancestors overcome difficulties, live and achieve victories to the glory of the Fatherland, strengthening its power and greatness from one generation to the next. And our duty today is to work together to confront modern challenges and threats, while relying on spiritual covenants and the invaluable traditions of unity and harmony, and to preserve the continuity of our thousand-year history as we move forward."*



Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia - *"We live in a world today where truths are being eroded. The relativity of the truth is the cult which many people now follow without even knowing it themselves. This is the quasi-religion of the present: everything has a right to exist, because there is no unshakable eternal truth.*

*If Vladimir thought the same way as many our contemporaries, he would have never made his choice. He would have either remained a pagan or become a Christian individually, without bringing Christianity to Rus. There would have been no Rus, no Russia, no Russian Orthodox power, no great Russian Empire, and no modern Russia.*

*In his decisiveness, devotion to Christ and consistency in following the Gospels, Vladimir resembled the apostles,*

*although there was a thousand-year gap between them.*

*The monument to Prince Vladimir is a symbol of the unity of all peoples to whom he is father. These are the peoples of historic Rus who currently live within the borders of many countries.*

*A monument to a father can be anywhere his children live, there is nothing contradictory about it. But it is bad if the children forget they have the same father."*

Head of the Solzhenitsyn Foundation Natalya Solzhenitsyna

- *"The monument to Prince Vladimir is not just another landmark for our city that will attract people to pose for photographs against its background. It is also a challenge, a question addressed to each and every one of us: how do we look against his background?*

*The 20th century was a century of great ordeals for Russia. Two world wars with a civil war, collectivisation and the Gulag in between. But the 21st century does not spell quiet either.*

*The assessment of our past is among the major controversies. In this respect, it would be appropriate to address Prince Vladimir, who is an example of the transformative power of Christianity still aflame throughout centuries. He looked back at his life, condemned what was wrong and dark in it, took everything good that was bestowed on him, and resolutely turned towards the light.*

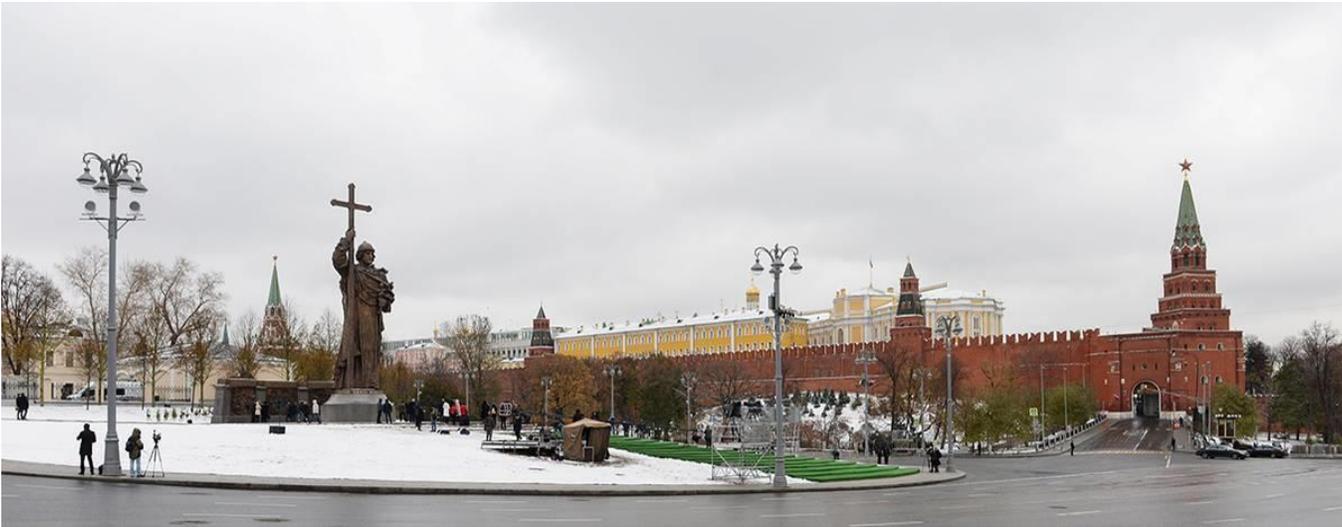
*We should do that too. It means to respect our history, to take pride in our nation's achievements, its heroes and its righteous. But it also means to have honesty and courage so as to condemn evil, not to justify it or to sweep its memory under the carpet away from view. We will not achieve purity in our house that way."*



Following the opening ceremony, Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia consecrated the monument.



*To the right - the sculptor Salavat Shcherbakov*





## 160 birthday anniversary of Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaevich

Russian Historical Society - November 18, 2016, at 10:30, the ceremony of laying flowers to the grave of the Grand Duke Nicholas (Jr.), Supreme Commander of all land and naval forces of the Russian Empire in the beginning of the First World War took place in the Chapel of the Transfiguration on the territory of the Memorial Park of heroes of the First World War in Moscow

The commemoration ceremony was attended by Chairman of the Russian Historical Society and director of the Foreign Intelligence Sergey Naryshkin, Minister of Culture of Moscow Government Alexander Kibovsky, members of the Russian Historical Society and the organizing committee for the activities associated with the 100th anniversary of the First World War 1914-1918. Rector of the Donskoy Monastery, Vicar of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Bishop Bronnitsky Paramon made litiaya.



Nikolai devoted his life to service. He started at age 16 and according to the testimony of the military ally, General Brusilov, he was entirely devoted to military affairs. He commanded a regiment, division, then a military district, and in the First World War was in charge of all the land and naval forces, then - the Caucasian front. His wife, the Grand Duchess Anastasia Nikolaevna worked as a nurse during the war years.

Separation from Russia was their personal tragedy. In the spring of 1919, not willingly parted with their homeland, the Grand Duke did not leave the deck of the ship until the last moment, Crimean coast could be seen. H

e lived in constant hope of returning from a forced exile. On the eve of Christmas Eve, January 5, 1929 Nicholas dictated his last words to the colleagues in the Russian army, "To the memory of Russia!"

Chairman of the Russian Historical Society Sergey Naryshkin told to the media:

*"Nicholas had a distinguished military career, received the St. George for taking part in the battles of the Russian-Turkish war of 1877-78. The name of the Grand Duke directly related to the success of the initial period of the First World War and the offensive on the Caucasian front.*

*According to contemporaries, he fully indulged in the study of military strategy, took firm decisions and better than anyone else, understood the Russian soldier. Military leaders of Entente celebrated the unconditional authority of the Grand Duke in the army and were grateful for his loyalty to duty as an ally in the most difficult times. Preserving the dignity of knighthood, the Grand Duke was devoted his entire life to service to the Fatherland – on the military fronts, and in exile.*

*Last year, at the initiative of representatives of the Family Association, with the participation of the Russian Historical Society, the Grand Duke remains were transferred from France to Russia and buried here on the Bratsky military cemetery, near the soldiers. His grandnephew, chairman of the Association Dimitri Romanovich Romanov addressed the members of the Russian Historical Society on the occasion of this anniversary. In the letter, he said that the heroism of the Russian soldiers, whom Nikolai Nikolaevich was rightly proud of, should not be forgotten: "They saved Europe in 1914 and during World War II. Without Russia, it would have failed!"*

*Paying tribute to the valour of the Grand Duke and all the soldiers who fought for our Motherland, the Russian Historical Society will continue its work on the restoration of unity and connection times in our history. Against the background of constant attempts to distort the historical truth such activity is particularly important."*



On the occasion of the 160th anniversary of the Grand Duke Nicholas (Jr.) was released a post card with the letter "B", "Grand Duke Nikolai Nikolaevich (Jr.), military leader, public figure."

Postcard prepared by Publishing centre "Marka" in the framework of the cooperation agreement between the Russian Historical Society and the Federal Communications Agency.



On the same day, Dimitri Romanovich Romanov had sent a letter to the Chairman of the Russian Historical Society Sergey Naryshkin, in which he expressed his gratitude for the attention to the memory of Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholaevich, the Commander in chief of the Russian army. Signed November 18th, 2016, Rungsted.



ПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛЮ РОССИЙСКОГО  
ИСТОРИЧЕСКОГО ОБЩЕСТВА  
С.Е.НАРЫШКИНУ

Многоуважаемый Сергей Евгеньевич!

В годовщину рождения великого князя Николая Николаевича хочу обратиться к Вам и всем членам Российского исторического общества со словами признательности за внимание к памяти первого русского Верховного главнокомандующего. Наша семья глубоко тронута Вашим решением. К моему великому сожалению, не могу быть в этот день в Москве.

Свою жизнь Николай Николаевич посвятил России. Служить ей он начал в 16 лет и, по свидетельству боевого соратника, генерала Брусилова был всецело предан военному делу. Командовал полком, дивизией, округом, в Первую мировую войну стоял во главе всех сухопутных и морских сил, затем - Кавказского фронта. Его супруга великая княгиня Анастасия Николаевна стала в военные годы сестрой милосердия.

Разлука с Россией была для них личной трагедией. Весной 1919 года, по своей воле расставаясь с родиной, великий князь не ушел с палубы корабля до последнего мгновения, пока был виден крымский берег. В вынужденном изгнании он жил постоянной надеждой вернуться. Накануне Сочельника, 5 января 1929 года Николай Николаевич предиктовал свои последние слова соратникам по русской армии: "Памятайте о России!".

Тогда, разумеется, нельзя было исполнить его желание - упокоиться рядом со своими солдатами. Но это время пришло, и три года назад я и мой брат Николай Романович как ближайшие родственники удостоверили наше намерение перенести прах великокняжеской четы в Москву. Это стало возможным при деятельном содействии и самом активном участии Вашего общества на всех этапах подготовки и осуществления.

Нельзя забыть волнующие апрельские мгновения 2015 года, когда Николай Николаевич и Анастасия Николаевна обрели вечный покой в Часовне Преображения Господня на Братском воинском кладбище в Москве. Радостно сознавать, что История снова слита и в лоно России теперь вернулись Крым, Севастополь, почетным гражданином которого был великий князь.

Николай Николаевич вновь вместе с русскими солдатами, которыми он справедливо гордился: Героизм русских солдат в двух самых больших войнах не должен быть забыт. Они спасли Европу и в 1914 году, и в последнюю войну. Без России не справились бы!

С большим интересом слежу за подвижнической деятельностью Российского исторического общества, осуществляющего исключительно важную программу, связанную со 100-летием Первой мировой войны и значительными датами русской истории. Чем больше мы восстанавливаем забытые страницы прошлого, тем лучше понимаем, как много сделала Россия для остального мира.

Ваша деятельность имеет огромное значение для современников и для будущих поколений. Прощу Вас принять мои пожелания крепкого здоровья и помощи Господя в Вашем благородном служении Отечеству.

Искренне Вас уважающий,

*Dimitri Romanov*

кн. Дмитрий Романович Романов

Председатель Объединения членов Рода Романовых

18 ноября 2016 года, Рунгстед



## Prince Romanov: The role of Russian soldiers in the rescue of Europe must not be forgotten

November 18th, TASS - On the occasion on 160 years since the birth of Grand Duke Nicholas Dimitri Romanovich told about his ancestor. November 18th marks 160 years since the birth of the Russian Commander, Grand Duke Nicholas (1856-1929). In the first year of World War I he led the entire Russian army, then commanded the Caucasian Front. In March 1917, he was re-appointed as Supreme Commander by last decree of the Tsar, but had not enough time to start his job.



### *A handful of Russian land*

"Nikolai Nikolaevich ended his path in exile, but until the last minute he wanted to return to Russia, - said in an interview with TASS, Prince Dimitri Romanovich, now senior in the Romanov family. - He parted with his homeland not by his will and kept in the house a handful of Russian land until end of his days." He played a prominent role in the Russian and European history. As recalled Dimitri Romanovich, the 1914 Russian offensive, which began on the eastern front during the first weeks of the war, when the Germans stood at the door of Paris, distracted the strength of the German army away from the French capital. The German command had to transfer from the western front to the east, two army corps: more than 80 thousand people. This saved Paris.

"The Russian army and its commander in chief the Grand Duke Nicholas was eligible for appreciation by France", - told Marshal Joseph Joffre about the role of ally. Act of Russian allegiance to the brotherhood-in-arms, he felt more important because mobilization of Russian forces had not yet been completed at the time of the offensive

### *Transfer from Stavka*

In the summer of 1915, when the Tsar decided to lead the army, Nicholas has been moved to the Caucasus: Front Commander and the governor of the region. "Transfer from Stavka he accepted calmly, - said Dmitry Romanovich -. Anything else he would have considered disrespect to the Monarch and the new posts were associated with important interests of the Empire".

Last rescript of the Emperor restored the Grand Duke at the post of Supreme Commander. But the Provisional Government found the decrees of abdicated Tsar void. Prime Minister George Lvov's letter on the impossibility of giving public positions to Romanov was in Mogilev. Putting his signature under a purely formal oath to the new government, Nikolai Nikolaevich so pressed the pen, that the ink splattered paper.

"My father, the Prince of Imperial Blood Roman Petrovich, who served as adjutant-chief, recalled those hours in the staff car, - said Dmitry Romanovich -. "Uncle Nikolasha ", as he was called in the family, was sitting by the window, staring into the darkness When the train started moving, he got up, crossed himself and, without a word, went into his compartment. "



### *In Crimea*

The wife of Grand Duke Anastasia Nikolaevna, the daughter of the King of Montenegro, in military time served as a nurse in war time. In the years of Civil War they were in the Crimea. With the advent of the

Bolsheviks the inhabitants of the Crimean palaces became prisoners. But sailors who guarded them partly became defenders of prisoners.

Yalta Council demanded massacre of the Romanovs, but the boatswain Zadorozhny did not give up, citing the lack of direct guidance of Lenin. After the occupation of the Crimea by Germans arrived Kaiser's messenger with a proposal to evacuate them to Germany. Romanov refused and asked only one thing: to release Zadorozhny from custody. Relatives of the Tsar considered themselves indebted to the former commandant.

The front was approaching the peninsula, and the fate of the prisoners was never in doubt. The captain of the cruiser "Marlboro" handed over a letter of the widowed British Queen Alexandra to the Empress Maria Feodorovna, the mother of Nicholas II. She begged her sister soon leave Crimea. Sailed on April 11, 1919. The cruiser was close to the shore, and from the deck of the travellers could see the Livadia Palace, the park going to the sea.



### *Return to the Motherland*

For Nicholas and his wife's separation from Russia was a personal tragedy. Leaving the Motherland, the Grand Duke did not leave the deck of the ship until the last moment, until Crimean coast could be seen. He lived in constant hope of returning from a forced exile. On the eve of Christmas Eve, January 5th, 1929 Military Chief dictated his last words to companions-in-arms in the Russian army: "Remember of Russia".

"Then, of course, it was impossible to fulfil his desire - to repose next to his soldiers, - said Dmitry Romanovich -. But this time came, and three years ago, I and my brother Nikolai Romanovich as the next of kin have certified our intention to transfer the remains of the Grand Ducal couple from Cannes, France, to Moscow. This was made possible with the active assistance of the Russian historical society".

Before transferring the remains to Moscow, the French gave honours to the former Russian commander in chief on the territory of the historic Les Invalides. Opening the memorial service, the Bishop Luc Ravel of the armed forces called the requiem "a tribute to the commander in chief of the allied Army."

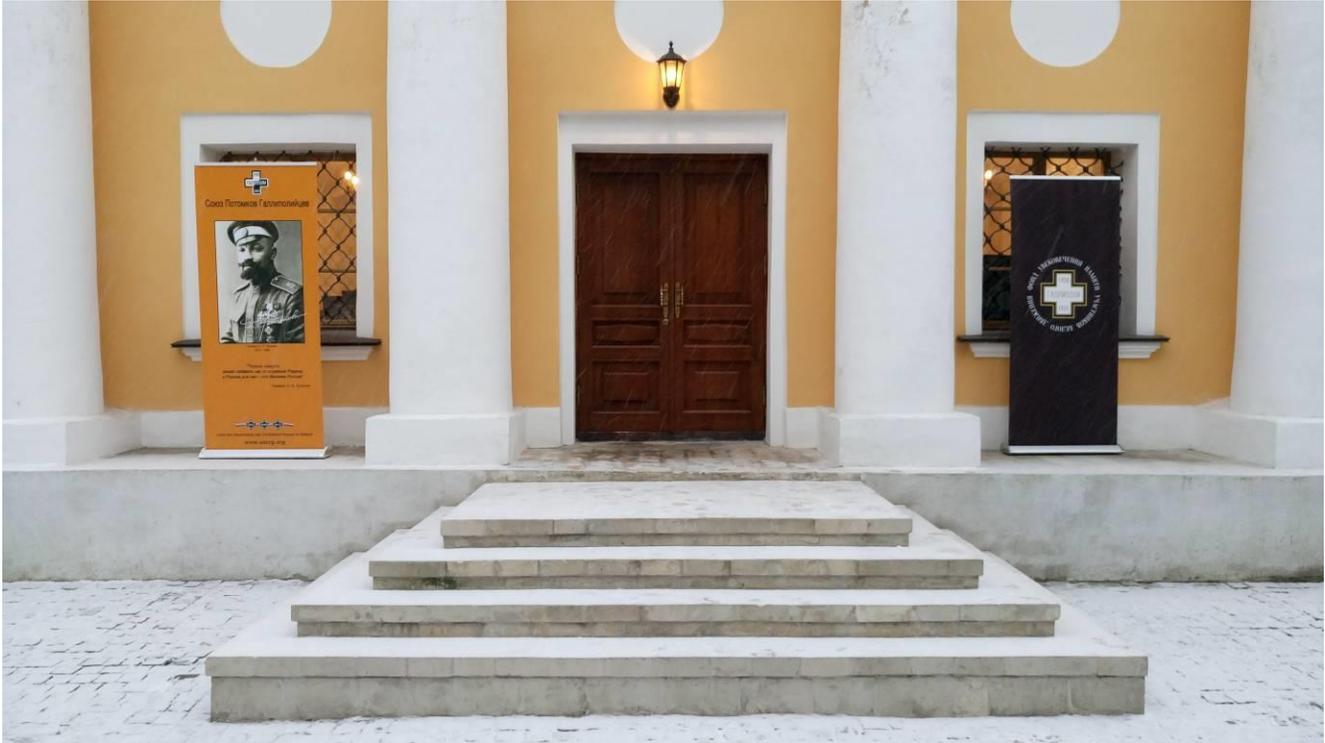
Republican Guards carried on the hands through the honorary courtyard the coffin with the remains of the Grand Duke. This honour is normally only given at parting with the marshals of France.

The family today remember the moments in April 2015, when Nicholas Nikolaevich and Anastasia Nikolaevna found eternal rest in the Chapel of the Transfiguration at the Bratsk military cemetery in Moscow.

"It is joyful to realize that history again is one and now Crimea, Sevastopol returned to Russia, its honourable citizen was Grand Duke, - he said - Nicholas is again with Russian soldiers. Their heroism in two biggest wars should not be forgotten. They saved Europe in 1914, and during last war. They could not do it without Russia!"

## "God is with us! Yes, Russia will rise again!"

November 26 in the Church of the Sign in the Novospassky monastery in Moscow was opened the exhibition "God is with us! Yes, Russia will rise again!", dedicated to the heroes of the White movement and their faithful service of Russia on home soil and abroad.



The exhibition is organized jointly by the Novospassky Monastery and the Union of descendants of Gallipoli. The exposition tells about the heroism of the white soldiers, how they continued to selflessly serve the Fatherland, even while away from Russian, steadfastly maintaining their ideals and traditions.

The opening was hosted by Bishop Savva, Governor of Novospassky Monastery, Alexei Grigoriev, the Head of the Union of descendants of Gallipoli, and Vera and Paul Kuzubov. Among the guests attending were Alexander Kibovsky, Minister of culture in the Moscow Government, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy, Elizabeth Apraxina, Elizabeth and Andrei Musin-Pushkin, Igor Domnin, Ivan Shakhovskoy, Oleg Scherbakov, Russian Nobility Assembly, and members of the Union of descendants of Gallipoli and of the Russian Nobility Assembly.

The choir of the monastery, standing on the stairs singing the anthems "Glorious" and "March of Alexeevsky Regiment".

Then Bishop Savva addressed the guests and told "about the people who once were forced to leave home, and did not live to return, those who died in the Diaspora with the idea of Russia". The bishop expressed hope that next year in the Church of the Sign will be brought the miraculous icon of the Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God.



A.V. Kibovsky in turn, thanked Bishop Savva for the restoration of the Church of the Sign, where "in the most important days Russians gathered - in spirit and in faith - the people with whom we are in a moral and spiritual connection."

The head of the Union of Gallipoli descendants A.P. Grigoriev recalled that in November 1920 the Russian army of General Wrangel, leaving the coast of Russia, landed on the deserted Turkish peninsula of Gallipoli, where the white soldiers and their families not only managed to survive in harsh conditions, but also stayed true patriots of their Motherland, while continuing to serve it in a foreign land. "The History of the White movement - an important part of the history of Russia", - concluded Grigoriev.





The exhibition is split in two parts, on the two floors of the church.

Big portraits of the most famous leader of the White Movement - Kolchak, Wrangel, Miller, etc shown on the top level.

There is also a special part of the exhibition devoted to the "Protectress of the Russian Diaspora" - the Kursk Root icon of the Mother of God, with the history of finding this image and its associated miracles, as well as its significance for Russians Abroad.



On the ground floor the general history of the White Movement and the more detailed family stories presented.



The uniqueness of this exhibition lies in the fact that the descendants of members of the White movement in France, the UK, Australia and the USA, supplied rare photos and written artefact from private archives, as well as family heirlooms.

Special interest present a section of the exhibition devoted to the large family of Golenishcheva-Kutuzova, Grabbe and Levshin, whose members have shown an example of dignity and extraordinary fortitude with which they took ordeals that fell to their lot after the expulsion from Russia.

During the Soviet era names of members of the White movement was erased from the annals of our history. Unfortunately, even today in Russia their deed are unconsciously underestimated by our contemporaries. The organizers of the exhibition hope that it will contribute to the restoration of historical justice, providing visitors with the opportunity to discover a little-known chapter of Russian history.



In the nearby tower, in the wall facing the Moscow river of the Novospassky Monastery, is now being renovated space for the coming permanent museum of the White Movement. A poster hanging outside the entrance to the tower tells that museum will be opened in November 2017.

## Russian Ball in London

On November 19, at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London's Mayfair was held a Russian Debutante Ball, with the patron being Princess Olga Andreevna Romanov - a descendant of Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna (sister of Emperor Nicholas II) and Grand Duke Alexander Michaelovich.



Princess Olga Andreevna Romanov second from right, second from left is Olga's daughter Alexandra Matthew and furthest to the right is Olga's son Francis Matthew.

Girls, aged between 16 and 25, wore cream or white gowns, elbow-length gloves and dazzling tiaras. In their white gowns, they whisked around the dance floor by a parade of handsome escorts. Traditionally, debutante balls were a way to introduce young ladies from upper class or aristocratic families who had come of age into society.

Guests sipped champagne and dined on black caviar before dancing to Tchaikovsky's Waltz of the Flowers.



## The painting of Emperor Nicholas II which was "saved by Lenin"

On November 30, the double-sided portrait of Emperor Nicholas II and Lenin, after restoration was on display at the Academy of Applied Arts Museum and are now to be shown to visitors. For the two-sided picture is developed a special frame - so that you can see the pictures on both sides.



The lost portrait by artist Ilya Galkin of Emperor Nicholas II from 1896 have taken 3 years to restore. It became clear that the portrait of Nicholas II has gone through many trials and was miraculously survived - for example, in the picture was found traces of bayonets. It was saved by hastily smeared it with black gouache and painting a portrait of Lenin on the other side.

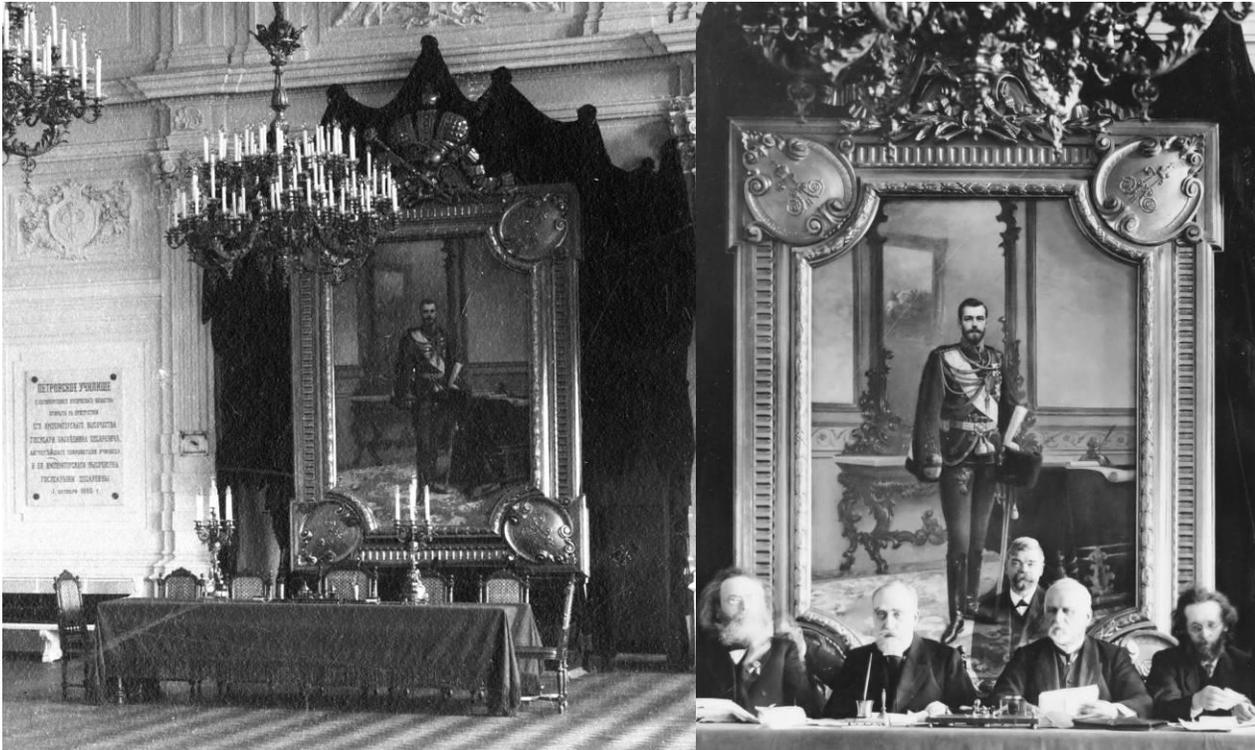


The image of Lenin was created by Vladislav Izmailovich, who used a formal photo for the portrait. Probably, deciding to save the painting of Nicholas II from the Bolsheviks, the artist covered it with a layer of safe water-soluble paint, hoping that future generations will solve his idea. And so it happened. In the seventies, the portrait of Lenin had been damaged for a long time and gather dust in the closet of one of the secondary schools.

The portrait of Nicholas II was found after the headmasters at Primary School No. 206 in St. Petersburg asked the experts at the Stieglitz Art and Industry Academy in St. Petersburg in 2013 to restore their 9-by-6-foot canvas of Lenin, painted by the Soviet artist Vladislav Izmailovich, which had been ripped at the bottom. A school boy had by accident felt into the painting an ripped a large hole in the canvas. However this "lucky move" revealed that there was another painting on its backside, as high boots could be seen, and Lenin was painted being in shoes.

By the way, the building, Primary School No. 206, was formerly under the patronage of the Imperial family, and the school's grand hall displayed portraits of Emperor Paul I and Emperor Peter I until they were destroyed by the Soviets.

The painting was commissioned in the year of the monarch's coronation for the assembly hall of the Merchant Society's Petrovsky Trade and Commercial School.



The decision to go through with the restoration process was kicked off by an initial X-ray result, in which "we were shocked, almost to the point of humor, to discover Emperor Nicholas II's head nearly exactly the same size and placement as Lenin's," confirming their suspicions that there was a completed full-size portrait beneath the water-soluble paint. The restoration experts used baby soap and water to wash the paint off and reveal a "remarkably intact and preserved" portrait of Emperor Nicholas II, signed by the Russian artist Ilya Galkin.

The decision to display the bare canvas on a stand without a glass case is intended for "people to come close-up to witness this extremely special moment in history," it is said.

Acting Director of the Museum of Applied Arts of St. Petersburg Academy Stieglitz Galina Prokhorenko noted that the painting could be in the museum's collection related to political history. "This portrait can be seen as two sides of the same coin: on one - the executioner, on the other - the victim This picture is the greatest cultural and historical phenomenon that will take its place in a museum."



Director of the Museum-Preserve "Tsarskoye Selo" Olga Taratynova said - "I would very much like to see the portrait was in Tsarskoye Selo. The uniform, in which is shown Nicholas II, is kept in the collections of our museum and is today exhibited. The painting - the dialectics of the existence of our state, it is necessary to expose the way that it was obvious two sides. We would welcome its return to Tsarskoye Selo, but as such, it's fate will be decide by the community and the owners of the picture - Ministry of Education, and considering the opinion of the Ministry of Culture" - said the director of the Museum-Reserve.

- Videos - 1) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1727301/>  
2) <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2817926#>  
3) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1Bynrbg4ic>



## It is planned to restore the monument to Alexander III in Feodosia in 2017



Authorities in Feodosia (Crimea) supported the initiative of community members about the restoration of the monument to Emperor Alexander III, says the press service of the city administration.

Originally, the monument to Alexander III in Feodosia was inaugurated on November 14, 1896 on donations of citizens and on the initiative of artist Ivan Aivazovsky. It was the first monument to Alexander III in the Russian Empire. The monument stood on a podium, with a number of steps that led to the sculptural image of Emperor Alexander III in bronze at full length. In the lowered left hand, the Emperor held a military cap, and his right hand was laid over the side of his coat. On the front side of the pedestal there is an inscription: "Emperor Alexander III in gratitude from Feodosia," and on the back side: "It was built in the prosperous reign of Emperor Nicholas II, 1896".

Summer of 1917, revolutionaries-sailors dumped the monument from the pedestal. Subsequently, on the pedestal was set a figure of the sailor-revolutionist, one of the leaders of the Bolshevik underground in Crimea Ivan Nazukin.

Monument to Alexander III is planned to fully restore and open on 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2017. "In the highest circles our initiative was supported and promised funding. Also, we addressed the issue of the transfer Nazukin monument. Its new location will be taken in agreement with the city administration. The visions of the future location of the monument to Nazukin is already there. They are very different, but most of it, to erect a monument in Komsomolsk park ", - said the head of the Feodosia museum of money, a member of the initiative group Alexander Oleshuk. According to him, first a public hearing will be held, then it is planned to put the foundation stone, and then – start fundraising. "In terms of financing we have a lot of support already. Many charities have agreed on the allocation of funds, from the city budget will not go a penny. Work will be carried out solely on the donations, we will rebuild everything in its original form", - Said Oleshuk.

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## Monument to Nicholas II will be officially opened in Pokrovsky Park, Vladivostok

On 20<sup>th</sup> of November installation of a monument to the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II was completed on the territory of the Pokrovsky Cathedral. The grand opening and consecration with a celebratory prayer service is scheduled for December 19 - the day of St. Nicholas.

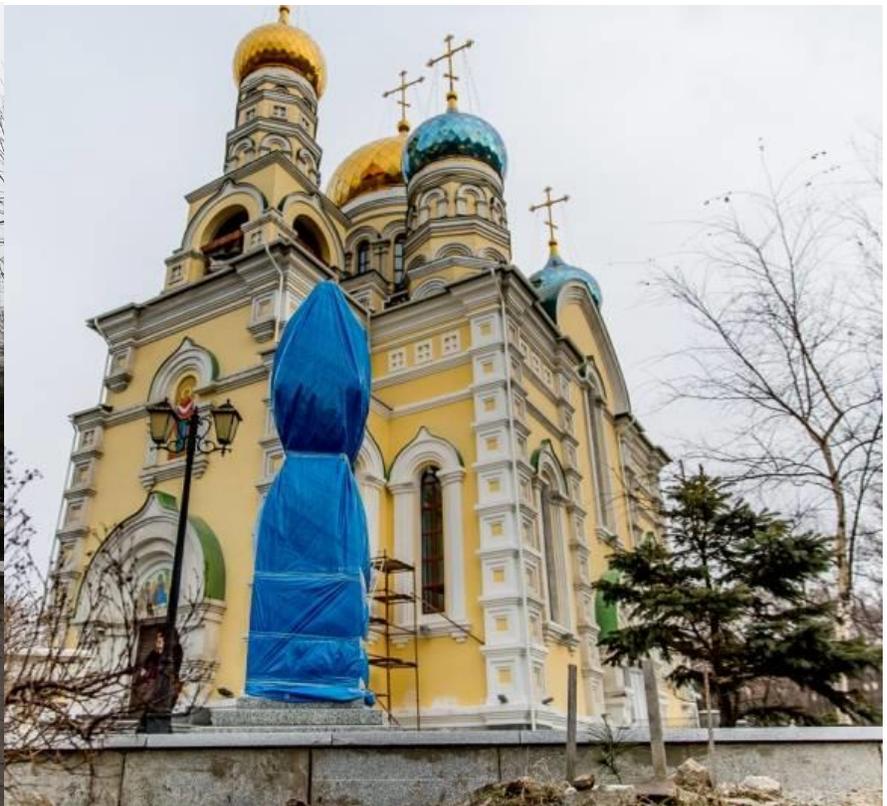
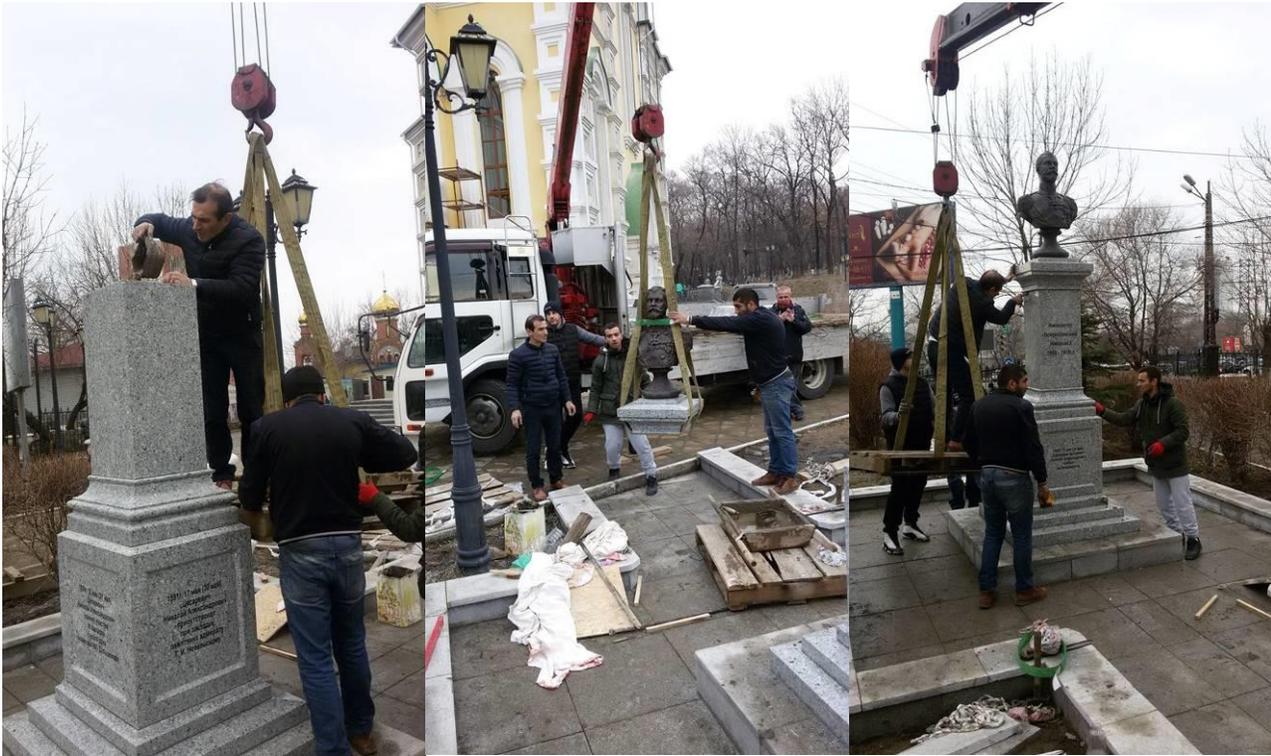
Installation of the monument is dedicated to the 125th anniversary of Tsarevich' Nicholas Alexandrovich visit to Vladivostok. Funds for the production and installation of the monument was collected by donations from residents of the province.

"The bronze bust of Emperor Nicholas II was donated by the Army of the Orthodox mission. The pedestal was donated by Marat, a servant of God. Basil's Cathedral in turn with pleasure will place the monument on its territory", - told the Vladivostok diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church press service.

The sculpture is a bronze bust of Nicholas II on a pedestal, its four sides are stamped anniversaries. They are all connected with the visit of the Tsarevich in Vladivostok - the laying a dry

dock, a monument to the researcher of the Far East, Admiral G.I. Nevelsky, the railway station and the Trans-Siberian Railway.

"Obviously, it was pleasing to God, so donations for the monument came very quickly", - said Igor Chernozatonsky, a representative of the organizing committee to perpetuate the memory of the Tsarevich, the head of the Orthodox Sovereign Union "For Faith, Tsar, Family and Country".



*Photos by Igor Chernozatonskii*

## Memory of the last Russian Tsar was immortalized on the Trinity land



6 November. U24.RU - Yesterday, in the Trinity area of the Chelyabinsk region, the grand opening of a memorial sign "Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich, the future Russian Emperor Nicholas II" took place. The marble slab with a granite plate is installed on the historic place, near the village of Chernorechie, where in July 1891 the future Russian Tsar met local residents.

According to the initiator of the monument Paul Stromov, an activist of the Russian military-historical society, the monument's idea is to honor the memory of the last Russian Emperor, saints of the Russian Orthodox Church.

- This memorable sign is established not only on public funding, but with the support of the Trinity district administration, and also on the personal funds of many ordinary people. I think that local residents will appreciate it. On the Trinity land we plan to create

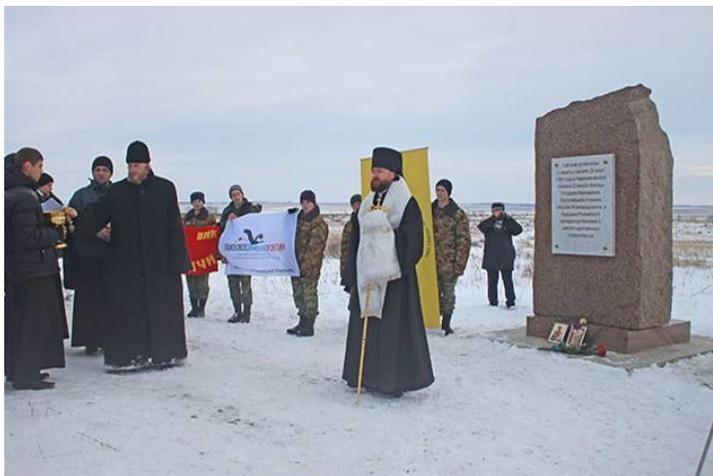
a historical center - "Forgotten Urals - the boundary of centuries", - told Paul Stromov - Historical memory should unite us and make us stronger".

Bishop Gregory made consecration of the monument. He called on all to remember the history of the motherland, to love her, to care for the welfare and prosperity.

Participants of the opening ceremony of the memorial sign was not only local residents, but also many members of the public, search teams of the Chelyabinsk region, historians, educators and historians.

Video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6B9tNTN Yqdw>



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## Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



*Costumes from the movie "Matilda" will be presented in Tsarskoye Selo.*

70 historical costumes made specifically for the film "Matilda," directed by Alexei Uchitel, will be presented in Tsarskoye Selo on the 5th of December during St. Petersburg International Cultural Forum. The exposition will be opened on December 2, 12.00 in the Throne Room of the Catherine Palace, where the shooting took place.

The film tells the story of Emperor Nicholas II romance with dancer Matilda Kshesinskaia. Dressers had made a titanic work, sewing for more than seven thousand orders for the picture's characters. It was completely reconstructed clothing for the participants in the ceremony of the coronation of Nicholas II. Objects was recreated on the sketches and watercolours of the last century. The exposition will present ballroom, evening, business dresses of the last century, and all kinds of accessories.

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## "Forbearing one another in love..."

*We are very pleased to present to your attention an article written specially for "Romanov News" by Noha Sulthanov, historian and very dear friend from the stanitsa (Cossacks village) Novominskaya, Kanevsky area, Krasnodar region.*

Religion has always played an important role in the consciousness of the Cossacks. Christianity encourages them to edification, taught to be righteous in the family, to respect the elderly and patronizing the younger. Away from their homes faith tied their thoughts with the family, with the house, with close people. Therefore, if the Cossacks had to stay long in one place, they certainly were building a church or chapel.

Faith was an integral part of the culture and life of Novominskaya Cossacks. As old-timers showed, most warriors were men not only desperately brave, but also deeply religious with solid faith in people.

In 1906 (110 years ago) in Novominskaya people began to collect money to build a new church. The old, which was on the site of the present local hospital, was called "Ascension of the Lord", could not accommodate everyone on the holidays. They came up with the exciting idea to villagers to erect another church.

It was decided to build new church on the former parade ground, in front of administration house of Cossack Ataman. Now there is public garden named after Gagarin, next to Children School of Arts.

Funds were collected quickly. Cossack village was prosperous, almost all the inhabitants were parishioners of the local church. So, in the autumn of the same year, it marked the first service. The elderly local priest had to call on the villagers God blessing, taught them "walk worthy of his calling to be humility, meek and long-suffering, forbearing one another in love, to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Heb. 4,1-3).

The opening day of God's institution coincided with a church holiday - Protection of the Holy Virgin - and, therefore, the church became known as the Holy Protection (According to legend, when in the middle of the tenth century, the Saracens

surrounded the city of Constantinople and its inhabitants sent a fervent prayer to Our Lady, she stretched her shawl that bore the head over all the people of the faithful as a sign of her protection. The next morning the enemy ships scattered in a severe storm).



*Novominskaya church "Ascension"*



*Boys choir and priest Michael Nedbaylo in the middle, 1915*



*Novominskaya Holy Protection Church, 1917*

After the 1917 revolution, both Novominskaya Churches worked intermittently, and in 1935, at a time of increased persecution for the faith, both churches were razed to the ground. As stated Novominskaya veteran Vasily Gordienko Seliverstovich "... that is, our village, part of the Starominsky District, received the status of the district centre and began to create their own administrative structures from the local community. In the midst of these events, under the pretext of the fight against religious dope, former district authorities, most of which were from the village Starominskaya, and gave the command to destroy Novominskaya church. They disassembled it to the last brick, to the last plank. A small part of the building materials was used for the construction of farm number 3 of the collective farm "Red Kommunar" and repair of the Village School, and the lion's share of bricks, lumber, boards and corrugated iron were taken for the construction of new livestock buildings on farms in the neighbouring district. Gravestones of priests and honoured Cossacks buried here were taken in the night beyond the village and hidden.

These days, while preparing the foundation for the construction of an oil refinery "Albашneft" workers stumbled on some of them and reported it to the administration of Novominskaya. Stones were transported and placed in the previous place. Icons and other church furnishings from the churches of the villagers was buried, and this place was not even given to the investigating authorities. And the secret of this is taken with them...

Witness of the destruction of the Holy Protection Church, still alive Cossack soldier Kozma G. Nezhenets (Cavalier of three military orders in the Great Patriotic War), then student of the 4th grade, was in front of the church, to remember the horrors of the faces of the villagers, who were present at the time of this drama - "... Close to the church stood a few people. Some people were driven away by police stationed around the church fence, others were not able to look at such blasphemy. The bells

tied up with ropes and attached to a horse-drawn, and then proceeded to an dismantling of the walls. The bricks, planks and beams were shooting some other workers, I think, our villagers have refused from this barbarism ... ".

After the destruction of churches the believers were orphaned and had to pray secretly at home. But after 6 years, in 1941, when the Nazi hordes were at Moscow, Soviet authorities allowed to open a house of worship for the Orthodox: besides saving of the Fatherland they needed a unifying idea for believers and only the church could help in this. For the service was given main building of the present school number 36. After the war, in 1946, the church moved to the private house of Anton Radionovich Jura, former tractor driver of local collective farm "Kommunar", born in 1905, who died at the front, 15 March 1943. His daughters Catherine and Ludmila gave house for the church in memory of their father. Holy Church of the Intercession is still in Jura's house.

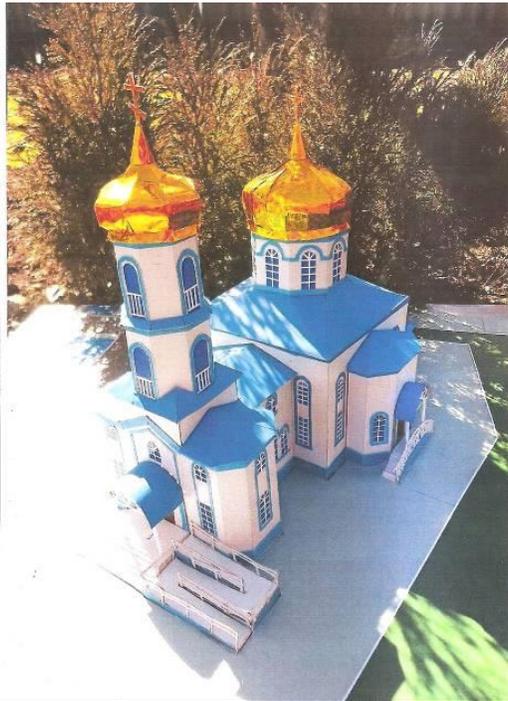
Despite the attempt of the Bolsheviks to tear people away from the God, they failed to make us atheists. And today, religion still is uniting idea for the majority of Novominskaya Villagers.



*Anton Radionovich  
Jura*



*Consecration of a house of worship of the Holy Virgin Protection Church, third from left to right the priest Vasily Postnikov, 1946*



*Layout of the revived Holy Protection Church, 2016*

Today Novominskaya residents collected the documents for the purpose of the construction at the same place Holy Protection Church, where according to tradition was baptized Guri - nephew of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II (announced Orthodox Church holy martyr), and the son of the sister of Tsar, Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna Romanov - Kulikovsky and her husband - Colonel Nikolai Alexandrovich Kulikovsky, during their stay in the village Novominskaya in 1919.

Project of church's revival is ready. The case is building materials. With the hope of God's and human assistance to the church council sent out a call for funds collection: "With deep gratitude we notify you that in the wall of being built Novominskaya Holy Protection Church brick with your name written on it will be enclosed." I am sure that many people respond to this with donations.

To this we would add more amazing facts related to this church and the close location of the land. Two years after the destruction of the church a stall selling kerosene was built here - it burned down in daylight for no reason. The same shop, built a little further away, suddenly fell into some hole that was quickly covered, and no one even conducted the investigation.

Then, in the land post offices was burned; during the occupation of the village in 1942, heavily guarded German-Romanian commandant was flared, after the war a dance floor was destroyed, then the store built here was robbed and then went bankrupt the owner of café located near. The last thing that took the local authorities, it was decided to build not far from the foundations of the former church administrative building of Novominskaya Agriculture Council.

Garages were quickly built and a large pit dug for the construction of the building. But further work is not gone.

Construction stopped, the money went somewhere, the moat was filled and now forgotten.

Nothing could be done on this Church place. It can be seen that only for the construction of the church Lord protects this once dear to the hearts of the villagers land where in the church our distant ancestors were baptized, married, and purified their pure and sinless souls.

P.S. The known names of the priests of the village Novominskaya: Mikhail Nedbaylo, Vasily Postnikov, Paul Tokar, Paul Kisenko, Vasily Nechayev, Valentin Pochtovy, Alexander Lysak, Andrey Morozov, Vasily Izay.



*A headstone gone to another world*

## Model of the future monument to the family of Nicholas II in Diveevo

In the village of Diveevo, in Nizhny Novgorod region, it is planned to erect a monument to the family of Nicholas II, shot in 1918 in Yekaterinburg.

Monument is to be made on people's donations in the territory of Seraphim-Diveevo monastery in Diveevo Village. Location is not chosen by chance. Nicholas II did a lot to popularize Saint Seraphim of Sarov, whose relics are kept in the monastery - in the Trinity Cathedral.

The layout of the monument is designed by Irina Makarova - a teacher of the Academy of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture named after Ilya Glazunov. The monument is planned to be established in 2017.



Foundation of St. Basil the Great and Novgorod Archdiocese took the initiative to erect the monument to the family of Emperor Nicholas II in St. Seraphim Diveevo in the name of the Holy Trinity convent, but it will be built on donations.

According to Konstantin Malofeev, "Today the Russian people, having passed through many trials that brought the XX century, coming to an understanding of the gravity of the crime of apostasy and betrayal of the Tsar, the realization and the importance of martyrdom Emperor Nicholas II and his family."

A special account is set up to collect donations for the construction of the monument. Bank account details for donations for the construction of the monument:



Name of organization of St. Basil the Charitable Foundation of the Great  
Current Account (in roubles) 40703810000340200546  
BIN 1075000006905  
BIN Bank 1027739176563  
INN bank 7,708,001,614  
PPC Bank 997 950 001  
BIC 044 525 311  
Correspondent account 30101810000000000311 in the State Bank of Russia for the Central Federal District of the bank OKPO 29293885  
Full name Bank Joint Stock Company "OTP Bank"  
Appointment payment (without VAT) donation for the construction of the monument to the family of the last Russian Emperor.

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### Museum at Ganina Yama got a piano and three icons

It is said Nicholas II and his family played this piano. Along with the musical instrument three icons related to the life of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II were given. Each made in honour of significant events: the first related to the attempt on the life of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich (in the Japanese city of Otsu), the wedding of the Sovereign and Grand Duchess Alexandra Feodorovna and in memory of the miraculous escape of the Royal family in a shipwreck off the coast of Finland.



Three icons painted in honor of the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II will be presented at Ganina Yama (Sverdlovsk region).

The Museum of the Monastery will receive three rare icons that are closely linked with the history of the last Romanovs from the Ural Mining and Metallurgical Company. One of them is an icon made in memory of rescue of Nicholas II and members of his family off the coast of Finland in 1907. The Imperial yacht Standart hit a submerged rock and almost crashed. On the icon are shown the images of the holy and righteous Andrew of Crete, St. Alexander Nevsky, St. Nicholas, St. Mary Magdalene, and the holy prophet Hosea.

Another icon was made in memory of the salvation of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich from the attack of the police officer Tsudy Sanzo in the Japanese city of Otsu.

the last is an icon with the faces of St. Nicholas and St. Tsarina Alexandra - patrons of the Imperial couple, in memory of the wedding of Tsarevich Nicholas and Grand Duchess Alexandra Feodorovna. The gifts will add to the collection of objects from the era of Emperor Nicholas II and according to the monastery, parishioners could see them on 4<sup>th</sup> of November.

Video - <http://www.obltv.ru/news/culture/muzeyu-na-ganinoy-yame-peredali-fortepiano-i-ikony-semi-nikolaya-vtorogo/>

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## Emperor Nicholas II in "Argentina"

The training ship La Sarmiento of Argentina had a crew of 31 officers, 40 cadets and 170 crew, owes its name to the memory of Mr. Domingo Faustino Sarmiento (1811-1888) politician and writer, he was president of Argentina between 1868 and 1874.

On April 6, 1902, La Sarmiento left the port of Bahia for a long journey during which among other ports it would visit Spain during the coronation of Alfonso XIII, Lisbon, Bilbao, Brest, Copenhagen, Kronstadt and St. Petersburg.

It returned to Bahia on February 1, 1903 after visiting on return trip Riga, Hamburg, Amsterdam, London, Cherbourg, Plymouth, Dublin, Glasgow, Liverpool, Las Palmas, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires.



The captain's logbook tells - 'After anchoring in St Petersburg, Mr Chargé d'Affaires of Argentina came on board to communicate that the Tsar would receive me at 12:30 in the summer palace of Peterhof.

The interview lasted fifteen minutes, the Tsar was interested in knowing facts about our country and announced that he would be interested in visiting La Sarmiento.

Waiting for that day, afternoons in St Petersburg were dedicated to visits, among other places, modern Baltic shipyards and the Navy Museum.

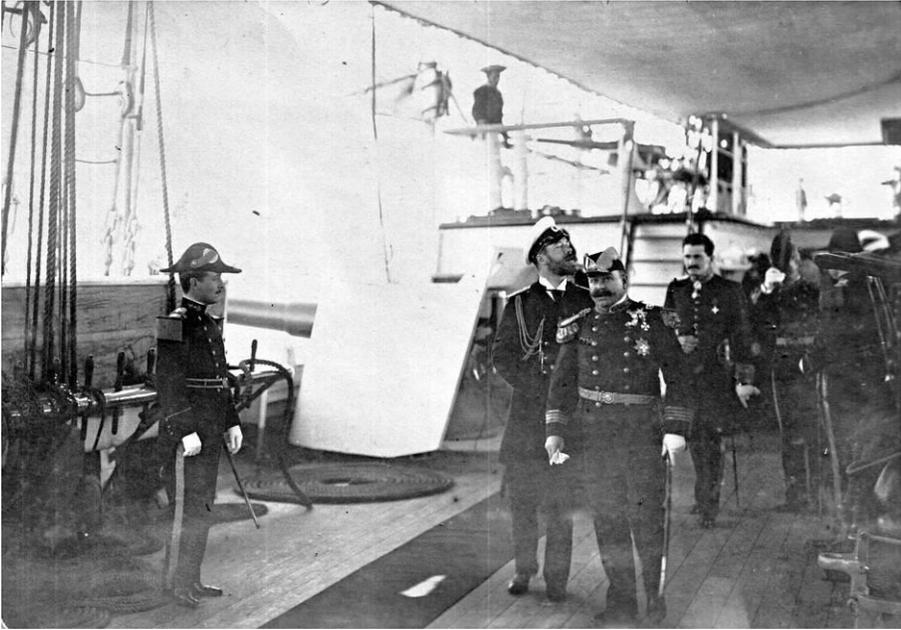
On August 4, 1902, at the express invitation of the Russian authorities, accompanied by fourteen officers and cadets on board, we attend a solemn Te Deum in honor of the Tsarina, held in an Orthodox Church.

The third commander and nine officers was invited by an officer of the Regiment of Cuirassiers of Her Majesty the Empress, with permission of the Chief of Staff of the Russian army, were present to witness the preliminary maneuvers of two forces of the three armies that day would execute a drill of combat.



After completed maneuvers were treated to a banquet at the barracks of Cuirassiers Regiment in Gatchina.

I should note that by allowing attending maneuvers was a distinction made in our favor, because it was not allowed military attaches of European nations to attend. The officers reciprocated such attention of Russian officers inviting them to a meal on board our ship.



On 9<sup>th</sup> of August there was a gala in all the ship as the anniversary of a great naval victory of Tsar Peter the Great was being held.

A 10.05 Tsar of Russia went aboard the ship, accompanied by the Dowager Tsarina Marie Feodorovna, the queen of Greece Grand Duchess Olga Konstantinova, admiral and Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich and Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich, considered the heir the throne.

Once the guests were on board, they passed on the aft deck a crew paraded before

them with weapons and training columns of honor. Parade drew special attention of the Tsar and other soldiers accompanying him. Several General in discussions with officers on board were surprised by our compatriots robust appearance.

In response, the Tsar was introduced to the officers of the ship, with whom he chatted for a long time. Since the Tsar expressed a desire to visit the ship, I ordered the officers and crew attend their checkpoints. The visit lasted for forty-five minutes.

Before retiring the eminent visitors were treated to a glass of champagne, giving reason for the Tsar to uttered a toast in appreciation of the care that he had been subjected to by Argentina's brilliant navy. I responded by thanking for the honor that we had been given by visiting our vessel, and told both personal happiness, as well as that of his Empire on behalf of the Argentine government. After that, the Tsar allowed photographs was made by a group of officers and the Tsarina in turn asked the officers to form a group so she could take a snapshot with her own photographic apparatus.



I am pleased to report that both the Tsar, the Tsarina and others in the Imperial entourage were very pleased with this visit. Such manifestation reiterated on several occasions.

When withdrawing, their Majesties were dismissed with regulatory honors, cannon volleys and voices of the ordinance on board.



Murmansk residents offered to erect a monument to the founding father of the Polar region's capital - to Nicholas II. This idea was offered by the residents of the city and representatives of the Orthodox Church.

"In different cities of our country there are memorable memorials to Tsar Nicholas II. However, in Murmansk, which was founded by this ruler, there is no monument. It would be nice to have a monument or at least a plaque. Better yet, build a chapel in honor of Nicholas II" - said Galina Sirotinskaya from the Vvedensky Church in city of Murmansk.

One of the options - to erect a monument to the founding father of the city beside the Saviour's Transfiguration Cathedral after it is built.



A new chapel, located on the territory of the Department of the Interior Ministry, was consecrated in Shchelkovo.

Chairman of the Department for Relations with the Armed Forces and law enforcement bodies of the Moscow Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church, Archpriest Mark Sreda consecrated a new chapel, located on the territory of the Russian Interior Ministry "Schelkovskoe".

"Consecration of the chapel in honor of the martyr Tsarevich Alexis Romanov on the territory of inter-municipal management - a tribute to those who lost their lives in the line of duty. This feat can not be forgotten ", - said the deputy chairman of the regional council of deputies Sergey Ignatenko.

After the consecration of the chapel and a prayer service was held a solemn meeting dedicated to the Day of the employee of law enforcement bodies. The participants laid flowers and wreaths at the memorial to law enforcement officers who died in the Great Patriotic War.

Employees of Russia internal affairs bodies celebrate their professional holiday on 10<sup>th</sup> of November. Each year, in honour of this holiday a big concert is held, a lot of celebrations and commemorative events, where not only distinguished employees are honoured, but also veterans and those who killed in the line of duty.



For Russian-French relations next year will be the year of Peter the Great. This initiative was made by the French and Russian experts at the Paris conference on the development of cultural and tourist routes. The joint conference of the two countries is chaired by the Deputy Minister of Culture of Russia Alla Manilova.

Next year, reminded the Russian Ambassador to France Alexander Orlov, will be celebrated 300 years since the visit of the first Russian Emperor to Paris. "It was this visit that led to the establishment of permanent diplomatic relations between our countries".

During his stay in Paris in April-June 1717, Peter I, recalled the ambassador, refused to stay in Royal apartments of the Louvre, opting for more modest mansion Lediger. Here he visited the seven years old French monarch Louis XV, whom the Russian Tsar at this historic meeting raised up in his hands after signing of a friendship agreement with France.

President of the Academy of Sciences of France Jean-Paul Bignon was convinced that science diplomacy created the first real bond between the two countries. December 22, 1717, Peter was elected to the Academy with applause.



Among those giving reports at the conference was State King of Arms George Vilinbakhov, CEO of the Museum-Reserve "Peterhof" Elena Kalnitskaya, and the head of the House of Russian Abroad Victor Moskvin.



These days it will be 300 years of the famous Amber Room in Russia. In November 1716, the masterpiece on carts was sent from Prussia to Petersburg.

Peter I wrote to his wife: "King Friedrich gave me a fair present: Cabinet of Amber, which I have long wanted."

Almost 30 years it was in a store room. While Peter's daughter, Empress Elizabeth, decided to decorate her new summer residence in Tsarskoye Selo. It is there the room in 1941 was stolen by the Nazis. For more than 70 years, it has not been found.

Given to the United States on account of payments under the lend-lease or taken away by the Nazis to South America? In search of this amber room professionals and amateurs descend into cellars and dungeons. Look for it in the former East Prussia, and in present-day Europe.

But here it is - the true beauty - here in Tsarskoye Selo, near St. Petersburg. After all, this copy is hardly inferior to the original. We cannot say that is it a mirror image, or rather an independent work of art of amber craftsmen of the 20th century.

Video - <http://www.5-tv.ru/news/112046/>



A video about the exhibition "Anna Pavlovna, a colourful Queen" at Het Loo Palace. Two hundred years ago, Anna Pavlovna, sister of the Russian Tsar, came to the Netherlands. She married at the age of 21 to William, Prince of Orange, later King William II. Anna was a classy lady, loves Imperial glitter and shine, and colour at the dull Dutch court. She brought chests full of treasures: fabrics, jewellery, furniture, trinkets and even a complete church outfit! She also allowed cooks, singers and priests to come from Russia.

Video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxeFWC8MRPw>



Queen Maxima in Het Loo Palace in Apeldoorn opened the exhibition "Anna Pavlovna, a colourful Queen". Curator Paul Rem in the west wing of the palace tried to create the atmosphere of the Russian court because the Tsar's daughter Anna Pavlovna felt more connected to her Russian homeland than with the Dutch polder. Curator Paul Rem speaks about Anna Pavlovna and the special exhibition.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J04T57f4H3c>



Toys and personal belongings of the Grand Dukes and Duchesses - sons and daughters of Emperor Paul I and Emperor Alexander III presented in Gatchina. The exhibition is called - "Childhood in the palace."

After several years, the museum-reserve is ready to show to the public rare exhibits - portraits, things, articles of clothing, gifts, books and photographs, not only from its own collection, but also from the collections of other museums in St. Petersburg.

Dolls from the end of the XIX century, with them was playing the daughter of Alexander III - the young Grand Duchesses Xenia and Olga. Today you can see the Gatchina Palace and other rare things - more than 200 items from the miraculously preserved children's rooms of the Royal heirs.

Gifts and books, wardrobe items, toys and photos - they all fit in the eight thematic halls. Here are miniature pistols for the future Emperor Paul, child fan of his wife Maria Feodorovna, baptismal clothes and caps of their children and family portraits.

The exposure is a real "adventure". Visitors are given roadmap with questions, and in each room, there are interactive displays. Children can play games of the XIX century, look at guns and toy soldiers, assess the outfits, as well as practice dance moves - that is, truly to feel like Royal personages.

Being Tsarevich is a special responsibility. Reconstituted desk of young Grand Dukes George and Michael literally opens up the secrets of the formation of a bygone era. Here books with assignments, schedule, among them - Latin, rhetoric, horse riding and many other things that today are not taught in school. Well, in the next room - technological advances of the time: telephone, telegraph, typewriters and cameras.

Technical innovations of the XIX century was the first thing in the palace. It turns out that the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich one of the first mastered the art of selfie. And he did this with a marker gadget. Well, Imperial family loved opera. And often listened to it on the phone...

The main objective of the exhibition - to show the tradition of raising children by the example of the two Royal families, who at one time lived in the Gatchina Palace.

The exposition will be opened until April 2 next year.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/158634/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158634/)



On 11<sup>th</sup> of November "The First Lady of The Russian Fashion Industry" was opened - an exhibition of theatrical costumes from the collection of the Moscow Art Theater, dedicated to 155 anniversary of the birth of the brilliant Russian designer Nadezhda Lamanova.

Nadezhda Lamanova was born December 14, 1861 in Nizhny Novgorod province in the family of hereditary nobles. She graduated from grammar school and Moscow sewing school. In 1883, she became a leading cutter in a Madame Voitkevich's company, and already at the age of 24 - the mistress of her own "Fashion House". The subtle flair and impeccable taste gave Nadezhda Lamanova glory as the first ladies of the Russian fashion industry. She received the highest distinction that can only be achieved in pre-revolutionary Russia - "His Imperial Majesty Court Supplier". Nadezhda dictates the style of people in the "Silver Age".

The number of known persons who ordered at Lamanova includes: Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, Princess Irina Yusupova, Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna - a cousin of Nicholas II, Betty Wrangell, Maria Kshessinsky, Anna Pavlova, Vera Kholodnaya, Alexandra Khokhlova, Anel Sudakevich, Lilya Brik, and her sister Elsa Triolepr.

In 1901, Konstantin Stanislavsky invites Lamanova to take part in creating costumes for the Moscow Art Theatre. Thus, begins her "love affair" with the theatre, which lasted until the end of her life. In turbulent years of revolution, the noble origin is "conspiracy against Soviet power" and she went to the Butyrka prison. Her release came after 2.5 months, thanks to the participation of Maxim Gorky. After the revolution, Lamanova continued to pursue her life's work - to design clothes. Her works had success at international exhibitions.

She dressed actors in films such as: "Aelita", "Generation of winners", "Circus", "Alexander Nevsky", "Ivan the Terrible", and "Inspector".

Today, designer costumes are stored in the collections of the Hermitage, the Metropole, the Museum of History, the history of fashion in the collection of Alexander Vasiliev and other private collections.

The exhibition will feature more than 40 unique items, among which 20 are based on sketches by Alexander Golovin and shown in productions of "The Marriage of Figaro", "Othello", "Anna Karenina", "The life in the legs." Her work is rightly called the masterpieces of theatrical costumes.

The exhibition will run at the State Museum A.M. Gorky from 11 November to 16 December from 9.00 to 17.00





On the last day of the exhibition of the Danish royal porcelain in Tambov – to receive a memorable gift. More than 70 objects - vases, figurines, tableware – items of special pride of Peterhof Museum, as they are related to two generations of the Royal family of the Romanovs - Emperor Alexander III and his wife Maria Feodorovna, as well as their son, the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II.

Historical collection of Danish porcelain has been partly lost during the Revolution and the Great Patriotic War, but through the efforts of employees of Peterhof Museum it was restored throughout the XX century.

On 4<sup>th</sup> of December - on the last day of the exhibition in Aseev Manor in Tambov it will be special action. Each participant of the excursion program will receive a memorable gift - an exclusive presentation album, released in limited edition especially for the opening of the exhibition. The album includes not only a detailed description of each item, but also some interesting facts from the life of the Romanov family, the history of creation and the work of the Copenhagen Royal Porcelain Manufactory, as well as illustrations of the luxurious interiors of Peterhof.

**Внимание: последний день экспонирования выставки в Тамбове!**

**4 декабря 2016 с 10.00 до 17.30 согласно графику**

**Подарок каждому посетителю выставки!**

Музейный комплекс «Усадьба Асеевых» предлагает своим гостям не упустить последнюю возможность посетить экскурсию по выставке Датского королевского фарфора из собрания ГМЗ «Петергоф»! (уже на следующий день выставка покинет Тамбов)

Каждый участник экскурсии получит в подарок эксклюзивный презентационный альбом, выпущенный ограниченным тиражом специально к открытию выставки!

Цена билета: 150 руб. для взрослых, 80 руб. для студентов и курсантов, 50 руб. для детей.

Успейте познакомиться с великолепной коллекцией фарфора из собрания одного из лучших музеев мира – Государственного Музея-заповедника «Петергоф»!

**0+**

Вход на экскурсионную программу (по датскому способу) осуществляется в составе экскурсионных групп по мере очереди каждые полчаса согласно графику:

10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 13:00, 13:30, 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, 15:30, 16:00, 16:30, 17:00, 17:30.

Подробности в Музейном комплексе «Усадьба Асеевых» ☎(4752) 63-64-69 г. Тамбов, ул. Набережная, д. 22/1



The new website "1917. Free History" is a purely documentary project - you will not find a drop of fiction there. The materials of the website provide an opportunity to learn the history of 1917 by contemporaries and protagonists of events of the most important year in the history of Russia in the XX century. This is absolutely a documentary project. All texts written on behalf of the

**1917** Свободная история

18 ноября 1916 года  
в этот день:

- Императрица: «Я совершенно одурела»
- Битва на Сомме: дождь снарядов и газовая атака
- Ленин: «Луначарский и К — публика без головы»

characters are taken from their letters, memoirs, diaries, and other documents of the era.

By accessing the website, every day you can find out about what happened exactly one hundred years ago, with the characters and the whole country that occupied thoughts of the people, what happened to each of them in this eventful year.

The website contains also photos and videos, many of which shown for the first time.

<https://project1917.ru/>



Dress of the Empress in Hermitage - "In this dress she was young, beautiful and for the first time felt like a bride of someone who loved her, whom she loved, and with whom she was going to spend the rest of her life. Literally from nothing curators and restorers of the Hermitage returned the famous dress in which the last Russian Empress Alexandra posed during a special photo session preceding the wedding, and it was believed that for more than a hundred years it was lost.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/59697/episode\\_id/1381314/](http://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/59697/episode_id/1381314/)



A video of Tsarevich Alexei & his spaniel Joy

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSikguTGaaQ>



Moscow State Pedagogical University presents an exhibition dedicated to one of the most tragic pages of Russian history. The events in 1917-1919, when the last Emperor abdicated, the country was shaken by revolution and civil war, and the execution of the Royal family finally destroyed the old world. The exhibition includes rare photographs, diaries and personal correspondence of Nicholas II and his family from the State Archive of the Republic of Crimea.

Video - <http://5-tv.ru/news/112237/>



A unique collection of Easter eggs was presented in Yekaterinburg, on the eve of National Unity Day. The exhibition "Dynasty" was opened at the Governor residence.

Eighteen silver eggs encrusted by Ural gems. Each represents one of the representatives of the House of Romanov - from Michail Feodorovich to Nicholas II. Another represents the Zemsky Sobor in 1613, which chose Royal dynasty.

The exhibition was made by co-authors: Vladimir Diaghilev, the project manager and the owner of the collection and Yekaterinburg artist Andrey Balandin.

Ornament decorating each piece symbolizes achievement of the Russian Tsar. Andrey Balandin - "What did Peter's daughter, Tsarina Elizabeth - she loved art, literature, architecture, painting, theater, she also developed the Russian wine-making in the Crimea."

Jewelry work is performed in the style of hi-tech product produced in a modern way - first on computer based sketches, then executed in 3D-model, then the product was casted in silver on special equipment.

Governor Yevgeny Kuyvashev participated in creating the exhibits. According to Andrey Balandin, head of the region advised the artists to strengthen the pedestal ring for greater stability of the structure.

Vadim Dubichev, first deputy head of administration of the Sverdlovsk region governor: "A unique project, unique not only on the history and content, but also in the artistic approaches. As far as I know, there is nothing of the kind like classical Faberge Easter eggs in the Russian jewelry tradition."

Video - <http://www.obltv.ru/news/culture/v-ekaterinburge-otkrylas-vystavka-yuvelirnykh-izdeliy-posvyashchennykh-domu-romanovykh/>



Military Historical Library of St. Petersburg celebrates its creation 205 years ago, by decree of Emperor Alexander the First. The main gift to the day of birth of the library was a series of paintings of the last Secretary of the Navy of the Russian Empire - Ivan Grigorovich.

"In 1924 he went to France for surgery, he had a brain tumour. To live he had to write and sell these miniatures. And here I am, he lived. And it is there" - says granddaughter Olga Petrova Grigorovich.

Ivan Grigorovich - a unique personality. Participant of the Russian-Japanese war, the chief commander and governor of Port Arthur, Rear Admiral, he made miniature paintings. Basically - seascapes. Especially for the exhibition they are digitized, enlarged and printed. Next to them is exhibited a gilded ink, which Alexander I used, signing the Treaty of Tilsit. A bronze bust of the Emperor was also brought to the Military Historical Library from the vault of the Russian Museum.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/158865/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158865/)



"Revived the play of the Empress" - an exhibition in Tsaritsino opened on November 26, devoted to the Enlightenment, Gothic art and literary pursuits of the Empress Catherine II.

Subject basis of the exhibition is the little-known play "Chesma Palace" - one of many dramatic works of Catherine II. The play remained a sketch. Written in French, probably in the early 1780s, the play was first published in Russian in 1907. The plot of "trifles" (as the Empress called her literary experiments), is built around the story of a guard veteran, who during bypass discovers that portraits of Russian and Western European Rulers from different eras - Empress Maria Theresa, Catherine I and Elizabeth, Louis XVI, Joseph II, Peter I, and the old Russian Princes Alexander Nevsky and Vsevolod hanging in the chambers of Chesmensky palace at night were talking, discussing the latest news, dive sharply to each other. What do the portraits? Might be intriguing for modern audience what they say?

The exhibition "Revived play of the Empress" takes place in four halls. In the first two, you can see the historical artifacts and interactive (including the original edition of the play "Chesma Palace"). In other halls, will be audiovisual performance: the artists Alexei Politov and Marina Belova create relief portraits of Sovereigns, and Eugene Buravleva and Egor Plotnikov erected a small theater-installation in Gothic style. Especially for the exhibition is made a film directed by Julia Ovchinnikova. The actor of "Gogol-center" Philip Avdeev perform leading part, reading the text of the play of Catherine II.



The new cross in memory of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich is being made. One of the Moscow shops is working on the monument, which in already a half a year will be set in the center of the Kremlin. This eight-meter cross is in memory of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, who was killed by a terrorist in 1905 at Nikolsky tower. At the base of the cross - the inscription, "Father, forgive them. They do not know what they do." On the reverse side - "Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich Romanov, murdered February 4, 1905". Revolutionary Kalyaev threw a bomb at the carriage of the Grand Duke. The original memorial cross on the spot of the death of the governor-general of Moscow was destroyed by the Bolsheviks. Almost a hundred years later Vladimir Putin decided to re-create it.



Video - <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1726877/>



The Hermitage shows 50 sets of services from the Imperial Porcelain Factory. Dishes from which ate dignitaries, will be shown in the Nicholas Hall of the Hermitage. Porcelain masterpieces presented at the exhibition were collected from across the country. From the Hermitage and Peterhof comes the Guryev service. Known for its controversial color. Some call it red, some - terracotta, someone - the color of raw beef. There will also be presented the works on porcelain of young artists from the Imperial factory. The exhibition will open on 8 December - on the Hermitage's birthday - and will run until March.

Video - <http://topspb.tv/news/news119166/>



The Russian Museum in the Mikhailovsky Palace has opened an exhibition of works by sculptor Paolo Trubetskoy. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the artist's birthday. he is properly best known for his monument to Emperor Alexander III, now standing at the Marble palace in St. Petersburg, but he also made sculptures of other Romanovs, including Grand duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and Emperor Alexander II.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/159771/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/159771/)

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## Rappaport's "Race to Save the Romanovs" goes to Hutchinson

Hutchinson has acquired a new book from historian Helen Rappaport, "The Race to Save the Romanovs". Senior editor Sarah Rigby secured UK and Commonwealth rights (excluding Canada) in print, e-book and audio from Caroline Michel at PDF for an undisclosed sum.

The book looks back to the events of 18th July 1918, when the whole Russian Imperial Family was murdered at Ekaterinburg. With the 100-year-anniversary of the murders on the horizon, Rappaport tackles the remaining "burning question" - why exactly did the Romanovs' European Royal relatives and the Allied governments, as well as monarchists within Russia, all fail to get Russia's last Imperial Family out to safety?

According to Hutchinson, "The Race to Save the Romanovs is" "an incredible detective story" that will piece together and reconstruct the complex behind-the-scenes royal, diplomatic and unofficial efforts to secure a sanctuary for the Romanovs. In the process, it will reveal "bitter family rivalries, secret plans, a chain of blame and recrimination and devastating betrayals".

Rigby said: "The murder of the Romanovs continues to exert a dark fascination with so many unknowns and half-truths abounding. With a decade of Romanov research behind her and access to private and obscure sources around the world, Helen Rappaport is the only person who could write this book. "The Race to Save the Romanovs" will be narrative history at its very best, bringing its readers to the heart of a search for the truth."

Rappaport said: "It had not been my intention to write any more Romanov books but I just cannot let go of this one final puzzle. I am determined to try and unravel what really happened behind the scenes during those critical months from March 1917 to July 1918. It is a story I feel absolutely compelled to write."

Hutchinson will publish in hardback and eBook on 28th June 2018.

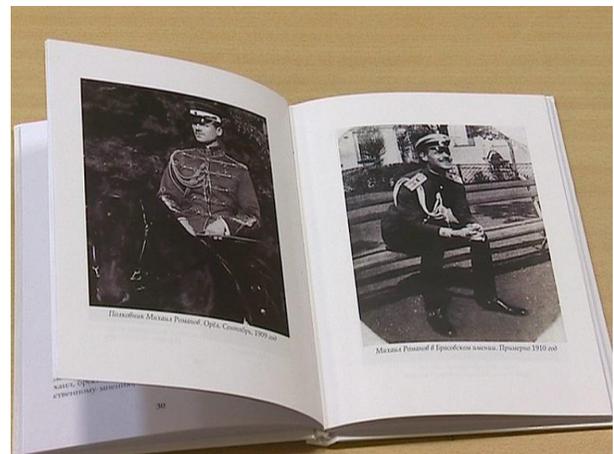
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## Book about Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich published in Orel

The publishing house "Orlik" has presented the book "Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich Romanov, Honorary Citizen of the Orel." The presentation was held on November 28 in the library named after Bunin at a meeting of the club "Orlovsky bibliophile".

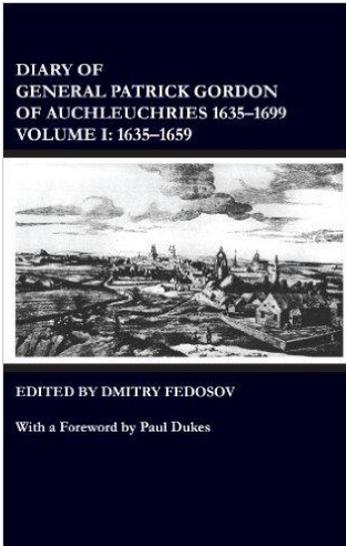
The publication was prepared by the Orel regional branch of the "Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society." The book is based on known facts and a few new found in recent years about the life and residence of the Grand Duke in Orel, in his estate Brassov in Orel province (now Bryansk region).

The book covers the major milestones in a biography of Michael Alexandrovich, allowing readers to get acquainted with his character, views and opinions.



## Diaries of Peter the Great's right hand finally published 317 years after his death

By Jon Hebditch, "Press and journal", November 26



A 20-year project to tell the fascinating true tale of an Aberdeenshire soldier of fortune who rose through the ranks to become a general, rear-admiral and right-hand man of a Russian Tsar came to fruition yesterday. Some 317 years after his death, the six volumes of diaries by Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries was unveiled by Aberdeen university academics.

Born near Ellon in 1635, he left Scotland for Poland aged 16 to seek a life away from the ongoing persecution of Catholics in his homeland. In 1661, after years fighting in numerous conflicts for many countries he took up service in the Russian army under Tsar Aleksey I. The Scot distinguished himself in several wars against the Turk and Tatar ethnic groups in southern Russia and was made major-general in 1678 and by 1683 was made lieutenant-general.

He visited England and Scotland in 1686. In 1687 and 1689 he took part in expeditions against the Tatars in the Crimea, being made full general for his services. On the breaking out of "revolution" in Moscow in 1689, Gordon with the troops under his command virtually decided events in favour of Tsar Peter I, Peter the Great.

A devout Catholic, he is credited with helping spread the faith in the Orthodox country and was created Count of the Holy Roman Empire in 1701.

The Tsar who revolutionised the Russian state is said to have wept by his faithful Scots servant's deathbed before closing his eyes with his own hand.

In 1699 he died in Moscow, where a monument still stands in his memory.

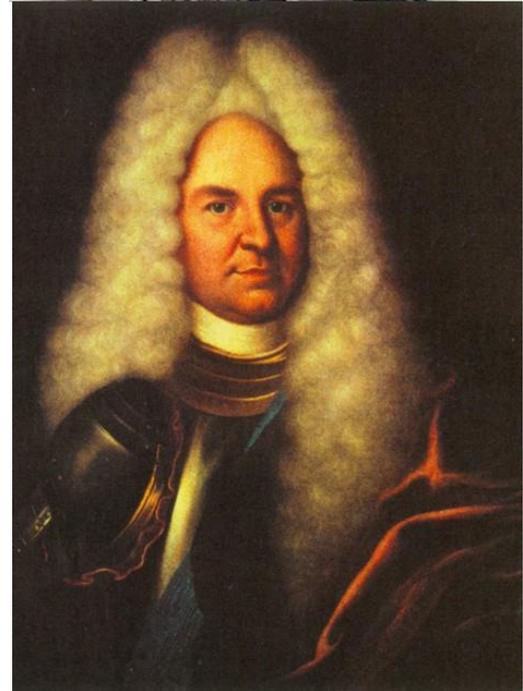
Editions of his diary, which recount his extensive warfare experiences, have previously been published in Russian and German.

Editor Dmitry Fedosov, who has flown to Aberdeen for the launch of the diaries, said all six volumes have now been printed in full academic form with footnotes and translations.

Mr Fedosov, a senior research fellow at the institute of general history at the Russian Academy of Sciences, said: "There have been many close connections between Scotland and Russia through the ages - for instance both countries share St. Andrew as their patron saint.

"Gordon was a devout catholic, a military man and a Scottish patriot.

"He is one of the great members of the Scottish diaspora throughout history and no serious historian in Russia doesn't know of Gordon."



## Alexander I. Maria Pavlovna. Elizabeth Alexeievna. Correspondence from three angles. 1804-1826



The book presents the correspondence of Alexander I with his sister, Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna, as well as letters to Maria Pavlovna from Empress Elizabeth Alekseevna.

Correspondence was initiated in 1804, by Maria Pavlovna, when she married Crown Duke of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach, settled in Weimar, where great representatives of the Weimar classics - Goethe, Schiller, Wieland were still alive. It ends with the death of Alexander.

The correspondence, which lasted more than twenty years, covers the era of the Napoleonic wars, when the duchy of Saxe-Weimar was an enemy of Russia, and the era of redistribution of Germany and the creation of the German Confederation of the Congress of Vienna, when Alexander and Maria Pavlovna often used each other to solve the political and diplomatic tasks.

Annex published extracts from the correspondence of Maria Pavlovna with her mother, the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, the brothers Constantine and Nicholas, Duke Karl August of Saxe-Weimar and his son Karl Friedrich, as well as letters to Maria Pavlovna from Russian writers. For the first time personal diary of Maria Pavlovna for 1805-1808 years published in Russian.

*Publisher: New Literary Review, Moscow. Hard cover. 560 pages. Isbn# 978-5-4448-0581-7*

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## History of Imperial Russia' balls. An amusing trip



The book by doctor of historical sciences, Professor Oksana Zakharova offers the reader a special, unprecedented and poorly understood world of ballroom ceremony.

The author on the basis of historical sources tells about the origin and development of Russian ball, history of dance and costume, the symbolism of the gesture, and the design of ballrooms. This study is largely of applied nature. Cotillion figures published for the first time, allow to reproduce this dance on modern balls.

In this book the reader can for the first time have the opportunity, together with the heroes of Pushkin, Lermontov, Gogol, Danilevsky, Zagoskina, Baratynsky, Bunin, Kuprin and others, to visit the balls of XVIII-XX centuries, to feel the poetic world of ballroom culture. You will find it fascinating historical journey, dive into the wonderful intertwining eras and destinies, politics and culture.

*Publisher: Tsentrpoligraf, Moscow. Hard cover. 510 pages. Isbn# 978-5-227-07184-2*

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**Under the hammer...**  
**Romanov related items in Auctions**



**Christie's, London, UK, on 28 November**

*Jewelled gold imperial presentation snuff-box*  
Mark of Friedrich Koechli, St Petersburg, circa 1890. Rectangular with cut corners, the hinged cover centring the rose and old-cut diamond-set cypher of Emperor Alexander III beneath the Imperial crown, with four gold-mounted diamonds at corners, all within recessed borders, the sides and base similarly decorated, with a thumb-piece, marked inside cover and base and on rims. 3 5/8 in. (9.2 cm.) wide 7.88 oz. (245 gr.) gross.  
Estimated Price: GBP 80,000 - GBP 120,000 / (USD 99,920 - USD 149,880)



*A jewelled gold cigarette case*

Mark of Carl Blank, St Petersburg, 1908-1917. The body with alternating reeded design, with a sapphire-set thumb-piece, the hinged cover applied with a paste-set monogram of Nicholas II beneath the Imperial crown, marked inside cover and base. 3 5/8 in. (9.2 cm.) wide.

Estimated Price: GBP 8,000 - GBP 10,000 / (USD 9,992 - USD 12,490)



*A jewelled two-colour gold-mounted presentation brooch*

By Fabergé, with the workmaster's mark of Henrik Wigström, St Petersburg, 1908-1917. Centring the diamond-set monogram 'VM' for Princess Victoria Melita of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha (1876-1936), within a green gold laurel border, surmounted by a diamond-set crown, marked on pin; in the original Fabergé wood case. 1 1/8 in. (2.9 cm.) high.

Estimated Price: GBP 4,000 - GBP 6,000 / (USD 4,996 - USD 7,494)



*Princess Victoria Battenberg's Star of St. Catherine Order*

Stars of the Order of St. Catherine are very rarely offered at auction. Established in 1713 by Peter the Great to commemorate the heroic deeds of his consort — the future Empress Catherine I — following the Turkish wars, the order came in two classes: Grand and the Small cross.

The Order of St. Catherine was the 'first and only Imperial Russian order awarded to women', which makes it particularly exciting to Helen Culver Smith, Head of Christie's Russian Art Department. The Grand Cross of the Order was awarded to all female members of the Russian Imperial family upon their christening or marriage into the Romanov family. Beyond Imperial family members, the order was also presented to 'a set number of elite Russian women of the highest nobility, who were honoured for their philanthropic work outside of the Court', Culver Smith explains.

According to Imperial Cabinet ledgers, it appears that this order was purchased on 27 May 1908 from the jeweller Bolin, and presented to Victoria Battenberg on the same day.



Princess Victoria (1887–1969), known as Ena, was the youngest granddaughter of Queen Victoria and the cousin of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. The order was presented two years after she married King Alfonso XIII and became the Queen Consort of Spain.

Historically, it was possible to return the award in order to redeem its value. What makes this piece so unique is that it seems to have been retained by Victoria, Queen consort of Spain. 'This one was acquired directly from the family by the father of the present owner, and has never been seen on the market before,' says Culver Smith.

According to the specialist, the 3,750 roubles paid for the order represented a vast sum at the time, greater even than the cost of some of the top presentation pieces generally offered by the court. 'The immense cost of this piece underscores the extravagance and wealth of the Imperial court,' she says. However, Culver Smith stresses that the value of the piece 'is not really in the diamonds' with which it is set, 'but rather the exceptional rarity of this kind of gift'.

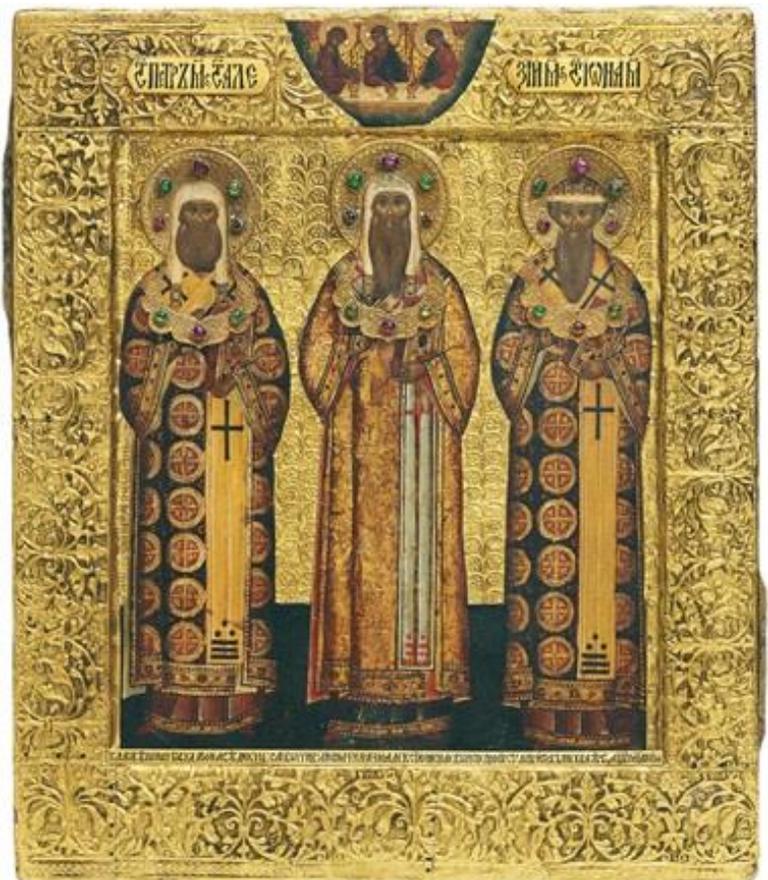
In November 2007, Christie's sold a full set of insignia of the Order of St Catherine for just over £400,000 (against a high estimate of £80,000). This Star of the Order will be offered in the Russian Art sale on 28 November at Christie's London.

*Jewelled gold-mounted presentation icon of the patron saints of Moscow St Alexis, Peter and Jonah*

Moscow, third quarter 17th century; the oklad (frame), assembled circa 1912. All saints depicted full length, with an image of the Trinity above, the gold basma oklad assembled from various pieces, the fine filigree scrollwork and halos decorated with cabochon rubies and coloured garnets, applied with black champlevé enamelled gold plaques, inscribed with the names of the saints and the Russian inscription '[To] Pious Heir to the Throne Tsesarevitch and Grand Prince Alexei Nikolaevich Moscow City Year 1912 May', apparently unmarked; with a velvet-lined kiot. 12½ x 10¾ in. (31.8 x 27.5 cm.) Estimated Price: GBP 80,000 - GBP 120,000 / (USD 99,920 - USD 149,880)

***Uncovering the story of an icon given to the son of the Tsar***

Christie's specialist Margo Oganessian describes the four-month process to establish the true significance of a 17th-century icon and its links to the Heir to the Russian throne. The extremely rare icon is offered in the Russian Art sale on 28 November. When Christie's Russian Art specialists were presented with this extremely rare icon, it was clear that they had come across a very special and historically significant object. But if they knew the broad outlines, much of the piece's significance was unknown. This sparked a four-month investigation by the Russian Art department, leading from London's King Street to historical archives in Moscow. The 17th-century icon once belonged to Tsesarevich Aleksei (1904–1918), the only son of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna and the last Heir to the Imperial Russian throne. Decorated with a gold mount (oklad) assembled from earlier embossed pieces, as well as contemporary filigree jewelled mounts, it depicts St. Alexis, Metropolitan of Moscow (the spiritual head of the Russian Orthodox Church), who was also the patron saint of Tsesarevitch Aleksei. With its resemblance to early medieval assembled examples, the icon embodies the revival of a traditional Russian artistic vernacular.



Tsesarevitch Aleksei died in 1918 - aged just 13 - following the Bolsheviks' passage of a death sentence on the Romanov family. 'Objects belonging to the Tsesarevitch, who was canonised as a Holy Martyr in 2000, very rarely appear on the market', explains Margo Oganessian, associate Russian specialist at Christie's. 'We knew that we had an incredibly interesting and rare piece'. It was always believed that the icon had been presented to Tsesarevich Aleksei in 1912 by the Moscow Nobility Society, and so the research began.

Most Russian Imperial objects were either destroyed or sold by the Bolsheviks after the 1917 revolution. This beautiful icon 'is a wonderful and rare survivor'.

Examining the icon, they noted a plaque inscribed in old Slavonic, 'Pious Heir to the Throne Tsesarevitch and Grand Prince Alexei Nikolaevich, Moscow City, 1912 May'. It was known that in May 1912 Tsesarevich Aleksei travelled to Moscow with his parents for the unveiling of a statue of his grandfather, Alexander III. It was his first state visit to Moscow, and the occasion was celebrated with festivities and receptions. 'We knew that gifts to the Imperial family were noted in the Imperial Cabinet archives, so our researcher in Russia began to examine the records from the Moscow Nobility Society,' explains Oganessian. The Moscow Nobility Society archives did indeed include a detailed account of the icon it presented to Tsesarevitch Aleksei. But upon examination, it became clear that that icon was not one of St. Alexis but of Vladimir Mother of God, painted by the renowned early 20th-century Russian artist Viktor Vasnetsov. 'We realised that unfortunately, this was not our icon,' Oganessian says. Digging deeper, Christie's Russian Art specialists looked for more information on Tsesarevitch Aleksei's first official visit to Moscow. Eventually, they came across the memoirs of Vladimir Dzhunkovsky (1865–1938), the Governor-General of Moscow in May 1912, which describe the Imperial state visit in detail. According to his account, just days before the statue of Alexander III was unveiled, Emperor Nicholas II and his family received an official delegation of statesmen, nobility and city representatives in the Dormition Cathedral in the Kremlin. During this reception, Nikolay Guchkov, the Mayor of Moscow, presented an icon of St. Alexis to Tsesarevich Aleksei on behalf of the Moscow City Council, proclaiming, 'God bless you and may the Great Bishop of Moscow Alexis guide you to the delight of your parents and for the benefit of the Russian people'.



*Tsesarevich Aleksei with his family arriving at the Iverskaya Chapel at the Kremlin in May 1912.*

It suddenly became clear that the phrase 'City of Moscow' in the icon's inscription referred not to the location of its presentation, but to its presenter. The memoirs of the contemporary witness were crucial in establishing this connection. 'What also suddenly made perfect sense is the depiction of two other saints on either side of St Alexis: St. Peter and St. Jonah, who were patron saints of the City of Moscow,' Oganessian adds.

As most Russian Imperial objects were either destroyed or sold by the Bolsheviks after the 1917 revolution, this beautiful icon, never before seen on the market, 'is a wonderful and rare survivor', Oganessian says.

*A large porcelain portrait cup*

By the Gardner porcelain factory, Moscow, circa 1820-1830s. Painted with the portrait of Grand Duke Konstantin Pavlovich (1779-1831), after an engraving of 1829, within gilt border, with a scroll handle, marked under base with blue underglaze factory mark and impressed with numeral '15' 4¼ in. (10.8 cm.) high.

Estimated Price: GBP 2,000 - GBP 3,000 / (USD 2,498 - USD 3,747)



*A porcelain portrait cup and saucer*

By the Imperial Porcelain Factory, St Petersburg, period of Nicholas I (1825-1855). The cup painted with the portrait of Nicholas I after Franz Kruger, the sides, scroll handle and cover decorated with varicoloured moulded flowers, the saucer similarly decorated, both marked under bases with blue underglaze factory marks, also inscribed 'B.2.4.' The cup 5½ in. (14 cm.) high, with cover.

Estimated Price: GBP 5,000 - GBP 7,000 / (USD 6,245 - USD 8,743)



**Sotheby's, London, United Kingdom, on November 29:**

*An imperial presentation Fabergé jewelled gold brooch made for the Romanov tercentenary.*

Formed as an openwork shield centring an Imperial eagle set with an oval-cut sapphire below dates 1613 and 1913 flanking a larger circular-cut sapphire, surmounted by a Cap of Monomakh set with a circular-cut diamond, later pin, scratched inventory number 3679. Probably by work master August Holmström, St Petersburg, 1913. Estimated Price: £3,000 - £5,000



*An imperial presentation jewelled gold brooch.*

Formed as a chased Imperial eagle, the shield set with a circular-cut diamond, within an openwork key fret frame, 56 Standard, Friedrich Köchli, St Petersburg, 1908-1917. Width 3.8cm, 1 1/2 in. Estimated Price: £4,000 - £6,000



*A pair of imperial presentation Fabergé jewelled gold cufflinks.*

Each link formed as a matte-finish gold shield applied with a rose-cut diamond-set Imperial eagle centring a pear-shaped ruby, diamond-set Imperial crown and ribbon surmount, the elliptical bars each set with a circular-cut ruby flanked by rose-cut diamond-set leaves, struck with work master's initials, scratched inventory number 2315, in original brown leather presentation case, the lid with gilt and embossed Imperial eagle. Work master August Hollming, St Petersburg, circa 1905. Height 2.4cm, 7/8 in. Estimated Price: £12,000 - £18,000

*An imperial presentation Fabergé silver-gilt and wood frame.*

The bezel cast with leaf tips within a burr wood surround, the top applied with an Imperial crown, wood back and strut, struck with work master's initials and Fabergé in Cyrillic, 88 Standard, containing a photograph of the Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich wearing a winter coat and fur hat in a snowy field, inscribed C. E. de Hahn & Co., Tsarskoe Selo. Height 36.1cm, 14 1/4 in., work master Hjalmar Armfeldt, St Petersburg, 1908-1917.



*A jewelled gold cigarette case*

Surfaces with sunburst reeds, the lid applied with a rose-cut diamond and circular-cut ruby-set crowned double-headed eagle representing the Order of the White Eagle, cabochon sapphire thumbpiece, stuck with unidentified marker's mark GSP (Cyrillic, Postnikov-Lossev no. 3153), 56 Standard. Width 10.2cm, 4in.



*An imperial presentation jewelled gold and enamel box.*

Cartouche shaped, the lid centred with a translucent Royal blue enamel roundel applied with the diamond-set crowned cypher of Grand Duke Alexander Nikolaevich, later Emperor Alexander II, within raised and engraved foliated fretwork and applied rosettes. Charles Collins & Söhne, Hanau, 1849-1855. Width 8.7cm, 3 1/2 in.



*Grand Duchess Elena Vladimirovna's silver inkwell.*

Plain polished surfaces, the lid engraved with the crowned cypher of Grand Duchess Elena Vladimirovna. 84 Standard, Grachev, St Petersburg, 1894. Height 7.4cm, 2 7/8 in.



*An enamel snuff box with cypher of Catherine the Great.*

The lid with the raised gilt crowned cypher of Catherine the Great within a cartouche, the sides and base painted with landscapes and Bacchic putti, the inner lid opening to reveal a miniature painted with five fornicating figures including a monk, gilt copper mounts. St Petersburg or Berlin, circa 1765. Width 8.2cm, 3 1/4 in.



*A silvered portrait medallion of Emperor Nicholas II.*

Silver on copper plaque, the Emperor Nicholas II in profile wearing the frock coat of the Life-Guards Horse-Grenadiers Regiment within full Imperial inscription, the truncation inscribed Ch. Bertault and dated 1897, in original green plush-covered frame with gilt-metal bezel and Imperial crown surmount, the silk back with strut. Height overall 16.2cm, 6 3/8 in.; diameter of sight 9.1cm, 3 5/8 in.

*Busts of Emperor Nicholas I and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna.*

Marble busts, after the model by Rauch, possibly carved by Agostino and Paolo Triscorni, St Petersburg, circa 1825. Empress Alexandra Feodorovna: Height 59cm, 23 1/4 In. Emperor Nicholas I: Height 49cm, 19 1/4 In.

Emperor Nicholas I, estimate: £10,000 - £15,000 / Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, estimate: £15,000 - £20,000



*An ivory portrait plaque of Empress Elizabeth I*

Full-length figure carved in high relief within a stepped border.

Height 16cm, 6 1/4 in.

Estimated Price: £12,000 - £16,000

***Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, on December 2:***

*A pair of jewelled gold cufflinks.*

A pair of Russian Rococo revival emerald cufflinks, each adorned with the Imperial Warrant and set with a circular-cut emerald on golden translucent enamel on guilloches ground, encircled by rocailles, mounted in 14k gold. Ivan Ekimovich Morozov, Cyrillic work master's mark IP (19098-1917), 56 Standard, mounted with chain and hanger. Diam. 1.7 cm. L. 2.6 cm. In original red leather case with the Imperial Warrant in gold as purveyor to the Imperial Russian Court, interior marked I. E. Morozov, St. Petersburg.

Ivan Ekimovich Morozov was one of the most serious competitors for Fabergé, which is also evident from the design and quality of these cufflinks.



Provenance: Seller's grandfather, Rudolph Georg Nielsen (1874-1935), chief of police in Hellerup. Tsaritsa Maria Feodorovna of Russia's Danish residence Hvidøre belonged to this jurisdiction. Through her regular visits to Denmark, Rudolph Georg Nielsen often had different tasks for the Tsaritsa, and she gave him the cufflinks with thanks for good cooperation and faithful service.

Estimated Price: DKR 60,000-80,000 / € 8,050-11,000

*Fabergé Ceylon sapphire and diamond brooch*

Brooch set with a cushion-cut unheated Ceylon sapphire weighing app. 28.19 carats, encircled with a ribbon tied border of numerous rose-cut diamonds, mounted in 14k gold and platinum. Work master August Hollming. C. 1900. H. 2.5 cm. L. 2.4 cm. Original case from Hunt & Roskell, Late Storr & Mortimer in London as retailer for Fabergé enclosed.

Estimated Price: DKR 250,000 / € 33,500



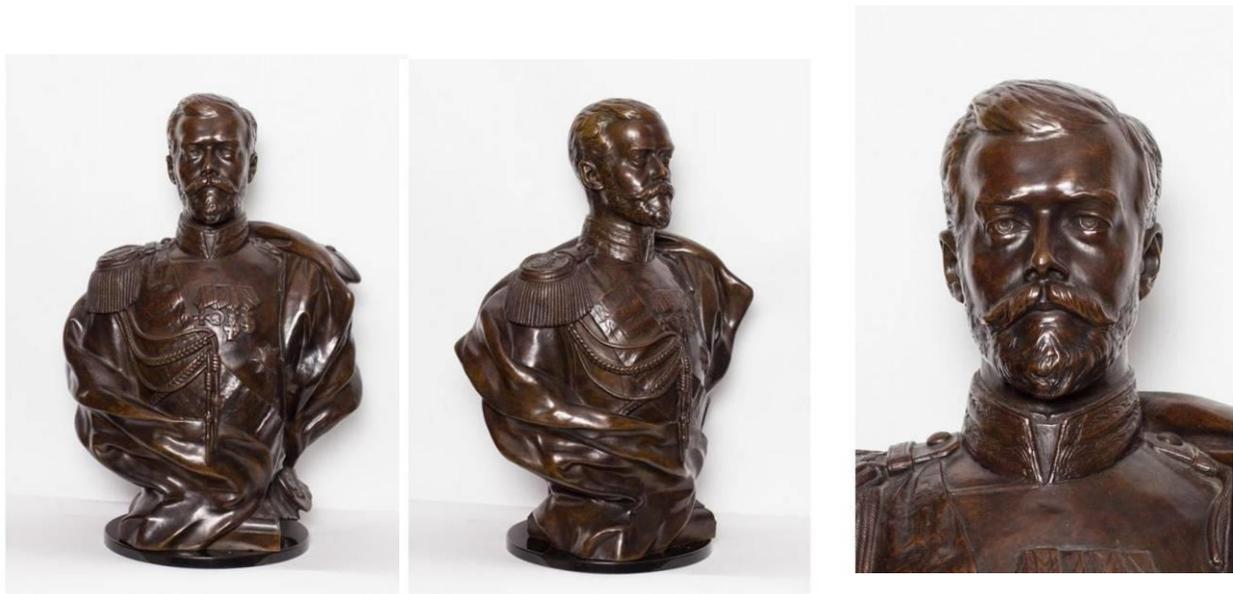
**Baltic Auction Group, Tallin, Estonia, on December 10**

Russian bust of Emperor Alexander I. Made by O. Kovshenkov. Russia, 1828. Dimensions: 19.5 x 8.5 x 8.5 cm.



**The Emporium Ltd., New York, NY, US**

Bronze bust of Emperor Nicholas II. Sculptor L. Bernstamm, 1897. It was a "Buy Now" offer.



**International Autograph Auctions Ltd., New York, USA, on December 10**

*Signed photo of the Imperial Romanov family*

An exceptional vintage signed sepia 10.5 x 12.5 photograph by all seven members of the Russian Imperial Romanov family individually, comprising the last Emperor of Russia, his consort and their five children.



*Nicolas Alexandra.*  
*Olga. Tatiana. Marie. Anastasia. Alexis*

The circular image (6.5" diameter) depicts the Romanov Family in a group pose. Photograph by the Imperial Russian Court photographers Boissonnas & Egger of St. Petersburg and bearing their blind embossed stamp to the lower left corner of the photographer's mount. Signed ('Nicolas') by Tsar Nicholas II and signed ('Alexandra') by the Tsarina in bold, dark fountain pen inks with their names alone to the lower photographer's mount, and further signed ('Olga', 'Tatiana', 'Maria', 'Anastasia' and 'Alexis') by each of the Romanov children, also with their names alone in bold, dark fountain pen inks, to the lower photographer's mount and in a row immediately beneath the signatures of their parents. Lightly affixed to a beige matt with a gold border to an overall size of 12 x 14. Autographs of all of the Romanov family on a single item are extremely rare in any form, and the present signed photograph is of the utmost rarity.

This photograph of the Russian Imperial Romanov family was one of a series taken at Livadia Palace in 1913 to mark the tercentenary of Romanov rule. An unsigned image from the same setting is housed in the Royal Collection Trust of Queen Elizabeth II. A very similar image (again, unsigned) to the present photograph (Tsar Nicholas II with his hands gently clasped and Grand Duchess Olga with her head slightly tilted) is illustrated on the front cover dust jacket of the book *Nicholas & Alexandra - The Last Imperial Family of Tsarist Russia*, published by Booth-Clibborn Editions, 1998, in conjunction with a major exhibition organised jointly by the Russian State Hermitage Museum and the State Archive of the Russian Federation. The same image is also reproduced on page 309 of the book (somewhat confusingly attributing the photograph to the studio of Levitsky and Co. with a date of 1914). The exhibition (which also featured contributions from the world-famous Forbes Magazine Collection) included many signed photographs, letters and documents, all of which are handsomely reproduced in the book. However, it would appear that no photograph signed by all seven members of the Romanov family was included in the exhibition, and it would appear safe to assume that had one existed within the major contributing archives to the exhibition then it would most certainly have been included. The apparent absence within the archives of a signed photograph similar to the one offered here can only serve to reinforce the extreme rarity of the present lot.

It is interesting to note that both the Tsar and Tsarina, as well as each of their children, have signed the photograph not in Cyrillic, but in Latin script, most likely indicating that the photograph was originally signed for, and presented to, a European recipient, perhaps even a relative (the Tsar was a first cousin of King George V of the United Kingdom and had family ties to several other European monarchies). Furthermore, it is interesting that the Romanov family appended their signatures to the present image; the Imperial Russian Court photographers created a number of different images at the sitting at Livadia Palace and the fact that the Tsar and his family signed the present image from the series could be seen as an indication that this was their favourite image from the series.

The present signed photograph was previously contained within the archives of a European noble family.

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**Did you know....**



*... that Emperor Nicholas II donated a huge and impressive vase of green jasper to the new Peace Palace in Hague*

The nations represented at the Second Hague Peace Conference (1907) were asked to contribute to the new Peace Palace. Many countries responded positively to this call and donated a work of art or a national product to decorate the building. Emperor of Russia, Nicholas II, donated an impressive vase made of green jasper adorned with gilded ornaments.

The vase was made by the Royal factory: La Manufacture Imperiale de Kolywan, and author of its design - Nicholas Lancere. The Russian architect Louis Benois was given the assignment to produce the vase for the Peace Palace. The vase is decorated with gilded lion masks and double headed eagle, the coat of arms of the Russian Empire.



