



Romanov News Новости Романовых

By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky

№126

September 2018



*The "Romanov Griffin"
on the Romanov Boyar House in Moscow*

THE LAST TSAR: BLOOD AND REVOLUTION

"The last Tsar: Blood and Revolution"

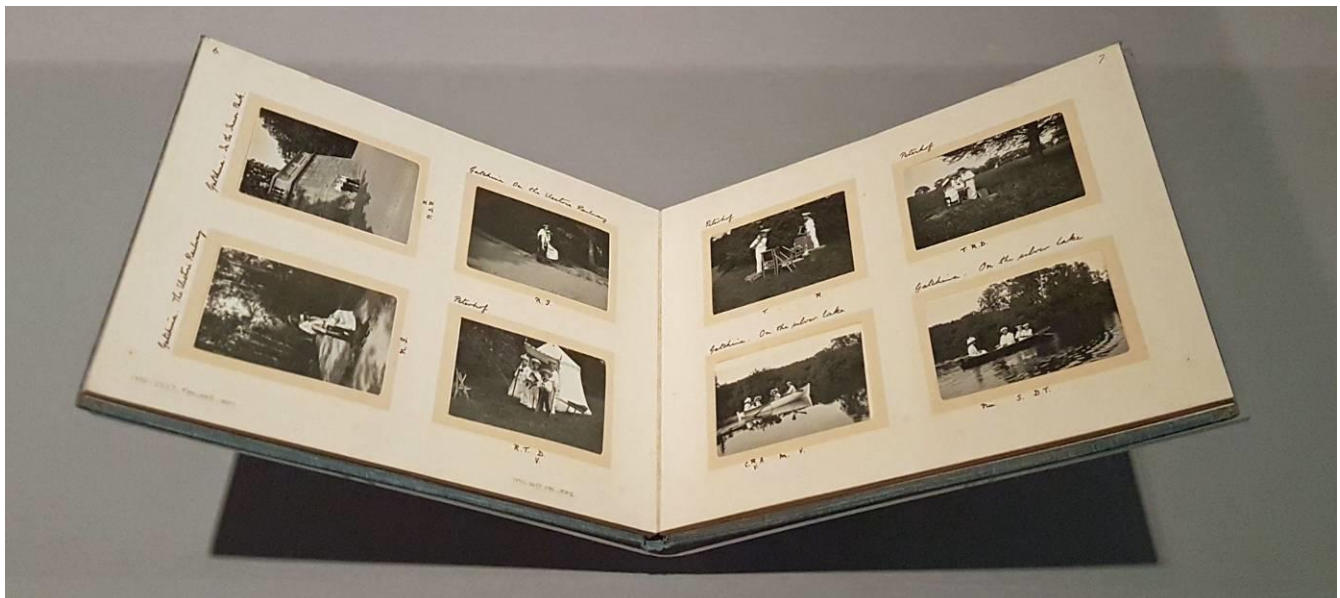
In the London Museum of Science, on 21 September, an exhibition dedicated to the last Russian Emperor was opened. The exposition is timed to the anniversary of the tragic death of the Romanov family.

It is based on photographs, paintings, garments and ornaments, rare artefacts from archives, museums and private collections in Russia, United Kingdom and the United States.

"We wanted to tell the story of the Romanovs differently, because people think about them in a rather sentimental way, but in fact, the Emperor [Nicholas II] can be called the pioneer of the scientific progress of his time," said the Director of the Museum of Science, Ian Blatchford.

He also mentioned it demonstrates the inconsistency of the figure of the last Russian Emperor, when, being a progressive person in some matters, in others he was afraid of this very progress.

"Nicholas II read the work of Leo Tolstoy for the first time after the abdication, for me this discovery was shocking because in British education this is the basis of Russian literature and any British schoolchild knows such names as Anna Karenina, and 'War and Peace', 'The fact that the Tsar got acquainted with this literature only at the end of his life means to me that he was also opposed to progress, I would call this the 'Russian paradox' of the Romanovs, a controversial moment."



Ian Blatchford, Director of the Science Museum, explained how the roots of the exhibition lie in "Cosmonauts", the first international exhibition about how Russia won the original space race.

During research in the collections for the Science Museum exhibition, curator Dr Natalia Sidlin found 22 albums of images taken by English tutor Herbert Galloway Stewart, employed by the Grand Duchess Xenia, which provided an unprecedented glimpse of court life.

'I vowed they would have their moment,' Blatchford said. Now they can be seen for the first time in the exhibition, curated by Dr Sidlin with Sasha Smirnov and Lottie Dodwell.



A central theme is the treatment of the Emperor and Empress' only son and heir Alexei, who had the life-threatening condition and 'royal disease' haemophilia B, passed down from Queen Victoria.

The family's determination to keep Alexei's illness a secret compelled them to take controversial measures that ultimately contributed to the fall of the 300-year-old dynasty. 'A central story is medicine and the great tragedy of Tsarevich Alexei's haemophilia B,' said Blatchford.

The Tsarevich endured a range of treatments from medical practitioners of the day, along with self-proclaimed holy man Grigori Rasputin. Blatchford remarked 'some of the progressive treatments were much crueller than religious ones.'





The exhibition shows rare artefacts, including one of the Empress' maternity outfits, the family's personal diaries, including one that shows the last entry of the Empress, the Imperial family's extraordinary travelling medicine chest ('you can have an entire exhibition on that one object alone', commented Blatchford), and a damaged emerald cross and Mother of God icon, found at the scene of their murder.

There are also two Imperial Fabergé Easter Eggs. 'The Moscow Kremlin Museums have lent us the last Fabergé Egg presented by the Emperor to his wife: the Steel Easter Egg of 1916,' said Blatchford. 'A very bold and shocking military design, and with its miniature painting of father and son consulting maps at army headquarters.'



The investigation into the disappearance of Emperor Nicholas II, his family and entourage following the revolutions of 1917, started in July 1918 and the case remains open today.

One hundred years later, this exhibition will take visitors behind the scenes to uncover the science behind the investigation into one of the greatest mysteries of the 20th century.

This investigation was one of the first occasions that forensic DNA analysis was used to solve a historic case, under the direction of Dr Peter Gill from the Forensic Science Service, who is now a professor at the University of Oslo.

Dr Peter Gill described how remains were found in a shallow grave near Yekaterinberg in 1991 and among them they believed there were the remains of the last Emperor, Empress, and three of their five children.

Dr Gill was presented with samples from nine groups of bones in a plastic bag by Dr Pavel Ivanov of the forensic institute in Moscow, so that advanced forensic profiling techniques could be used, as the UK led the way in DNA fingerprinting and profiling at the time.

He put them in his attic for safe keeping and the next day began DNA analysis in Aldermaston, near Reading.

His team had no idea if degraded DNA of this age could be analysed. 'Nothing this age had been attempted before,' he said.

They were able to extract two kinds of DNA: nuclear DNA, which is the genetic recipe of the body, half inherited from each parent; and mitochondrial DNA, from the power packs of cells, which is only inherited from the mother.

They could tell that a family group was present, he said. A complete match was obtained between the samples from the remains of the alleged Empress and three children, and a blood sample from HRH Prince Philip, a direct maternal descendant of the Empress' sister.

Samples from two maternal relatives on the Tsar's side also had near-identical mitochondrial DNA (Dr Gill



described how they found evidence of heteroplasmy, a rare condition which leads to two types). The results were challenged by some who suggested there was contamination but follow up studies by other groups confirmed the findings, said Dr Gill.

The case gave his team considerable experience of handling degraded DNA, and the methods paved the way for the first national DNA database. 'The case was important in itself,' he said, 'but also important for the development of forensic science and new techniques to solve crime.'

Two children were missing from the original mass grave but a second was found 70 metres away in the summer of 2007. Analysis revealed the remains of a missing Grand Duchess and Tsarevich Alexei. Another study revealed haemophilia B, a genetic disorder caused by missing or defective clotting protein, factor IX, as a result of a mutation, a change in a gene.



A launch party was hosted in the museum the day before the official opening, by Dame Mary Archer, Chair of the Board of the Science Museum Group: 'The last Romanovs have long enthralled us, but there have been many exhibitions about them – can there really be more to say? Yes,' said Dame Mary. 'None of this would have been possible without three vital ingredients. The first is fine scholarship and all praise to the curator powerhouse of Dr Natalia Sidlin, Sasha Smirnov and Lottie Dodwell. And they were supported by the wise counsel of our expert panel: Liz Carroll, Professor Peter Gill, Professor Donald Rayfield,

Dr Andrea Rose, and Professor Peter Waldron; and also a special thanks to Professor Robert Service for his advice at the inception of this project.'

She added: 'We are honoured that important colleagues have travelled from Russia and the USA especially, and so a warm welcome to the Directors of the Moscow Kremlin Museums, The Tsarskoye Selo museum, State Museum of History of St Petersburg, Russian Medical Museum and Russian History Foundation Jordanville.'

The exhibition is sponsored by Russian Railways, one of the world's largest rail companies, represented by Mr Vadim Mikhailov, First Deputy, Chief Executive Office, who told at the launch how Emperor Nicholas II oversaw a railway expansion 'of dramatic scope and remarkable daring and ambition.'

'In Russia, the first railroad - Tsarskoselskaya - appeared in 1837, and its first steam locomotive was provided by the Stephenson plant here in England. It was called the *Provorny*, or Agile. But it was under the last Emperor that the railways underwent significant development.

'We at Russian Railways are very pleased to be able to support this exhibition, and care deeply about the preservation of our shared culture and history. And we would like to congratulate the museum curators and staff on the event they have skilfully created.'

Among the other guests were the Duke of Kent; Elena Gagarina, Director of the Moscow Kremlin Museums; Liz Carroll, Chief Executive of The Haemophilia Society; Alexander Kalyakin, Director of The State Museum of the History of St Petersburg; Tatian Chirkina, Director of the N A Semashko National Institute of Public Health; Vadim Mikhailov, First Deputy Chief Executive Office of JSC Russian Railways; Michael Perekrestov, Director of Russian History Foundation, Jordanville; Mark Poltimore, Chairman of Sotheby's Russia; Helen Rappaport, Author; and Olga Taratynova, Director of The Tsarskoe Selo State Museum and Heritage Site.

As the curator of the exhibition Alexander Smirnov told, the added value of the exposition is by the fact that many exhibits have never left Russia before, and some are exhibited for the first time.

"At the exhibition one can see one of the eggs of the workshop of Carl Faberge called the "Red Cross", brought from the Cleveland Art Museum,"

All of the items found near Ipatiev's house were provided by the Russian History Foundation in Jordanville, USA. In particular, visitors can see the icon and emerald cross, which the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna carried with her until the very last moment, her diary, the false jaw of Dr. Evgeny Botkin, shot with the Romanovs.

"The chandelier from the house of Ipatiev, which was in the room of the Grand Duchesses, is also unique, it was taken from Russia by the Romanovs' English teacher Charles Gibbs and was never exhibited publicly," Smirnova noted.



The chest of the road pharmacy of the Imperial Family, which had never before been exhibited abroad, is also interesting. "Chests and chemist's drugs constantly travelled to Russia after the first person of the state from the end of the 17th century, they were used to make medicines by a pharmacist - he accompanied the members of the Imperial Family and, at the request of the doctor, made a medicine." In total, eight such chests have reached these days," says the head of the Russian Museum of Medicine Nina Chizh.

The current tense political relations between Russia and the UK did not become an obstacle to the organization of the exposition. "I would say that, under the current conditions, the organization of the exhibition was even easier: there are special relations between the London Museum of Science and Russian museums." We sincerely believe that in more difficult times it is necessary to do more similar projects", noting that "All permits were received very quickly, and the exhibition is organized very quickly" said Blatchford.

The total preparation time of the exhibition was a little more than a year.

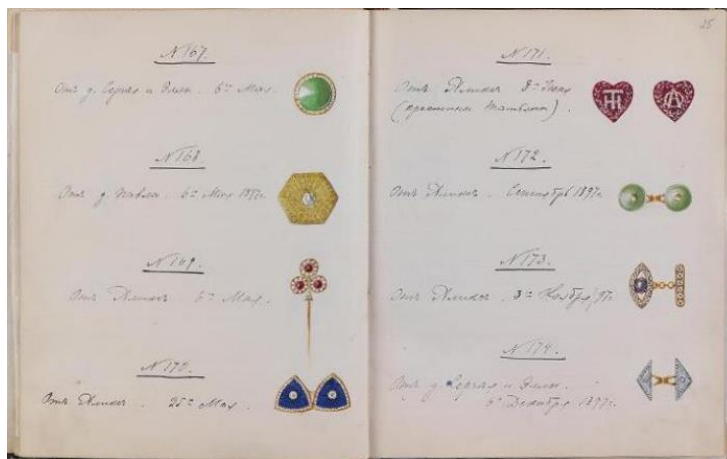
One aspects of the last months of the life of Emperor Nicholas II and his relatives for all visitors to the exhibition will not become clearer. It is about the refusal of the cousin Nicholas II by the British King George V (1865-1936), to provide a refuge for the Romanovs, which would save them from being shot. "This issue is not touched on, because it's not part of the story that we're talking about, it's only about the Romanov family. The story is the subject of heated debate, but there's no point in telling it here at the Museum of Science Our history is not about politics, but about science," Blatchford told.

The Museums of the Moscow Kremlin presents the Easter egg "Steel" by Carl Faberge of 1916. A steel egg, created in 1916 for Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, stands out among all the precious Easter gifts. It is underlined simple, without precious stones and is made of material unusual for imperial gifts - steel. The egg was created during the First World War. Perhaps Faberge deliberately made the egg so concise because the Imperial Family life was pretty simple and unassuming, and in the heavy days for Russia it was not in place with excesses and luxuries, including in gifts. Surprise from the egg - a watercolour miniature depicting a review of the troops of the Southern and Western fronts, where Emperor Nicholas II was with the heir at the end of 1915.



Also, the Kremlin Museums brought to the exhibition a notebook of Nicholas II with drawings of jewellery. This is a three-dimensional notebook, where there are 305 watercolour drawings belonging to Nicholas II. They are mainly represented by cufflinks, pins, key rings, etc., most of which Nicholas II received as gifts from his relatives (most often from the wife of Alexandra Feodorovna) and friends. The notebook was started by him in 1889 and finished on the eve of the First World War in 1913.

The notebook of the Russian Emperor Nicholas II is a rare historical and cultural monument connected with the life history of the last representative of the ruling Romanov dynasty.



The Tsarskoye Selo Museum-Preserve presented 44 items from its collection, among them - the portraits of Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna, Circassian uniform of an officer of His Imperial Majesty's Own convoy, and a camera of the company Kodak.

The entrance to the exhibition "The Last Tsar: Blood and Revolution" is free and it will last until March 24, 2019.

- Videos - 1) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Fy_5QKEyD8
 2) https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/291465/
 3) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5PRs14OVT0>
 4) <http://www.ntv.ru/video/1640383/>

On 19 September 2018 the Russian Embassy in London hosted a reception on the occasion of the «The Last Tsar: Blood and Revolution» exhibition, which opened at the Science Museum on the 21 September. Despite political tensions, cultural exchange remains the bright spot in our relations.





The exhibition "The Romanovs. Family chronicles"

September 13, in the New Tretyakov Gallery on the Crimean Embankment, opened an exhibition with a double exposition, one being the "Romanovs. Family chronicles" and the second "Watercolours of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna".

At the opening ceremony the Director of Tretyakov Gallery, Zelfira I. Tregulova made the welcome speech, while the curator and Olga Nicholaevna Kulikovskiy told about the exhibitions. Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovskiy attended the opening ceremony.



The "Romanovs. Family chronicles" presents unique materials from the archives of the Imperial family, now in the collection of the Tretyakov Gallery. This previously unknown collection is on public display for the first time.

Exhibits show persons and events during the reign of three Russian Emperors - Alexander II, Alexander III and Nicholas II - from the 1870s to 1914. In addition to traditional staged studio portraits of different formats, the exhibition presents examples of reportage photos, photo albums, and documentary film.



The collection was sent to the Tretyakov Gallery in 1932 from two imperial residences: the Gatchina Palace, where the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna lived after the death of her husband Alexander III, and the Alexander Palace, the last home of the family of Emperor Nicholas II.

The exhibition starts in a long hall, with all the photos displayed in similar Burgundy passe-partout and frames. At the end - another room with photos and albums, and behind it there is a small cinema showing a movie with more Romanov photos.

Some of the photos are well known, as they have also appeared in other family members' photo albums and later in publications, but many of the photos have not been seen before in public.

It has of course not been possible to exhibit all the photos pasted into the albums, but two movies shown on large screens shows individual photos from the album of Tsarevich Alexei and an album of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna.

The Imperial family from the middle of the XIX century resorted to the services of court photographers both in a photo studio, and in the interiors of the capital palaces and country residences, at official receptions, on vacations, on trips, etc. Empress Maria Feodorovna had her first camera - a "Kodak" - in the 1860s, and took a great interest in photography. Over time, her enthusiasm was continued in the family of Nicholas II.

The time of the Emperor Alexander III is represented by various photos: portraits of Grand Duchess Maria Feodorovna, Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna, Prince George Maximilianovich, Duke of Leichtenberg (K.I. Bergamasco), and Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna (S.L. Levitsky).

Polish photographer Konrad Brandel recorded some trips of Emperor Alexander III with his family to Poland: a military review in Brest, a survey of the new station in Brest, Emperor Alexander III and Maria Feodorovna with a delegation of local residents or at a children's choir performance.

A series of photos from the family album of Maria Feodorovna - a small part of the amateur photographs tells about the family: the Finnish skerries on the yacht "Tsarevna", picnics on the beach, leisure on the yacht. In the album there are 60 photographs - business cards size.



*Portrait of Emperor Alexander II. 1875
Paper, silver-gelatin print.
Sergei Lvovich Levitsky (1819-1898).*



*Emperor Alexander III leaving the station in Brest. 1886.
Konrad Brandel (1838-1920).
Paper, silver-gelatin print.*



A photo album from 1890s. Most likely originally belonging to Empress Maria Feodorovna. Leather, cardboard, wood, metal, relief stamping, gilding.



A folding booklet contains nine photographs of the installation of the monument to Empress Catherine II by the sculptor M.M. Antokolsky in Vilna in 1904.

In the section dedicated to the family of Emperor Nicholas II, photographs are presented with the exteriors and interiors of the Alexander Palace, views of the park and buildings in Tsarskoye Selo parks, as well as pictures from the album "Yacht Zaritsa".



Айзик Цинковец (1896-1940)
Альбом-памятник «Помник императрице Екатерине II в г. Вильне», 1904
Картон, кожа, серебро, гравировка, позолота, металл

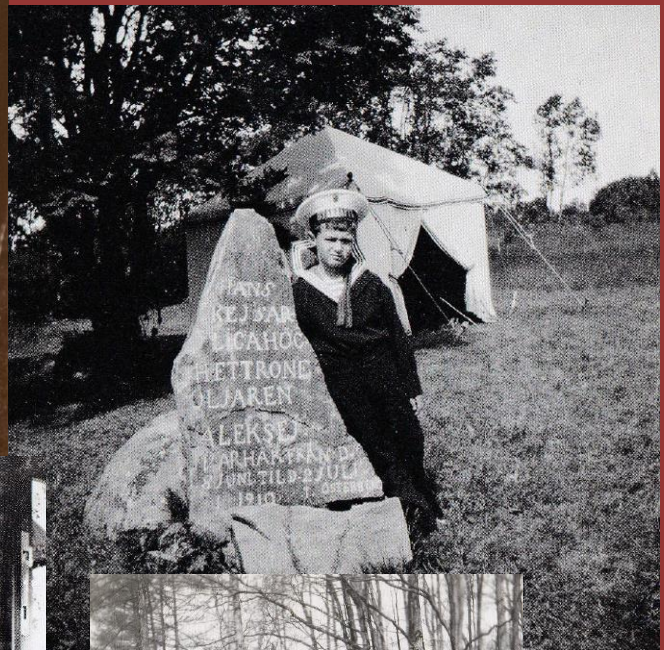
Aizik Cincovec (1896-1940)
Gift Photoalbum "The Monument to Empress Catherine II in Vilnius", 1904
Cardboard, metal, silver, engraving, gold lettering

Photo chronicles are represented mainly by albums, some of them are interesting also as objects of arts and crafts of the turn of the century. Such albums were produced in a single copy using precious metals on the occasion of significant events for the members of the Imperial Family.

The album "Samara Real School" in leather binding with gold trim was produced around 1910 on the occasion of the completion of the reconstruction of the building. In 19 photos, pasted into the album - interiors of modern chemical and physical laboratories, libraries, drawing class, gymnasium, dormitory and dining room for students, doctor's office, assembly hall, house church, group portraits of the Pedagogical Council, members of the brass band orchestra.

The leather-bound album with a silver clasp "Kinds and types of the Kalmyks of the Bolshederbetovsky Ulus of the Stavropol Gubernia on July 15, 1914" contains 21 photographs. Among them photos of a Buddhist temple, religious holidays, an Orthodox church and a parochial school, an orphanage, a settlement with a school, a hospital, a library, a water pipe, a group of pupils. The album - a kind of report on the achievements in the creation of a developed settlement of a new type with all the infrastructure for 15 years - is an invaluable ethnographic document.

The photo album, which belonged to the heir Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich (1909-1914), contains 289 small-format photographs, which depict episodes from vacations and trips of the Imperial Family to Germany, the Finnish skerries and Crimea, the yacht "Standart", and the school of the young boy.



The album "Medzhybozh" was presented to Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, chief of the 12th Hussar Akhtyrsky Regiment, on the occasion of her visit to the headquarters in the Medzhibozh Castle on December 11, 1908. There are 30 photos in the album reflecting the anniversary of the anniversary visit: the chief of the regiment enters the castle, the review of the regiment, the squadron's songwriters, the hunting team, a group of regimental officers and others.

This album is the "bridge" from the photo exhibition to the following painting exhibition - "Watercolours of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna".

Next exhibition hall (which is one level down) shows a video of the album's photos, while the biography of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna and the story of the album is told in the documentary.

The exposition also includes a unique series of 40 photos received as a gift in 2004, dedicated to the first official visit of Emperor Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna and Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna to France in 1896.



During the preparation of the exhibition, the staff of the scientific and reference department of photo-materials of the Tretyakov Gallery conducted a serious research work to determine the names of photographers and unknown persons in the photographs, dates and places of shooting events. The results of the work are included in a catalogue in the form of separate articles about albums or series of photographs.

The exhibition is open to 28 October

Video - 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sgyn-QIHafQ>

2) <https://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=3060534#>

3) https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/289407

4) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Slvrqwh786M>



"Watercolours of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna"

For the second time paintings of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna are shown in Tretyakov Gallery and this time it is without photos or any other artefacts - just 155 watercolours.

The exhibition covers works created by the Grand Duchess from 1898 to 1952 during her stay in Russia, Denmark and Canada, and are displayed more or less in this order.



Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna (1882-1960) - daughter of Emperor Alexander III and Empress Maria Feodorovna, younger sister of Emperor Nicholas II. Her childhood passed in the Imperial Palace in Gatchina, where she began to draw, studying with the best artists-teachers K.V. Lemokh, V.E. Makovsky, S.Yu. Zhukovsky and S.A. Vinogradov. Emperor Alexander III supported his daughter's passion for painting.

The early watercolours of Olga Alexandrovna reflect the life of the Romanovs in Gatchina and Alexander Palaces - they depict scenes in the ceremonial rooms and the Imperial Family's private rooms. During the celebrations of Christmas and Easter, the Grand Duchess loved to draw children's games and still life's with a picture of a festive table. Postcards with reproductions of her watercolours, produced in large editions in pre-revolutionary times, are also represented at the exhibition.

In the early 1900s, Olga Alexandrovna organized the exhibition of young artists in her palace. Money gained from the sale of



paintings and watercolours went to charity. The Grand Duchess patronized the Imperial Society of Russian Watercolourists and the Society of Artists named after A.I. Kuindzhi.

During the First World War, Olga Alexandrovna at her own expense opened the First Evgeny's Hospital, in which she worked as a nurse. Even at the front, the Grand Duchess spent her free time painting - in her watercolours there were pictures of scenes in the hospital and portraits of officers.



Special lyricism filled drawings by the Grand Duchess, depicting her little sons. In August 1917, in Ai-Todor, in the Crimea, Olga Alexandrovna and her spouse N.A. Kulikovsky had the first-born son Tikhon. After leaving the Empress Maria Feodorovna, Olga Alexandrovna stayed with her family in the Kuban village of Novominskaya, where her second son, Gury, was born. Later, the family moved to Rostov-on-Don, then through Constantinople and Serbia, they reached Denmark in 1920.



In Denmark, the family of Olga Alexandrovna, lived with her mother Empress Maria Feodorovna, in the Royal Palace Amalienborg in Copenhagen and in the mansion in Hvidovre, to the north of Copenhagen. After the death of the Empress, the family purchased a farm in Knudsminde near Copenhagen.

In 1948, the Soviet Union presented Denmark a note of protest in connection with the fact that Olga Alexandrovna was helping Russian prisoners of war and refugees, and Kulikovskys family had to move

to Canada. The Grand Duchess bought a small farm near Toronto. In Canada, she continued to paint and successfully sold her paintings.

The Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna passed away on November 24, 1960. She was buried in a cemetery in the area of North York in Toronto next to her husband N.A. Kulikovsky.



To see the paintings of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna is always a joy. Her bright and vivid colours - even in a winter landscape - attracts your eyes and make you feel good. The delicate executed several layers watercolors, rich in shades, executed with a sensitive eye for composition, expression and detail, makes her work exudes peace, serenity and a spirit of love. And so many paintings in one place is a real treat.

But strangely, there is no large portrait of her - the artist - not even a small photo. Only two small self-portraits shows who is this extraordinary artist.

There is a harmony in the display of all the paintings in similar mat-green passe-partout and dark-brown frames, but actually the Grand Duchesses paid a lot of attention to selecting the right frames for her works so they added to the overall delight. It is a pity, as the lack of the original frames is like showing only 90% of her work.

The original frames are also very helpful when one has to determine where the paintings were made or the date, as not only are the frames an important clue, but often is the name of the shop where it was framed stamped on its back.

To determine where Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna's paintings are made seemed to be a difficult question for the curator of the exhibition. The paintings are kind of sorted into the different countries - Russia, Denmark and Canada - but the criteria for this is not at all clear. Was it to be sorted according to where it was painted or what the motive is? In any case it ended up in confusion. Paintings made in Denmark and Canada were put to the Russian section, in the Danish section paintings from Canada, etc.

Another issue is the captions to the paintings, as several of them are pure inventions in lack of knowledge and some are directly wrong. One example is a painting of an old farm house in Denmark, labelled as a house at "Knudsminde" (her Danish farm), when in fact it is showing the house she lived in before moving to "Knudsminde". Oh, well, most viewers properly do not care being given incorrect information - all they want is to enjoy the wonderful paintings!



Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky attending the opening of the exhibition

The VII Elizavetinsky cross procession

On 16 September the VII Elizavetinsky cross procession was held in commemoration of centenary of the martyrdom of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers, the holy Martyrs the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and the nun Varvara and representatives of the Imperial House of Romanovs murdered with them in Alapaevsk. It was blessed by Metropolitan Juvenaly of Krutitsy and Kolomna.

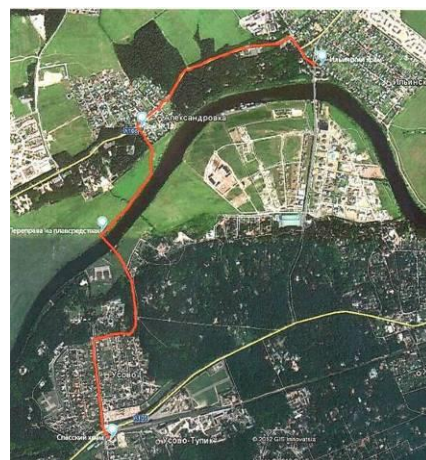


It started with Divine liturgy in the Church of the Savior in village Usovo led by Metropolitan Yuvenaly of Krutitsy and Kolomna. The head of the Odintsovo district, Andrei R. Ivanov; Chairman of Elizabeth and Sergius Enlightenment Society" Anna V. Gromova; Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky; diplomat, writer Peter V. Stegny with spouse Margarita; prioress of St. Mary Magdalene's Gethsemane Monastery, Abbess Elisaveta (Shmelts); abbess of the Elisavetinsky Monastery of the Kaliningrad Diocese, Abbess Elisaveta (Koltsova) and others prayed at the service.



Then the faithful were transported by busses to village Ilyinsky, from where about 2000 people, including representatives of 56 dioceses of the Russian Orthodox Church, numerous sisterhoods of mercy named after Elizabeth Feodorovna, as well as delegations from Jerusalem and Brazil, took part in the seventh Elisavetian cross procession. And the heavy rain was not an obstacle - the pilgrims had umbrellas and raincoats.

The route of the seventh Elisavetian religious procession passed from the village of Ilyinsky in the Krasnogorsk district to the village of Usovo in Odintsovo district. These villages were historical parts of the Imperial estate in the Moscow Region owned by Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.



Starting from the Church of Elijah the Prophet in Ilyinsky, the procession went through the village and at certain locations stopped for a moleben - At the building of the Maternity Hospital, built in 1892 by Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, past the infirmary established by Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna in 1905 for the wounded soldiers of the Russian-Japanese and First World Wars, and at the school established by Empress Maria Alexandrovna.



The procession continued along the Moscow river and at the lowest point the pilgrims crossed the river on a pontoon bridge or via rafts.



After two and a half hours, having overcome six kilometres, the cross procession crossed the Rublovsky highway, and, under a festive bell ringing, reached the Church of the Savior of the Holy Image in Usovo.

This modern church was built in 2010 by the architect Vyacheslav Izhikov under the patronage of Vladimir Putin. And it's not just a church - it's also a cultural and educational centre with classrooms, gyms, a library, a museum and a small theatre.

The main throne of the church is consecrated in honour of the Savior's Image, in the basement there are three more: in the name of the Sovereign Icon of the Mother of God and two chapels in the name of the Holy Martyr Sergius Makhaev and in honour of the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.



After a moleben in front of the church, a field kitchen was opened, where it was possible to taste hot buckwheat porridge, get a hot cup of tea with mountain honey and a shortbread cookie with monograms "E" and "C" for Elizabeth and Sergei.



In the evening, watercolours of the nuns of Gethsemane's monastery of St. Mary Magdalene, scarfs (carre) with the Great Imperial Crown and the monograms of the family of Emperor Nicholas II, made by designer Nina Ruchkina, and jewellery from the workshop of Grebennikovs, were on display in the foyer of the concert hall "Barvikha Luxury Village".



In the concert hall, Metropolitan Yuvenaly of Krutitsy and Kolomna, greeted the audience and said - "2018 is very memorable for Russia, for the Russian Orthodox Church, we celebrate the round dates of the martyrdom of our saints. In our Moscow diocese, this year is marked by the fact that almost every Sunday in different churches the Episcopal worship celebrates the memory of those clergymen who suffered for Christ and are ranked as saints," said Metropolitan Yuvenaly.

He awarded Anna V. Gromova the medal of the Holy Martyr Constantine Bogorodsky,



established by the Moscow Diocese with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia for her great work in the field of spiritual enlightenment and the organization of the annual Elizavetinsky cross procession.

The medal "For Enlightenment Works" is dedicated to the memory of the Holy Martyr Constantine, who was especially concerned about the spiritual enlightenment of the people, diligently accomplished missionary activity, fought with schisms. His fidelity to Christ and the Gospel he sealed with a martyr's crown, suffered on October 2, 1918.



Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk introduced the main event - his concert-requiem dedicated the centenary of the death of the Emperor's family, performed by the Moscow Synodal Choir and Symphony Orchestra under the direction of the Honoured Artist of Russia Alexei Puzakov.

He explained the idea of his work: "Today we will hear pages from the life of the Imperial Family, the Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth and how our brothers and sisters suffered for their faith in the 1920s and 1930s. The text will be accompanied by music and excerpts from the Gospel, because the experience that our Russian church underwent is like the suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary".



Videos - 1) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/2074344/>

2) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pzo-x5a1n1c>

3) https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=8&v=6osEseGiVHk

4) https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=y4yNqtPJjSM

5) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70iEso_AaDI

6) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZYousUMChU>

Our duty is to serve and sow

One of the most active, if not the most active, and successful organization in arranging events related to the House of Romanovs is the foundation "The Elizabeth and Sergius Enlightenment Society". Over the last 7 years their activities have expanded and now includes two annual forums - "Elizabeth's Heritage" and "Elizabeth readings", an annual cross-procession, exhibitions, concerts, publishing of books, erecting monuments, and much more, mainly in Russia, but also abroad, and more is planned.

Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky met with Anna Vitalievna Gromova, the Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Foundation "The Elizabeth and Sergius Enlightenment Society", for a talk about how it all started and the plans for the future.

Anna Gromova is Ph.D (Hist.), Senior Researcher of the Institute of World History of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Head of the International Center for the Study of Civil Society, and currently heads the research group "Charity in History".

She is the author of publications and catalogues of exhibitions on European and Russian history of the 19th and first half of the 20th century. She has studied the public and church life of this period, including the history of charitable organizations in Russia and Europe, as well as the experience of the charitable work of the Imperial House of Romanov.

In addition she is a Vice-chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, a member of its Council, and assistant rector of the Savior Church in Usuvu and on 18 July, 2018 Anna Gromova was awarded the title of Honorary Citizen of Alapaevsk.

How did your interest in Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth start?

Gromova: *"By profession I am a historian, devoted my life to the study of historical events, as well as biographies of people who influenced their time. Deep interest in personalities arose in my student years.*



Due to circumstances my family moved into a house on the so-called "Old Tsar road" from Moscow to Trinity-Sergius Lavra. This was a turning point in our lives. We became residents near the manor that had belonged to Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. Before, we, like so many people, only knew that there was a German princess who got married in Russia, became a nun, founded a monastery - the Martha and Mary Convent. And that's all.

I think not everyone knows that Rublevo-Uspenskoye Highway - "Rublevka" - is an old royal pilgrimage route. It is gratifying that now more and more people are joining the history of the royal road. It is again becoming popular to visit holy places. And even the pedestrian pilgrimage route to the Trinity-Sergius Lavra is being revived. We know the famous procession from Khotkovo to Lavra, which was headed by His Holiness Patriarch Kirill. This made an enormous impression on the people of the church and the laity, and simply on the Russians, who saw that the revival of traditions is quite a real thing and you can join it. And a huge number of people joined this procession. Now in the Moscow region pedestrian pilgrimage routes are being revived. The Ministry of Culture of the Moscow region strengthens these hiking trails and supplies them with everything necessary for pilgrims. This is an interesting movement that is spreading more and more in Russia.



People living on the territory of Usovo-Ilinskoe turned out to be in historical places that were directly connected with the Holy Martyr Elizabeth and Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich. We know that our Ilinskoe belonged to the Emperor Alexander II, but after the revolution became the Rest House called "Ilyichevo". Usovo, which was renamed Ogarevo, the Bolsheviks occupied it when Elizabeth Feodorovna went to her Golgotha.

The fact is that in the village of Usovo there was a Spassky church. In 1932, its superior, Father Konstantin Makhaev, who served there for over 50 years, died. The church was closed, the domes and the belfry were demolished. Few people knew that this was a church. It was reconstructed as the most prestigious Usovo cottage with a bedroom in the altar.

The parishioners of the Nikolsky Church in Romashkovo (a nearby village) began the struggle for the revival of the Spassky Church in Usovo. On the advice of lawyers, a parish community was created, whose members prayed tirelessly and worked for the good of the restoration of the church.

We managed to attract many people, including Naina Yeltsin (Wife of President Boris Yeltsin). Through the efforts of the community, archives were studied, and as a result, the church was restored in accordance with the historical appearance,

including the mosaics on the floor. The first abbot of the revived church was the hegumen of Sretensky Monastery Tikhon Shevkunov, who sanctified the throne.

And then the default broke out in 1998, the community was informed that we could not be allowed into this church. The fact is that the church was restored, but not the infrastructure - communication, water supply, it was necessary to carry out expensive earth and technical works. The parish did not have such means, and the Spassky Church, located on the border of the estate, was incorporated into the Residence of Novo-Ogarevo. Since then, neither me, nor other people have been to this church. We could only see the cross from behind the fence and hear the bells restored by us."

In 2004 more restoration works were undertaken in the church, and today it is the house church of Novo-Ogarevo Residence - the residence of President Vladimir Putin.

Church of the Savior of the Holy Face

Gromova: "The community, turning to all instances, was looking for another opportunity to build a new church. Every Sunday we prayed in the school built by the Empress Maria Alexandrovna, read the akathist to the Savior and prayerfully turned to the Holy Martyr Elizabeth. Several years passed and once the local authorities invited us to the crossroads of the Rublevsky highway, and offered to choose a site for the construction of a church.

This was Vladimir Putin's personal initiative and his response to our requests. So we got not only the site, but also the support of Rosneft - the organization that oversaw the construction. We offered our patrons different projects, but they did not agree to them for financial reasons. So the unrealized project from the archive of Sergei Rodionov, one of the favorite architects of the Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, was not accepted. This project included a church connected to the refectory part, similar to the Intercession Church in the Martha and Mary Convent. In the end, the church was built on the model of the so-called grand-ducal church, which is quite difficult for the parish. The church is incompatible (the Grand Dukes were in the choirs, and the retinue is at the bottom), high arches do not allow you to renovate walls easily and economically, make murals, it is difficult to carry out Orthodox demands, for example, the funeral service is held in the general space of the church.

But despite all this, we are very grateful to our patrons, because in a year and a half two more buildings were added, a belfry and a holy chapel and a spiritual and educational center was formed. There are great opportunities for work. The main thing is to work with faith and with the conviction that this work is necessary.

Now passes the final stage of the design of the church. All buildings were constructed very quickly, work was carried out in any weather. Finally, now the walls of the church dried out and you could paint them. We managed to attract Archimandrite Zinon, who is called Andrei Rublev of our time, to design the interior of the church. The icons, which are made very succinctly, were created by Archimandrite Zinon, as well as in the workshop of Father Nikolai Chernyshev, Archpriest of the Church of St. Nicholas in Klyuniki.

With the blessing of Father Zinon walls are painted by his students, Anna and Yaroslav Rusyns, talented artists who worked with Father Zinon in the church of St. Nicholas in Vienna, and their work was enthusiastically accepted by the world artistic community.

We are grateful to God, all benefactors. This church will be an example for the study of the Byzantine style, Art Nouveau style. As conceived by Archimandrite Zinon, all objects of applied art, including the vestments of the clergy, were made according to the sketches of one of the masters of the Moscow Art Nouveau artist S. Vashkov."



On July 5, 2010 His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia visited the church complex of the Savior's Image of the Holy Face in the village of Usovo, and led the reign of the great consecration of the Church and the first Divine Liturgy in the newly consecrated church.

The divine service was attended by: the Chairman of the Government of Russia V.V. Putin, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation I.I. Sechin, Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration of the Russian Federation, A.A. Gromov, President of the company "Rosneft" S.M. Bogdanchikov, the Head of the Odintsovo district of the Moscow region, A.G. Gladyshev, Head of

the Administration of the Odintsovo municipal district N.F. Kondratyuk, representatives of the administration of the region and municipalities, business and culture.

His Holiness thanked the benefactors and builders whose works made the complex in Usovo within the shortest possible time - within one year. The Head of the Russian Church expressed special gratitude to V.V. Putin, who initiated the construction.

The main throne of the church is consecrated in honor of the Savior's Image of the Savior, in the basement there are three more: in the name of the Sovereign Icon of the Mother of God and two chapels in the name of the Holy Martyr Sergius Makhaev and in honor of the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.

Gromova: *"I then participated in a program of the Foundation of St. Andrew the First-Called on the revival of the Martha and Mary Convent. This was my first social work experience. With Natalia Moliboga we formed a working group and started looking for archival sources and documents.*

The book by Lyubov Miller, which presents the biography of Elizaveta Feodorovna, the circumstances of her death, the peculiarities of the work of the Convent, its Charter, was a revelation for us. Then I was seized by the work of Isolda Kuchmaeva and the State Academy of Slavic Culture of which she was the Rector. Its graduates are the people most devoted to the Orthodox faith and Elizabeth Feodorovna. We began to cooperate with Isolda Kuchmaeva when we restored the Convent. Then we worked together on the program of the "Elizabethan readings".

Then we met with the historian Lyudmila Maximova. Her research on this subject was even more profound.

We understood more and more that people like us, were striving to learn as much as possible about Elizabeth Feodorovna. This task - the dissemination of knowledge about Elizabeth Feodorovna we intended to fulfill through our Foundation.

In the summer of 2011 the Elizabeth and Sergius Enlightenment Society was established. The Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna for many years was undeservedly forgotten, so in order to restore historical justice and appreciate her achievements, on the initiative of historians and public figures the Foundation was created.

We have gathered in this Foundation in order to develop the traditions of Orthodox enlightenment, missionary work and charity laid by the August family - Empress Maria Alexandrovna, Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.

One of the main tasks of the Foundation is to study and disseminate the experience of the charitable work of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and the enlightenment initiatives of the Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich during his work as Governor-General of Moscow (1891-1904)"

Achievements

The educational projects have so far included: Participation in the creation of the Museum of the History of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society in Moscow; organizing exhibitions in the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, the Central Exhibition Hall "Manege", in the State Historical Museum in Moscow - the famous exhibition "Moscow - Holy Land of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna"; in the Museum of the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy, in the exhibition center "Tsarsky" in Yekaterinburg, as well as in Perm and Alapaevsk.

Abroad - A forum in Darmstadt, the exhibition "Hessian Princesses in Russian History" in Frankfurt, a mobile exhibition dedicated to the history of the Russian Red Cross Society in the UN Headquarters in Vienna and Geneva, and on the site of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic in Bratislava.

Two museums were created for the memory of the family of Emperor Nicholas II and the Alapayevsk Martyrs - in the former house of the Governor-General in Tobolsk and in the Alapayevsk Field School near Yekaterinburg.

Contributed to the creation of documentary films, television and radio programs with the participation of leading Russian historians.

A major project is to save and preserve the former estate of Usovo-Ilyinskoe near Moscow. Miraculously some of the building have survived dating back to the end of the XIX century associated with the charitable work of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich: The Infirmary for the soldiers of the Russo-Japanese War (1905), Maternity Hospital (1892), School (1893), the People's College of the Empress Maria Alexandrovna (1874) and a number of others. In cooperation with the Government of the Moscow Region, restoration work is underway and further museums are being prepared.

Annually in September, on the Sunday closest to the Name-Day of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna (September 18), together with the Russian Orthodox Church, the Elisavetinsky Cross Procession is conducted in Usovo-Ilyinskoe. Pilgrims walk about five kilometers around the park of the former estate, and then cross to the opposite bank of the Moskva River, as in former times the imperial owners of the estate did when moving from the summer residence to the winter residence.

Since 2013, the Foundation has been coordinating the work of the Elizabethan community that has arisen in Russia since the glorification of the Grand Duchess. The Elizabethan community unites the public and ecclesiastical organizations that bear the name of the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and continuing the traditions of Christian enlightenment and charity. These are monasteries, hospices, sisterhoods of charity, charitable foundations, etc. Their geography is from Minsk and Kaliningrad in the west, to Khabarovsk and Norilsk in the east, to Rostov-on-Don, Kiev and Odessa in the south.

On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the memory of the representatives of the Romanov Imperial House killed on 1918-1919, the Society together with the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation initiated the National Program entitled "Imperial Route".

Which project do you consider your most successful?

Gromova: *"For me, success is characterized by two points: the first one is public response, the second is the development of projects. The good news recently came from Tobolsk - our museum has already been visited by 16 thousand people, 650 excursions have been conducted. On the one hand, I am happy and on the other I am worried whether they were well conducted. I am worried that Alapayevsk did not have time to install labels before opening. And so far they have not yet been done."*

Most of all I want the projects carried out by the efforts of the whole creative team to bring the maximum result. That is why we are trying to certify guides on the Imperial Route. We must have people who will be interested in spiritual enlightenment even more than we. They should be more numerous than us. I am interested in a geometric progression."

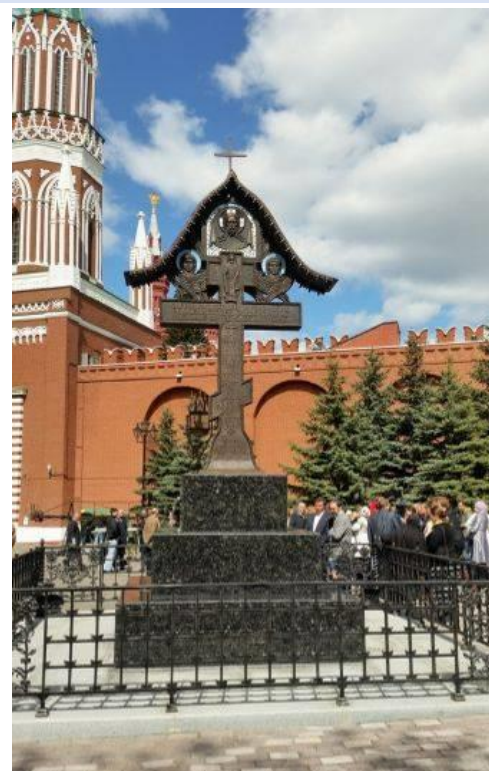
I have an easy attitude to the success of our Foundation. The Lord rules all wisely. Archbishop Anastasius Gribanovsky said that "Elizabeth is the blessed gift of Heaven." The Lord sends people to those moments in history when necessary. The bright personality of Elizabeth Feodorovna was needed by Russia at that time. And she appeared. And in the same way, when something is needed for the spiritual growth of the country, groups and movements appear. Thanks to Elizabeth Feodorovna, the Elizabethan movement appeared. This is the salt that gives meaning to life. In consumerism, in the bustle, the pursuit of money or in the struggle for survival, a person loses benchmarks. When the Lord wants to save us spiritually, he calls for the figures, sowers. As Elizabeth Feodorovna said: "Our duty is to serve and sow." She wrote in 1916: "I had so much joy, and in sorrow so much consolation, I owe so much to the Lord that in constant labors I can give only a fraction of what I have from the Lord and thank God for everything."

This is how I perceive everything. I perceive success without joy and euphoria, and I hope that I will accept different times without sadness."

Paul - I consider the Memorial Cross to Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich in Kremlin as a major achievement of the Society. Not only it is standing in the most prominent place in Russia - inside the Moscow Kremlin, it was also a significant restoration of historical justice. Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich is besides Emperor Nicholas II one of the most slandered persons of the Romanov Family, and his achievements are widely overlooked. He was also killed by a terrorist and it was at that sacred place this memorial cross was erected by Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. It is an exact reconstruction of the original cross. And you got President Putin, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill, Minister of Culture Vladimir Medinsky to be there at the opening.

Gromova: *"I do not consider this our merit. Elizabeth Feodorovna taught: "We must put our hand in the hand of the Savior and go." The Lord said: "Dare daughter!" We were not embarrassed to turn to Vladimir Vladimirovich after the Cross had stood in the workshop for three years. And unexpectedly received his consent and support in installing the cross. Just as we did not dare for a long time, and then dared to invite him to speak at the consecration and unexpectedly received complete agreement. And a separate event was the meaning of the*

speech of the President, in which a high assessment was made of the contribution of the Grand Ducal Couple, not only to the development of Moscow and Russia, but their enormous spiritual influence. For us, the main thing was that this is the first restored shrine of the Kremlin from those that we lost after the 1917 revolution. I believe in the mystical role of the Penitential Cross. I believe that when grace multiplies in a certain place, it can become the foundation for the restoration of the Chudov and Resurrection monasteries.



God works in mysterious ways. We do not know what will happen, and the Cross of Christ enlightens all. And this Cross is standing on the threshold of the President's reception office and every day he passes it on his way to the office. This Cross is a living reminder that violence and revolution cannot solve anything, but can only destroy. That is why we put a copy of this memorial Cross in the museum in Alapaevsk, to be both a warning and a symbol of forgiveness."

Do you have like a dream project?

Gromova: *"There is no final goal, we completely rely on the Will of God. But there are specific plans in which we are supported by Deripaska's Foundation "Volnoe Delo" and the Government of Moscow. Next year we plan to erect a monument to the Grand Ducal Couple in Moscow on Bolshaya Ordynka Street. The project is ready, but the monument has not yet been cast. Its author is a talented sculptor G.V. Frangulyan. The model has not yet been made public. I'll just say that it will be a composition of three figures - Sergei Alexandrovich and Elizabeth Feodorovna in two images - before and after the death of her husband. We asked the Government of Moscow to help us with the organisation of the site."*

Speaking of your plans, what are the next projects of the Foundation?

Gromova: "Recently, the interest in the personality of Elizabeth Feodorovna and her husband has increased very much. And it is very gratifying. Our Foundation has big plans.

Currently, we are working on creation of a tourist-pilgrimage cluster "Usovo Ilyinskoe", which will include a number of museums that will tell about the traditions of charity and education in Imperial Russia. In the spring of 2019, the opening of the first museum in the historical building of the school of Empress Maria Alexandrovna is planned.

"The Imperial Route" program began its work, pilgrims and tourists have already gone there, and it all depends on us that the restoration of the imperial estate "Usovo-Ilyinskoe" take place as soon as possible. If we carry out this work, not only a large tourist-pilgrim cluster will be created here, but a very special "estate" recreation area near Moscow, which will enable people to touch our great past, our traditions, our faith. Here, the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna also grew spiritually.

We are also discussing the creation of the Usovo-Ilyinskoe cluster incorporated in "The Imperial Route". To create a walking route between Arkhangelskoe and Ilyinskoe, it is necessary to convince the owners of the cottages to provide an access zone near the Moscow River for pedestrians and cyclists. We want a two-person footpath and a cycle path from the Tushinskaya metro station, and we are also considering a third way by the water. If we are able to create a complex of museums in Usovo, then visitors will be given a the choice of topics: the history of education in Imperial Russia, the history of the Russian school, the Red Cross, charity, and the organization of the estate economy. Further on, we would like to arrange a contact zoo on the basis of the farm of Alexander II.

We hope that visitors will appreciate the informative rest in the lap of an old landscape park. When the Princess of Hesse, the future Empress Maria Alexandrovna arrived in Ilyinskoe, she ordered not to change anything. Her favorite gardener, Lange, just barely "cut this diamond" by adding terraces. We must attract people to this beauty. People should be proud of their homeland, keep traditions.

I always wanted my children to be proud of these places, remember and appreciate the fact that the Hessian princesses, who were highly spiritual people, kept the traditions of charity from the 12th century, in Russia they adopted Orthodoxy, because they believed that this was the surest way to salvation."

You are planning your next big exhibition in Tsaritsyno. What will that be about?

Gromova: "It is a big project - an exhibition about the history of charity from the first Romanovs to the Emperor Nicholas II, the revolution and the assassination of the Imperial Family. The monumental parts of the exhibition are changing, new interpretations are emerging, for example, we want to present a full-size portico of the Educational House in Moscow. It turned out that it was destroyed and stored in the St. Daniel's Monastery. We hope the castings were preserved and we will be able to recreated it.

It is very important for us that the history of all institutions under the auspices of the Imperial House of Romanovs will be reflected: Women's Patriotic Society, the Office of Institutions of Empress Maria Alexandrovna and the Russian Red Cross Society, a lot of other societies that appeared in the early 20th century under the auspices of the House of Romanov. First of all, the society, led by Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, Grand Duchess Elizabeth Mavrikevna, Mecklenburg and Oldenburg families, Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna (senior), great attention will be paid to the younger representatives of the house of Romanov - Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna (junior) and Olga Alexandrova - as sisters of mercy in the Pskov and Kiev hospitals. The great work of Empress Maria Feodorovna at the head of the Russian Red Cross. The most important and valuable will be historical parallels and continuity from reign to reign. Much attention will be paid to the reign of Emperor Nicholas I and Alexander II, the reign of Alexander I and the good deeds of Empress Elizabeth Alexeevna. Great attention will be paid to the charitable work of the Konstantinovich family.

In the suite of Tsaritsyno halls there are two rotundas. The exposition in one of them is dedicated to the charity of Peter I, and in the second - to methods of raising funds for charity. The exposition will reproduce charity bazaar of Maria Pavlovna (senior), and postcard editions of Evgenia Maximilianovna Oldenburg.

One of our last acquisitions is the sign of the Iverskaya Sisterhood, presented to Leonid Sobinov (a famous opera singer) for a charity concert. We received it together with a portrait of the great singer. The theme of creating architectural schools will also be voiced, which emerged thanks to orders of representatives of the Imperial Dynasty. In working on them, architects could hone their style. Not surprisingly, the most beautiful buildings are charitable. The very appearance of these houses was intended to educate. The final hall in which we will show exhibits from the Museum of Religion will be very impressive. Olga Barkovets (one of many who are working on the project) is preparing interesting multimedia installations. And of course, we are expounding the portraits that we managed to obtain from various museums.

Opening is scheduled for December 6, and the exhibition will last until March 30. Also a large educational program is planned - a Christmas bazaar, master classes, concerts, lectures, programs for young people."

And what comes after Tsaritsyno?

Gromova: "In January 2019, we will hold commemorative events, which complete the chain of tragedies of 1918-1919: shooting of four Grand Dukes in the Peter and Paul Fortress in St. Petersburg. We are planning a memorial evening in the Beloselsky-Belozersky Palace. We decided that this should not be just a scientific conference, but a story about each of the executed members of the Imperial Family of the Romanovs. And as a conclusion, a significant cultural event: a choir performance under the direction of Theodor Currentzis or a Concert-Requiem conducted by Alexei Puzakov.

It is necessary to wake up the historical memory of our compatriots, to reach their hearts, to tell about those historical figures that the Lord chose on the path of martyrdom. That is why it is necessary to create a museum. It will connect not only private collections, but also like-minded people, people who share our conviction that we will be able to reconnect the times by studying the history of the Imperial House of Romanov and its outstanding representatives.



I was impressed by the exhibition "Keep Forever" at the St. Petersburg Manege marking the 100th anniversary of the creation of museums in the four Imperial country residences. It is clear that we are talking about the tragic fate of these collections, the people who kept them. We should say that these collections were created by generations of people who have invested a huge amount of talent and funds for the entire 300-year history of the House of Romanov. We must pay tribute to those people who chose, collected, stored these treasures for several centuries. The main idea of this exhibition is the tragedy of the history of our country. You leave with a sense of the tragedy of the people and a sense of pride for them. But we must understand that we are the heirs of the great Imperial past.

In conclusion, I'd like to remind that next year we will commemorate the 155th birthday of Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. 2019 is declared the Year of Russian Culture in Germany. We hope that the testimony of the charity activities of Elizabeth Feodorovna and Alexandra Feodorovna will be featured both in Germany and Great Britain."

A bust of Emperor Peter the Great inaugurated in Karlovy Vary

24.09.2018. Russkiy Mir - A bust of Emperor Peter the Great has appeared in Karlovy Vary, Czech Republic. The bust of the great Russian statesman adorn the territory of the General Consulate of the Russian Federation.



The new bust of Emperor Peter the Great at the Russian General Consulate in Karlovy Vary

Participants in the ceremony were parliamentarians, representatives of local and regional administration, business circles and clergy, Czech cultural figures, and Russian compatriots.

Peter I came to the city two times. The Russian history of Karlovy Vary began with his visit. The Russian diplomatic mission is located on the street named after the Emperor.

The famous Czech sculptor Michal Moravets is the author of the bust. He became the initiator of the project and the Governor of Karlovy Vary Region Jana Vildumetzova took care of its implementation. Businessmen of the Czech Republic and Russia granted funds for the bust.

St. Petersburg Marketing Club helped to issue a stamp dedicated to this event.

This is the second bust of Emperor Peter the Great in Karlovy Vary. The first above-life size bust was made in sandstone by Prague sculptor Tomáš Seidan in 1877 and is installed on a rock below the lookout on Petrova výšina (Peter's Height). It commemorates an event when on 11 November 1712, the Russian Emperor made a bet and rode up to the lookout on a horse without a saddle during his second visit to the spa. Since no path or road lead to the top of the hill back then, the Emperor showed tremendous riding skills as he rode up from the Hot Spring through the steep rocky terrain.

In 1909, the original weathered bust was replaced by an identical copy. Memorial plaques with odes celebrating Peter the Great were installed on the rock in the 19th century. A French poem was written by Polish poet and writer Alfred de Chabot in 1835 and a Russian by poet Peter Andreyevich Vyazemsky in 1853.



The old bust of Emperor Peter the Great at "Peter's Height" in Karlovy Vary

Second opening of "The Cross of the Romanovs"

19 September, the exhibition "The Cross of the Romanovs" made by the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Romanov Society in UK, opened in Rossotrudnichestvo in London.



It presented about 140 copies of archival photographs, films, rare documents and oil painted portraits (copies) featuring the Russian Imperial Family's links to the British Royal Family, the exchange of Royal visits, the charitable work of the Russian Imperial Family during World War I and the last days of the Tsar's family and their Martyrdom in July 1918. Some new discoveries from the Russian State Archives was presented.

The exhibition in London is a continuation of the commemorative events which took place in July this year on the Isle of Wight where the monument to the Russian Imperial Family and to the Grand Duchess Elizabeth was solemnly unveiled.



Speakers at opening were the well known Oxford scholar, Metropolitan Kallistos, who spoke about the Phenomenon of Martyrdom in connection with the last Imperial family, and Father Stephen Platt (Oxford), whose talk was entitled "The Last Days of The Romanovs: Sydney Gibbes as a British Witness".

A new documentary film was also shown on the memorable events that took place on the Isle of Wight, in which the Lord's governor, Sir Martin White, the Vice-President of the Romanov Family Association Prince Rostislav Romanov, church hierarchs and representatives of the authorities, academicians and writers took part.

As an honored guest at the opening of the exhibition attended Princess Olga Andreevna Romanov.

The Cross of the Romanovs exhibition was on display until 27 September.





Memorial plaque in honour of Emperor Nicholas II in Kursk

27 September, a memorial plaque appeared on the building of the former Noble Assembly on Sonin Street, later the Philharmonia-2 building, and now called the Sviridov Center. It reminds all Kursk residents and guests of the city that at one time the Emperor Nicholas II visited the regional center. On September 1, 1902, he opened a monument to his father, Alexander III, in the building of the Noble Assembly.

In Kursk, despite the bad weather, on the street near the building of the Sviridov Center gathered lovers of history. All of them arrived at the opening of the memorial plaque dedicated to the visit of the last Russian Autocrat Nicholas II to Kursk Noble Assembly.

- Today, after a just perfect divine service in the presence of the icon of the Mother of God in Znamensky Cathedral, we came here, to this beautiful building of the former Noble Assembly, which was visited by Emperor Nicholas II in 1902, - said Metropolitan Herman of Kursk and Rylysk.

Nicholas II, having discarded all state affairs, arrived in the Nobility Assembly of Kursk in order to attend the opening of the monument to his father Alexander III.

- September 1, 1902, when Nicholas II arrived at the manoeuvres, he visited the Nobility Assembly. The monument was opened, and it was here, on the second floor, but at that time the room was somewhat different. In Soviet times it was redone - said Kursk regional specialist Georgy Afanasyev.

The fate of the bronze monument was unenviable. During the Soviet era, it was destroyed. Stone pedestal survived until the 21st century.

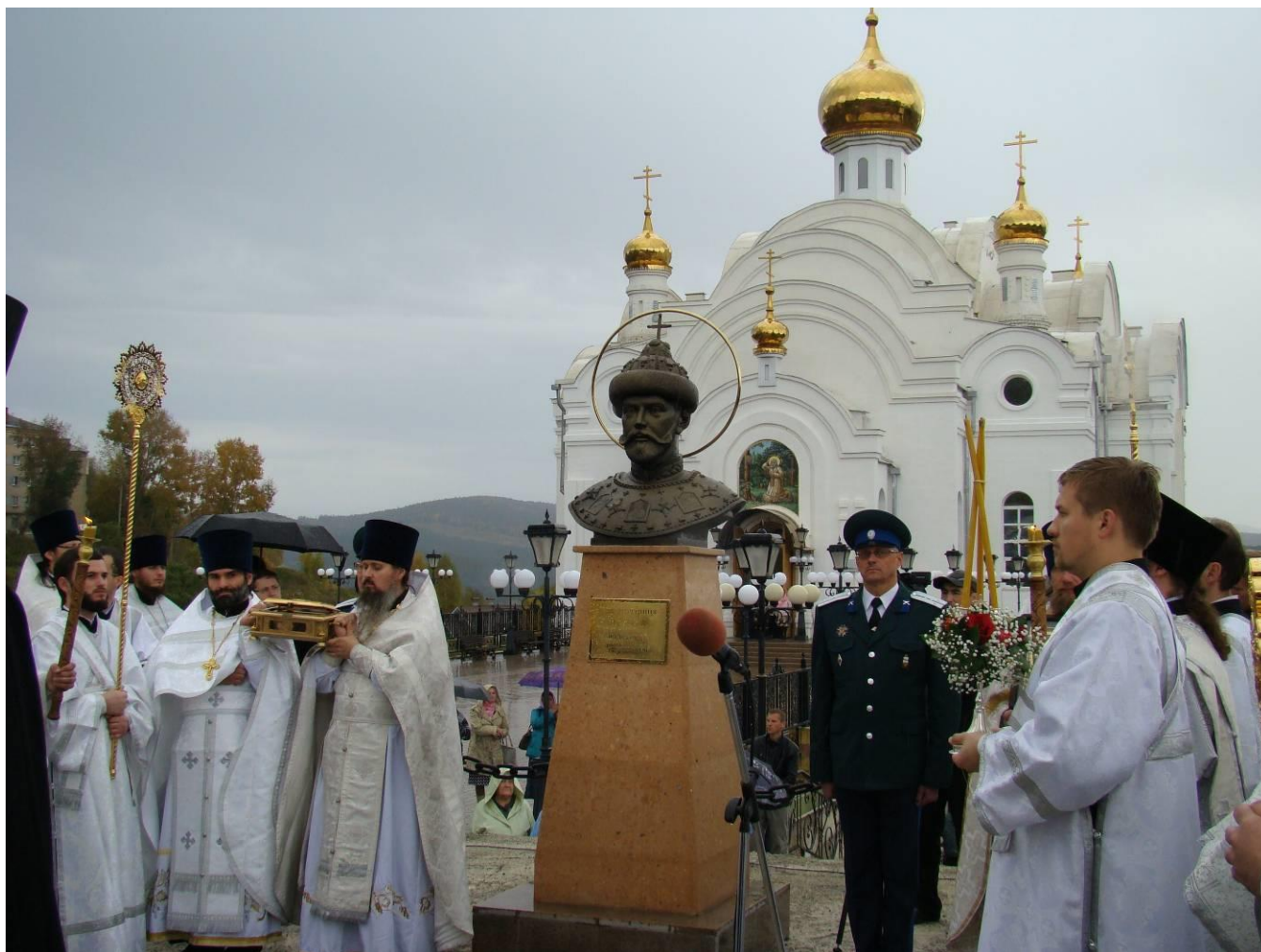
- The pedestal is located on Gogol Street in a boarding school. And monument to Felix Dzerzhinsky is on it," added Georgy Afanasyev.

These are the vicissitudes of fate. On the stone pedestal of the monument to Alexander III was a revolutionary, head of the Cheka, whose subordinates took part in the shooting of the family of the last Russian Autocrat, Nicholas II.

Video - <https://46tv.ru/new/society/008653/>

Monument to Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II in Zlatoust

On September 19, inauguration and consecration of the monument to the Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II took place on the territory of the cathedral, in Zlatoust city.



The event was organized with the blessing of the Metropolitan of Chelyabinsk and Miass Nikodim and the Bishop of Zlatoust and Satka Vicenty in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the death of the Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II and in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Chelyabinsk Diocese.

The event began with the Divine Liturgy at the St. Seraphim Cathedral performed by a permanent member of the Holy Synod of the ROC, the Metropolitan of Tashkent and Uzbekistan, Vicenty, Metropolitan Nikodim of Chelyabinsk and Miass, Bishop of Zlatoust and Satka Vicenty, as well as worshipers of the Zlatoust diocese.

After Divine Liturgy, the clergy solemnly proceeded to the site of the monument's opening, where the Metropolitan of Tashkent Vicenty ordained the consecration of the monument to the Passion-Bearer Nicholas II.

Representatives of the regional government and the leadership of the Zlatoust city district attended the ceremony.

The deputy governor of the Chelyabinsk region Eugene Golitsyn greeted participants and laid flowers to the foundation of the monument to the Tsar.

Videos - 1) <https://www.1obl.ru/tv/vremya-novostey/vremya-novostey-ot-19-09-2018/v-zlatoust-otkryli-pamyatnik-nikolayu-ii/>
2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gJuFB7eh_6Y
3) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=toJT80EQb7A>



Monument to Empress Catherine the Great returned to Morshansk city

On September 15, a monument to Catherine the Great returned to the same place in the City Park of Morshansk, Tambov region, where it stood since 1879 and was considered one of the attractions of the merchant city. Bolshevik demolished it, but after almost a hundred years, justice triumphed, and the monument to the enlightened Empress returned to the pedestal, to the sounds of the orchestra and the applause of the townspeople.

There was a big celebration in the historic park. First, Morshansk celebrated Day of the City. Secondly, the grandiose gastronomic festival "Kupetsky Bereg", which reminded of the arrival of a barge with grain and other goods, arrived on the shore of Morshansk, and a brisk trade was buzzing on the shore. But the main event of the day was, of course, the opening of a monument to Mother Empress Catherine II, who is remembered and honoured in Morshansk. And how not to remember, if thanks to her highest decree in 1779 that the commercial village of Morsha received the status of a city that acquired the name Morshansk. By the centenary of this event, grateful citizens erected a monument to the Empress of the famous sculptor S. Halberg in a historical park near the Morshansk shrines - Trinity Cathedral and the Church of St. Sophia.



The curator of the local historical and art museum Peter Ivanov, who at high risk saved the bronze bust of Catherine, hiding it from evil eyes. For many years it was kept in the cellars of the museum, and yet the day came when the Empress's bust regained its place on the pedestal.

This happened thanks to the Russian military-historical society and the Governor of the Tambov region Alexander Nikitin. It was decided to keep the original bust for the museum exposition, and its exact replica now rises on a stylized pedestal, created by the sculptor Denis Stritovich.

Mikhail Myagkov, the scientific leader of the Russian Military Historical Society, the head of the regional branch of the society, Vladimir Karev, the first vice-speaker of the Tambov Regional Duma, Alexander

Skvortsov, the pilot-cosmonaut, Alexander Filatov, the head of the city administration and architecture of the region, did not fail to mention what exactly what Catherine II had done for of the city.

- "Empress Catherine II is forever inscribed in the historical annals of your remarkable city: by her Decree of September 16, 1779, the village of Morsha was renamed as Morshansk. The role of Catherine the Great in the history of the Russian state is enormous: she always saw the meaning of her policy in ensuring the "good" and "security" of her Fatherland and the people. The era of her reign is rightfully called the "golden age of Russian history," since the transformations of the second half of the 18th century touched upon the most important spheres of Russian society's life. Personal qualities of Catherine II, her diligence and indifferent attitude to the destiny of Russia, contributed to the development of the country, which occurred, in particular, thanks to the great achievements and achievements of distinguished military commanders, diplomats, scientists, culture and art of the time."



"Mother Empress Catherine II - founder of the city of Morshansk " is written on the pedestal tablet.

The monument was consecrated by Bishop Michurinsky and Morshansk Hermogenes.

This is truly a symbolic event for Morshansk. And this is another proof of our most fruitful cooperation with Tambov region, which will not only continue, but will develop for the sake of our common historical memory," said Mikhail Myagkov.

The head of Morshansk, Alexei Bannikov, noticed that it was time to collect stones and this park becomes a symbol of such a historical view through the past to the present. And indeed, on the next avenue there is a cross - the only thing left from the destroyed St. Sophia Church. And the next is a memorable sign to the dead fighters of the detachment CHON, thereby, who ruined this church. Such is the intertwining of human tragedies and lives. But the Trinity Cathedral stands in all its glory as before and the bust of Catherine the Great rises, as the embodiment of the eternity of our common country by the name of Russia.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6wme6UwoGk>

Monument to Emperor Alexander III in Korenovsk

September 14, 2018 in Korenovsk on the station square a monument to Emperor Alexander III was solemnly opened. The ceremony coincided with the celebration of the Korenovsky district day and the city of Korenovsk.

In the State Archives of the Krasnodar Territory there is information that in 1889 the Korenovsky village of Temryuk district of the Kuban region was visited by the reigning Emperor Alexander III with the August family. It is mentioned in the report of the Korenovsky ataman to the ataman of the Temryuk military department from January 7, 1889.

Almost 130 years ago, the Emperor on his way to Yekaterinodar drove to the railway station Stanichnaya - as the railway station Korenovsk was called earlier - and met with the Cossacks. This trip was devoted to the opening of Tikhoretsk-Novorossiysk railway line.



The initiator of the installation of the bust was the hereditary Cossack and ataman (1997-2011) of the Korenovsky RKO Mikhail Timchenko, the deputies of the Korenovsky district and public organizations. The sculptor of the bust is Emil Mazmanyany, and the pedestal was made in the sculptural workshop of Mikhail Serdyukov.

The ceremonial event was opened by the head of the district Sergei Goloborodko, his deputy Tatyana Kovalev, the deputy of the Legislative Assembly of the province Vyacheslav Sbitnev, the head of the city Yevgeny Pergun, the chairman of the district council of veterans Vladimir Paliyev, the writer and historian Mikhail Timchenko, and Archpriest Alexander Panyuta. Guests included the headed by the

chief of department for youth and Patriotic education Oleg Ivanov, Alexey Terletsky, the head of the Smolensk Branch of Public Organization "Russian Union of Afghanistan Veterans", the hereditary Cossack Mikhail Timchenko, and the Cossacks of the Korenovskaya Military District, servicemen of the Korenovsky garrison, students of the Cossack classes of the city's MOU, and Korenovsky Polytechnic College.

Speakers at the opening of the bust to Emperor Alexander III stressed that he had done a lot to defend the authority and greatness of Russia. He was called the Tsar-Peacemaker, since he gave Russia 13 years of peace, and no concessions to foreign states, but just and unshakable firmness. During Alexander III reign the white-blue-red flag began to be widely used as the national flag, which again became the state symbol of Russia.

The industrial potential of the country was booming, progressive labour legislation was adopted, new industries were created, and a network of railways, the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway began. In 1885, transformations in the industrial sphere also affected our region, in particular, the construction of the Tikhoretskaya-Ekaterinodar-Novorossiysk railway line began, since at that time a qualitative rearmament of the army began, large-scale shipbuilding projects were embodied.

The first train on the Tikhoretsk branch - Ekaterinodar - Novorossiysk was held in 1887. And exactly 130 years ago, on September 21, 1888, the autocrat of all Russia Alexander III with the whole August Family on the way to Novorossiysk drove through the railway station Stanichnaya and made a brief stop. On the platform he was greeted by the Cossacks of Korenovsky The Emperor was met by the ataman of the indigenous Cossacks Philip Goloborodko.

Archpriest Alexander Panyuta performed a moleben before the opening of the bust and urged those present to preserve their identity, respect their history, culture and spiritual values.

After the veil was removed from the bust, the face of Emperor Alexander III - a truly Russian person who gave all his strengths and talents for his beloved Russia - was opened.

Representatives of district and city administrations, public organizations, soldiers, Cossacks and schoolchildren laid flowers at the foot of the monument to the Emperor. On the back of the pedestal people read the following words: "This monument was erected in honour of the Emperor of the All-Russian Alexander III. On September 21, 1888, while the train was stopping, the Emperor Alexander III visited this area of Stanichnaya Station, met with the stanitsa Cossacks and had a conversation with the ataman Goloborodko F.K."

On the pedestal of the sculpture, The well-known words of Emperor Alexander III also are written on pedestal: "In the whole world, we have only two faithful allies - the army and the navy."



Video - <http://android-mafia.net/video/unb4LmdOZJs>



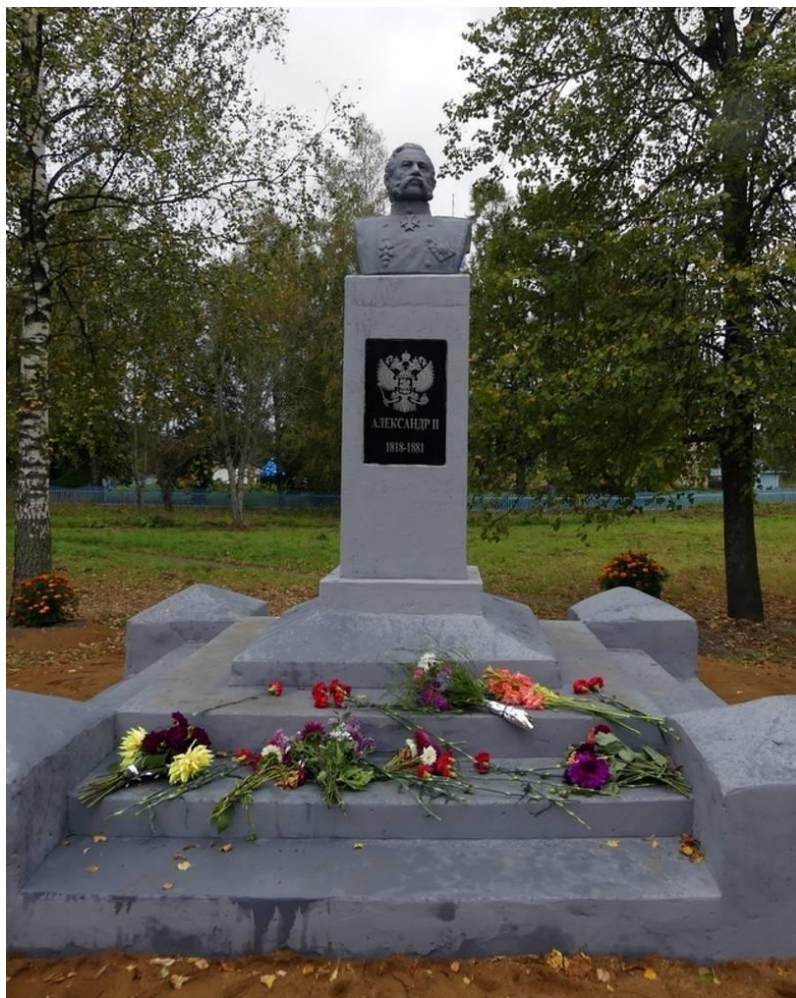
Monument to Emperor Alexander II in Tver region

In Tver region in Bernovo village of Bernovo, Staritsa district, a monument to Alexander II was erected. The monument was inaugurated on September 12. The new monument to the Tsar-Reformer was installed on a surviving pedestal.

The initiator of the reconstruction of the monument was the local historian Alexander Volnukhin and his adherent Pavel Shidlovsky with the support of the head of the Staritsa district Sergei Zhuravlev and the chairman of the Association of Tver compatriots Sergei Spiridonov.

The dean of the Torzhok and Staritsa districts, Protopriest Nikolai, conducted a ceremony of consecration of the monument.

In 1912, residents of the Bernovo district put in the center of the village a bronze bust of the Emperor, as their gratitude for liberation from serfdom. However, it is not known where the monument later disappeared.



The reconstruction of the monument to Alexander II is called upon to contribute to the active return of memory of the outstanding personalities of our state.

A monument to Peter the Great in Rostov

On September 11, a monument to Peter I was erected at the Bogatyanovsky Monastery. The monument depicts the figure of a Cossack giving the Emperor spring water to drink. The sculpture is made of bronze, its weight is two tons.



The composition was made by the Rostov sculptor Sergei Oleshni, the creator of the famous monument to Empress Elizabeth in Pokrovsky Square and many other sculptures in the city.

According to Oleshni, he conceived the idea of creating the monument to Peter the Great for many years.

- It was work of not one year. Every detail was coordinated with historians. Peter the Great is depicted in the clothes of the Preobrazhensky regiment. Everything corresponds to the historical truth".

The installation of the monument became the stage of the reconstruction of the Bogatyanovsky Monastery.

Video of the installation of the monument to Peter the Great -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=mtPxQm4vAQE



The Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

The remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria were transferred from the Novospassky Monastery to the Investigation Committee.

3 September. URA - When this happened and what it means is not yet known.

The remains of the children of Nicholas II, Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria, were transferred from the Novospassky Monastery in Moscow, where they were in custody, back to the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation. "URA.RU" received this information from a source in federal law enforcement agencies. "We have no remains now," confirmed Alexei, the clergyman of the Novospassky Monastery to URA.RU.

As the host of the TV Russia 1 program

"Saturday with Sergei Brilev," the remains of Alexei and Maria were transported from the State Archives to the Novospassky Monastery three years ago - this was reported in the program's release in July 2018, on the eve of the 100th anniversary of the death of the Imperial Family. "For the first time on the air - shooting a hearse, which in December 2015, moved the remains of Alexei and Maria from the State Archive of the Russian Federation to the Novospassky Monastery, which for centuries was the tomb of the Romanovs," the celebrity anchorman said.

The exact date of return of the remains in GARF is unknown. "It is possible that they were not there for very long," suggests the Yekaterinburg historian, an expert on the theme of the Imperial remains, who asked to remain anonymous. - The only reason they could be there was to take samples in the presence of the Patriarch or other influential church leaders: Patriarch Kirill repeatedly stated that he needed to be convinced in everything before acknowledging their authenticity. But by law, the remains are physical evidence and, even if the investigative committee, on behalf of the Russian government, went to meet the ROC, the evidence must still be kept in the Archive or in the safe of the investigator who is conducting the case."

According to the expert, neither transportation of the remains of Alexei and Maria to the monastery, nor their transportation back to GARF does not mean any recognition of the remains of the church. "If the church wanted to recognize Alexei and Maria, it would have done it long ago," the historian believes. "To keep the remains in the monastery for no reason, without recognizing their relics, it makes no sense."



The Russian Investigative Committee has not yet received a comment. "URA.RU" sent a corresponding request to the media relations department of the central staff of the TFR, by the time of publication, the response had not been received.

The forensic investigation into the Romanov mystery

*20 August. blog.sciencemuseum - Ahead of the opening of *The Last Tsar: Blood and Revolution*, forensic scientist Peter Gill recalls his experience of identifying the remains of the last Tsar of Russia.*

Over 70 years after the night Tsar Nicholas II and his family were killed, the investigation into their murders was still open. No-one had found their bodies. But in 1991 some remains were excavated close to where they died, and a new part of the investigation began.

At this time I was working at the UK's Forensic Science Service, the premier laboratory working on forensic identification with DNA technology. In 1984 Alec Jeffreys provided the first demonstration of DNA profiling, which showed people have DNA characteristics unique to them, just like fingerprints. A year later, in 1985, I worked with Alec at Leicester University on the first demonstration of DNA profiling applied to forensic-type materials like old blood stains. We also demonstrated that we could analyse very small or degraded samples of DNA to find someone's DNA fingerprint.



I first met Russian scientist Pavel Ivanov at a scientific conference in 1992, and he asked me if I was interested in working with him to study the remains using DNA profiling techniques. I was interested, but this kind of study had never been done before and we didn't know if it was possible to achieve any results from such old samples. Bones that had been buried for over 70 years would be very difficult to extract DNA from, as it degrades over time. But I knew this was an opportunity I didn't want to turn down, and the UK Home Office supported our work.

I still remember meeting Pavel at Heathrow Airport arrivals – there was intense media interest and swarms of journalists were present. Pavel carried the bones from Russia and we transferred them to the Forensic Science Service, where the work began.

A small team of scientists worked with me and Pavel on the remains – Kevin Sullivan, Gillian Tully, Colin Kimpton, Nicola Benson and Romelle Piercy. We thought that the main problem we would face was 'contamination'. Since the bones were discovered they had been handled by lots of different people. DNA is present in sweat, skin cells and saliva, so their DNA could be present on the bones as well.

We developed strict quality protocols to deal with this. We all wore clean lab coats and facemasks to prevent saliva spray while talking. To remove any modern DNA from the surface of the bones we filed them with sandpaper and took a small section of bone for analysis. As expected, we could only find very small amounts of DNA present in the bones. Each sample contained DNA originating from just half a dozen cells.

To determine if the remains belonged to the Romanovs, we needed to compare them to samples from verified relatives. We were fortunate to obtain blood samples from HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who is a direct descendant of the Tsarina Alexandra. Samples were also obtained from the Duke of Fife and Princess Xenia Cheremeteff Sfiri, who are related to the Tsar. The remains matched their living royal relatives and we therefore knew we had found the bones of the Romanovs.

But this wasn't the end of the story. Other scientists were surprised we'd been able to obtain any DNA from such old remains. We worked for another year to verify our results, but some still considered our findings controversial. A number of different groups of scientists in the USA and Russia worked to confirm or discount our results. One group even exhumed the body of the Tsar's brother, George, from the St Petersburg cathedral. But each new test confirmed our original findings.

Our work identifying the Tsar's remains helped to create the UK national DNA database and accelerated the development of new methods for forensic testing with small samples of DNA. Today these are used around the world in forensic investigations by the police and have been used to solve thousands of criminal cases.

Dr Peter Gill is a world-renowned British forensic scientist. He identified the remains of the last Tsar of Russia, and is currently Professor of Forensic Genetics at the University of Oslo.



Tetrad thermal cycler used to amplify DNA.

The story of the long-suffering bust of Emperor Alexander II

27 September. Porosenkov-log - April 29, 2018 marked the 200th anniversary of the birth of Emperor Alexander the Second - , the great Tsar Liberator, who was murdered by the revolutionaries - Narodnaya Volya (People's Will) in 1881. Alexander Nikolaevich enjoyed the well-deserved love of the Russian people and the memory of him was immortalized in large and small towns.

Just in Yekaterinburg two monuments to the Emperor were immediately installed: on the Cathedral Square and in the Nizhne Isetsy factory (the modern district of Khimmash). The newspaper "Yekaterinburg Week" (# 20 for 1884) wrote: May 15, 1884 in the Nizhne-Isetsy factory was consecrated the monument to Emperor Alexander II. The monument was built at the expense of the Nizhne-Isetsy Society and consists of a 2-saber gray marble 4-sided column, on top a bronze bust of the late Emperor. On one side is a gilded wreath, and under it is the inscription "To the Tsar-Liberator, to Emperor Alexander II".

We believe that the restoration of historical justice and reconstruction of the monument is necessary! Already in our time, thanks to the efforts of many people, architects, blacksmiths and masters of foundry, headed by the Ural blacksmith Alexander Lysyakov, in 2009, a complete bust of Alexander II was made.





In addition, Alexander Lysyakov repeatedly expressed a desire to dismantle and move to another place the pedestal and column of the monument, which for the time is being preserved in the historically place and have not changed since 1884!

In the spring of 2018, we held talks with the head of the department (one of the enterprises of the city) supervising the monument. The manager turned out to be a normal, adequate person and agreed that reconstruction is necessary.

Today, September 27, 2018 we sent a written request to the head of the administration of Chkalovsky district of Yekaterinburg, on the balance sheet of which there is the column with a request for an official agreement to us in the established order of a complex of works on restoring the Emperor's bust and some reconstruction of the monument. We are absolutely convinced that if a monument is to be restored, it is necessary to make it as similar as possible to the historical and at the same place. Any dismantling, movement of the structure, as well as installation of objects not corresponding to historical truth, is not permissible!

There exist a photo, kept in the museum of the history of Yekaterinburg, which shows the bust subjected to unprofessional restoration. This is an interim information. All the news concerning this long-suffering monument will be reported in time.

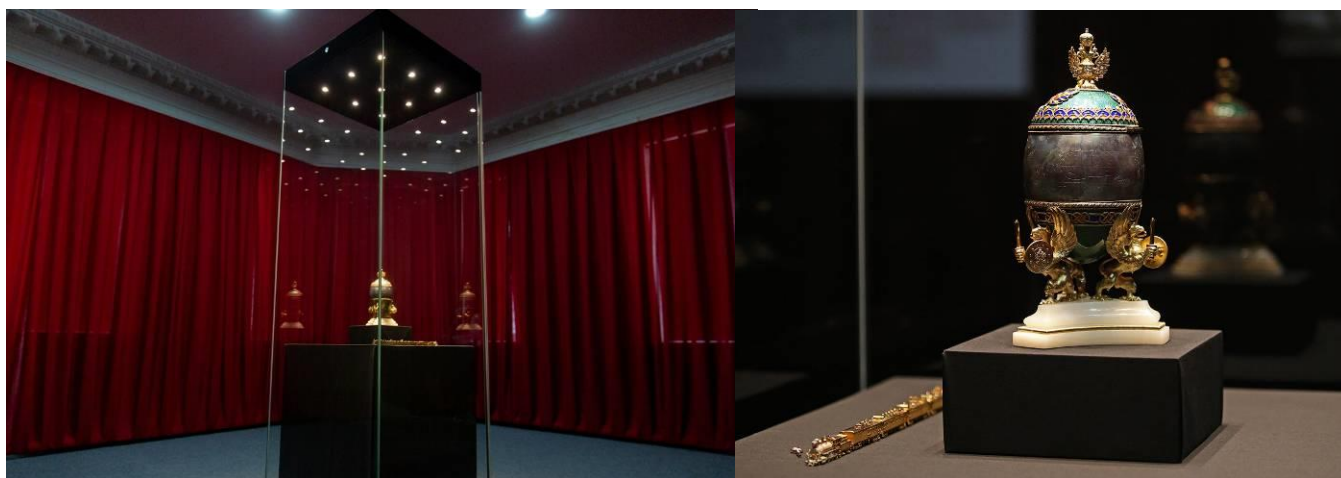


84 treasures of Moscow Kremlin in Vladivostok

The exhibition "Map of Russia. Milestones of History" from the collections of the Moscow Kremlin Museum-Reserve opened in Vladivostok on September 10. 84 exhibits are presented at the exhibition, each of them is - according to the director of the museum-reserve Elena Gagarina - defined in one word - a treasure.

"The Moscow Kremlin Museum," said Elena Yurievna, "is generally very small. If there are more than 5.000.000 exhibits in the Historical Museum, then in our funds - only 160 000. But every object we have is a treasure. And this is not an exaggeration. Everyone is connected with this or that sovereign, public figure, commander. We show in Vladivostok such items, which rarely leave our funds or even for the first time left them.

For example, one of the earliest lists of the Vladimir icon of Our Lady of the Annunciation Cathedral of the Moscow Kremlin (this is the home church of the Russian Tsars) was brought to Vladivostok. The list is dated the end of the 15th - the beginning of the 16th century, which means that it survived the Time of Troubles when a lot of icons were lost and destroyed in the Kremlin. Russian Tsars prayed in front of this image! Or another object, first exhibited outside the Kremlin: the golden thicket belonging to Vasily III, at the bottom of which was first depicted the coat of arms of Russia - the double-headed eagle. Previously, on the objects of everyday life, the emblem was not depicted."



Of course, one of the most discussed items of the exhibition was the Easter Imperial Egg of Fabergé "The Great Siberian Railway" (in total, 10 Easter eggs of Fabergé are kept in the Armoury of the Moscow Kremlin). As Tatyana Muntyan, a leading specialist of the Armoury told, in 1900 the Easter egg "The Great Siberian Way" was made for Alexandra Feodorovna, by the order of her crowned husband ,

because that year the railway that connected the Asian and European parts of Russia , was built, and this event was compared with the opening of the Suez Canal. The centre of the egg is a map of Russia, on which the Great Siberian way is drawn with stops: Chita, Irkutsk, and, of course, Vladivostok is crowned as the final point of the road. The egg itself is made in a new Russian style. Pulling the eagle, the egg can be opened and we see a surprise - a train of gold and platinum. It consisted of a locomotive, carriages of the first and second classes, a car-church, consecrated in honour of St. Olga. The windows of a train made of rock crystal, and the inscriptions on it can be read in a magnifying glass: "coupe for ladies", "coupe for smokers" and so on, and even the number of seats in each car is indicated. It has a ruby lantern and diamond lights. Turning the key all the composition come into motion and drive a few meters. This egg is among the five most valuable of Faberge eggs, and those that contain spring surprises.



But, in addition to the Faberge egg, there are so many unique exhibits - for example, the daggers of Peter I and Alexander Menshikov, a golden dish given to Catherine by Grigory Potemkin, the symbolic key from the city of Riga, the banner of Ermak - conqueror of Siberia. This is how the artefacts were selected for the exhibition, because its main concept is the formation of the Russian Empire.

"This is an exhibition, as is clear from the title, about the formation of the Russian state," said Elena Gagarina. "We really wanted to show it here, in Vladivostok, since the formation of the country as an enormous power was finished with the accession of these territories. Few people know in our time how big the Russian Empire was, how difficult it was to gather from a huge number of lands, how



dramatic Russian history was, how difficult it was to manage such a huge state with completely different peoples. Such an exhibition will remind everyone of what territories were and are part of Russia."

The exhibition will run until December 11th. Director of the Arseniev Museum Victor Shalay said that several thematic and sightseeing tours aimed at different groups of visitors (for children, for foreign tourists, for connoisseurs of Russian history and so on) are already prepared. Once a week guided tours will be for the visually impaired and blind, because all the exhibits are equipped with audio guide. In addition, a tactile copy of the Faberge egg is made. All guides were trained in the Kremlin Museum.

Of course, you can visit the exhibition yourself, without a guide, especially as the etiquette and explanations, as well as the audio guide, allow you to immerse yourself in Russian history.

It is significant that the Arsenyev Museum and the Moscow Kremlin Museum-Preserve have signed a five-year cooperation agreement, which means that Vladivostok is waiting for several other equally magnificent exhibitions.



Bust of Emperor Alexander I - the founder of the cadet corps in Omsk

The opening ceremony of the Emperor's bust took place on Saturday, September 8, near the Omsk Cadet Corps. The right to open the monument was given to the head of the region Alexander Burkov and the mayor of Omsk Oksana Fadina.

In Omsk, there is no question why they decided to install a bust of one of the Russian Tsars from the Romanov family. The reign of Alexander I the Blessed, was marked by victory in the war against Napoleon, the beginning of reforms in the highest state bodies, the creation of free primary education, the opening of universities, lyceums, gymnasiums, and most importantly, the Omsk Cossack military school, Emperor Alexander I Siberian Cadet Corps.



205 years after the opening of Cadet Corps the Omsk city council supported initiative of Russian military historical society o perpetuate the memory of the Emperor and install his bust in the park near the Cadet Corps.



A little more history: the square on the bank of the Irtysh was a favorite resting place for officers, members of their families and cadets. On the cadet alley gazebos with benches were arranged, where tea parties and literary and musical meetings were held by cadets and teachers. In this garden a

holiday with a beautiful name - Tree-planting - was annually held, and trees and bushes were planted along the bank of the Irtysh.

The head of the region Alexander Burkov and the Mayor of Omsk Oksana Fadina, the metropolitan of Omsk and Tauride Vladimir came to congratulate the cadet on such a significant event.

"Indeed, Emperor Alexander I entered the history of Russia as a victor over Napoleon, as a reformer. Omsk owes much to him. First, Omsk became a district city, and secondly, the headquarters of the Governor-General of Siberia was transferred from Tobolsk to Omsk, and thirdly, Alexander I founded Omsk region in 1822. Therefore, the development of our region is primarily related to Alexander I. And today we are opening the bust of the Emperor, restoring historical justice. Today, The cadets should know and remember the history of the great country, remember and know when the Cossack school was established, when it was transformed into a cadet corps, but most importantly, they should know those heroes who studied within its walls, who served Russia," said Alexander Burkov, the head of the region.

Omsk Mayor Oksana Fadina thanked the Russian Military Historical Society, which puts busts of great people all over the country. The mayor believes that the installation of a bust of the Emperor in Omsk is entirely logical, because thanks to Alexander I in our city there was a Cossack school. She promised that the square, where the bust is installed, will be landscaped. Next year it will be included in the city improvement program.

"Next year, the place where we are with you will begin to change significantly. Today, there is a bust of the Emperor here, and tomorrow we will offer the citizens of Alexandrovsky Square as a comfortable urban environment," Oksana Fadina said.



The head of the Cadet Corps, Hero of the Soviet Union Nikolai Kravchenko called the installation of the bust a landmark event. "In 1813 the Corps celebrated its 100th anniversary. For success in training military personnel and in connection with the anniversary, it was granted the name "1st Siberian Emperor Alexander I Cadet Corps". The Corps was awarded the Imperial patronage. The jubilee banner was handed over. All ranks and cadets of the Corps were awarded epaulettes with the monogram of Alexander I. In the building of the first company a bust of Alexander I was installed. Written on it was -"The power-holding founder of the Corps. 1913 ". Alexander I began the transformation in

education, including in the Cadet. It was Alexander I who approved the regulations on the Omsk military Cossack school, "the head of the Cadet Corps made an excursus into history - and today our school continues the traditions of the Cossack school created more than 200 years ago."

The right to open the Emperor's bust was given to the head of the region Alexander Burkov and Mayor Oksana Fadina. Then the bust of Alexander I was consecrated by the Metropolitan of Omsk and Tauride Vladimir.

The cadets of the senior course laid the garland to the pedestal, and the guests of the ceremony - flowers. And then the leaders of the city and the region, along with the Cadets, were photographed near the bust.



Museum "Romanovs Boyars House" opens after restoration

On the eve of the Moscow City Day, the Museum Romanovs Boyars House, a filial of the State Historical Museum, opened after a large-scale restoration.

The Romanov Boyars House is a monument of architecture of the late XV-XVII centuries. In the middle of the XVI century the estate was taken over by the boyar Nikita Romanovich Zakharyin-Yuryev, a prominent political figure of his time, brother of the first wife of Tsar Ivan the Terrible and grandfather of Mikhail Romanov.

In 1631, the Znamensky Monastery was founded on the territory of the estate, and in 1668 the building was used to store the monastery treasury and archive, and here clergy lived. In 1856, Emperor Alexander II decided to restore the chambers and create a museum. The head of the restoration work was entrusted to the court architect F.F. Richter. According to his draft in 1857-1859 the first scientific restoration of the monument was carried out. The chambers were supplemented with a front porch, a gallery and built a wooden floor, typical for residential buildings of the XVI-XVII centuries.





In 1859, Emperor Alexander II in a solemn atmosphere opened the museum "The House of Boyars of the Romanovs." The museum not only recreated the rich interiors of the boyar house, but also stored Romanovs family relics.

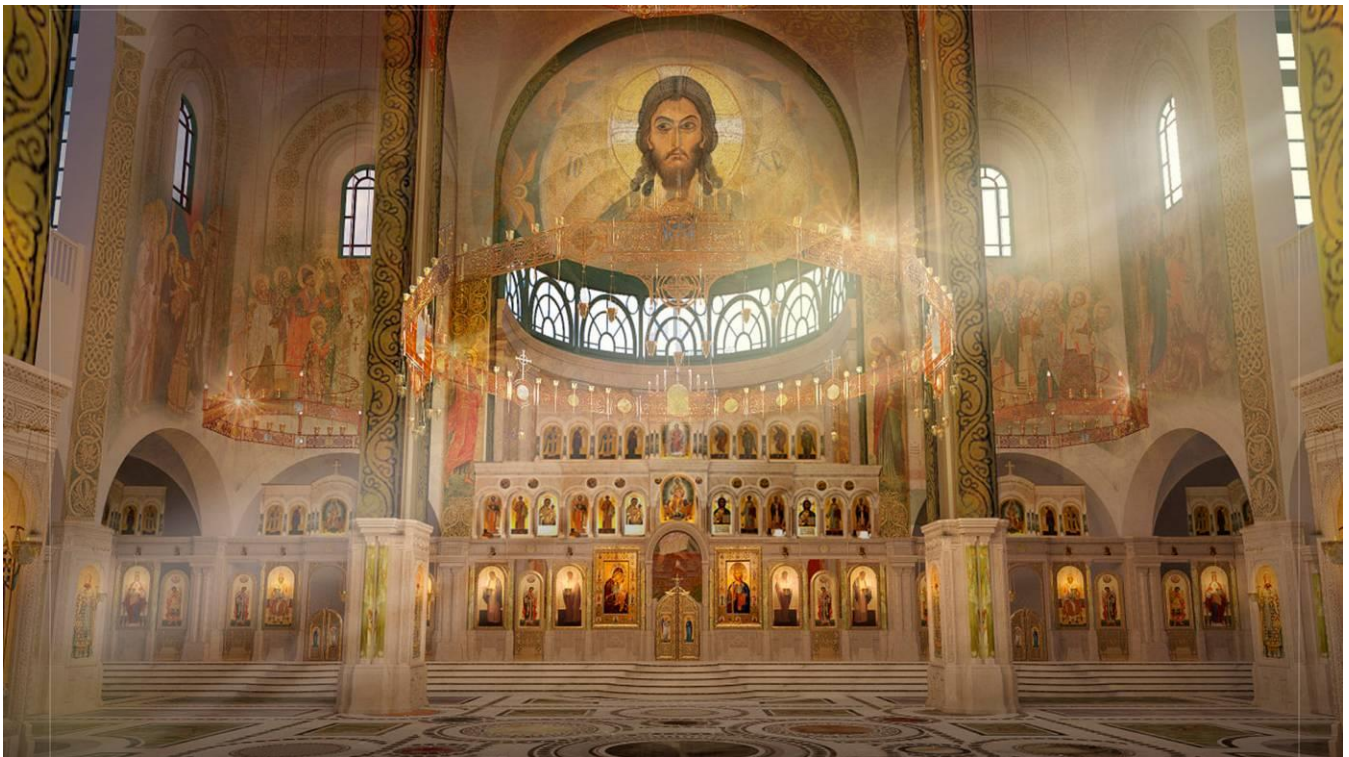
After the revolution of 1917, the Chambers was renamed the Museum of Boyar Life Style, which since 1932 became a branch of the State Historical Museum. Later, during the major restoration of 1984-1991, by architect I.I. Kazakevich, the interiors of the chambers were returned to the former shape conceived by F. F. Richter, in addition, they discovered the ancient architectural details not found in the 19th century.

At present, the "Romanovs Boyars House" is the only museum that acquaints visitors with the boyar life of the pre-Petrine era. During 2017-2018 a large-scale restoration was carried out to repair the facades, partial replacement of roofing and restoration work in the interiors, as well as landscaping of the inner courtyard. The work carried out did not affect the three-dimensional structure of buildings, architectural and artistic design of interiors and facades.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/287105

Russian military to build 3rd tallest Orthodox Church in the world near Moscow

5 Sept. 2018. Russia Beyond - Russia's Ministry of Defence plans to build the military's main church in the Moscow Region, and it's going to be big. According to blueprints, the church will be 95 meters tall, making it the third tallest Orthodox church on the planet. As it stands, the first and the second tallest are also Russian: Cathedral of Christ the Saviour in Moscow, and St. Isaac's Cathedral in St. Petersburg.



“Throughout history, Russians have built monumental churches, chapels, and whole architectural ensembles to commemorate the defenders of the Motherland,” the project’s official webpage [says](#). Thus, the new church follows the traditions and aims at “uniting all the Orthodox servicemen of Russia.”



The Minister of Defence Sergey Shoygu stated that both the government and the Russian Orthodox Church approve of the project.

The extensive church complex, designed in a monumental Russian-Byzantine style, will be located on the territory of the Patriot Park in Kubinka, (75 km west of Moscow) and will symbolize the spirituality of the Russian army raising the sword only to protect its Motherland. It should be completed in 2020.

It will have 4 side chapels, each dedicated to the patron saint of one of the branches of the Armed Forces of Russia:

The chapel of St. Elijah the Prophet, patron of the Air Force and Airborne Forces.

Priest of St. Barbara the Great Martyr, patroness of the Strategic Missile Forces.

The chapel of St. Andrew the Apostle, patron of the Navy.

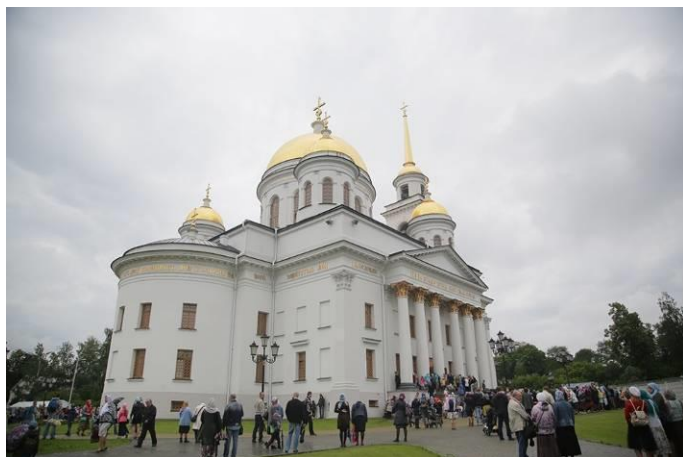
The chapel of St. Alexander Nevsky, patron of the Land Forces.

On the territory of the church complex will be built a universal multimedia museum and exhibition complex "Spiritual Army of Russia", unique expositions of which will be dedicated to various episodes of the heroic history of the Russian army. Visitors will plunge into three-dimensional historical reconstructions projected on the walls of the halls, thanks to virtual reality technologies they will be transported to the ice of Chudskoye Lake in the thick of the Battle of Ice, they will visit the cockpit of the aircraft, become a participant of the Kerch sea battle, get acquainted with the gallery of heroes "Mercy", and also see a film in a panoramic cinema.



A web site for collection of donations is established: <http://hram.mil.ru/> It also includes a video of the project.

"I surrender into the hands of God with confidence and love"



On the day of the centenary of the martyrdom of the Countess Hendrikova a lithium was performed in Novo-Tikhvin Monastery in Yekaterinburg.

September 4 marked exactly 100 years since the martyr's death of the Countess Anastasia Vasilievna Hendrikova, the personal maid of honor of the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna.

- Today exactly 100 years have passed from the day of the martyrdom of Anastasia Vasilievna Hendrikova, the personal maid of honour of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. She was killed

by the Bolsheviks in Perm on September 4, 1918. Anastasia Vasilievna was distinguished by deep piety, nobility, selflessness and in the most difficult circumstances kept the trust in God. In our metropolia, they collect materials for the glorification of Anastasia Hendrikova. And today we will honour her memory, serve lithium, pray for her, and she will pray for us before the throne of God," said the priest who performed the lithium.

Countess Anastasia Vasilievna Hendrikova was born in 1888. Although she belonged to the highest world, she was very simple in her way of life from early youth, she dressed very modestly, even old-fashioned and, unlike most noble girls, never participated in balls and entertainments.

In her youth, the Countess Hendrikova became the personal maid of honour of the Empress. And the Empress, and the Grand Duchesses, and the courtiers loved her for her kindness, affability, meekness, simplicity and openness.

In February 1917, Countess Hendrikova, at the insistence of the Empress, went to a seriously ill sister in Kislovodsk, but when she arrived there she learned that the Emperor had to leave the throne. And then Anastasia Vasilyevna hurried back to Tsarskoe Selo. It is known that at that time the majority of courtiers and servants, under different pretexts, on the contrary, tried to leave the Tsar's family, basically everyone cared only about their well-being. Anastasia Vasilyevna could well be safe in Kislovodsk, but she, unlike other courtiers, overcame all obstacles and returned to the Imperial Family. A few hours after she arrived at the Alexander Palace, it became a prison for all who voluntarily wished to remain in it. She clearly understood that she could wait, but wrote that evening in her diary: "Thank God, I managed to arrive on time to be with them." Her presence was a great support for royal Imperial prisoners. Always happy, meek, smiling, she cheered everyone up.





Anastasia Vasilievna followed the Tsar's family in Tobolsk. Before leaving, she wrote in her diary: "I can not leave here without thanking God for that wonderful peace and power that He sent me and supported me for all these almost five months of arrest. I close my eyes, give myself completely, without question, questions or murmurings into the hands of God with confidence and love."

In May 1918 Anastasia Vasilievna came to Ekaterinburg with the Tsar's children. She was not admitted to the Ipatiev House, but was imprisoned, although she was at that time sick with appendicitis. Then she was transferred to Perm prison. Anastasia Vasilievna, and there she prayed a lot and tried to keep cheerful, although she was exhausted by the illnesses and burdens of imprisonment.

On the night of September 4, 1918, Countess Hendrikova was awakened and taken with a group of prisoners outside the city where they were killed. Only a few months later, after the arrival of whites, the bodies of the dead were discovered, and Anastasia Gendrikova was buried in the cemetery in Perm.



*From left to right: Catherine Schneider, Count Ilya Tatishchev, Pierre Gilliard, Anastasia Hendrikova and Prince Vasily Dolgorukov
- In the background the Ermak monument in Tobolsk.*

The Church Pavilion of the Great Menshikov Palace was opened

On September 3, 2018, after the completion of large-scale restoration and on the 300th anniversary of the consecration of the Church Pavilion of the Great Martyr Panteleimon, it was opened in the Great Menshikov Palace in Oranienbaum.

A summer church was presented to public. It decorated with a carved gilded iconostasis, and a winter church, where a museum exposition was dedicated to the three-century history of the palace church and its owners.

Divine services were performed by the dean of the Petrodvorets district, Protopriest Michael Teriushov, in collaboration with the rector of St. Michael's Cathedral of Lomonosov, Archpriest Pavel Suslov and deacon John Luschnik.



The church is managed by the State Museum-Reserve "Peterhof" and occupies the tower pavilion of the Great Menshikov Palace.

The museum director Elena Kalnitskaya, restorers and museum workers attended moleben.

Archpriest Michael Teryushov congratulated those present and addressed them with a salutatory word. "Thank you for preserving our cultural heritage, which is inextricably linked with the Orthodox faith, and this 300-year-old court church, restored by your efforts, is a vivid confirmation of this," said Father Mikhail. "How then, and now, most of our people consider themselves Orthodox, all of us, each in its own place, must preserve the heritage that our ancestors received and not forget their appeal: "Holy Russia, keep the Orthodox faith!"

Between the dean and the directorate of the museum reached an agreement that every year on the day of the memory of the holy martyr and healer Panteleimon, August 9, the clergy of the Deanery will serve a moleben.





The General Director of the GMP "Peterhof" noted that "The appointment of this church is ambivalent: it is cultural and spiritual. Today, after the first service, we are in full agreement with the ministers of the Orthodox Church, with full respect to each other decided that this is a museum."

The church, conceived by the first owner of Oranienbaum, Prince A.D. Menshikov, as a triumphant monument to the sea "victories" of Petrine Russia, for two centuries combined the functions of the court and parish church, becoming the focus of the religious life of Oranienbaum.



The original interior decoration included choruses with carved balustrades, rich utensils and a luxurious crystal chandelier. The dome and the upper tier of the walls were painted with a "picturesque letter". The main decoration of the interior - a gorgeous gilt and silvery iconostasis - was created in the Moscow workshop of Ivan Zarudny after the model of Western European baroque altars.

The walls of the temple were decorated with stucco garlands, rocailles, heads of cherubs, designed by Antonio Rinaldi. The stucco decoration served as a frame for 39 paintings arranged on walls in several tiers. According to its stylistic and iconographic features, wall painting was in line with the largest iconographic ensembles of the second half of the 18th century. The final appearance of the interior of the court church was formed by the end of the 18th century.

In 1930s the church was closed and the workshops of the Hydrographic Department of the Baltic Fleet were located here. The decoration of the summer church of St. Panteleimon and its winter chapel of St. Equal-to-the-Apostles Constantine and Helena was dismantled and sent to Peterhof, where irretrievably perished during the Nazi occupation.

The restoration of the church began in 2009. Carved elements of the second half of the 18th century, made by the Italian architect Antonio Rinaldi, were preserved. The iconostasis of the 18th century was recreated by specialists academicians RAH Yu. G. Bobrov and F. Yu. Bobrov, 13 reconstructed pictorial images of the iconostasis, including the altarpiece, were returned to their historical sites. Work has been completed to recreate all four tiers of painting that adorn the walls of the pavilion. All works were conducted by artists of the St. Petersburg State Academic Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture. I.E. Repin.



At the present time in one interior a genuine decoration of the second half of the 18th century coexist with samples of first-class modern restoration in the best traditions of the Leningrad school.

According to curator of the museum exposition of the pavilion, Maria Anatolyevna Platonova, in this part the "image of the court church of the Grand Duke's Court" is presented . The exhibition opens with "some kind of architectural concept, which would let anyone understand what we are talking about." The first component is the torn arch of the entrance, which symbolizes "the severity of the Orthodox tradition." The second architectural element - the dome - symbolizes spiritual concentration, unity in any religion and culture in general.



Visitors will see a few preserved objects of church use from the museum's funds: three unique icons of the Oranienbaum church, parts of the lamp, metal folds and crosses. These museum exhibits were not fully restored, but only conserved. Thus curators accent public attention on the state of objects, which was the result of generations of the XX century attitude towards them.

The exposition dedicated to the foundation of the church and its consecration is placed in the sacristy space: the visitor is here to be told about the history of the church, about the change of its owners, changes in the status and everyday life of the church parable. To imagine what the church was in the XIX century, the interior of that time was created in the sacristy.

One of the sections of the exhibition tells about a little-known phenomenon in the culture of the XIX century - posthumous portraits of members of aristocratic families. In the Oranienbaum Palace, which belonged to the family of Grand Duke Mikhail Pavlovich, a collection of family posthumous portraits was kept. The tradition of creating such images in the XIX century was widespread. The attempt to understand it reveals to us completely new, unexpected features of the religious culture of the past.

The State Museum-Reserve "Peterhof" thanks the Bank VTB (PAO) for its support in recreating the picturesque decoration of the Church Pavilion of the Great Menshikov Palace.

A charitable Foundation for the "Revival of the Brasov Estate" is created

The main goal is to restore the destroyed monuments of cultural heritage in the estate of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich - the brother of Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II.

The Foundation made a state registration on July 23, 2018. According to its charter it will:

- collect funds for the preservation and restoration of objects of history and culture on the territory of the former Brasov estate (churches, buildings), as well as installation of commemorative stones and other signs on the ground;
- support research and information and educational projects related to the history of the Brasov estate, the fate of the owners of the estate and employees who contributed to its development;
- offer assistance in the revival and strengthening of cultural, spiritual and moral traditions in Russia.

They call on all those who would like to redeem our common guilt for the destruction of historical and cultural values in the 20th century, all those who want to take an active part in the spiritual and moral revival of Russia to join!



The Charitable Foundation "Revival of the Brasov Estate" was established in 2018 by an initiative group of people from several regions of Russia.

The foundation was "born" from the project to revive the Znamensky church in the village of Dobrik, located on the territory of the Brasov estate, now - in the Brasov district of the Bryansk region, it is registered in St. Petersburg, which logically reflects the relationship of the estate with the Imperial Capital.

The foundation is represented by:

- Elena Dubinina, Executive Director (St. Petersburg). Reviving destroyed ruins, restoring the connection of times, we revive and restore and something important in our heart.

- Nina Vasiltsova, Member of the Council, representative of the Foundation for the Bryansk region.

My grandfather Ivan from Dobrik spoke to his sons: "Do good, there is no pockets at the coffin." Now I know that all the roads lead to Dobrik.

- Svetlana Kovaleva, Accountant (Domodedovo, Moscow region). Every family must live in its estate, surrounded by like-minded people united by one temple and the Holy Spirit.

- Irina Shendrik, Member of the Council (St. Petersburg)

I'm not alien to the fate of the Bryansk region: several generations of my ancestors lived and worked for the benefit of this region.



The Brasovo estate can be located on the territory of the present Brasovo, Komarich, Navlinsky and Suzemsky districts and has an ancient history.

The first mention of the village of Brasovo in the Lithuanian metric dates back to 1496.

During the reign of Ivan the Terrible in Brasovo "zaseka" was built, part of the fortified line on the southwestern border of the Russian state.

Peter the Great presented the Brasovo lands to A.I. Ushakov, subsequently the estate passed to P.G. Chernyshev, then to V.B.

Golitsyn. As the dowry with his daughter Catherine Golitsyn, the estate was given to the son of General-Field Marshal S.F. Apraksin, Smolensk Governor-General S.S. Apraksin.

Viktor Vladimirovich Apraksin (1821-1898), State Councilor, Chief Marshal, was the last owner of the Apraxins. After the sale in 1882 to the Imperial house, the Brasov estate was transferred to a special department of Emperor Alexander III. The owner was first heir Tsarevich George Alexandrovich and then, after his death, the estate passed in 1899 to Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich.



The reign of the Romanovs was the "golden age" for the Brasov lands. In the village of Lokot a water pipeline was laid, a huge park with ponds and alleys is established, the first enterprises of food and woodworking industry are created. From 1903, a horse yard became a stud farm. In 1914, an iron foundry and a mechanical plant, a butter mill, a flax-processing plant, three brick factories, a lime plant, two steam and 26 water mills, the Lokot distillery, mills and a sawmills were created. Since 1896 a regular train traffic started through Brasovo station.

For more information and for how to make a donation, please see their web site:

<https://www.brasovestate.com/>

The opening of a monument to Emperor Nicholas II

By Protopriest Gennadiy Belovolov, rector of the Church of the Holy High Priest Peter and Paul, s. Somino, Boksitogorsky district

September 2, 2018 in the village of Efimovsky Boksitogorsky district, located almost in the center between St. Petersburg and Vologda if you follow the railway, there was a landmark event, which can rightfully be called historic - a monument to Emperor Nicholas II was opened.

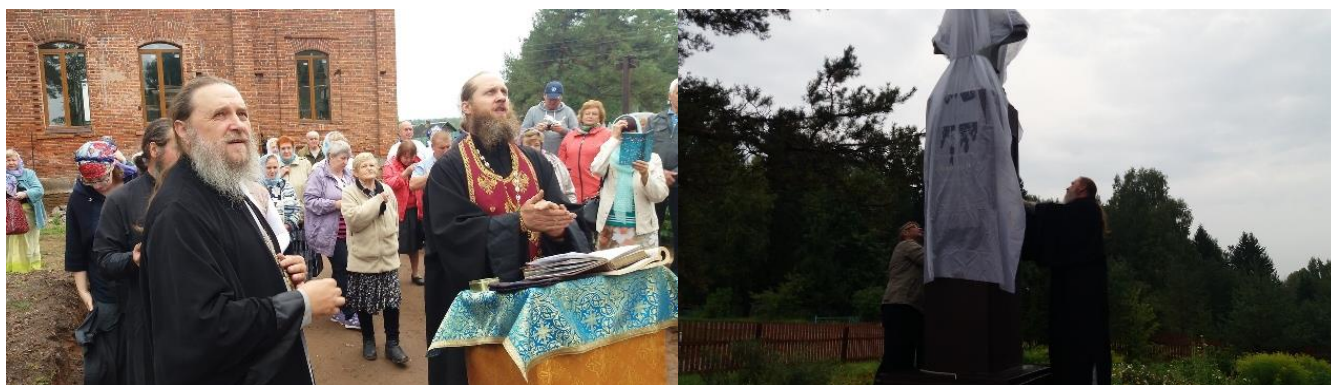


The place for the monument was near the church in the name of the Holy Prophet Elijah chosen by the rector, Priest Michael Lomakin, not by accident. It is known that Tsar Nikolai Alexandrovich was the apostle of this church, having sacrificed half of the necessary sum for its construction. The opening of the monument is timed to the 100th anniversary of the martyred death of the Imperial Family and the 110th anniversary of the Holy Ilyinsky church, built in 1908. This is the inscription on the monument: "The Holy Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II, the Emperor of Russia, in gratitude for the building of the church of the Holy Prophet Elijah in memory of the 100th anniversary of the martyr's death."

It should be noted that almost all the work on the arrangement of the territory and installation of the monument were performed by the local priest and his assistants Sergey Dryukov and Ivan's eldest son. A big help was rendered by Open Company "Efimovskaja operating company" (head Feodor Trifonov).

A large space was arranged for the monument. It leads to a wide avenue, lined with flower beds. The monument is successfully placed between the age-old pine tree, which symbolizes the glorious past of the Romanovs' House, and a very young birch tree, which expresses hope for the future restoration of the Tsar's throne in Russia. The Sovereign himself is turned to the temple he built. The bust is placed on a high pedestal, standing on the collapsed Golgotha stone, thanks to which the Sovereign's face floats against the sky. Near the monument the impression is created that the King looks at us from the height of his heavenly glory. The last Emperor is represented in military epaulettes with all state awards on his chest as a warrior king, as a defender and custodian of Russia. From the monument there is a wide panorama of the village and the railway passing here. The vaulted bust is also a monument to the works of Emperor Nicholas on the creation of the Vologda and Arkhangelsk railroads, which connected the capital of the empire with the distant Russian North. In connection with this construction, the church

was erected. The Church of Elijah was called to consecrate this northern railway. To do this, he was put on a high hill near the railroad tracks, so that everyone could see him and could pray for him. who was perceived as the patron of all traveling on rails on the "fiery chariot".



The opening of the monument involved the head of the administration of the Efimovsky urban settlement Sergei Pokrovkin. In his speech he said - "Perhaps we, the secular people, do not know the history of Orthodoxy, but we need to know and study the history of our country. Emperor Nicholas II did a lot for the country. For his short life, only 50 years, he did a lot for the development of agriculture, railways, thanks to which were created and developed such settlements as the settlement of Efimovsky. " The head of the administration thanked the initiators of the installation of the bust and expressed confidence that this place had adorned the village in a special way and would be visited in the future.

The consecration of the monument was performed by the priest of the church, Priest Michael Lomakin and Archpriest Gennady Belovolov. After the consecration, a prayer was offered to the Royal Martyrs at the monument and prayer was read about Russia. Father Mikhail thanked the author of the project and the head of the Alley of the Russian Glory Foundation, the Krasnodar patron of Mikhail Serdyukov - <http://www.alroslav.ru> for the charity donation of this bust. Mikhail Leonidovich - specially made the busts of Tsar Nicholas and Tsarevich Alexius specially for the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Imperial Family and is ready to sacrifice them to those who will establish them in significant places of the Russian land!

The opening of the monument was adorned with the performance of the Efimovsky folk chorus of the Russian song under Vladimir Yezhov. Russian songs at the foot of the Tsar-Martyr sounded in a special way. The ceremony ended with the general execution of the national anthem "God, Save the Tsar! " In spite of the first autumn rain, the mood of all the participants of the celebration was joyful.

This event is historic not only for the village of Efimovsky, but also for the whole of Russia. The fact is that in this year of the tragic jubilee of the 100th anniversary of Tsarist Golgotha, virtually no events were held at the state level, a program for the memorialization of the memory of the royal martyrs was not realized, and virtually no monuments were erected to the Tsar-Martyr.

The only monument to Nicholas II in Russia this year was installed on July 17 in the village of Archedinskaya Volgograd region on the territory of the St. Nicholas Church, and this day a bust to the last Russian Emperor was opened in New York in the premises of the Synodal Cathedral of the ROCA. That's all! Frankly, for the anniversary year more than modest. It is necessary to note with regret that the enemies of Tsar Nicholas were more prepared for the jubilee, having made an attempt to create an anti-memorial to the Tsar-Martyr - the blasphemous film "Matilda". All the more significant in this context is the fact that in the anniversary year the only monument in the Leningrad Region and the second in Russia monument to the Tsar-Martyr in Yefimovsky Settlement was installed.



Such monuments are very necessary for Russia, since the monuments are a kind of "public canonization" of the memory of the Royal Martyrs. Although the Church glorified the Royal Martyrs 18 years ago, there is great disagreement in the society about the last Russian Tsar, a lack of understanding of his deed and service, condemnation and denigration of his image. The Holy Tsar-Martyr deserves the grateful memory of his descendants, for whom he lived and performed his unprecedented sacrificial feat. Thanks to such monuments, we return the name of the Russian Tsar to our public consciousness, we affirm the Tsar's idea among the people, we conclude the tragic century, lived "without a Tsar in my head".

Dear reader! It's not too late to contact the head of the Alley of the Russian Glory project, receive the bust of Emperor Nicholas as a gift and install it on the Russian land, in your village, city, station. This will be our real service of the memory of the Tsar-Martyr. On the Internet it is easy to find the project website: <http://www.alroslav.ru/>). As you can see, two monuments to the Russian Tsar in the year of the 100th anniversary of his feat are established in the outback of Russia - in the village of Archedin and the village of Yefimovsky. This once again convinces that the revival of Tsarist Russia will come from the depths of its land and the soul of the people, as it was in 1613.

Lost Masterpieces of Imperial Romanov Liturgical Silver on View at Museum of Russian Icons

Sep. 18, 2018 Visual Arts News Desk - The Museum of Russian Icons will be presenting "Opulence Rediscovered: the Romanov Liturgical Silver", the first exhibition in more than 50 years of a lost masterpiece, October 19, 2018 - January 13, 2019. This extraordinary set of Russian Orthodox liturgical implements was made in 1877 as part of the imperial dowry of Grand Duchess Maria Alexandrovna (1853-1920), the only surviving daughter of Russian Emperor Alexander II, who married Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, in 1874, and used this opulent silver set in her private chapel in the Clarence House British Royal Residence in London.

Commissioned by the cabinet to the Russian Imperial Court, the Romanov silver set was based on designs by court architect David Grimm (1823 - 1898), one of the creators of the Neo-Byzantine style in Russia. Manufactured by the leading Saint-Petersburg luxury goods purveyor-a firm of Nicholls & Plincke, known as Magazin Anglais-the work was praised by its contemporaries for its subtlety of design and elegance of artistic execution.

A recently completed attribution attests to the set's Russian Imperial and British Royal family provenance, uncovers the rich history of its creation, and re-establishes its historical significance as a preeminent example of Russian Neo-Byzantine style.



The first public showing in over 50 years, the current exhibition coincides with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Emperor Alexander II, the 165th anniversary of the birth of his daughter the Grand Duchess Maria Alexandrovna, and will take place exactly 140 years since the set was installed in London's Clarence House in 1878. After World War II, the set was acquired by American collector Pavel Fekula (1905 - 1982) who had it exhibited in the Orthodox Room at the Interchurch Center in New York in the 1960s. After his death, the set was broken up and sold to private collectors in the United States. This will be the first time the set has been reunited since it was dispersed in the 1960s.

The Romanov silver comprises sacred implements for performing the Orthodox Divine Liturgy-a Litya set (litiinyi pribor), used for the blessing and consecration of bread, wheat, wine and oil; an aspersorium - a vessel for water blessing (vodosviatnaia chasha); an aspergillum - a brush for sprinkling holy water (kropilo); a hand cross for consecrating water (krest dlia vodosviatiia); two altar candlesticks and two eucharistic plates for the Liturgy of Preparations (proskomidiia); and the Proskhophora - the bread preparation used in the Divine Liturgy. Several of the objects are used to serve the wine and host during Eucharist, including a chalice, and a discos and asterisk set, on loan from the Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Brookline, MA; as well as a discos and asterisk from the Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville, NY. The asterisk is a piece that fits on top of the discos to keep the priest's veil from falling into the host. The pieces are made of a heavy gauge silver of 84 zolotniks Imperial silver purity standard (an equivalent to .875) using techniques of casting, chasing, and engraving.

The rediscovery, reuniting, and exhibition of an almost entirely forgotten set of objects directly connected with the life of Alexander II will undoubtedly enrich our understanding of the ways in which the family life and parental concerns of the Imperial Family were inextricably intertwined with the history of Russia and Europe in the second half of the 19th century. It will be an occasion to reassess the significance of Alexander's policies and the impact of the socio-economic reforms he had initiated during his reign.

Due to the special significance of this exhibition, his Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York, a bishop of the Russian Orthodox Church, will give remarks at the opening reception of the exhibition on Friday, October 19 from 6:00-8:00 pm.

The exhibition is curated by Dmitry Gurevich and Vladimir Kasykin.

Link for more details: museumofrussianicons.org

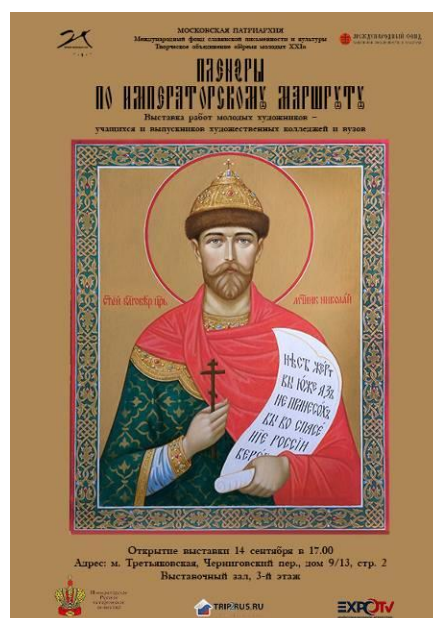
"Plain air on Imperial Route"

- An exhibition of works by young artists - students and graduates of art colleges and universities

In the year of the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Imperial Family, the Creative Union "Time of the Young XXI", invited young artists, students and graduates of art colleges and universities to participate in the exhibition project "Plain air on Imperial route", which covers the places of residence of the last Russian Emperor's Family, the history of Grand Dukes' estates, and numerous Imperial residences.

On September 14 the exhibition opened at the Fund of Slavic Writing and Culture, in Moscow. It shows the works of young authors created during summer practices and open-air excursion trips around the Moscow region and regions of Russia. The exposition will include: portraits of the Imperial Family and their close environment, landscapes; picturesque and graphic works of churches, Russian estates, suburban imperial residences, etc.

Visitors will also see paintings showing the Martha-Mary Convent of Mercy on Bolshaya Ordynka, founded by Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.



Shared the fate of the Imperial Family

By Vladislav Sednev

A whole century has passed since the day of the villainous murder of the Imperial Family. This event remains to this day the focus of attention of all those who are not indifferent to the present, the future, and hence the "unpredictable" past of our Russia. Recently, the attention of the Russian Orthodox Church has drawn to the history of the tragic death of members of the Imperial Family from a more constructive perspective. There is a special commission for the analysis of remains with the participation of the most competent historians, investigators and clergymen, who, we hope, will dot all the "i" in this tragic story.

The fate of people close to the family of the Sednevs was closely connected with the history of the death of the Tsar's Family: my grandfather Ivan Dmitrievich Sednev, his colleague Kliment and Nagorny and his great-uncle's grand cousin Leonid Sednev.



I.D. Sednev, boatswain with the "Standart"

For decades, we could not learn anything about them, because everything was hidden under the "Secret" stamp, and besides, it was not safe for the Soviet family to take an interest in this topic, but time have come. In the last 10-15 years, thanks to the painstaking work of eminent historians, it was possible to obtain a lot of additional information. I would like to express special gratitude to the military historian, Doctor of Law Yuri A. Zhuk, who provided us with hitherto unknown documented information about the service of my grandfather at Tsar's court. Used them, as well as many sources on this topic and the memoirs of my father, Dmitry Sednev, who died on July 27, 2005, I decided to summarize the basic information about the life of my grandfather.
(The article printed with significant reductions).

Mother from the Verechkovo village

Ivan Dmitrievich Sednev was born on September 9, 1881 in Sverchkovo village, Myshkinsky district, Yaroslavl province, in a peasant family.

Father - Sednev Dmitry Ivanovich, mother - Pelageya Timofeevna.

The family was engaged in agriculture, and Ivan, having grown up, worked as an oiler at the Varguninskaya paper station, located in the left-bank part of the city of Uglich.

He was drafted to active military service in 1904. After the end of the Kronstadt training team, I.D. Sednev was given the category of sailor of the second article. The service was held in the Guards Crew on the Imperial yachts "Polar Star" and "Standard", rose to the rank of boatswain. Apparently, closer to the end of his service in the Navy, he received a proposal to continue serving as a footman at the High Court. April 14, 1909, he started new assignment as a lackey of the third rank.

September 1909 I.D. Sednev left Tsarskoe Selo to his homeland on vacation, and he meets his future bride, Maria Alexeevna Chistiakova, born in 1893, a native of the village of Dyakonovka of the Christmas parish. Wedding of I.D. Sednev and MA Chistiakova took place in the autumn of 1910 during his next vacation - September 18, 1910 in the Leontief Church in Uglich. The rest of the leave is spent by the young couple in the groom's parental home, after which Ivan Sednev and his wife Maria leave for St. Petersburg to continue their service at the High Court, and the young family settles in a new place.



Guards of the Imperial yacht "Standart" with Nicholas II and Tsarevich Alexei

August 25, 1911 (September 7, according to a new style) their first daughter, Lyudmila was born. Ivan Sednev in Tsarskoe Selo had permanent housing on the second floor of a two-story house for servants, where he carries his family, which by that time already consists of four people: Ivan, wife Maria, daughter Lyudmila and a nephew from his native village Leonid Sednev, born in 1903, who later became very friendly with Tsarevich Alexei and was with him until the last day of the life of the Imperial Family. ("Leynya-kitchen boy").

Attention of the Emperor

A year later, on July 5, 1912 (July 18), the second daughter Olga, named in honour of Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna, was born to the Sednevs. Baptized in the presence of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, which was recorded in the Book of the Sovereigns of the Empress, after which I.D. Sednev received the certificate No. 6004 of July 18, 1912.

On April 3, 1913 (April 16, 2010), the third child was born, and His Godmother) became the Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna, confirmed by corresponding Certificate No. 4977 of 10 April 1913, and the mother of the newborn received as a gift a gold ladies watch with the State Emblem.

On April 1, 1914, Ivan Sednev was appointed as a lackey of the 2nd rank in the rooms of the Grand Dukes. Since March of the same year, Sednev's spouses have been living at the state apartment No. 1 in the new Palace building of Tsarskoe Selo.

Being permanently with the Imperial Family and accompanying it on all trips around Russia and abroad, I.D. Sednev for his long and impeccable service was repeatedly encouraged by the awards not only of the Russian Empire, but also of foreign countries, including the Kulmsk badge in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Guards Crew, the Swedish silver medal of the Order "Vasa", a light-bronze medal in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Patriotic War the war of 1812, the Serbian silver medal without a crown, a light bronze medal in commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the Russian Imperial House of Romanovs, a silver clock with the State Emblem (on the 300th anniversary of the Russian Imperial Palace of the House of Romanov), Prussia sign "Honorary Cross" silver medal "For diligence" on Stanislav ribbon.

In the second year of the First World War I.D. Sednev was subject to conscription to the navy as a warrior of the Sea Militia, but according to the instructions of the Office of the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, the call was cancelled, and from July 7, 1916, the reserve boatswain Ivan Sednev was sent for service at the rooms of the Grand Duchesses.



Coffins with the killed hostages on July 29, 1918

Was fired, but stayed

With the beginning of the February 1917 Troubles, I.D. Sednev was dismissed on an indefinite leave, but he did not want to depart for such, but shared the fate of the Imperial Family, subjected to voluntary arrest at the Alexander Palace.

In the summer of 1916, Ivan Sednev, apparently foreseeing the coming political events and then making his life choice (to remain in the service of the Tsar), sends his wife Mary and her children home to the village of Sverchkovo.

Since that time, Ivan Sednev and his family have never met.

Leonid Sednev at the insistence of Tsarevich Alexei, also remains in Tsarskoe Selo and will accompany his friend in wandering around Siberia.

On August 1, 1917 (here and hereafter - according to a new style) at 6:10 am - departure from Tsarskoye Selo by special train as part of the servants and persons accompanying the Imperial Family to Siberia.

On August 17, the train arrived in Tyumen, and an overload began on the steamers. The Imperial Family was placed on the ship "Rus", and accompanying and luggage - on steamships "Feeder" and "Tyumen". At 6 o'clock in the morning the steamers sailed to Tobolsk. Upon arrival at the place the Imperial Family remained on the steamer, and the servants began to prepare for their placement the governor's house. In Tobolsk, the Imperial Family with a servant and retinue was until the spring 1918.

From Tobolsk I.D. Sednev sent the last letter to his wife, in which he reassured her that he was in the service and that she should care for the children. (The letter was kept by M.A. Sedneva until 1937, when it was confiscated during a search in the house during her arrest).

In April 1918, the authorities decided to relocate the Imperial Family to Yekaterinburg. Implementation of this decision is hindered by the deterioration of the health of Tsarevich Alexei. On April 23, Yakovlev (the commissioner of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee) assesses Alexey's health for possible transportation and announces to Nicholas II that he must take him away from Tobolsk. The Empress insists to go with her husband and take her daughter Maria. At night they decide who else to take with them: from retinue - Prince Dolgorukov and Doctor Botkin, from servants - Chemodurov, Demidov and Ivan Sednev, and preparation for departure begins.

Early morning of April 26, the departures are seated on horse carriages and, accompanied by guards, they are taken from Tobolsk to Tyumen, where there is a railway. The road was almost 300 kilometers in very bad weather. In the morning of April 30, the train arrived in Yekaterinburg, where it was met by representatives of the Uralsovet. After the procedure for transferring the "cargo" to the Urals (as the members of the Imperial Family indicated in the telegraph correspondence with Moscow), those who arrived from Tobolsk were driven by cars and guarded to the house of the engineer Ipatiev, equipped with a "House of Special Purpose". At the same time, Prince V. Dolgorukov was taken directly to the prison from the station.

From the diary of Nicholas II on May 2, 1918: "... Sednev has a cold with a fever ..."

In the morning of May 23, Grand Duchesses, Tsarevich and servants - Nagorny, Kharitonov, Trupp and Leonid Sednev were brought from Tobolsk to Yekaterinburg.

After a month's separation, Ivan Dmitrievich Sednev and his nephew Leonid Sednev met again. But they lived together only 4 days!

The right servants get away

In the afternoon of May 27, 1918, the assistant to the commandant of the House of Special Purpose, A.M. Moshkin decided to take off and took a gold chain with crosses and icons that hung above the bed of Tsarevich Alexei. This was hindered in sharp form by I.D. Sednev and K.G. Upland. A fight ensued. As a result, for open protest against the theft of the protection of things and values of the Imperial Family at 18.30, I.D. Sednev and K.G. Nagorny were arrested and taken under guard for interrogation in the Executive Committee of the Ural Regional Council, and from there they were escorted to Ekaterinburg prison No. 2.

Members of the Imperial Family were very worried about the loss of loyal servants and worried about their fate.

From the diary of Nicholas II: "May 27, Monday: ... at 6.30 Sednev and Nagorny were taken away, I do not know the reasons ...". "On May 29, Wednesday: ... On Sednev and Nagorny, there is no rumor, no spirit!" "June 3, Sunday: ... We are waiting for Sednev and Nagorny, whom we promised to return today ..."



Dmitry Ivanovich Sednev and his sister Olga, 1998.

In the 2nd Ekaterinburg prison ID. Sednev and K.G. Nagorny were together with the Prince G.E. Lvov, who managed to survive. During an interrogation in July 1920 in Paris, Lvov showed the investigator N.A. Sokolov:

"About a couple of weeks later, two servants of the Imperial Family Sednev and the servant of the heir Nagorny were brought to our prison ... Personally, I had such an impression from them: Sednev and Nagorny are wonderful people, intelligent, who are aware of many things, healthy in body and spirit, were very devoted to the Family. " Lvov asked them about the situation of the Imperial Family.

"Both Sednev and Nagorny called the regime in the house of Ipatiev horrible. It became, they said, gradually getting worse and worse ... In particular, they mistreated the Duchesses. They did not dare to go to the lavatory without permission. They had a table with the servants. Sednev was surprised that the Empress was alive, eating only pasta. Sednev and Nagorny quarreled with the guards in the house of Ipatiev because of the Tsar's things: like devoted people to the family, they defended her interests. As a result, they were sent to prison. "

In prison No. 2, according to Lvov's recollections, chaos and senseless cruelty reigned. The old prison regulations were discarded, but the new one was not created. The food was bad. June 22, 1918 the local opponents of the Soviet government killed a former employee of the Uralsoveta commissioner Ivan Malyshev. In retaliation for his death, the authorities decided to shoot twenty completely uninvolved hostages who were in prison. Sednev and Nagorny got into this "firing" group, and it was on the night of June 28-29, 1918.

From the memoirs of V.P. Anichkova: "They were taken out of cells, put on trucks and under a strong convoy were taken along Tyumen highway. Behind the dachas of Agafurov, the car stopped, and the prisoners were ordered to enter the field. They all knew that they were being taken to be shot. The mood was depressed. Many cried, many gloomily silent. They were trying to build up a line, but they were constantly getting mixed up ... Nobody knew the reason for the shooting, there was no trial, and they did not even read the verdict in absentia ... The commissar and the soldiers were distracted and not energetic enough ... This was the first mass shooting in Yekaterinburg. "



V.D. Sednev on Ganina Yama - in the museum at the memorial complex in Yekaterinburg, 2008.

The martyrs for the motherland

The Imperial Family and those who remained with her in the Ipatiev House (Dr E.S. Botkin, cook I.M. Kharitonov, maid A. Demidov and valet A.E. Trupp) were shot in the basement of the house on July 17, 1918.

Leonid Sednev miraculously escaped execution on that fateful night: on the order of the commandant Yurovsky on the morning of July 16, he (under a deceptive pretext of meeting with his uncle) was taken from the Imperial Family, and the next day sent back to his homeland.

On July 25, 1918, the Bolsheviks surrendered Ekaterinburg, and The Siberian army of Kolchak and the Czechoslovak Corps entered the city. One of the primary tasks of the new city authorities was a decent burial of all those killed in the capture of the city: both "white" and "red".

From the newspaper "Ural Life" from July 31: "On July 28, bodies of the hostages shot by the Bolsheviks were found ... The bodies were found at the scene of the shooting, in a distance of half a

verst towards Chelyabinsk in the Siberian tract in the area, which served as a dumping ground for waste.

Ruthless executioners scolded their victims even after death, leaving their bodies almost without burial, in a dirty, barely covered ground ditch. The bodies were heavily decomposed, and they could be identified separately only by clothes.

Shortly before 2 pm the coffins with the shot were placed on carts and catafalques and wrapped in greens and flowers. Headed by the arrived priests of the city churches, accompanied by Cossacks and volunteers to guard the order, with the orchestra of military music behind and a large choir from the front, the sad procession moved and entered the city on Aleksandrovsky Prospekt. Near the Siberian outpost, members of the foreign consular corps joined the procession ... The procession was surrounded by a small crowd, but only a sad motorcade entered the city, more than one thousand people filled the street along which the sad procession moved. To the sound of the funeral march, the singing of the choir and the chime of the bells, the procession slowly advanced to the Tsar's Bridge, then along Zlatoustovskaya Street and Voznesensky Prospekt to the building of the 1st Women's Gymnasium where lithium was served.

Hence the sad procession ... moved along the Main Avenue to the Cathedral. Here Bishop Gregory, together with the city clergy, performed the funeral service, pronouncing the word dedicated to the memory of the dead. Then the motorcade moved, accompanied by a large audience to the cemeteries - Monastyrskoye and Ivanovskoe, where the solemn burial took place. "

Harald Karlovich Count in his book "On Novik" describing the solemn funeral of the hostages, notes: "... The streets were drowned in the mass of the people. The sun, sparkling on the golden vestments of the clergy, slid over simple wooden coffins, surrounded by the relatives of the dead. Behind the troops went worthily, as an honourable escort to the martyrs for their Motherland. The sad singing of the church choir was replaced by the mournful sounds of the funeral march ... Two coffins attracted special attention. They were covered with flowers more than others. "Who is this?" - was asked in the crowd. "Nagorny and Sednev, servants of the Imperial Family, former sailors from the" Standard, "answered those who were walking behind the coffins. These are those, let us say, who, by death, captured the oath of allegiance they had made ... "

The search for the exact burial place of the sailors Nagorny and Sednev, undertaken by me in July 2008 in Yekaterinburg with the participation of local ethnographers and interested persons, did not yield any results.

The monastic cemetery (on the territory of the Novo-Tikhvinskiy women's monastery) was heavily deformed as a result of the destruction of church buildings that took place for a long time, the re-planning of the territory and the restoration of the Church of the Afflicted by the Bolsheviks.

At Ivanovskoye cemetery, which, although it remained in the old borders, there are almost no tombs of century old. And the "political" aspect in this matter is not in favor of the sailors - who needed to take care of the safety of the graves of the "royal servants" shot by the revolutionary authorities during Soviet times.

And ecclesiastical books, in which the dates of burial were recorded, were most likely destroyed...

Japan - an object of August interest of the Imperial House of the Romanovs

By Peter Podalco

Contrary to its geographic remoteness and the complicated history of its relations with its "northern neighbor", Japan, like no other country in the East, has been the object of the Romanovs' most August interest.



Emperor Meiji and Empress greeting the Russian Tsarevich (Nicholas Alexandrovich), 1891

The historian Peter Pobalko, a professor at the University of Aoyama Gakuin, notes the unprecedented "density" of contacts at the highest level: representatives of seven out of ten generations of the Imperial House had meetings with the Japanese in Moscow and St. Petersburg, and during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, five personally visited the country "the rising sun".

Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovich

The fourth son of Emperor Alexander II, Grand Duke Alexei Alexandrovich, being lieutenant in the fleet visited Japan during the world tour 1871-1872 years on the ship "Svetlana", established a tradition of world tours of the Imperial Family and the beginning of their personal acquaintance with the country of the rising sun. Presented to the Emperor Meiji and the political elite of Japan, the Grand Duke became the first Russian with whom the eminent Japanese reformist ruler met. In 1882, Alexis Alexandrovich became a Rear Admiral and, nine years after his visit to Japan, in fact the head of the Russian fleet, with the conferment in 1888 of the title of Admiral-General.

Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich

Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich served as a midshipman on the cruiser "Rynda", he happened to visit the Japanese land in 1888-1889. He left a book of his memories of the country and even studied the Japanese language with a local resident, with whom he concluded (according to local customs) a temporary marriage. He was also received by the Emperor Meiji (amused by his "knowledge" of the Japanese language) and the famous statesman of Japan, Prime Minister Hirobumi Ito. During his stay in Nagasaki, Alexander Mikhailovich took part in the organization of a naval infirmary and a chapel for Russian sailors. An energetic and observant person with experience of living in a rapidly modernizing Japan.

Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich (future Emperor Nicholas II)

The Heir to the Russian throne, Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich visited Japan in the spring of 1891 during his Eastern-trip. Staying in the country was complicated by an incident. The Tsarevich was wounded during a visit to Otsu by the Japanese policeman Sandzo Tsuda from the security guard standing on either side of the road, along which Nicholas Alexandrovich and his entourage were riding rickshaws. The Tsarevich was rescued by Prince George traveling with him, who brought down the attacker. There are different opinions about the extent to which the incident in Otsu affected the attitude of the future Emperor to Japan and the Japanese.



Grand Duke Kirill Vladimirovich

Grand Duke Kirill Vladimirovich repeatedly visited Japan, the first time as a junior lieutenant on the battleship "Russia" in 1898. He was in Nagasaki and Port Arthur. Later, on behalf of Emperor Nicholas II, he paid a visit to the Emperor Meiji, achieving better relations between the two countries. Traveling around Japan, he was fascinated by the country, its exotic landscapes. During the Russo-Japanese War, Kirill Vladimirovich, the chief of the naval department of the Pacific Fleet headquarters, miraculously managed to escape on the tragic day of March 31, 1904, when the flagship battleship Petropavlovsk was blown up on the mine. He received burns and concussion. Of the 631 people who were then on board the flagship, together with him only 80 were saved.

Grand Duke George Mikhailovich

In January 1916 the Grand Duke Georgii Mikhailovich, a general from the infantry, specially empowered by the Emperor at the headquarters of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, visited Japan for the official purpose - in connection with the coronation of Emperor Taisho and to express his gratitude for helping in the war against the bloc of the Central Powers. The squadron under the flag of the Grand Duke arrived in Kobe, and from there Georgi Mikhailovich headed for Tokyo, where he was met at the station by the Emperor of Japan and all the Princes of the blood, accompanied by the state and financial elite of the country. Having successfully accomplished an unofficial but important task - to achieve a large supply of arms for the Russian army, the Grand Duke also contributed to the conclusion in July 1916 in St. Petersburg of a treaty between the two countries on friendship and mutual assistance in the event of an attack by a third power.

Then the negotiation process between the two countries looked very promising in terms of developing bilateral contacts, and it continued until the fall of the Romanov dynasty. Revolutionary events and the Civil War in Russia changed the political trajectory of the relations between the two countries, leaving in the past many prospects, which were once opened by the August visits of the Grand Dukes.

Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



Specialists Restore the Lyons Hall of the Catherine Palace

In Tsarskoye Selo, one of the most beautiful halls of the Catherine Palace, the Lyons, is being restored. Contemporaries compared it to the famous Amber Room. Only here lapis lazuli is instead of amber.

Modern masters have the same problems as their predecessors. British architect Charles Cameron ordered 19 cases of lapis lazuli for finishing the Lyons hall, but when he opened them, he was disappointed: the stone was not the right blue. They had to buy another hundred pounds of lapis lazuli to choose the best. And now - the masters cut the stone into plates and compare the shades.

Under Alexander II, the Lyons hall was reconstructed. The Emperor asked the architect Ippolit Monighetti to change and complement the interiors for the convenience of the spouse. Monighetti came up with even furniture from lapis lazuli - sofas, armchairs, jardiniere. After the restoration of the Lyons hall, the luxurious lazurite set will be returned there - a gift from Emperor Alexander II to his wife Maria Alexandrovna for the silver wedding. What is surprising, on each subject the monogram of the Empress has been preserved.



On the walls - an amazing golden silk, brought from the city of Lyon, that's why the hall and began to call Lyonsky. During the war years, the living room was destroyed, the upholstery of the walls, the lapis lazuli portals, were lost. But soon everything will be restored. Silk will be brought from France.

"We will bring rolls of absolutely identical silk called "Golden Bud". The fact that it was ordered for the Catherine Palace, is preserved in the documents in the archive, the samples they brought to us were preserved, we compared them to what is there," explained the director of the Tsarskoye Selo museum-reserve Olga Taratynova.

Masters laboriously revive every pearl of Tsarskoye Selo. And soon in this necklace we will see the recreated Lyons Hall.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/287905/



The restoration of the Golden Gate began

The gilded elements of the Golden Gate of the Catherine Palace suffered from the time

and excessive attention of visitors to the museum-reserve.

All decorative elements, and there are more than 3,500 of them, are sent for restoration. According to experts, "tired" of the time and visitors who break off the golden pieces from the bizarre baroque grille in memory of Tsarskoye Selo.

The appearance of the Golden Gate refers to the period of the so-called "great Tsarskoye Selo perestroika". They were made by the master of the Sestroretsk plant under the project of Savva Chevakinsky. But the gold delicate details - according to the drawings of Francesco Rastrelli. During the Great Patriotic War, the Golden Gate, like the entire palace, was almost completely destroyed. In the sixties, when the Tsarskoye Selo was being rebuilt, it too was recreated.



Each fragment is assigned a number so that it is not confused later. Verified according to the scheme, for restorers it is like a map with specific settlements. The numbered decorative elements are brought to the workshop. And lay out on the floor. Then, in order for the gilding to move away from the metal, the decorative element is put in a solvent. In a day, gold is exfoliated. After this treatment, the parts are dried. Then for each element, a four-gram gold leaf will be cast and put back. By the way, among the fragments are those that were forged already in the times of the Russian Empire, and they were considered lost forever.

"After clearing it was discovered that not all the elements are copper. Elements of black metal were discovered, which were also gilded," says the blacksmith Alexander Nikolaev.

The fact is that in the 60s, when the Golden Gate was being restored, the decorative elements of black metal were replaced with copper ones. Now experts have to decide whether to make fragments of black metal, so that they correspond to the historical project. And they need to do this before the end of the year.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/289148/



The restoration of the Pavilion "Chapelle" is completed

On September 15 the Chapelle - the most romantic pavilion of the Alexander Park opened after years of restoration. For more than seventy years the building was in an emergency condition. Together with the pavilion, the Lilac Alley came to life, which passes next to Chapelle - from the Cross Canal to the Rose Watch. 70 lilac bushes of historical French varieties were planted, including "Madame Lemoine", "Charles Joly". Experts are sure that the alley will become one of the most beautiful walking routes of the Alexander Park.

The opening of the Chapel is the main restoration event of the year of the 100th anniversary of the Tsarskoye Selo museum-reserve. The visit to the pavilion is free, it is available every day from 9 to 19 hours.



Built in the 19th century in the form of a time-worn Gothic chapel, the "Chapelle" pavilion received numerous damages during the Great Patriotic War. The roof of the tower was especially damaged. In

the first post-war years, due to the total lack of materials and the possibility of repairing the damage worsened. By the end of the 1940s, as recorded in the historical certificate, "the bulk of the iron was torn off, the remains of it hung down and they continued to be torn by the wind. Due to long-term leaks, the rafter system is partially rotten, the brickwork of the ruin part and the stone staircase are partially damaged by projectiles. Window and door bindings are completely broken... a sculpture with partial damages; stucco figures of angels too."

In 2011, a comprehensive survey of the building was completed and design and estimate documentation for the restoration and adaptation of the pavilion for museum use was developed.

In 2014, a historical and cultural examination of the project was carried out.

In 2015-2016, within the framework of the Federal Target Program "Culture of Russia (2012-2018)", priority repair and restoration works were performed.

In April 2017, for the subsequent restoration of the building, a competitive procedure was carried out and a contractor, the Lapin Enterprise Company, was identified.



Specialists performed a large volume of work: repair and strengthening of structural elements of the building; repair and restoration work on the turret of the tower; roof repair; restoration of carpentry fillings; equipment of the building with engineering support systems; restoration of the interior of the chapel. In the interior, the restoration of the stucco gothic vault and the preservation of the original scenic decoration were made.

The roof of the pavilion was originally adorned with a rooster in the form of a cockerel, made of copper, a symbol of the abdication of the apostle Peter. On the weathercock there were traces of bullets from the times of the Great Patriotic War, and the tail is completely lost. On the roof a copy of the cockerel was installed, in the base of which, before the installation on the roof, in July 2018 the museum staff laid a capsule with a message to the descendants.

The interior of the chapel is decorated with paintings, imitating "gothic" windows and cloth with a light blue border. Restorers have preserved the surviving fragments of painting, the place of total loss was tinted.

The ceiling of the main room of the chapel has a fan-shaped arch, typical of English late Gothic buildings. When it was cleared, the restorers discovered a historical colour scheme. After that, it was decided to place significant losses in a historical shade.

In exchange for the statue of the Saviour, now kept in the Hermitage collection, a sculpture of Grand Duchess Alexandra Nikolaevna (Adini), the daughter of Emperor Nicholas I, a work of Ivan Vitali, is installed in Chapelle. Sculpture comes from the lost Little Chapelle, which was on the shore of Lamsk Pond; the last decades it was stored in the museum's funds.

The total cost of work is 132 million roubles. The financing was carried out at the expense of the federal budget and extra budgetary funds of the GMZ "Tsarskoye Selo".

Pavilion "Chapelle" (from the French chapelle - chapel) was built on the outskirts of the Alexander Park in 1825-1828 in the form of a gothic chapel, destroyed by time.

Like the other "gothic" structures of the Alexander Park, the Chapel was built according to the project of Adam Menelas. It represents two square towers in the plan, one of which completely collapses, and a wide arch connecting them. To enhance the "Gothic" image, colored glasses were installed in the window, and the light that penetrated them lit up the interior with the figures of angels at the base of the vaults with a ghostly flicker. These figures were made by Vasily Demuth-Malinovsky. The statue of Christ, which was in Chapelle (now in the collection of the State Hermitage), acquired from the famous sculptor Johann Heinrich von Danneker, the Empress Maria Feodorovna gave it to her son Emperor Alexander I.

After the revolution, the Chapel was opened as a museum object, but in the early 1930s have been closed due to low attendance.

From 1931 to the Great Patriotic War in Chapelle were residential apartments. Inspection of 1933 recorded a rather deplorable state of the pavilion, in which "bricks fall off the walls, almost all the glass (of small size) are knocked out.

At the beginning of the Great Patriotic War, the pavilion was used to install anti-aircraft guns, located in the former



"clock room" in the attic space. Over the anti-aircraft guns, part of the roof was uncovered. During the period of the fascist occupation, it was an observation post.

In 1950-1951, conservation work was carried out, including major roof repairs. In 1953, a restoration project was created, which was not implemented.

In 1963, another decision was adopted on the restoration of the pavilion with subsequent use under an ice cream parlor. There is no information on carrying out these works. According to some information, by 1966, the ground floor was still used for housing. In 1987, the question was again asked about the restoration and overhaul of the pavilion, but even then the project was not realized.

The Lilac alley was planted simultaneously with the construction of the pavilion "Chapelle". Over its creation, garden artists Ilya Kononov and Fedor Lyamin worked. The idea of recreating the alley that had lost its original appearance arose in connection with the restoration of the pavilion "Chapelle" and the implementation of works on land reclamation, restoration of the road and track network in this area of the Alexander Park.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/290205



Life in the Imperial Residences

One hundred years ago the palaces of Peterhof, Pavlovsk, Gatchina and Tsarskoye Selo became public. Instead of gigabytes of memory - kilograms of paper. Inventory books are the main legal documents of the museum-reserve "Tsarskoe Selo". They are kept forever. Filled only by hand.

Angelina Shutilova does not part with the pen for twenty years - "I counted up somehow that for all this time I made six thousand valuable records". But after all, she had never imagined that she would work in a museum. She is in charge of almost 50 thousand units and 19 collections. She can tell about almost anyone. Icons, porcelain, table sets, gold medallions of Empresses and Emperors. Each museum item has its own address: a cabinet, a shelf, a folder. Any movement, even a centimeter, is strictly fixed. Like a hundred years ago, solely with the help of ink.

The portrait of the Grand Duke Pavel Petrovich, the future Emperor, after the Great Patriotic War, returned to Tsarskoe Selo, to the Blue Room. Inventory number seems to emphasize the status of the exhibit - three "sevens." "An accidental coincidence," says the guardian Angelina Shutilova. Ball pen. The color of the ink is necessarily black. The handwriting is calligraphic! "Categorically you can not make blots in inventory books. If there is an error, we necessarily draw up an act to correct them, they are fixed, their main custodian signs them," says Angelina Shutilova, a specialist in accounting for museum items at the Tsarskoye Selo State Museum.

"Modern printing equipment, unfortunately, does not provide such reliability and shelf-life of documentation. Inventories, dating back to the 19th century, are written in ink and are still readable, they can be used," says Tatiana Sierpinskaya, the main custodian of the Tsarskoye Selo State Museum.

Very soon a valuable parcel will be delivered to the Tsarskoe Selo museum-reserve. The Ministry of Culture issued a permit to purchase the works of Italian master Francesco Bartolozzi. The end of the 18th century. The price of one lot is 16 thousand euros. All purchases and gifts go strictly through the departments of museum accounting. And they are also fixed strictly by the museum curator Angelina Shutilova with a pen with a black stem.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/290325/



"To the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Romanov family", a video recording of the concert on July 17, 2018, in the Concert Hall named after P.I. Tchaikovsky, Moscow, Russia.

Video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m45ujQAOaMU>



"Katya and the Prince" - She is a noblewoman, the daughter of a Russian state councilor. He is the son of King Rama V, who came to Imperial Russia to study at the Corps of Pages. In 1906, Catherine Desnitskaya and Prince Siam Chakrabon got married and left for Bangkok. There this beautiful fairy tale comes to an end, and the dramatic history of palace intrigues begins, deprivation of the status of the heir and a slow way to parting.

This story is described in Konstantin Paustovsky's book "Far Years". But does everything in it correspond to historical events, how it was in reality?

Documentary film (Russia, 2014). Director: Denis Markovtsev. Screenplay: Sergey Alekseev. Camera-man: Mikhail Timofeev.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/57602/episode_id/969996/



In the Tula City Library No. 4, the Tula branch of the IOPS opened an exhibition entitled "Sergei and Elizabeth: A History of Mercy".

In anticipation of the exhibition, the schoolchildren were reminded that this year the 404th anniversary of the Romanovs' house and the 100th anniversary of the heroic deed of the August family and their relatives was celebrated, and this date prompts us to address the glorious names and events of our country's history.

The library staff prepared an exhibition of books, which in many ways can satisfy the readers' interest on this

topic; the main exposition was presented by IOPS members: colorful boards dedicated to the life and work of the Grand Duchess. In addition, the surprisingly preserved originals of the posters and appeals of the Imperial Society of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were shown, they were looking for donations to the extensive statutory activities of the IOPS: helping the suffering, organizing pilgrimages to the Holy Land, and enlightening activities.

It should be noted that this mobile exhibition for two years of its existence did not leave anyone indifferent. Senior students also listened with impassive attention. It was obvious that the events of the life of Sergei Alexandrovich and Elizabeth Feodorovna from historical facts turned for them into a vital lesson, giving rise to the need for experience compassion and sacrificial attitude towards neighbors. Lessons of human dignity, matrimonial fidelity, mercy and love for the Fatherland, revealed by the Grand-Ducal family, were received deeply and with a sense of gratitude.





An imperial Steiff Alfonzo teddy bear. The Alfonzo bear was commissioned and made special for Grand Duke George Mikhailovich of Russia to give to his daughter, Princess Xenia Georgievna of Russia in 1908. The Alfonzo bear had unusual red mohair fur, authentic period wood-wool stuffing, and wore a white trimmed, orange cotton sateen suit with a Russian Cossack style tunic.

Princess Xenia's daughter inherited the bear and sold it in 1989 for nearly \$16,000.

After that, the bear was released again in a limited edition run in 1990. One of those bears still sold at Christie's in 2004 for 574 pounds or about \$742.



In November the capital's Tsaritsyno museum-preserve will open exhibitions, one of which will be devoted to the Romanovs, the director of the museum-preserve Elizabeth Fokina told.

"This is about the charity of the Romanovs House, dedicated to all their social and important charitable projects," Fokina said.



In the Museum of "New Jerusalem", in Moscow region, a large-scale exposition of Faberge is expected at the end of the year.



The exhibition "Russia: Royalty & the Romanovs" is set to open in The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace on Friday, 9 Nov 2018 (closing on Sunday, 28 Apr 2019).

Through war, alliance and dynastic marriage the relationships between Britain and Russia and their royal families are explored from Peter the Great's visit to London in 1698 through to Nicholas II.

Portraits, sculpture, photographs, archival documents and miniature masterpieces by Fabergé illustrate historic events and family meetings between the rulers of the two nations.

Many of the rich and varied works of art to be displayed are unique – some commissioned as grand diplomatic gifts, others as intimate personal mementos between the royal family and the Romanovs, and they bring to life the shared patronage of artists and craftsmen from both countries.



On September 13, in the conference hall of the Peter and Paul Fortress, the scientific conference "The Imperial Family and Its Environment. 1917-1919" was held, organized by the State Museum of the History of St. Petersburg.

The conference was devoted to the history of the Romanov dynasty. The century that has passed since the collapse of the Russian Empire and the emergence of a new state system makes it possible to comprehend many historical plots and events of 1917-1919.

The following issues were discussed: * the end of the reign of the Imperial House of the Romanovs; * life of Royal and Grand Dukes' residences in 1917-1919; * The fate of members of the imperial family and their approximate people in 1917-1919; * the history of the struggle against the "symbols" of the tsarist authorities in Petrograd and Moscow: the demolition of monuments, the struggle against state symbols, changes in the names of institutions and city streets; and * the emigration of representatives of the House of Romanov from Russia and the preservation of their family traditions in emigration.

Leading historians of St. Petersburg, Moscow, Yekaterinburg, and Petrozavodsk took part in the event. Among them:

- Igor Zimin talked about "The family of Nicholas II in the Alexander Palace from March 8 to August 1, 1917 (based on the cameras of the Fourier magazine)";
- Ekaterina Boltunova - "A Trip to Tobolsk" (1950): a new source on the history of the last months of the life of the imperial family from the funds of the Bakhmetev Archives (New York, USA);

- Marina Logunova - "Aleksey Trupp - Aloiz Troups. New data";
- Galina Korneva and Tatiana Cheboksarova - "Life of Grand Duke Dmitry Konstantinovich in Russia during the years of testing (1914-1918);
- Galina Shchutskaya - "Chamber of Boyars of the Romanovs") Museum "The House of Boyars of the Romanovs" and its fate after 1917;
- Maria Kirpichnikova - "From the Imperial residence to the museum. 1917-1919";
- Ivan Matveev - " Education and family traditions of the Romanovs in emigration".



In Kuznetsk a painting dedicated to a conversation between Tsar Nicholas II and a soldier exhibited.

A new season in the local lore club "In the stream of time" opened with a meeting with the family of Batarshin artists. The reason was the presentation of a new work. It is dedicated to a memorable event that took place in Kuznetsk more than 100 years ago.

This fact has been little known to this day. In 1904, the Saratov governor Pyotr Stolypin met Tsar Nicholas II at the Kuznetsk station. The Emperor's short stay passed according to the plan, except for one unforeseen moment. "Nicholas II recognized in the crowd a soldier who had previously served with him. He called him, and they had a conversation. This moment is captured in the picture," said Olga Gornova, director of the Kuznetsk museum-exhibition center.

The picture is placed in the hall of the former cinema "Komsomolets". Its author is the Kuznetsk artist Anvar Batarshin. The idea of capturing the historic event belongs to the head of the administration of the city of Kuznetsk Sergei Zlatogorskiy. "The staff of the museum helped me, they told about the people of that time, what clothes they wore, about the event itself. I relied on photographs, I studied the poses of people, their emotions," he said. Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=79&v=Ei5b64KlrQ0



The construction of the Moscow Hermitage is announced. In 2019, it is planned to begin construction of the Moscow branch of the Hermitage. It will be located on the territory of the former ZIL industrial zone. This was announced by the manager of "LSR.Redvizhimost - Moscow" Ivan Romanov. According to him, at this stage, the completion of the design of the building is underway. In the near future, construction will begin. The examination took quite a long time, because the project is unique, and the developed technologies had to be coordinated with the relevant authorities to justify their reliability and safety.

Earlier it was reported that the construction of the Hermitage would take about three to four years. The building will consist of several levels. The ground floor assumes the presence of a public zone, shops. Sculptures will be located on the top floor. Each level will be dedicated to different types of art. The building itself will be made of glass and stone, which has the ability to pass light. This will provide night illumination of the museum.



The Russian debutant ball was cancelled in London, because of visa problems. The Russian debutante ball, which this fall was supposed to take place for the sixth time in London, was cancelled due to the fact that many guests of the event have problems with obtaining British visas. The organizers of the Russian debutant ball note that in connection with the crisis in Russian-British

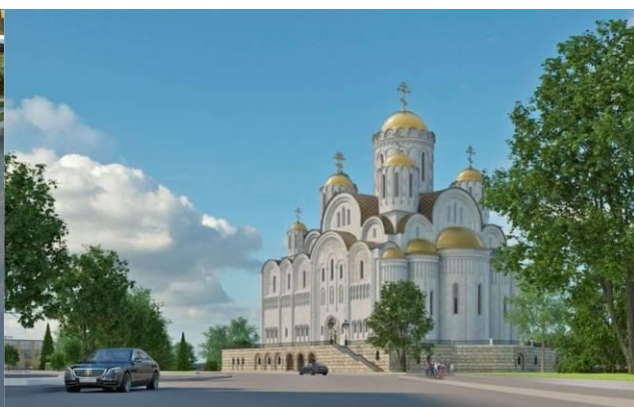
relations, the event in London will be cancelled not only this year, but also in the next. The organizer of such balls in Europe, Elizabeth Smagin-Melloni in an interview with The Times, said that the Russians, wishing to attend the event, face great problems in obtaining British visas, often receiving refusals. The interlocutor of the newspaper added that with the organization of balls in Riga and Vienna, there are no problems - guests make out their Schengen visas without any problems.



By the 300th anniversary of Yekaterinburg city there will be a new attraction. The town-planning council under the governor of the Sverdlovsk region chose the shape of the future cathedral of St. Catherine in Yekaterinburg. On September 12, the head of the region Yevgeny Kuyvashev held a meeting in his residence, at which officials and architects supported the concept proposed by the developers.

Initially, the designers developed three versions of the facade. Of these, then chose one, a classical Byzantine church with paintings. The architect Peter Berezkin - "Ancient Russian architecture from the 11th to the 17th century is considered the roots of Russian church construction. The interior of the cross-domed church is an integral system of hierarchically ordered spaces ... Such a harmonious spatial system visually represents the symbolic essence of the church, as the beginning of the future Kingdom of God and the idea of an ascent from the lower to the higher."

According to the presentation published earlier the new church will be 66 meters high. The cathedral will have three floors plus a basement with premises for the Patriarch, guests, parishioners, employees. In addition, there are technical areas.



The cathedral was first requested to be built directly in the water area of the city pond on a bulk island. However, the construction site was decided to be changed to the site next to the October Square.



On September 21, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov made a working visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Banja Luka, Lavrov took part in the opening ceremony of the plaque commemorating the consecration and laying of the first stone in the foundation of the Orthodox church in memory of the family of Emperor Nicholas II and the center of Russian-Serb spiritual unity.

He said - Today we gathered in connection with a landmark event - consecration of the first stone in the foundation of the Church in memory of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers, which will be the first and main part of the future Russian-Serb Center for Cultural and Spiritual Education in Banja Luka. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who initiated and implement this unique project. Gratitude to the leadership of the Republika Srpska, personally to the President of Republika



Srpska, M. Dodik, representatives of the Russian and Serbian Orthodox Churches, the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, the administration of the Nizhny Novgorod region, the Moscow Architectural Institute and other non-governmental structures.

We know that the Serbian people are especially honored by the memory of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, who spoke in defense of Serbia, in the face of an insidious and superior enemy. During the difficult years of the First World War, we were brothers in arms. Many Serbs who lived in the territory of occupied Bosnia and Herzegovina were forcibly mobilized in the ranks of the Austro-Hungarian army. But then they voluntarily moved to the side of Russia. Subsequently they joined the liberation Slavic corps and valiantly fought against the common enemy. It is no accident that it was the Serbian veterans of the First World War hundred years ago who put forward the initiative of building a church in memory of Nicholas II and his family.

Over the past century, our peoples have suffered many and severe trials. However, they did not shake either Russians or Serbs in deep respect for our joint history. We have not erased the memory of the dedication, courage, selfless patriotism of our ancestors who gave their lives in the name of the high ideals of truth and justice.

Today's ceremony is an important contribution to the further strengthening of the foundation of Russian-Serbian friendship, the reaffirmation of our spiritual and cultural unity, which unite us sincere feelings of mutual sympathy.

I would particularly like to welcome and express my deepest sympathy to all the people of Banja Luka and Republika Srpska who came to this event today."



"Nicholas II: Ahead of time." Yekaterinburg, 2018, Length 1 hour 10 min. The film is dedicated to Emperor Nicholas II. Based on reliable facts and figures, restoring a real picture of that time, shows the Sovereign's personality, relying on memoirs of contemporaries and the search of historians, rather than on imposed stereotypes. In the film there is no offscreen text, so that the viewer can draw conclusions based on the facts presented.



Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=iZabhG_PRtQ



"To touch the Russian Calvary. Yekaterinburg Tsar Route" - this is the information illustrated booklet published by the Yekaterinburg Diocese with the blessing of Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye to the centennial anniversary of the feat of the Royal Passion-Bearers. A bright, colorful glossy edition contains an extensive but concisely given historical reference on Nicholas II and the era of his reign, as well as a richly illustrated description of the Yekaterinburg Imperial Route.

The first part of the booklet reveals to us the personality of the Emperor as a successful strategist and peacemaker, who for 50 years outstripped his time with ideas of the development of industry and peaceful disarmament. The Holy Tsar-martyr appears to us not just as an Orthodox ruler of a country experiencing an era of turmoil and upheavals, but as the Anointed One of God, personally personally,



with his life and the life of his family, exemplified the service of the Lord and his people, who walked the path of Christ and ascended to the Russian Calvary.

The second part of the booklet is an illustrated description of the Yekaterinburg Imperial Route. This is a tourist-pilgrimage tour to places that preserve the memory of the holy Royal Passion-bearers, their faithful servants and Alapaevsk martyrs. The tour begins in the multimedia park "Russia - My History", in the halls dedicated to the era of Nicholas II, and then passes through the Church-Monument on Blood - the place of the murder of the Imperial Family, the churches and monasteries of Yekaterinburg, Verkhoturys and Alapayevsk.

This edition promises to become a rarity, although it is intended not only for Orthodox connoisseurs of history, but also for the widest circle of readers. This booklet will be indispensable as a desktop aid on the theme of the Imperial Family, and as a memorable souvenir for the guests of the Yekaterinburg metropolis and all who are interested in the history of the Fatherland.

Video - 1) https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=C5UrUU-fXA0

2) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpJ5Lpvqz7k>



"The Imperial Family. Last year." The film was conceived for the 100th anniversary of the villainous killing of the Tsar's Family in Yekaterinburg. Initially, the film's authors decided to move away from the classical form of an artistic documentary film and built it exclusively on historical sources, namely on the diaries and letters of the Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna Empress. These documents of two loving Crowned Spouses, with the utmost, piercing accuracy and authenticity reveal the tragic last year of the earthly life of the Imperial Family. From the Pskov Gethsemane to the Yekaterinburg Calvary - these are the chronological frames of the film. The diaries and letters of the Tsar and the Tsarina reveal their selfless love for God, Russia, the Russian people. The Empress wrote from Tobolsk: "Oh God, save Russia! It is the cry of the soul, day and night. I feel like the mother of this country and I suffer as for my child and I love my motherland, despite the black ingratitude to the Emperor which tears my heart, but this is not the whole country. Disease, after which it will grow stronger. Lord have mercy and save Russia! How happy I am that we are not abroad, but we are all experiencing it. How do you want to share everything with your beloved sick man, live together and with love and excitement follow him, and with the homeland. " Emperor Nicholas II left us an immortal will, handed down by his eldest daughter, Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna: "My father asked me to convey to all those who remain loyal to Him and those to whom they may have influence so that they will not take revenge for Him, since He forgive all and pray for all, and that they do not take revenge for themselves, and that they remember that the evil that is now in the world will be even stronger, but not that evil will conquer evil, but only love." The text and script of the film were written by the historian Peter Multatuli. The text is read by: People's Artist of Russia Dmitry Pevtsov and People's Artist of Russia Olga Drozdova.



Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6vyk4zoNA0>



The 100th anniversary of the Arkhangelskoe museum-estate will be celebrated next year. Meantime, large restoration works are carried out on the territory of the manor. Now more than 10 objects of Arkhangelsk are undergoing large-scale restoration work. After their graduation in the Small Palace "Caprice", built in the late 18th century, which will have the famous Yusupov collection of decorative and applied art. A special place will be taken by the collection of porcelain of Prince Nikolai Yusupov. "It is planned to create an exhibition of porcelain in the room where we are located. Not only that he collected porcelain and was its subtle connoisseur, he opened a porcelain factory, workshops in Arkhangelsk. There was an attempt to produce porcelain, it turned out, not very profitable. And in the "Arkhangelsk" there was a workshop on porcelain painting," said Konstantin Bolenko, deputy director of the Arkhangelskoye estate.

Another monument that will be restored is the Church of St. Nicholas, created by the famous architect Roman Klein. Alas, the First World War and the revolution prevented the architect's ideas from being realized - in 1914 the works were suspended. The kartushi, where evangelists were to be written, were never painted. But the walls were rich and fancy decorated. "This is the goal. If it were all stucco, it would look very heavy. Therefore, the combination of carved and painted - a very competent combination, a measure of this ", - considers the artist-restorer Igor Myasnikov.

In the church, which was originally conceived as a burial vault of the Princes Yusupov, it is planned to arrange a multimedia exhibition, a cinema concert and lecture hall. This unexpected decision by the director of "Arkhangelsk" Vadim Zadorozhny is explained by the fact that the church was never consecrated and the tomb was also not used. But the cross, made in those years, is decided to be restored. "The cross was hoisted, and this remarkable structure began to look like this. Probably, it's right that things return to their proper places. History brings us back to life and beauty is absolutely unique, I would say, one of the brightest estates of Russia - the estate "Arkhangelskoye", - he believes. By the end of next year the whole estate should be transformed. The fountain will work, 130 sculptures will be restored, the "Tea House" pavilion, which was once part of the library. But, most importantly, viewers will see Yusupov's collection, which was previously inaccessible.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/292367/



In the Far Eastern capital, they plan to recreate the Triumphal Arch in honour of the visit of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich in Khabarovsk. The first step will be a competition of projects for a new attraction.

In connection with the centenary of the death of the Imperial Family Khabarovsk decided to create a new tourist site - the Arc de Triumph. The project was supported by the public and several businessmen. However, where to install the arch have not been decided.

- In October we will launch an open call for proposals. People from other regions will be able to participate. Now we need to determine the place for the object. In what form is it to be restored and where? It is impossible to recreate a copy of the same monument one to one. It will not be possible to install it in the same place. The arch stood near the entrance to the river shipping company, and went across the road. If we install it there, then we will block the Shevchenko street - said Sergey Penkov, the main artist of the city.

In the near future the Department of Architecture of Construction and Land Use will make the selection criteria. The results of the contest are planned to be announced in November.

Recall two arches was built in Khabarovsk. One - the main one - was on Shevchenko Street (former Alexeeva Street), between the modern building of the Amur Shipping Company and the Parus Hotel. The second one, the lower, was between the museum of local lore and the modern monument to Yakov Dyachenko. The lower one was dismantled immediately after Nicholas departure. The top (according to reviews, the Tsarevich liked) was stolen for firewood in the mid-1920s.



The railway station in Pskov will be renovated and an interactive museum of Emperor Nicholas II may appear in it. The press service of the administration of the Pskov region informed that, it is planned to carry out repairs at the station. This is a complete reconstruction of the hall.

According to the first estimates, the cost of repairing the building may exceed 200 million roubles.

Also at the meeting on September 22 the possibility of creation of the museum of Emperor Nicholas II was discussed - the Emperor renounced the throne in Pskov region. The museum will be located in the building of the station, as well as part of the exposition will be transferred to the platform. There is to be a retro-wagon of that time.

The implementation of the museum project will be discussed with representatives of the clergy and museum staff.



From 5 to 7 October in the North Sea Spiritual and Educational Center will be held the historical and regional conference XI Feodoritovsky readings "Romanovs on Murman". The meetings will discuss the history of the dynasty and tell about the influence of the tsars on the development of the Russian North. Opening of the conference will be held on October 5 at 13-30.

In the program of readings - exhibitions "Russian Empire before the revolution. Figures and facts", an exhibition of rare books from the personal library of the Romanovs, reports of leading historians, local historians, journalists from Moscow, St. Petersburg, Perm, Samara, Murmansk, Severomorsk, Polar. Feodoritovsky readings have been held since 2006 and named so in memory of the outstanding Christian ascetic, the remarkable theologian and historian, the Reverend Theodoret Kola ("Russian philosopher Theodore"), who came at the beginning of the 16th century with the preaching of the faith of Christ and enlightened the gospel light of the land of the Kola North.



Exhibits from the suburban museums of St. Petersburg are being prepared for transportation. One hundred masterpieces from the imperial residences will be shown at an exhibition in Palermo. Delivery of exhibits to Italy will be by ground transportation.

The Emperor's portrait was surrounded by workers. With utmost care, they remove the canvas from the wall. Alexander I is forced to leave the Catherine's Corps in Peterhof - he is waiting for a trip to Italian Palermo. The canvas was separated from the frame, now the fabric is dusted. After this picture is waiting for a thorough packaging. Portrait of the brush of George Dawe - one of the last exhibits, which is prepared for shipment in Italy. Four Imperial Residences have collected a hundred masterpieces. They will be shown in the palace of Sant'Elia.

A peculiar encyclopedia was the choice of exhibits from each residence. The subjects tell about the era of their great owners. The Gatchina Palace, for example, tells about Paul I, and Peterhof about Peter I, Alexander I and Nicholas I.

"One of the most valuable exhibits of the Grand Palace - are these oak panels. They decorate the office of Peter himself. In total, eight original versions of the early 18th century were preserved. Two of them are sent to the exhibition in Palermo. On one of them - the bust of Peter himself. The inscription in French reads: "Peter is the Emperor of Great Russia."

In the coming days, these panels together with paintings, costumes and even the Imperial throne will go to Italy.

Video - <https://topspb.tv/news/2018/09/26/volnitelnye-sbory-eksponaty-iz-prigorodnyh-muzeev-peterburga-gotovyat-k-perevozke/>



In Orsk, September 9, an open lesson was held: "Emperor Nicholas II: Climbing to Holiness". His Grace Bishop Irenaeus of Orsk and Gaia attended the play of students of Sunday schools, children and youth of the city, which took place on the territory of the secondary school No. 8.

This year, the event, which has become traditional in recent years, was dedicated to the recollection of events of a century ago. For several hours the school yard returned to a time when Emperor Nicholas II and his family were still alive. There were soldiers in Russian and German uniforms, sisters of mercy and other characters of the early twentieth century. It was evident that the lesson-play was preceded by a large and serious preparation: a large banner, weapons of the First World War, models of brick walls, etc.



The active participation and support in conducting and preparing lessons in the game form are annually supported by the leaders of educational and cultural institutions of the city, the city administration, including the education department of the city of Orsk. All this is a clear testimony of mutual understanding between the Church and representatives of local authorities, the common desire to educate the younger generation as worthy people, true patriots of the Motherland, in the best traditions of Orthodoxy.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NAcWI65MY8>



The exhibition "Glass that was admired" opened in the Hermitage. Masterpieces of European and Russian masters of the 16th - 20th centuries were collected in the Blue Bedroom of the Winter Palace. Compotier, jug and römer - in a modern table layout you will not see, like the carafe at once for four drinks: rum, vodka, Madera and wine.

The exposition also includes glasses, from which, perhaps, Biron drank champagne, as well as decorative flasks of pilgrims, they are more than 500 years old. At the stands - and unique interior items associated with the Imperial Family.

"It's this vase of ruby glass, noble material, the bowl in which a bird is admiring, really comes from the rooms of Nicholas I. It is believed that they were brought to the wedding of Nicholas I and were in his private quarters even after his death until 1913," - said the research associate of the State Hermitage Tatyana Pankova.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/293385/



The only Royal Palace in the United States sells copies of the Order of Alexander Nevsky. The Iolani Palace unveiled its 2018 Palace Ornament, based on the historic Russian Imperial Order of Alexander Nevsky. The dazzling, limited edition ornament is now available to the public. This year's ornament celebrates the return of this historic object to the Palace.

Following his 1881 World Tour, King Kalakaua sent a diplomatic delegation to attend the Imperial coronation of Emperor Alexander III, during which he bestowed the Royal Order of Kamehameha I Knight's Grand Cross upon the Emperor.

A year later, Kalakaua received the Imperial Order of Alexander Nevsky on January 21, 1884.

The ornament's design is reminiscent of the dazzling Imperial Order, which is comprised of 609 diamonds and boasts 16.6 carats.

It was recently donated to the Palace by the Estate of Princess Regina Wahiikaahuula Kawananakoa. The 2018 Palace Ornament retails for \$25 and is now available for purchase at the Palace and Gallery Shops. For more information or to place a phone order, call (808) 532-1050.

The Iolani Palace is the only official residence of royalty in the United States. King Kalakaua was the first reigning monarch to travel around the world and built Iolani Palace in 1882 to enhance the prestige of Hawaii overseas and to mark Hawaii's status as a modern nation. For more information visit -

www.iolanipalace.org.

Video - <https://www.khon2.com/news/local-news/iolani-palace-sells-ornaments-inspired-by-imperial-royal-order-of-alexander-nevsky/1462936806>



Thursday, September 27 at the Stroganov Palace, the exhibition of St. Petersburg's photo of 1850-1910 opened. Visitors will be able to see rare photographs of the Romanov House and the views of St. Petersburg at that time. The exposition present more than 250 photographs and 70 postcards. For example, the cadres of pre-revolutionary Petersburg, caught in the lens of the famous

Karl Bulla, which he did as an offering for the Imperial Family. Also visitors will be able to see the daguerreotypes of Petersburg in 1839, photos from the unveiling of the monument to Catherine II and the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Peter the Great.

Represented at the exhibition are also portraits of residents of St. Petersburg at that time. Pictures capture everyday life, fashion and significant events in the life of the city. Many of the sights have already disappeared from the city's face and it is therefore valuable to see that Northern capital that has already ceased to exist.



September 27, 2018 the exhibition "Skilled Master: Emperor Alexander I" opened in the Kolomenskoye Exhibition Halls.

At the turn of the XVIII-XIX centuries, the formation of national states in Europe took place. It was then that citizens began to realize themselves as a community, united not only by belonging to the state, but also by a common national history, national heritage, national language, national culture.

An important stage in the formation of the Russian nation was the reign of Alexander I, when the state and society started talking about national history and culture, glorified the successes of Russian diplomacy and the army, reflected on the mission of Russia and its national interests. As a skilled ruler, Alexander I contributed a lot to the formation of the Russian nation.

The exhibition of the Moscow State Unified Museum-Reserve tells how in the mass consciousness the images of the Russian Empire and the supreme power were formed. In the center of attention is the dialogue of the supreme authority and subjects, which took place through printed and manuscript manifestos and panegyrics. The visitor of the exhibition will get acquainted with the iconography of Alexander I, the drawings of the Imperial residence in Kolomenskoye, the projects of monuments and works of decorative and applied art that glorify the Monarch and the Russian empire.



The remains of 40 people shot in the Peter and Paul Fortress 100 years ago can be buried in the cemetery in memory of the "victims of January 9" in St. Petersburg.

"In the beginning of October we can bury the remains of 40 people. All the work on them has been completed. People can finally find peace," - Irina Karpenko, the scientific secretary of the Museum of the History of St. Petersburg said at a meeting of the working group on the implementation of a policy to perpetuate the memory of victims of political repression.

"Now scans of the skulls of the remaining remains are being made, a genetic databank is being collected. At present, it has been established that the main age of those 190 people shot is about 30 years old. 40 people are under 20 years old," said I. Karpenko.

"However, today there is not a single document confirming that the person was taken and shot here. There are no directions, there are no places of execution in the investigation," - the academic secretary of the museum said.

Since 1989, the remains of more than 100 people have been found on the territory of the Hare Island. Seven graves were discovered on the territory of the Golovkin bastion. In addition to bone remains, a large number of fragments of clothing, personal items, buttons, wearable crosses and icons were found. Most of the detected skulls have through holes in the back of the head.

It is known that the 3 grand dukes Nikolai Mikhailovich, Georgy Mikhailovich, Dmitry Konstantinovich and Pavel Alexandrovich Romanovs were shot by the decree of the All-Russian Extraordinary Commission in the Peter and Paul Fortress. The place of their burial is not known.



Museums of the Moscow Kremlin: Publication dedicated to of the world's largest collection of Faberge Easter eggs



The Museum of the Moscow Kremlin published the popular science edition "Faberge. Easter gifts ", dedicated to the collection of precious Easter eggs by the firm Carl Faberge, created by the order of the last Russian Emperors Alexander III and Nicholas II.

The author of the book is the leading researcher of the Moscow Kremlin Museums, the curator of the collection of the works of the firm of K. Faberge and other Russian jewelry enterprises, Tatiana Muntean.

The new book, which has become an ornament of the series "Treasures of the Armory Chamber", allows you to consider the Easter gifts of the Faberge company in the smallest detail. The small size of these unique things contains a whole train, a palace, a ship, which can not be seen in the window, but they appear

in all their glory in the new edition - high detail, unusual foreshortenings and accents, close-up photography in an entirely new way reveal the world of these truly real works of art. The edition is supplemented with portraits, archive photographs and postcards. In addition, the author quotes excerpts from various documents, as well as from diaries, letters and memoirs of members of the imperial family, representatives of the high society, Charles Faberge himself and his company's employees.



One of the pages of readers is waiting for a surprise - a code that will not only allow you to see the multifaceted beauty of one of the Easter gifts, but also to hear a musical melody that delighted the highest customers.

Easter eggs with surprises are the most famous works of the company. In 1885, at the request of Emperor Alexander III, the firm created the first Easter egg for the August wife. Since then, the order has become traditional. With the accession to the throne of Nicholas II, the firm began to make two

Easter eggs - for the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. Each new egg had to be different from the previous one and, preferably, surpass it with an unusual artistic solution.

The history of his "museum life" is a collection of imperial gifts since the 1920s. Being exported from St. Petersburg before October 1917 and only by miraculously avoiding destruction and sale, precious Easter eggs found themselves in the Moscow Kremlin, as described in the first chapter of the book. The events of the 1920s and 1930s were followed almost half a century of actual oblivion. The collection was exhibited in the Armory, but was perceived at best as a collection of luxurious curiosities. In the early 1990s, employees of the Moscow Kremlin Museums turned to studying these works. Thanks to the work done, precious Faberge products are increasingly becoming a decoration of exhibitions in Russia and beyond.



"Kuchkovo Field" published the full of memories of Vasily Shulgin

September 17, 2018. REGNUM - Vasily Shulgin was a Russian politician of Tsarist Russia, a member of the State Duma. During the February Revolution he took the abdication of Emperor Nicholas II. The ideologist of the White movement, then of the Russian emigration.

The Moscow publishing house Kuchkovo Pole published Vasily Vitalievich Shulgin's "1919" and "1921". Previously, these books have never been printed in full. Shulgin's book "The Year of 1920" was widely known and popular as one of the best memoirs of the Civil War, but two other parts of the trilogy were not published for various reasons, and only some of the chapters were printed on the pages of emigrant newspapers. Only now,



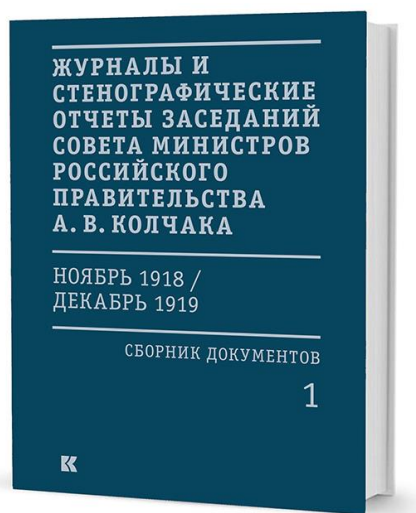
almost 100 years after their writing, "1919" and "1921" are available to readers in the original and full author's version, which was reconstructed on the basis of archival manuscripts and newspaper publications.

"1919" and "1921" is not only an attempt to reflect on a number of important events that took place in the South of Russia at the specified time, but also acute political journalism devoted to the origins and peculiarities of the revolution, the relationship with the Entente allies, Ukrainian and Jewish issues, the role of the Cossacks and the methods of terror used by all participants of the Civil War, the reasons for the defeat of the White Movement and other equally important problems. In addition, in places it is also an exciting adventure novel unfolding on the streets of Odessa and Kiev, in the South Russian steppes and on the Crimean coast - with white underground workers, security officers and peasants acting in the role of actors. Both books are richly illustrated, many of the pictures and drawings given in them are published for the first time.



"Shulgin and his associates did not doubt the fidelity of their ideas, that the way of the white army was not only "godfather, heavy," but also "glorious". With all this they tried to be objective and did not ignore the shortcomings of the white movement. If one of the chapters, for example, refers to the "red terror" and the bloody "work" of the Kiev Chekists, then another describes the unseemly actions of the Kiev "white" counterintelligence," told Anton Chemakin, the senior historian of the Institute of History, and the scientific editor of "1919" and "1921".

Journals and reports of meetings of the Council of Ministers of the Government of A. V. Kolchak: November 1918 - December 1919: Collection of documents. In 3 volumes.



Documentary publication "Journals and shorthand reports of the meetings of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Government A.V. Kolchak" is the first complete edition of a complex of these documents. Reports of meetings - extensive, verbatim recordings of speeches made by members of the Council of Ministers and invited to speak on a particular subject of persons - are published for the first time. In these speeches, the debates on them, the reports not only outline the range of issues of public administration, the economy, foreign and domestic policy, but also disclose the mechanism for discussion and decision-making. Conflicts of interests of various departments of the Kolchak government and other factors influencing the actions or inaction of the government in the emergency conditions of the civil war in the Urals, Siberia and the Far East are presented.

Publisher: Kuchkovo field.

Under the hammer...

Romanov related items in Auctions



Auction House "Kabinet", Moscow, Russia, on October 6

Photo of Grand Duchess Militsa Nikolaevna with children - Princesses of Imperial Blood Marina Nikolaevna, Nadezhda Nikolaevna and Prince of Imperial Blood Roman Nikolaevich. St. Petersburg, photo studio V. Yasvoir in 1898.

Image size: 14.1 x 10.3 cm. Size of the passepartout: 26.6 x 18.2 cm.

Militsa Nikolaevna (1866-1951) - Grand Duchess, the wife of Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich. The daughter of Montenegrin King Nikola I Petrovich and Milena Vukotich. Sister of the Grand Duchess Anastasia Nikolaevna and Queen Helena of Italy. Together with her sisters she studied at the Smolny Institute in St. Petersburg. In 1889 married Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich, the grandson of Emperor Nicholas I. In this marriage four children were born: Marina (1892-1981), Roman (1896-1978), Vera (1898-1988), Sofia (1898, died soon after birth). In 1919, together with her husband, she emigrated from Crimea to France.
Estimate: 10,000 - 15,000 roubles.



Photo of the children of Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolayevich: Dmitry Konstantinovich, Vyacheslav Konstantinovich and Konstantin Konstantinovich.

St. Petersburg, photographic studio K. Bergamasco, end of 1860's. The size of the photo is 137 x 99 mm. The size of the passepartout is 164 x 108 mm.

Grand Duke Dmitry Konstantinovich (1860-1919), the third son of Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolaevich, grandson of Emperor Nicholas I. The chief of the 16th grenadier Mingrel regiment, the adjutant's wing (1880), general from the cavalry (1915). He was shot in Petrograd in 1919. In 1981 he was canonized by the Russian Orthodox Church abroad. Rehabilitated posthumously in 2009.

Grand Duke Vyacheslav Konstantinovich (1862-1879), the youngest son of Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolaevich, grandson of Emperor Nicholas I. From 1862 to 1879, Chief of the Guards Crew. Since 1864 - Chief of the 21st Infantry Murom Regiment. He died of meningitis.



Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich (KR) (1858-1915), the second son of Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolaevich, grandson of Emperor Nicholas I. Adjutant-General (1901), General from Infantry (1907), Inspector-General of Military Training Institutions (1910), President of the Imperial St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences (1889), poet, translator and playwright.

Karl I. Bergamasco (1830-1896) - owner of a photo workshop in St. Petersburg. In 1863, he received permission to be called a "photographer of the Imperial Theaters" on the condition that he "undertook to compile for the directorate an archive and reference album of portraits of artists in all costumes from the new ballets and operas that are supplied on the local scene." In his studio, prominent artists M.A. Zichy, S.K. Zaryanka, I. Charlemagn. In 1865 he became a photographer of the Grand Duke Nikolai Nikolaevich (the elder).

He repeatedly received prizes at exhibitions in Berlin (1865, 1895), Paris (1867), Hamburg (1868), Groening (1869), St. Petersburg (1870), Vienna (1873), London (1874), Philadelphia (1876) and In the 1890's. has completed its activities.

Estimate: 20 000 - 25 000 roubles.

Freeman's, Philadelphia, USA, on October 16

An Imperial watercolor icon of the Derzhavnaya Mother of God by Grand Duchess Ksenia Alexandrovna, circa 1920.

The hand painted icon of the Derzhavnaya ("She Who Reigns") Mother of God within a paper frame for presentation, bearing inscription in Russian: "To Irena from Amama [Grandmother]..." presented (?) by her Amama in remembrance of her" and inscribed in English, "Windsor 1928" (now framed).

H: 3 3/4 in. x W: 3 1/4 in. (icon). H: 16 3/4 in. x W: 13 3/4 in. (frame)

Provenance: H.I.H. Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna of Russia (1875-1960). Princess Xenia Andreievna Romanoff (1919-2000). Thence by descent.

The Derzhavnaya Mother of God is a holy image of the Virgin of a type which first appeared in Russia in the late 18th century, depicting the Virgin in red and holding the scepter and orb, symbols of royal authority.

In 1917, on the same day as the abdication of Emperor Nicholas (15 March/2 March O.S.) it was reported that in the village of Pererva in Moscow Province, a peasant woman called Evdokia Adrianova had a vision of the Mother of God and was instructed to travel to the village of Kolomenskoye, where she would find an old icon; the icon found was the "Derzhavnaya." This icon was immediately interpreted by monarchists and emigres to indicate that on the Emperor's abdication, the Virgin had taken possession of the Russian crown and would keep it until such time as the Romanov dynasty would be restored.

The story spread quickly, and the icon became a potent symbol for monarchists and the Russian Orthodox faithful. It is interesting to note that only ten years after the 'appearance' of the icon, the Emperor's own sister would be painting images of this formerly obscure image for other family members. This work, painted by Grand Duchess Ksenia was presented to her granddaughter Irina Andreievna Romanoff, the daughter of the Grand Duchess' oldest son, H.H. Prince Andrei Alexandrovich of Russia.



The icon retains its importance as a religious and political symbol in Russia today; in 2007, the icon was featured in a highly publicized procession of “reconciliation” between all Russians whose mutual histories were severed in the wake of 1917.

Estimate: \$4,000-6,000

The Dowager Empress’ archive

A group of photographs of Russian Imperial Interest by various photographers, various dates, circa 1900-1928.

A collection of seventy-six photographs relating to the close family, residences, and possessions of the Dowager Empress of Russia, largely from within the period of exile (1919-1928). (76). H: 11 3/4, W: 9 1/2 in. (largest)



Provenance: H.I.M. the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna of Russia (d. 1928). Mlle. Caecilie Grünwald, personal maid to Her Majesty (d. 1951). Private Collection, Denmark. Private Collection, USA.

Estimate: \$15,000-20,000

This extraordinary archive is offered here publicly for the first time, and contains more than 70 images, some well-known to the public, but most never before published. The collection is one of the most comprehensive to come to auction relating to the exile of the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna of Russia (1847-1928), and features selections of photographs divided into several main groups of

interest to collectors; one, images of the Dowager Empress and friends in Russia, in Denmark, and in Great Britain; two, pictures of her close family including intimate family pictures of the families of her daughters the Grand Duchesses Xenia and Olga; three, images of the interiors of the many residences of the Dowager Empress in Russia and in exile; and four, detailed large format images of the interiors of "Hvidore", the Danish house shared with her sister, Queen Alexandra of Great Britain, in which important individual works of fine and decorative art, including works by Fabergé, are visible and identifiable under magnification.

By deduction, it is believed that this collection may have belonged to Mlle. Caecilie Grünwald, who was "kamer-metkhen" or Chambermaid to the Dowager Empress. It is likely that she was a relative of Ludwig Leo Edward Grünwald, who was one of the Imperial gardeners

It is unclear when the Danish-born Grünwald entered the service of the Empress, but Mlle. Grünwald was with the Empress Maria Feodorovna at Gatchina, went with her when she traveled to Kiev during the first World War, and followed her to the Crimea when the Russian Revolution broke out.

On April 6, 1919, the British ship HMS Marlborough arrived at Yalta, and the ship took on the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna and other members of the Russian Imperial Family on the evening of the 7th. The Russian contingent aboard the Marlborough numbered some 80 people, including 44 members of the Imperial Family and the high aristocracy, together with their attendants and several hundred cases of luggage. Mlle. Grünwald is listed on the passenger manifest of the H.M.S. Marlborough, and remained in service to the Dowager Empress until the end of her life.

Many of the photographs are inscribed in Danish, in the same clear hand, and in each, the formal titles of the Imperial Family are used, indicating that the pictures did not belong to Romanov family members themselves. Grünwald herself is identified in several pictures (the only imperial servant to be included in any of the images) which lends credence to the attribution of ownership by Grünwald.



A Russian silver platter from the Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna Service.

Made by Nichols & Plinke and Henrik August Lang, St. Petersburg, 1840. The large shaped round tray with moulded and acanthus cast rim, engraved with the Imperial state arms as well as the crowned cypher of Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna; marked to underside with stamps of Nichols & Plinke as well as Henrik August Lang, assaymaster mark of Dimitriy Ilyich Tverskoy and dated 1840, with additional marks for St. Petersburg and 84 zolotniki, as well as scratched "No. 31." Dia: 14 1/8 in. Total weight: 41.5 oz. t.

Presented to Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna of Russia (1822-1892), daughter of H.M. Emperor Nicholas I Pavlovich and the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, on Olga's marriage to Crown Prince Karl of Württemberg (1823-1891) in 1846.

Then by descent in the family of the Dukes of Württemberg Private Collection.



The silver service for 500 guests was executed over several years by the “English shop” of N. Nichols & Plinke, in the Rococo Revival style. The marriage was childless, and so the service passed to their nephew, who became King Wilhelm II of Wurttemberg, and ultimately descended through multiple branches of the family of the Dukes of Wurttemberg.

A group of silver trays and plates from the “dowry service” were donated to the Peterhof Palace Collection in 2005, and in late 2014 the museum’s collection was expanded further with an additional nineteen pieces related to the offered lot.

Estimate: \$6,000-9,000

A Fabergé diamond-set tortoiseshell hair comb.

Fabergé, workmaster Eduard Schramm, St. Petersburg, circa 1900. The carved tortoiseshell comb mounted with finely chased scrolling gold foliate mounts set with rose-cut diamonds; struck with workmaster’s initials and 72 standard, sold together with a custom-fitted hollywood presentation box in the manner of Fabergé. W: 4 1/8 in.

Estimate: \$3,500-4,500



A Fabergé two-color gold gem-set case. Marked k. Faberge with imperial warrant, Moscow, 1902 Rectangular with alternating reeded bands of pink and yellow gold, the thumbpiece set with a cabochon sapphire, with assaymaster’s mark of Ivan Lebedkin and additional scratched inventory number 23288. 3 in. Weight: 62 dwt. The hallmarks indicate that this piece was created between 1899-1908, but the specific inventory number indicates that this piece was produced by the Moscow silver and metal workshops in 1902.

Estimate: \$2,500-3,500

Sincona, Zürich, Switzerland, on October 10

10 Roubles 1836.

St. Petersburg Mint. Novodel. 13.18 g. With portrait of Emperor Nicholas I and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna.

Estimate: CHF 150.000 / Eur 132.861



Silver medal 1898. Visit of Nicholas II to Greece.

Unsigned. Head of Nicholas to right. Rv. Head of King George of Greece to right. Greek inscriptions on both sides. 33.3 mm. 13.79 g.

Estimate: CHF 1.000 / Eur 886



Gold medal 1903. On the Construction of the Troitsky Bridge in St. Petersburg.

Dies by A. Vasyutinsky. Conjoined busts to left. Rv. 6-line inscription. View of the Troitsky Bridge across the Neva river. 64.0 mm. 176.53 g.

The bridge was built in 1897-1903 in memory of the silver wedding of Tsar Alexander III to Maria Feodorovna (known before her marriage as Princess Dagmar of Denmark), which took place in 1891. Felix Faure, the President of France was present at the ceremony of the laying of the foundation stone in 1897. In the same year Nicholas II laid the foundation stone for the bridge "Pont Alexandre III" in Paris. It is another memorial to the Franco-Russian alliance. Only 5-6 of these medals were minted in gold and awarded to high-ranking participants. According to the nowadays owner, today 3 copies are known: the copy for Nicholas II in the Hermitage, St. Petersburg, the copy for the Architect Paul Bodin (auctioned at MDC, Monaco, Auction 1, Dec. 2016, No. 963, knockdown 153,000 Euro), and this copy by President of France Felix Faure. Provenance: from the heritage of his grandson, the physician Andre-Felix Berge.

Estimate: CHF 100.000 / Eur 88.574

