



PREFACE

KUNSTKAMERA BUILDINGS: HISTORICAL INFORMATION

THE MUSEUM AND ITS DIRECTORS

ADMINISTRATION OF THE MUSEUM





*Petrus
Russorum
Pater*



*Magnus
Imperator
Patricius*

Blason d'Empereur de Russie. Sous le règne de ce Prince le nom de ce Royaume Impérial fut changé
en celui de Russie.

Gravé à Paris en 1727 par P. Tardieu d'après l'Original peint par M. de Tannauer
Paris chez les Citoyens de la Ville de Paris.

Peter I. Engraving by N. A. Wortman from Tannauer's portrait. After 1727.

PREFACE

An establishment of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) (MAE RAS) is one of world's largest and oldest ethnographic museums. It is the successor of Russia's first state public museum, the famous Kunstkamera founded in 1714 by Peter's decree.

The establishment of the museum was apparently a sequel of Peter's order to move from Moscow to Russia's new capital his already numerous personal collections including those purchased during his Great Embassy to Europe. In St. Petersburg, they were first placed in the newly built Summer Palace, and then in Kikin's palace where, for



Kunstkamera building

the first time, they were displayed before the public. At the same time, the construction of a special museum began (1718–27). Built on the bank of the Neva in the Baroque style, it adjoined the most important buildings of the new capital — the building of the Twelve Ministries, the palaces of the reformer Tsar’s closest associates and members of the royal family. The *Kunstkamera* is the oldest museum building in the world. Its silhouette is the symbol of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Ten years later, the second part of Peter’s “academic” project was implemented by his order. The Senate’s decree of January 28 (February 8), 1724, proclaimed the foundation of the Academy of Sciences. The *Kunstkamera* and its Library became its first institutions, the cradle of St. Petersburg (later named Russian) Academy of Sciences.

The fact that the first Russian museum was within the jurisdiction of the Academy of Sciences, played a key role in its history. The accumulation of rich collections, their study, and the supervision over the collections and expositions exercised by the leading scholars of the Academy of Sciences turned the *Kunstkamera* into a scholarly institution matched by very few in Europe¹.



Library in the East wing of the *Kunstkamera* building.
 “Perspective view of the library of the second and third apartment”.
 Engraving by H. Wortman from A. Shuemacher’s painting.

From the very beginning, apart from providing the scientific basis for the Academy of Sciences, the museum was the most important cultural and educational institution. Many prominent Russian scholars worked at the *Kunstkamera*. Among them was M. V. Lomonosov, who made a description of minerals housed at the museum.

Peter the Great issued several decrees ordering to acquire scientific collections for the museum. “Freaks of nature” had to be shipped to the *Kunstkamera* for payment, and so had unearthed antiquities: “unusual stones, human and animal bones, old inscriptions on stones, iron or copper, old weapons, pottery — whatever is very old or unusual”².

These decrees were a critical factor in the origin of the collections of the *Kunstkamera* (later named the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography). For more than two centuries it received collections collected by the famous Russian travelers. The first ethnographic collections were obtained in the 1700s and early 1800s from J. G. Georgi, I. A. GÜldenstedt, I. G. and S. G. Gmelin, S. P. Krasheninnikov, G. I. Langsdorf, I. I. Lepekhin, Yu. F. Lisvanskii, F. P. Lütke, D. G. Messerschmidt, G. F. Miller, N. J. Ozeretsovskii, P. S. Pallas, I. P. Falk, and others. Among the Russian donators of the late 1800s and 1900s were I. G. Voznesenskii, F. P. Lütke, N. N. Miklukho-Maclay, V. V. Junker, A. L. Yaschenko, A. M. Manizer, A. M. and L. A. Mervart, P. K. Kozlov, V. K. Arsen’ev, and N. S. Gumilev. The foreign donators were famous travelers and scholars such as J. Cook, J. F. van Overmeer Fisscher, L. Frobenius, etc.

By the 1830s, the *Kunstkamera* was divided into seven independent academic museums: Ethnographical, Asian, Egyptian, Anatomical, Zoological, Botanical, Mineralogical, and the Chamber of Peter I. The Ethnographical and the Anatomical museum remained in the old building of *Kunstkamera*. On December 5, 1878, on the motion of the special Commission of the Academy of Sciences it was decided to found the



Bust of Peter I

¹ For a detailed description of the initial stage of the *Kunstkamera* see: *Musei Imperialis Petrololitani Vol. 1–2*. SPb., 1741–1745; Backmeister I. *Essai sur la Bibliothèque et le Cabinet de curiosités et d’histoire naturelle de l’Academie de Sciences de Saint Petersburg*. SPb., 1776; Backmeister I. *Opyt o Biblioteke i Kabinete redkosteĭ i istorii natural’noj Sanktpeterburgskoj Akademii nauk [Essay about the Library and the Cabinet of Curiosities and the History of the Natural St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences]*. SPb, 1979; Belyaev O. *Kabinet Petra Velikogo [Peter the Great Chamber]*. SPb., 1800; Stanyukovich T. V. *Kunstkamera Peterburgskoi Akademii Nauk [The Kunstkamera of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences]*. Moscow–Leningrad, 1953; Stanyukovich T. V. *Etnograficheskaya nauka i musei (po materialam etnograficheskikh museev Akademii nauk) [Ethnographic Science and Museums (Based on Materials from Ethnographical Museums of the Academy of Sciences)]*. Moscow–Leningrad, 1953; Kistemaker R. E., Kopaneva N. P., Meyers D. J., Vilinbakhov G. V. “Narisovannyi musei” Peterburgskoi Akademii nauk [“The Painted Museum” of the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences. 1725–1760]. SPb, *Evropeiskii Dom*. Vol. 1–2. 2003–2004.

² *Polnoe sobranie zakonov Rossijskoj imperii [A Complete Collection of the Laws of the Russian Empire]*. SPb. 1830. Vol. V. N 3159.



A visit of Nikolay II to the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography.

Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, which was established on November 10, 1879, by the decree of the State Council of Russian Empire. During the celebration of the bicentenary of St. Petersburg the museum was named after its founder, Peter the Great.

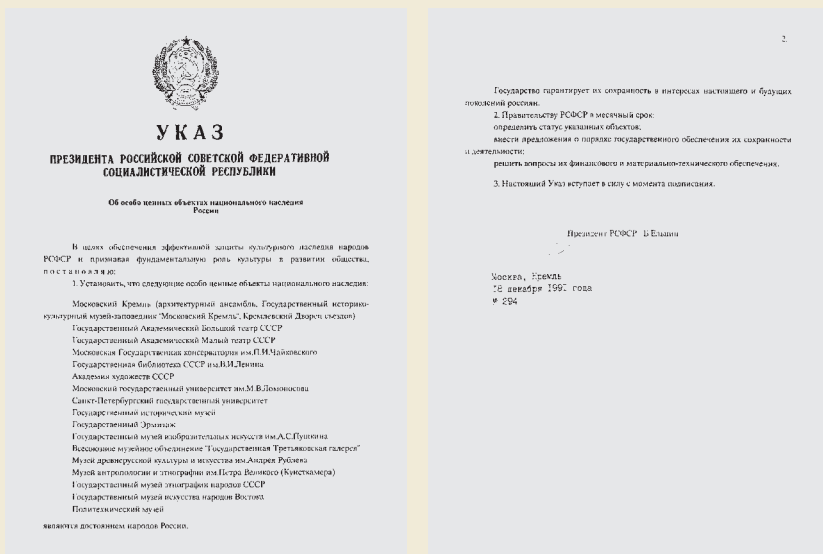
Precious ethnographic, anthropological and archaeological collections housed at the museum are among the most complete and valuable in the world. They contain some two millions of items. Attesting to the diversity of cultures of the Old and the New Worlds, they are part of the cultural legacy of humankind as a whole³.

The scholarly careers of many prominent Russian 19th-century researchers were associated with the museum. These included one of the founders of Russian and European anthropology, Academician K. E. von Baer, and N. N. Miklukho-Maclay, who was a traveler, a scholar, and a public figure (traditional cultures of Australia and Oceania). Among the schools that originated at the museum were those founded by V. V. Radlov (studies of Turkic languages), I. I. Zarubin (Central Asia), N. V. Kühner (traditional cultures of

³See section "Registration and Storage Department" for a detailed account of the size and contents of the collections.

East Asia), R. F. Barton (the Philippines), L. I. Lavrov (Caucasus), D. A. Olderogge (Africa), and Yu. V. Knorozov (decipherment of ancient systems of writing). An important role was played by outstanding specialists in aboriginal Siberian societies, L. J. Sternberg, V. G. Bogoraz-Tan and W. I. Jochelson, who greatly contributed to the development of Russian ethnography in general. Archaeological collections were augmented through the efforts of leading specialists such as P. P. Efimenko and S. N. Zamyatnin.

In 1933, by the decision of the Academy of Sciences, Institute of Anthropology and Ethnography was established on the basis of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography. In 1943, due to the need for analytic surveys concerning peoples inhabiting areas that had fallen within the strategic interests and military operations of the Soviet Army, the head office of the institute was established in Moscow, and the museum became the part of the structure of its Leningrad branch.



Decree of the President of the RSFSR "About Russia's cultural heritage objects of special importance".

In 1992, Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) again became an independent body within the Historical Branch (today the Historical-Philological Department) of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Today the Kunstkamera is not merely a museum, but one of the Academy's important research centers. It maintains the traditions initiated by the prominent Russian ethnographers and anthropologists of the

18th–20th centuries, and has the status of a public institution. Presidential decrees # 294 of December 18, 1991, and # 1487 of November 30, 1992, rank it among the most important parts of Russia’s cultural heritage. According to the decree of 1991, the list of cultural heritage objects of special importance contained only 17 unique cultural, educational and scientific institutions of Russia, including our Museum.

⁴ Reshetov A. M. *Repressirovannaya etnografiya. Lyudi i Sud'by* [*Repressed Ethnography. People and Fates*] // *Kunstkamera. Etnograficheskie tetradi*. Vol. 4. SPb., 1994. P. 185–222; Reshetov A. M. *Repressirovannaya etnografiya. Lyudi i Sud'by. Chast' 2* [*Repressed Ethnography. People and Fates. Part 2*] // *Kunstkamera. Etnograficheskie tetradi*. Vol. 5–6. SPb., 1994. P. 342–369.

⁵ Reshetov A. M. *Otdanie dolga. Chast' pervaya. Pamyati sotrudnikov Instituta Etnografii AN SSSR, pogibshikh v blokadnom Leningrade* [*Paying the Debt. Part 1. The Institute of Ethnography Staff Members Lost During the Siege of Leningrad. In Memoriam*] // *Etnograficheskoe obozrenie*. 1995. No 2. P. 40–62; Reshetov A. M. *Otdanie dolga. Chast' vtoraya. Pamyati sotrudnikov Instituta Etnografii AN SSSR, pogibshikh v blokadnom Leningrade* [*Paying the Debt. Part 2. The Institute of Ethnography Staff Members Lost During the Siege of Leningrad. In Memoriam*] // *Etnograficheskoe obozrenie*. 1995. No 4. P. 3–24; Reshetov A. M. *Otdanie dolga. Chast' tret'ya. Insitut etnografii AN SSSR vo vremena Velikoi Otechestvennoi voiny (nekotorye voprosy istorii)* [*Paying the Debt. Part 3. The Institute of Ethnography During the World War II (Issues in History)*] // *Etnograficheskoe obozrenie*. 1995. No 6. P. 3–17; Vologdina V.N. *Iz istorii Kunstkamery. Muzeinye rabotniki v gody voiny i blokady* [*From the History of the Kunstkamera. The Museum Staff During the War and the Siege*] // *Kunstkamera. Etnograficheskie tetradi*. Vol. 4. SPb, 1993. P. 161–184; *Iz istorii Kunstkamery* [*From the History of the Kunstkamera*] // compiled by V. N. Vologdina; Ed. by A. S. Myl'nikov. SPb.: MAE RAN. 2003–2004. Vol. 1–2.



A museum hall during the blockade

The Russian history of the past three centuries is the history of the museum as well. Epochs shared with the nation’s development are Peter’s breakthrough, the age of Catherine the Great, 19th century, the pivotal period of Russian culture, and the “golden age” of Soviet science. We remember the names of our colleagues who perished during the wars and revolutions, under Stalin’s terror⁴, and in the horrible years of the siege⁵ during the World War II. The guidelines for the museum staff are the special place of science in the Russian system of cultural values, and Claude Levi-Strauss’s maxim, “Anthropology is the humanism of the 21st century”.

Throughout its history the museum held a special position in the structure of the Academy. Persons who headed it were Academicians L. I. Schrenk (naturalist, zoologist, and traveler), V. V. Bartold, B. A. Dorn, V. V. Radlov, V. V. Struve, and A. A. Schiefner

(orientalists and historians), Academic Associate D. A. Olderogge (africanist), and Academicians E. F. Karskii and I. I. Meshchaninov (philologists).

When the museum was part of the Institute of Ethnography and Anthropology, until 1992, it was headed by Prof. L. P. Potapov, and then Cand. Sc. L. M. Saburova. Quite an epoch in its history (1982–90) was marked by Prof. R. F. Its, who followed the best traditions of Russian ethnography. Many of his colleagues and students work at the Museum, since he also established and directed the Leningrad University Department of Ethnography and Anthropology. In 1991–2001, the museum was headed by D. Sc. A. S. Myl'nikov, and then by D. Sc. Ch. M. Taksami.

Today the Museum Director is D. Sc. Yu. K. Chistov. Deputy Directors are D. Sc. E. A. Rezvan (in charge of scientific research work) and Cand. Sc. Ju. A. Kupina (in charge of museum activities), Chief Curator of the Museum is Cand. Sc. P. I. Pogorel'skii, and Academic Secretary is Cand. Sc. E. A. Mikhailova. Deputy Director for the Maintenance, A. A. Mel'nikov, is in charge of technical services.

At present, 199 employees work at the museum, 97 of whom work in scientific departments, and 102 in museum departments. Among them, 58 hold the candidate (first doctoral) degree, and 19 hold the second doctoral degree. Many have won Russian and international awards and prizes, are university and college lecturers or professors. The total staff, including those associated with museum services and subsidiary subdivisions, numbers 189.



Museum entrance hall

The research departments of the Museum are as follows.

Department	Head
Australia, Oceania and Indonesia	M. V. Stanyukovich, Cand.Sc.
America	Yu. E. Berezkin, D.Sc.
Physical Anthropology	V. I. Khartanovich, Cand.Sc.
Archaeology	G. A. Khlopachev, Cand.Sc.
Africa	V. F. Vydrine, D.Sc.
East and Southeast Asia	I. A. Alimov, Cand.Sc.
East Slavs and Other Peoples of European Russia	A. I. Teryukov, Cand.Sc.
Europe	A. A. Novik, Cand.Sc.
Caucasus	Yu. Yu. Karpov, D.Sc.
Siberia	L. R. Pavlinskaya, Cand.Sc.
Central Asia	M. E. Rezvan, Cand.Sc.
South and Southwest Asia	M. A. Rodionov, D.Sc.
Department of History of the Kunstkamera and 18th century Russian Science (Lomonosov Museum)	Acting T. M. Moiseeva
Center of Political and Social Anthropology	Acting V. A. Popov, D.Sc.
Editorial Board of the journal "Forum for Anthropology and Culture"	A. K. Baiburin, D.Sc.

Apart from the research departments, the museum has several subsidiary units:

Unit	Head
Expositions and Exhibitions Department	Yu. A. Kupina, Cand.Sc., Deputy Director of MAE
Registration and Storage	N. V. Maikova
Excursions and Education	K. A. Nosovskaya
Audio-Visual Anthropology	N. V. Ushakov, Cand.Sc.
Editorial Department	M. A. Ilyina
Restoration and Conservation	O. V. Zhmur
Information Technologies	T. G. Bogomazova, Cand.Sc.
Informational and Technical Support Group	A. V. Kozlov
Archive	I. V. Zhukovskaya
Accounts	T. A. Savina
Museum Security	G. N. Savenko
Running Maintenance	A. A. Mel'nikov, Deputy Director of MAE

The Museum library, a branch of the Academy of Sciences Library, museum archives, Laboratory of Restoration and Conservation, and that of Audio-Visual Anthropology Laboratory implement current and longterm tasks related to research and museum activities.

The Department of Exhibitions deals with the elaboration and implementation of the museum's display projects, including those concerned with permanent displays and temporary exhibitions at the *Kunstkamera* and at other museums in St. Petersburg, Russia and abroad.

The Excursions and Education Department devises educative strategies and provides museum guides to the visitors. The museum takes pride in the fact that most of its visitors, their total number being roughly 700 thousand a year, are young people. For that reason, education is one of the department's priorities. In September 2007 a Children's Center was opened in the Museum — a special room for children's activities where they have an opportunity to get a deeper knowledge of the traditional culture of the peoples of the world.

For many years, a postgraduate program has been underway at the museum, aimed at preparing specialists in a number of historical (mainly ethnological and anthropological) disciplines. The Dissertation Council, an elected body commanding deserved respect, confers the candidate (Russian equivalent of Ph.D.) and the second doctoral degree on numerous persons both Russian and foreign.

The museum publishes several periodicals. The main one is *Sbornik Muzeya Antropologii i Etnografii* [Proceedings of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography] established by V. V. Radlov in 1900. So far, 54 volumes have appeared⁶.

Newly founded journals include *Kunstkamera*. *Etnograficheskie tetradi* [Kunstkamera: Ethnographic Notes] since 1993, and *Kuryer Petrovskoi Kunstkamery* [Messenger of Peter's Kunstkamera] since 1995. In 2004, yet another periodical was launched in cooperation with the European University in St. Petersburg and the Oxford University Center for European research: *Antropologich-*

⁶ Kislyakov V. N. Osnovnoi pechatnyi organ Muzeya antropologii i etnografii (K 100-letiyu so dnya vykhoda pervogo toma "Sbornika MAE") [The Main Periodical of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (The Centenary of the First Volume of "MAE Collection")] // 285 let Peterburgskoi Kunstkamere. Materialy itogovoi nauchnoi konferentsii MAE RAN, posvyaschennoi 285-letiyu Kunstkamery (Sbornik MAE, Vol. XLVIII). SPb: Nauka. P. 61–63. A complete bibliography of the "MAE Collection", compiled by V. N. Kislyakov, is forthcoming.

⁷A list of works published by the museum in the last decade was timed to the 290 anniversary of the *Kunstkamera: Bibliografiya trudov Museya antropologii i etnografii im. Petra Velikogo (Kunstkamera) RAN. 1992–2002 [Publications of Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera). 1992–2002]* / Compiled by T. I. Chaskolskaia, N. M. Syssoeva; Ed. by V. N. Kislyakov. SPb: MAE RAN. 2004. 220 p. The bibliography can be viewed on the museum's web site at <http://www.kunstkamera.ru/library/MAE9202.htm>.

In 2008 a Bibliography of works of the Institute of Ethnography named after N. N. Miklukho-Maklai, 1963–1975 was published (Compiled by T. I. Shaskol'skaya, N. M. Syssoeva, Editors in Chief V. N. Kislyakov, A. E. Zhabreva. SPb: MAE RAS, 2008.



Plenary sitting of the 4th Congress of ethnographers and anthropologists of Russia. St. Petersburg, June, 27th, 2005.

eskii Forum (Editor-in-chief, Prof. A. K. Baiburin). Its English version is published under the name *Forum for Anthropology and Culture*.

An international scientific journal *Manuscripta Orientalia* (Editor-in-chief, Prof. E. A. Rezvan) is co-sponsored by the museum and the Hermitage.

The museum publishes 25–35 books per year — individual and collective monographs, thematic collections of articles, and conference proceedings, as well as 300–400 articles in Russian and in foreign languages⁷.

In 2004 a new series of monographs was initiated under the name of *Kunstkamera Petropolitana*. By 2009 twelve books have been published as part of this series. In 2008 work on an extremely important series entitled “Kunstkamera — Archive” began. The Museum has also started to publish a series of guide books in Russian and English called “Halls of Kunstkamera” (so far two guide books have been published “Africa” and “North America”).

Each year several conferences, some of them international, are held at the museum. Regular ones include *Radlov Memorial Lectures* (Museum’s Annual Sessions), *Lavrov (Central Asian) Conferences*, *Maklay Conferences*, *Olderogge Conferences*, *Zelenin Conferences*, *Kühner Conferences*, *Lomonosov Conferences*, *Siberian Conferences*, *Scandinavian Conferences*, *Scientific Conferences of the Department of Ethnography of South and South-East Asia*.

The tradition of holding permanent seminars has lately been revived. These include *Textile Seminar*, *Anthropology of kinship and gender studies*, *Traditional crafts*, *Aspects of the future based on ethnographical and folklore materials (predictions, utopia, realities)*. The seminars are attended by the museum staff and by specialists from other museums and research centers.

In 2005, the museum and the Association of Ethnographers and Anthropologists of Russia held the 6th Con-

gress of Ethnographers and Anthropologists of Russia, the largest and the most important scholarly forum, that brought together over 1000 participants. The Congress encompassed 28 directions, within which



Web-site of the MAE RAS

over forty seminars, symposiums and round-table discussions were held. Around 850 presentations were made. Representatives of almost all leading humanitarian scientific and educational centers of Russia, as well as researchers from abroad (Austria, Germany, Israel, Italy, Serbia, the USA, Finland, France, Sweden, Armenia, Byelorussia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine) participated in the Congress).

The museum displays are designed for a broad audience. They fascinate schoolchildren and professionals alike. In keeping with the museum's original goals, we seek to present the cultural legacy of various peoples of the world and the history of Russian science on temporary displays at the museum and abroad, based on latest developments in ethnology, anthropology, history, and museology. Our foreign exhibitions are parts of larger projects ultimately aimed at the understanding of traditional cultures and peoples. These projects include the publication of research materials and display catalogues, as well as ethnographical expeditions, seminars and conferences, and the development of educational programs. Our international exhibition projects result from a prolonged cooperation with various museum and exhibition centers.

In 2007 a new version of the Museum's web site was launched (www.kunstkamera.ru). It replaced the Museum's original site that was created in 1998 and was one of the first museum web sites in Russia. The concept and the structure of the site is defined by major spheres of activity of the MAE as one of the country's most popular museums and, at the same time, a large research center of the Academy of Sci-

ences. In 2007 another web site was developed and launched that brought circulation of documents and cooperation between museum services to a new level.

The museum staff members have an opportunity to objectify the results of their research not only in articles or monographs, but also in exhibition projects accompanied by detailed catalogues. New information technologies enable them to resolve the problem of storing and publishing huge amounts of audio-visual information, which also revolutionizes the field work. All this provides vast opportunities, both scholarly and educational.



*Multimedia information
for visitors
in the Museum's hall*

The preparation of data bases on the museum's unique ethnographic, anthropological, archaeological and photographic collections is a highly promising area, where true discoveries are forthcoming.

In 2005–2007 a revolutionary project entitled “Creation of multimedia informational-exhibition complex the MAE (Kunstkamera) RAS”⁸ was carried out and won the grant of the Investment fund for the support of culture and the Fund for investment construction projects of St. Petersburg within the framework of the project entitled “Economic development of St. Petersburg”. In 2008 the realization of the project entitled “Creation of automatic photo-depository

⁸ For more information on the project refer to the section “Information Technologies Department”.

of the MAE RAS with an Internet catalogue” began (Ford Foundation grant).

* * *

Family albums tend to evoke a special tenderness. An ethnographical museum such as the *Kunstkamera* is a family album of the entire humanity. The museum is not a cemetery of culture. Treasures it has accumulated live on and tell their story first to the researchers, and then to the public at large. The story is endless. New and new generations of scholars will discover their unique worlds here.

A large-scale reconstruction is underway at the museum: step-by-step reconstruction and redecoration of exhibition rooms, creation of new permanent exhibitions, the development of informational and educational infrastructure for visitors. The MAE employees hope to celebrate the tercentenary of the *Kunstkamera*, the jewel of the Russian Academy of Sciences, as a fully renovated and well-equipped research and museum center capable of implementing its mission: studying, preserving, and popularizing the cultural heritage of both the Old and the New World.



Armillar sphere on the top of the Kunstkamera tower



View of the Kunstkamera and the palace of tsarina Praskov'ya Fyodorovna from the Neva River. "Perspective down the Neva River between his Emperor's Majesty's Winter Home and the Academy of Sciences". Fragment of engraving by G. Kachalov by M. Makhaev's drawing. 1750–51

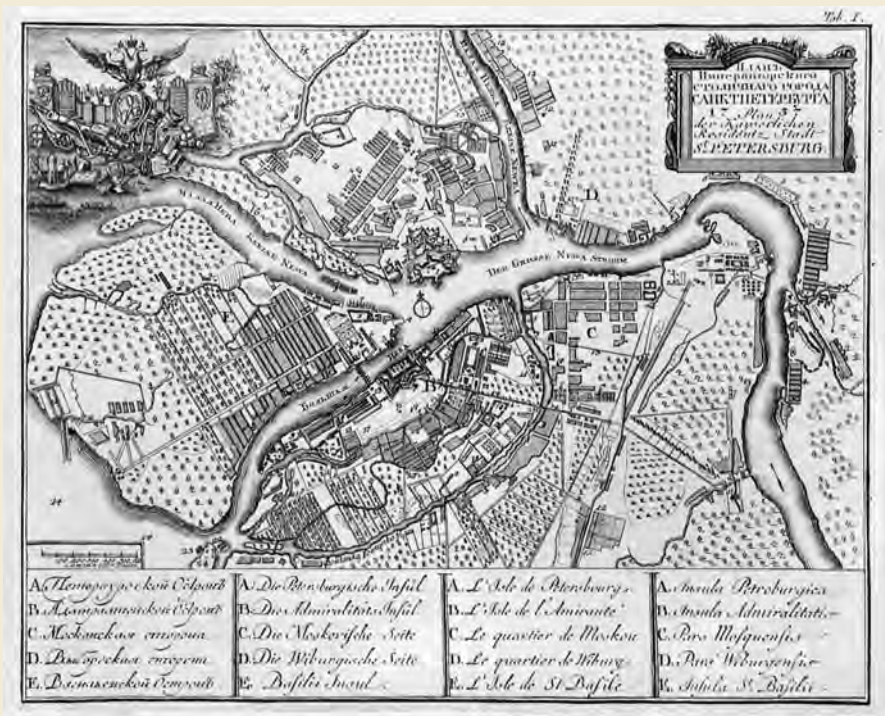
BUILDINGS OF THE MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ETHNOGRAPHY: HISTORICAL INFORMATION



Three symbols hover over the city designed by Peter the Great and built by his order: the angel on the spire of Peter's and Paul's Cathedral, the shiplet on the Admiralty, and the planetary (armillary) sphere on the tower of the Kunstkamera. They refer to Christian faith, the conquest of the sea, and the comprehension of the Universe, respectively.

The museum's buildings are located in the heart of the city, on the spit of Vassilievskii Island. It was the Kunstkamera that, in the 1700s and 1800s, housed Saint-Petersburg Academy of Sciences founded by Peter. Institutions that stemmed from Peter's Academy include the pres-

ent Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg University, the Academy of Sciences Library, the Main Astronomical Observatory, and dozens of other research and museum institutions. This is why the outline of the Kunstkamera building is the logo not only of our museum, but of the Academy of Sciences at large.



Plan of the Imperial Capital City of St. Petersburg. 1737

The complex that houses Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) consists of the historical building of Kunstkamera plus the so-called “Museum wing” attached to it in 1887. The museum’s main building is an outstanding example of the Baroque style of Peter’s age. Apparently it is the oldest museum building in the world.

Before the construction of a special building for the Kunstkamera, the Museum’s collection, after they had been brought from Moscow to St. Petersburg in 1714, were kept in Peter’s summer palace, and in 1719 they were moved to Kikin’s chambers, where for the first time they were opened for public.

Peter’s summer palace, designed in baroque style by architect Domenico Trezzini’s and constructed in 1710–14, was meant for use in summertime only. Peter moved into a partly furnished palace in 1712 and spent each summer there until his death in 1725. He occupied the

ground floor, and the upper premises were designed for Catherine I. After the fire of 1747 in the building of the *Kunstkamera* some exhibits from Peter's memorial cabinet were moved here and are still displayed in the so-called Green living-room.

The two-storey building of Kikin's chambers designed by an unknown architect (it could have been A. Schluter) was built in the manner typical of Peter's time: the central part of the house has two floors, and the side wings — one floor. A. Kikin, the owner of the building,



Peter's summer palace



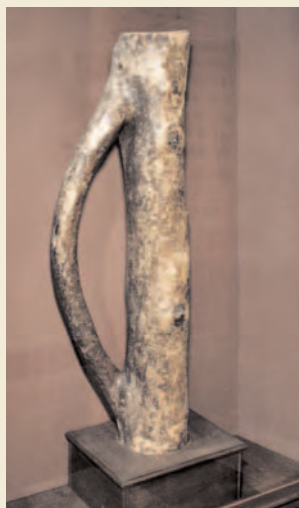
Kikin's chambers

was one of Peter's associates and accompanied him in his Azov campaign as his groom. Later he studied shipbuilding in Holland, and since 1707 was head of the Admiralty. Kikin was close to Peter, but was at war with duke A. Menshikov and supported the "plot" of Prince Alexey Petrovich. In 1718, having not been able to spend a long time in his new house, he was arrested and prosecuted. His chambers, which had not been completed by that time, together with all his possessions were confiscated and given to the treasury.

In 1719 the exhibits of the *Kunstkamera* collected by Peter were transferred to Kikin's chambers, and the first public exposition was opened. In the eight rooms of the chambers coins and medals, anatomical preparations, botanical and zoological "curiosities" and archaeological findings were kept. There was also a library with rare books and a chemical laboratory.

To adapt Kikin's chambers to the needs of the *Kunstkamera* one more floor was added. Thus, the central part of the building now had three floors, and the side wings — two floors. Kikin's chambers accommodated the *Kunstkamera* until 1727, when the Museum moved to the building on Vasilevskii Island constructed specially for this purpose.

The fact the Kikin's chambers were located far from the city center, diminished the role of the *Kunstkamera*, to which Peter attached great importance, so he decided to place the museum in the very center of his capital.



Fragment of the tree that once grew on the place of the Kunstkamera building

According to a legend, the site was chosen by Peter himself. Having noticed two bizarre pine trees growing on the barren bank of the Neva with their branches intertwined and grown into the trunks, he ordered to carefully hack them down and transport their most curious parts to the Kunstkamera. The exhibit, one of the earliest at the museum, is still kept in it. The foundation for the new building was laid right on the place where these trees once grew. The dimensions of the building were unusually large by the standards of that time: its length was nearly 100 m (97.2 m), and its width was 15 m. Peter exercised general control over the construction works and hastened the builders. However, he did not live to see the building finished. By early 1725, only the walls had been erected. The construction of the tower and the interior were completed by the Academy after the great reformer's death.

The building of the Kunstkamera could have been built on the very spot where the pine that once impressed Peter grew. However, it is also obvious that the tsar chose for the Museum an extremely important place in the capital of the Russian Empire. The building of the Kunstkamera neighbored the palaces of members of the royal family, the sea port, the stock exchange and the building of the twelve colleges (ministries). Today, the museum building is a decoration of the historical center of St. Petersburg and an integral part of the architectural ensemble of the spit of Vasiliievskii Island and the Neva River embankment. Besides, the Kunstkamera adjoins the building of the Academy of Sciences, constructed in the 19th century (today the St. Petersburg Research Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences), and is in close proximity with the St. Petersburg State University, the Library of the Academy of Sciences and a dozen of other institutions belonging to the RAS, thus being the symbol of St. Petersburg as a center of science and culture.

The original layout of the building was designed by the architect George Johann Mattarnovi, who began the construction but did not finish it (1718–19). After his death the works were

headed by Nikolai Herbel (1719–24), who modified the project. The window recesses were decorated with brickwork, making them look richer than originally designed. The lower part of the tower became three-tiered rather than two-tiered. Under Herbel, the building was



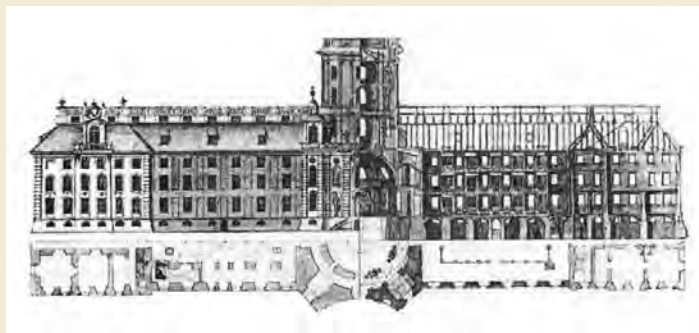
View of the Kunstkamera and the palace of tsarina Praskov'ya Fyodorovna from the Neva River. "Perspective down the Neva River between his Emperor's Majesty's Winter Home and the Academy of Sciences". Fragment of engraving by G. Kachalov by M. Makhaev's drawing. 1750–51

completed in the rough. The tower was unfinished — moreover, dangerous cracks appeared in its brickwork.

Having detected these faults, the Italian architect Gaetano Chiaveri (1724–27), who succeeded Herbel, got his own way, and a committee of experts was set up, whose members were the most famous architects such as Domenico Trezzini, Mikhail Zemtsov, etc. At their suggestion the tower was dismantled and designed anew by Chiaveri, who made substantial changes in its appearance. Its basement became higher. Instead of four pavilions around the tower's cylinder, a light colonnade appeared. The height of the cylinder itself was increased. Finally, the tower was crowned with a pinnacle bearing the astronomic (armillary) sphere.

This variant of the tower's decoration was the last in a series of projects designed by Chiaveri at the request of the famous astronomer De l'Isle whom Peter had invited to work at the observatory. According to Chiaveri's project, the modest balustrade above the side risalites on the southern facade were replaced by pretentious Baroque pediments with rich sculptures on academic themes. Chiaveri had died before the tower was finished, and his project was taken up by Mikhail Zemtsov, who carried the work to completion by 1734.

At the same time, Zemtsov completed the upper part of the tower, crowned with the sphere. Also, in 1735, the sculptor Koch made several limewood sculptures (probably according to Zemtsov's drawings), which were placed in the niches of the northern and the southern facades. The twelve statues symbolized various sciences.



Project of the Kunstkamera building. 1719

The round hall on the first floor was destined for the dissection room (Anatomical Theater), and in the hall on the third floor the “glorious Gottorp globe” was placed, one that was handed to the Academy of Sciences by the Senat's decree of September 30, 1725.

The fire of 1747 caused considerable damage to the building. Later it was restored by S. I. Chevakinskii without the tower's upper tier. At the same time, the banks of the Neva were strengthened. Previously, the waves reached the foundation of the Kunstkamera during the



Fragment of the tower's cross-section with the Anatomic theater and the Gottorpe globe



Ceiling painting in the round hall of the first floor of the Kunstkamera tower



The eastern façade of the Emperor's Library and the Kunstkamera.
Engraving by G. Kachalov by A. Shuemacher's painting



East sideview of the Emperor's Library and the Kunstkamera.
Engraving by G. Kachalov by A. Shuemacher's painting

floods and washed it away little by little. As a result of the works, the bank was moved five meters away from the building. A wooden embankment was constructed between the spit of Vassilievskii Island and



The Kunstkamera building in the 19th century

the 7th line, and two new fancy wharves were built on high piles in front of the academic buildings.

The Kunstkamera regained its original appearance only in 1948, when the tower was reconstructed and crowned with the famous armillary sphere (the project was designed by R. I. Kaplan-Ingel). The building has not been subjected to major reconstruction since the mid-1700s, step-by-step renovation and reconstruction of the building were started only in 1998 and because of lack of financing they are still far from being completed.

In 1887 the museum received a rather spacious exhibition wing designed by R. R. Marfeld, situated perpendicular to the main building and consisting of two rooms. In this wing, the first exposition of the united Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography opened on September 23, 1889. In 1912 the third floor was built on top of the “museum wing”.

Because until 1972 the funds of the Department of Anthropology had occupied most of the Kunstkamera’s basement and attic, in 1973 the museum received the building of the former St. Andrew’s Cathedral on Bol’shoi Prospect of Vassilievskii Island. Until 1995, all the

funds of this department were situated there, as were the working rooms. After the cathedral had been returned to the Russian Orthodox Church, the museum was provided with an alternative building



View of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR from the roof of the Palace of Arts (former Winter Palace). Leningrad. 1929

situated nearby — the so-called Aladov’s house at 24, Srednii Prospect. Until 2004 the Kunstkamera rented it on a day-to-day management basis, and then became its full owner.

This two-storey building, which in architectural reference books is cited as a typical example of a dwelling-house in the Russian Classical style, was built in 1806–09 for lieutenant colonel V. Serebryakov, who served at the Admiralty. In the centre, there is a gateway into the courtyard, decorated with a four-column Tuscan portico supporting the balcony. The facade is completed with a triangular pediment. Inside, there is a well-preserved vaulted staircase and details of an early 19th-century interior.

In the 1830s, the estate passed to Councilor of State S. N. Aladov and belonged to his family until 1918. In the courtyard annex (rebuilt and supplemented by another in the 1960s), a number of noted writers, journalists and artists lived in mid-1800s — early 1900s, including A. V. Timofeyev (a poet of Pushkin’s age, whose works were published in the magazine *Library for Reading*), the outstanding painter A. G. Venetsianov, and A. N. Novoskoltsev, famous for his paintings on biblical and historical themes.



The Kunstkamera building in the first half of the 18th century

THE MUSEUM AND ITS DIRECTORS



The museum occupied a special place in the structure of the Academy of Sciences all over the years of its history. A lot of prominent scientists are among people administering the museum in different periods.

Autumn 1714 — Peter the Great ordered ¹ to move his private collections (including those acquired by him during his Great Embassy to Europe) and the Library from Moscow to the newly-built capital of the Russian Empire to lay the foundation of the first state public museum. The collections and the library were placed in Peter's Summer Palace.

1714–18

“Supervision” over books and collections was entrusted to Peter's Surgeon in Ordinary and President of the Pharmaceutical Department Robert Are-skin. Johann Daniel Schumacher was invited from Germany and appointed his assistant ².

¹ The order must have been an oral one, as no documents have preserved.

² In this section, materials compiled by V. N. Kislyakov are used.



Ex-libris of R. Areskin

ARESKIN Robert [Karlovich]

(1677 – 04.01.1719)

Son of a Scottish lord, he studied medicine at Edinburgh University, then worked as an assistant surgeon for six years. He continued his studies in Paris and Utrecht, where in 1700 he took his doctor's degree in Medicine after defending a dissertation, whose title, translated from Latin, was "On the Rational Disposition of Organs of the Human Body". Later he took his Ph.D. degree at Oxford University (in official papers, Peter referred to Areskin as "a noble doctor of philosophy and medicine"). In 1703, Areskin became member of the Royal Society of London. Shortly afterwards he moved to Russia and became a private doctor first of A. D. Men'shikov and three years later, of Peter I. In 1714 he received the title of Surgeon in

Ordinary to the Tsar, and in 1716, became "Archiater" (Head of Pharmaceutical Department), President of the Medical Faculty of Russia, and Acting State Councillor. It was he whom Peter I commissioned to transport his private library and collections from Moscow to St. Petersburg and organize a public museum. As Surgeon in Ordinary, Areskin accompanied the Tsar during his travel to Germany, Holland and France in 1717. Unfortunately, Areskin's portrait has not been preserved at the archives, but his ex-libris with an expressive motto *IE PENSE PLUS* (I think more <than I say>) is still there.

1718–24

After Areskin's death, the supervision over the collections was entrusted to Peter's new Surgeon in Ordinary Lavrentii Blumentrost, who had exercised this function until January, 1725, when he became the first President of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences.



BLUMENTROST Lavrentii [Lavrent'evich]

(29.10.1692 – 27.03.1755)

Younger son of Lavrentii Alferovich Blumentrost, Surgeon in Ordinary to Tsar Aleskei Mikhailovich and then to his son Peter I. The first President and organizer of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences. He studied at Pastor Gluck's school in Moscow, then attended lectures at Halle, Oxford, and Leiden. His doctoral dissertation was titled "De Secretione Animalii" (1713). In 1715 he was commissioned to describe the Tsar's illness, which

he had to announce personally to the famous doctors in Europe. While fulfilling this task, Blumentrost visited Amsterdam in 1717 and carried out negotiations with F. Ruysch concerning the acquisition for Russia of the latter's Europe-famous anatomical cabinet. Under his control, Ruysch's collections were brought to St. Petersburg in 1718. After Areskin's death, Blumentrost took over the position of Surgeon in Ordinary to the Tsar, and was entrusted with the management of the *Kunstkamera* and the Library. In 1724 Peter I approved the project to establish the Academy of Sciences, drawn out by Blumentrost together with Schumacher. On December 3rd, 1725, Catherine I issued the decree "On the Establishment of the Academy of Sciences and the Appointment of its President, Surgeon in Ordinary L. L. Blumentrost". Under Peter II, while living in Moscow, Blumentrost ceased to run the Academy.

³According to T. V. Stanyukovich, "items from Holland" are likely the collection acquired in 1717 from the Dutch anatomist Ruysch (see Stanyukovich T. V. *Kunstkamera Peterburgskoi Akademii Nauk [The Kunstkamera of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences]*. Moscow–Leningrad. 1953, p. 22.

⁴Central State Archives of Old Acts, State Archives, p. XVII, d. 1, 1718 (after T. V. Stanyukovich. *Op. cit.* Kantsy was a fort on the right bank of the Neva, near the present Okhtinskii Bridge.

⁵Stählin J. *Podlinnye anecdoty Petra Velikogo, slyshannye iz ust znatnykh osob v Moskve i Sankt-Peterburge [True Anecdotes About Peter the Great Heard From Persons of Distinction in Moscow and St. Petersburg]*. 1787. p. 115.

⁶Materialy dlya istorii Akademii nauk... [Materials for the History of the Academy of Sciences...]. Vol. 1. SPb. 1885. p. 14.

In 1718 I. D. Schumacher was ordered to "place in the Kunst Kamera for preservation the things brought from Holland,³ and currently stored under the curatorship of Archiater Dr. Areskin at the house of Alexander Kikin, near the Neva River, on the Moscow side, opposite Kantsy⁴". After the reconstruction of Kikin's house, the collections and the library were moved there in 1718 — early 1719, and the Kunstkamera was opened for the public: "Then His Majesty ordered Librarian Schumacher, who reports to Surgeon in Ordinary and the Chief Curator of the said Kunstkamera Areskin: Because everything has been established and arranged in due order, any person willing to visit it must be admitted and guided around, and things must be shown and explained to him".⁵ Having opened the museum for the public, Peter is said to have declared, "I want people to look and learn". At the same time, in 1718, the construction of a special building for the Kunstkamera began by Peter's order on the site chosen by the Tsar himself.

1724–61

On January 1st, 1724, L. L. Blumentrost signed with Johann Daniel Schumacher a contract concerning the management of the Library and the *Kunstkamera*. The latter was put in charge of the both institutions. His duties included keeping them in order and establishing catalogues, "in the library, for books, and in the kunst-kamora, for things housed there".⁶



Autograph of I. D. Schumacher

SCHUMACHER Johann Daniel

[Ivan Danilovich]

(1690–1761)

Born in Colmar, Alsace, he graduated from Strasburg University. In 1714 he was invited to St. Petersburg by Lefort and Areskin and appointed Secretary of the Medical Office and Librarian of St. Petersburg Library, which later became part of the Library of the Academy of Sciences. In 1721 Peter the Great sent him to France, Holland, and England, where he had to “seek to invite various scientists to Russia”, get familiar with European *kunstkameras*, acquire new books for the library and new exhibits for the museum. L. Blumentrost, the first President of the newly-founded Academy of Sciences appointed Schumacher Secretary of the Academy and entrusted him with the control over the library and the *Kunstkamera*. Also, he was commissioned to set up a printing house and other establishments for arts and crafts. Baron Korf, who succeeded Blumentrost as President of the Academy of Sciences in 1734, appointed Schumacher Councilor and Treasurer of the Academy. Through Schumacher’s efforts, several books were printed, including “Chambers of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences, Library, and the *Kunstkamera*” (SPb., 1741); “*Musei Imperialis Petropolitani*” (Vols. 1–2. SPb. 1741–45). Under his office, in 1742–47, the first detailed catalogue of books owned by the Academic Library was published. Unfortunately, no portraits of J. Schumacher have been preserved.

November, 25, 1728 — ceremony marking the opening of the Library and the Kunstkamera. On the next day the newspaper “Sankt-Peterburgskie Vedomosti” wrote: “Yesterday, the Imperial Library with the Kunst- and Naturalien-kamera were opened for the first time since they had been moved to the new academic chambers”.⁷ The admission days of the Library and the Kunstkamera were announced, and it was noted that admission was free.

⁷ S.-Peterburgskie vedomosti. 1728. November, 26. # 95. P. 383.

⁸ Quoted after Shafranovskaya T. K. Iz istorii kitsaiskikh kolleksii Kunstkamery [From the History of the Chinese Collections of the *Kunstkamera*] // Kul'tura narodov Zarubezhnoi Azii i Okeanii (MAE Collection, Vol. XXV). Leningrad. Nauka. 1969. p. 13.

⁹ St. Petersburg Branch of the Archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences, fund 3, inventory, 8, # 1, report 469.

On the night of December 6th, 1747, fire broke out in the building of the Kunstkamera. “Sankt-Peterburgskie Vedomosti” wrote: “Last Saturday, after four o’clock in the morning, fire broke out in the chambers of the Imperial Library and Kunstkamera, and it soon spread so widely that it was in no way possible to save the chambers, especially when the fire had reached the tower and embraced it”.⁸ Objects and books were being thrown out of the windows into the snow. Thus it was possible to save most of the library

and those museum exhibits which had been housed in the lower floors spared by fire. Of the collections housed on the upper floors, only the “Emperor’s cabinet” was saved. The observatory, the Gottorp Globe, many ethnographical collections including Chinese ones perished in the fire. The library, too, suffered considerable damage. The preserved books and items were immediately transported to the buildings closest to the Kunstkamera.

In the period from 1747 to 1766, the Academy took a number of measures to restore the lost collections. Lists of lost items were sent to provincial offices accompanied by a decree which required “to take pains to collect things according to the enclosed register”.⁹

1761–67

“Supervision” over the Kunstkamera was commissioned to Councilor of the Academic Office, Academician Ivan Taubert.

TAUBERT Johann Caspar [Ivan Ivanovich]

(31.08.1717 – 09.05.1771)

Librarian and Councilor of the Office of the Academy of Sciences. Later, in the 1750s–60s he was one of the directors of the Academic Office. Together with G. F. Miller he was responsible for the Academic editions, including the journal “Monthly essays”. Adjunct in history from 1738.

1767 — After its rebuilding, the Kunstkamera was re-opened for the public.

1767–71

On August 9th, 1767, the Committee of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences resolved to entrust Academician Peter Simon Pallas with the supervision over the Kunstkamera’s collections (primarily zoological ones). His assistants were Samuel Gottlieb Gmelin (botanic collections), Caspar Friedrich Wolf (anatomical collections), and Osip Petrov (models, instruments, clothes, and ethnographical collections).



PALLAS Peter-Simon

(22.09.1741 – 08.09.1811)

A famous traveler and naturalist, born in Berlin. Defended his doctoral dissertation in 1760, then reorganized the collections of naturalia in Leiden

and visited England to study botanic and zoological collections. He was invited to St. Petersburg by Catherine I as Adjunct of the Academy of Sciences. At her order he traveled to the Caucasus and the Trans-Caspian region (1768–74). The results of his expedition were published in several books, the collections acquired by him formed the basis of the *Kunstkamera's* collections, and some of them came to Berlin University. In 1793–94 he studied climates of southern Russia. In 1810 he returned to Berlin, where he died. He published over 170 works¹⁰ addressing ethnology, archaeology, philology, geography, zoology, botany, paleontology, mineralogy, geology, topography, and medicine. In mid-1767, he became Professor of Natural History.

1771–97

On May 13, 1771, Professor (later Academician) Semen Kotel'nikov was appointed the new Supervisor of the *Kunstkamera* (as well as of the Library and the Mineralogical Cabinet).



KOTEL'NIKOV

Semen [Simeon] Kirillovich

(01.07.1723 – 30.03.1806)

Mathematician, astronomer, student of L. Euler. Adjunct of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences in mathematics (1751), Associate Professor of higher mathematics (1756), then full Professor (1760), Honorary Member of the Academy (1797). Supervisor of the *Kunstkamera* and the Mineralogical Cabinet in 1771–97.



1797–1800

On March 6th, 1797, adjunct of the Academy Ivan Busse¹¹ was appointed Acting Supervisor of the *Kunstkamera*.

BUSSE Johann Heinrich [Ivan Fomich]

(14.09.1763 – 20.07.1835)

Librarian (1794), Adjunct for the History of the Academy of Sciences (1795). Honorary member of the Academy of Sciences (1800).

1800–27

On March 26th, 1800, Academician Nikolai Ozeretskovskii was appointed as Supervisor of the *Kunstkamera*. He was the last director of the united Academic Museum (*Kunstkamera*). His assistant at the Museum was Osip Belyaev, who worked at the *Kunstkamera* and the Library from 1783 on, first as translator, from 1789 on as an assistant, from 1790 and until his death in 1807, as a librarian. In 1793 Belyaev published a catalogue and a guide to the Emperor's cabinet.¹²

OZERETSKOVSKII Nikolai Jakovlevich

(01.07.1750 – 28.02.1827)

Naturalist, medical doctor, and traveler, he studied at the seminary of Troitse-Sergieva laura; in 1768 among the best seminarists he was sent to the academic gymnasium, in the same year he was assigned to the expedition led by Academician Lepekhin, who often commissioned Ozeretskovskii with independent researches (he studied Kol'skii uyezd of the Archangelsk province). To complete his education, he was sent to Leiden university. He took his doctor's degree in medicine at Strasburg. After his return to St. Petersburg, Ozeretskovskii was appointed Adjunct for Natural History and assistant to Academician Gldenstedt, and in 1782 he was elected Member of the Academy in Ordinary. Especially relevant for science were Ozeretskovskii's travels (in 1782, across Russia; in 1785, to the Ladoga and Onega Lakes; in 1805, along the upper Volga, etc.). He published the results of these expeditions in a number of books.



¹⁰ A full list of works by P. S. Pallas is given by F. P. Keppen in the "Bulletin of the Ministry of People's Education" ("Zhurnal Ministerstva Narodnogo Prosvescheniya"), 1895, April. P. 386–437.

¹¹ Proceedings of the Academy of Sciences, Vol. IV, p. 558, § 61, 815, § 90

¹² O. P. Belyaev. Kabinet Petra Velikogo [Chamber of Peter the Great]. SPb. 1793. In 1800, the guide was reprinted and supplemented by the second and third parts which included an "historical description of all items, natural and artificial alike, housed by the *Kunstkamera*" and a "description of Russian and foreign minerals, various fossils, corals and madrepores, and, finally, of old and modern Russian and foreign coins" (O. P. Belyaev. Kabinet Petra Velikogo. SPb. 1800, sec. I, II, III).

In the early 1800s, the Kunstkamera was divided into several independent museums. The main reasons underlying the restructuring were the change in the nature of the Academy's activities and the focus on scientific knowledge. Vast materials that had accumulated in the Kunstkamera by that time required more space for display and storage. The study of the collections resulted in further differentiation inside the departments and in an increase in qualified staff.

On January 8th, 1836, the Academy of Sciences presented to the State Council its new Statute and comments on the changes made in the previous Statute (1803). On March 11th, 1836, the State Council endorsed the Statute of the Imperial St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences. It listed the institutions and museums within the Academy: Cabinet of Peter the Great, the Library, the Major and the Minor Astronomical and Magnetic Observatories, the Physical Cabinet, the Instrumental Workshop, the Chemical Laboratory, the Mineralogical, Botanical and Zoological museums, the Anatomical Cabinet, the Botanical Garden, the Numismatic Cabinet, the Collections of Asian and Egyptian Antiques, and the Ethnographic Cabinet.

1837–45

On May 7th, 1837, the Session of the Academy of Sciences entrusted its Honorary Member Alexander Postels with the supervision over the items of the Ethnographic cabinet.



POSTELS Alexander Filippovich

(24.08.1801 – 28.06.1871)

Mineralogist, natural scientist, traveler. Having taken his candidate degree at St. Petersburg University, he was left there to “perform the master’s functions”. In 1826 he lectured in nonorganic chemistry. In the same year, as a mineralogist and drawer, he launched out on a circumnavigation on sloop-of-war “Senyavin” commanded by F. P. Lütke. He returned in 1829. Among the crew members were famous seafarers such as Lieutenant Nikolai Zavalishin and military cadet Pavel Krusenstern. Postels was the first scholar from St. Petersburg University to take part in a large-scale scientific expedition. The trip resulted in an acquisition of precious collections of mammals, insects, birds, plants, and minerals. All collections were provided with albums with drawings. The Academy of Sciences appreciated the published work and deemed it deserving the Full Demidov award. Soon after the end of the circumnavigation (1831) Postels was appointed adjunct-professor of the Department of Mineralogy and Geognosy of St. Petersburg University. At the same time he was invited to the Academy of Sciences to act as curator of the Mineralogical Museum. Later he was also appointed the curator of the Ethnographic Cabinet. From January 14th, 1866,

he was Honorary Member of the Academy of Sciences. He taught natural sciences to Great Duchesses Maria and Ekaterina, daughters of Nicholas's I brother Mikhail, and was the tutor of Prince Petr Grigorievich Oldenburgskii's children.

1837–42

Academician Petr Zagorskii headed the Anatomical Cabinet.

ZAGORSKII Petr Andreevich

(09.09.1764 – 20.03.1846)

Professor of St. Petersburg Medical and Surgical Academy Department of Anatomy and Physiology. Adjunct of the Academy of Sciences for anatomy and physiology (1805), extraordinary member of the Academy (1807), ordinary member (1807), honorary member of the Department of Russian Language and Literature (1841). He graduated from the Medical-Surgical College of St. Petersburg Main Hospital. In 1803–06 he was head of the council, and then rector of the Medical and Surgical Academy; after its restructuring he was appointed member of the Academy, and headed the Department of Anatomy until 1833.



1842–62

The Anatomical Cabinet (museum) was directed by Academician Karl von Baer who also in 1841–51 was director of the Ethnographic Museum of the Russian Geographical Society.

BAER Karl Ernst [Karl Maximovich]

(17.02.1792 – 16.11.1876)

An outstanding biologist, embryologist, and anthropologist. Foreign member of the Academy of Sciences (1826), ordinary member of the Academy in Zoology (1828), Honorary Foreign Member of the Academy (1830), re-appointed Ordinary Member (1834) and Honorary Member (1862). He graduated from the Medical Faculty of Derpt (now Tartu) University, and continued his education at the universities of Germany and Austria. From 1817 he lectured at Königsberg University, and in 1826 became Professor and Director of the Anatomical Institute founded by him. At that time he wrote a number of works which laid the foundation for modern comparative



K. M. Baer — the only anthropologist, whose portrait is placed on a banknote (two Estonian kronas)

embryology. In 1834 he went to St. Petersburg where he acted as Professor at the Medical and Surgical Academy, and from 1842 as Head of the Anatomical Cabinet. He collected important cranial materials on the peoples of Russia and other countries, played important role in establishing of Imperial Geographical society of Russia, established and headed the Ethnographic Museum of the Imperial Geographical Society. Based on his cranial collections Baer founded a museum of comparative anthropology, in which human crania were displayed according to the geographical principle. He was interested not only in the anatomy of modern peoples, but also in ancient materials from archaeological excavations, and in the origins of various peoples. Baer was the initiator of the First International Congress of Anthropologists in Goettingen in 1861, which led to the foundation of the German Anthropological Society and the publication of the journal “Archiv für Anthropologie”. In 1862 he retired, but continued to work as an Honorary Member of the Academy of Sciences until 1867, after which he returned to Derpt, where he died in 1876.

1845–55



On January 17th, 1845, Academician Andrei Sjögren was appointed Director of the Ethnographic Museum and bore the office until his death in 1855.

Sjögren Johann Andreas

[Andrei Mikhailovich]

(26.04.1794 – 06.01.1855)

Philologist, historian, ethnographer, and traveler. He studied history, archaeology, ethnography, and Finno-Ugric and Caucasian languages. He authored the first Ossetic grammar and a Livonian dictionary. He graduated from Ebo (Turku) University. In 1819 he took the Ph.D. degree, and in 1820 he moved to St. Petersburg. Corresponding Member of the Academy (1827), adjunct for history (1829), extraordinary member in Russian history and antiquities (1831). He studied Russian language and history, and collected data on the Chud³ (Finnish tribes living in Russia). In 1823 Count N. P. Rumyantsev appointed him his private librarian, and in the same year Sjögren undertook a research travel across the Novgorod and Olonets provinces. Having received a grant for the research of Finnish-speaking populations, he

¹³ See a complete bibliography of A. M. Sjögren: Uchenye zapiski Imperatorskoj Akademii Nauk po I i III otdeleniyam [Transactions of the Imperial Academy of Sciences, Sections I and III], 1855. P. 69–183. Also see: Teryukov A. I. K istoriografii etnicheskoj istorii Russkogo Severa: A. M. Sjögren [To the historiography of the ethnic history of the Russian North: A.M. Sjögren] // Nestor, # 10 Finno-ugorskie narody Rossii: problemy istorii i kultury. Istochniki, issledovaniya, istoriografiya [Finno-Ugric peoples of Russia: problems of histo-

traveled across Novgorod, Olonets, Vyborg, Kuopio, and Uleaborg Provinces, and the Finnish Lapland up to Norway and Waranger-fjord, as well as across the Russian Lapland and Mezen'. In 1826 he visited the Vologda, Kazan' and Perm' Provinces. Materials collected by him concern history, geography, ethnology, archaeology, linguistics, climatology, etc. In 1835 he went to the Caucasus where he engaged in the study of the Ossetic and Georgian languages, at the same time collecting ethnographic data on different Caucasian peoples. In 1844 he was elected full member of the Academy in philology and ethnology of Finnish and Caucasian tribes, and in the following year he was appointed Director of the Ethnographic Museum of the Academy of Sciences.¹³

1855–56

On March 22, 1855 Academician Boris Dorn was appointed Director of the Ethnographic Museum; on November 14th, 1856, Dorn's petition for resignation was granted, and A. A. Schiefner was appointed his successor.¹⁴

DORN Johann Albrecht Bernhard

[Boris Andreevich]

(11.05.1805 – 19.05.1881)

Orientalist, specialist in cultural history of the Middle East, primarily that of Afghanistan. Dorn was among the first European scholars to study Afghan (Pushtu) language and history based on written sources, and the first Russian scholar to study Ethiopian literature. He was Private Senior Lecturer at Leipzig University, Head of the Department of Oriental Languages at Khar'kov University, and Professor of history and geography at the Foreign Ministry Institute of Oriental Languages. He taught Sanskrit and Pashto at St. Petersburg University. Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences (1835), Adjunct for Oriental Languages (1839), Extraordinary Member of the Academy in History and Philology (1852), Director of the Asian Museum (1842), Director of the Ethnographic Museum (1855).

ry and culture. Sources, researches. Historiography]. SPB, 2007. P. 360–380; Teryukov A. I. K metodike etnogeneticheskikh issledovaniy akademika A. M. Sjögren [To the methodology of ethno-genetic researchers of Academician A. M. Sjögren] // Pamyati akademika A. M. Sjögrene (1794–1855) [To the memory of Academician A. M. Sjögren (1794–1855)]. 2007. P. 52–63.



¹⁴ Letopis' Rossiiskoi Akademii Nauk [Annals of the Russian Academy of Sciences]. Vol. 2. / Ed. by M. F. Kharatanovich. SPb.: Nauka. 2002. P. 480.

1856–78

On November 14th, 1856, Academician Anton Schiefner was appointed Director of the Ethnographic Museum and held this office until December 19th, 1878.¹⁵



SCHIEFNER Franz Anton

[Anton Antonovich]

(06.07.1817 – 04.11.1879)

One of the outstanding Russian Orientalists, a specialist in Tibet and Mongolia, and in Finno-Ugric languages. Adjunct of the Historical and Philological section in the Tibetan language (1852), Extraordinary Member of the Academy (1854). He was educated at St. Petersburg University (1836–40), and studied philology and Oriental languages in Berlin for 6 years. He authored numerous works addressing Caucasian, Finno-Ugric, and Tibetan languages and literatures. Also, he published a number of works concerned with languages such as Tat (1856), Abkhazian (1862), Chechen (1864) and Kazikumukh (1866), as well as a collection of Khakassian legends (1859). He translated the Finnish epic “Kalevala” into German (1852).

¹⁵ St. Petersburg Branch of the Archives of Russian the Academy of Sciences, fund 4, inventory 4, # 658, sheet 183; quoted after Stanyukovich T. V. *Etnograficheskaya nauka i muzei (po materialam etnograficheskikh museev Akademii nauk)* [Ethnography and the Museums (Based on Collections of the Ethnographic Museums of the Academy of Sciences)]. Leningrad, 1978. P. 101.

In 1869, Academicians Baer and Schiefner put forward a proposal to merge the Ethnographic and Anatomical museums (in the latter anthropology had become one of the priorities under Baer) into a comprehensive museum that would integrate all data on the origin of man and culture using the evidence of three sciences: physical anthropology, archaeology and ethnology. On December 5th, 1878, the Section of Physics and Mathematics of the Academy of Sciences, and later the State Council (on November 10th, 1879) resolved to “establish instead of the Anatomical Museum

*existing within the Academy of Sciences <...> and based on its collections as well as those of the Ethnographic museum, the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, mostly Russian”.*¹⁶

¹⁶ St. Petersburg Branch of the Archives of Russian the Academy of Sciences, fund 2, inventory 1 (1878), # 6; Central State Historical Archives (CSHA), fund 733, inventory 142, # 663, 1879, sheet 5; quoted after Stanyukovich T. V. *Etnograficheskaya nauka i muzei (po materialam etnograficheskikh museev Akademii nauk)* [Ethnography and the Museums (Based on Collections of the Ethnographic Museums of the Academy of Sciences)] Leningrad, 1978. P. 110.

1879–94

On November 10th, 1879, Academician Leopold Schrenk was appointed Director of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, mostly Russian.

SCHRENK Leopold Ivanovich

(24.04.1826 – 08.01.1894)

Naturalist, ethnographer, traveler, zoologist, and geographer. Adjunct for physical and mathematical sciences (zoology) from 1862, Extraordinary Member of the Academy (1865). He took his master's degree in zoology at Derpt (Tartu) University in 1850, and his doctor's degree at the Prussian Albertian Academy (Berlin and Königsberg). Participated in the circumnavigation on the frigate "Aurora". Then, in 1854–56, he headed an expedition on the schooner "Vostok" to the Amur region, Sakhalin and Far East region where he studied the Nivkhs (Gilyaks) and other peoples. The materials of the expedition were published in four volumes in German and in three volumes in Russian. He was the first to compile the dictionaries of native languages (Nivkh, Ainu, and Ulchi). Schrenk introduced the term "paleo-Asiatic peoples", referring to the earliest populations of Northeast Asia). Results of his research on the Amur were marked with the highest award of the Geographical Society — Konstantin medal. Various species of Far Eastern animals and plants are named after Schrenk (Schrenk's sturgeon, Schrenk's racer, etc.). A mountain range on Sakhalin and a mountain peak in the Western Sakhalin mountains bear his name.¹⁷



¹⁷ See: Reshetov A. M. Leopold Ivanovich Schrenk (k 170-letiyu so dnya rozhdeniya) [Leopold Ivanovich Schrenk (on the occasion of his 170th anniversary)] // Kurier Petrovskoi Kunstkamery. Issue 6–7. SPb.: MAE RAS. 1997. P. 72–88.

In 1887, the Museum was finally provided with comparatively spacious exhibition premises in a wing attached to the Kunstkamera in Tamozhennyi pereulok. On September 23rd, 1889, the first exposition of the united Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography was opened.

1894–1918

On March 16th, 1894, Academician Vassilii Radlov was elected Director of the MAE.

RADLOV Friedrich Wilhelm

[Vassilii Vassilieovich]

(17.01.1837 – 12.05.1918)

An outstanding Orientalist, specialist in Turkic languages, and ethnologist. Initiator of comparative studies into Turkic languages. Several Radlov's works focussed on ethnic history, classification and historical dialectology of Turkic lan-



¹⁸ See: Reshetov A. M. Vassilii Vassilievich Radlov // *Kurier Petrovskoi Kunstkamery*. Issue 1. SPb. 1995. P. 75–85; Reshetov A. M. V. V. Radlov — director Museya antropologii i etnografii Imperatorskoi Akademii Nauk [V. V. Radlov — *Director of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography of the Imperial Academy of Sciences*] // *Nemtsy v Rossii*. Peterburgskie nemtsy. SPb. 1999. P. 137–155; Reshetov A.M. Akademik V. V. Radlov — vostokoved i muzeved (osnovnye etapy deyatelnosti) [V. V. Radlov — *Orientalist and Museologist (Stages of his Career)*] // *Radlovskie chteniya*—2002. Materialy godichnoi nauchnoi sessii. SPb.: MAE RAS. 2002. P. 95–101. Korsun S. A. Deyatel'nost' V. V. Radlova — L. Ya. Sternberga po formirovaniyu fondov MAE kollekt-siyami iz Ameriki [Activity of V. V. Radlov — L. Ya. Sternberg on the formation of the MAE funds with collections from America] // *Materialy polevykh issledovaniy MAE RAN [Materials of the latest researches of the MAS RAS]*. SPb., 2008. Issue 8. P. 177–194.

guages. Member in Ordinary of the Historical and Philological Section of the Academy of Sciences in history and antiquities of Asian peoples (November 7th, 1884). Born in Berlin in 1837, he arrived in St. Petersburg in 1858 to work at the Asian Museum. With a view to study Turkic languages, he became a teacher in Barnaul, from where he visited native tribes to study their languages and collect their folk poetry. In this way he traveled all across the Altai, the steppes of Eastern Turkestan, parts of the Yenisei and Tobol'sk provinces, and visited Tashkent, Khodjent, Djizak, Samarkand, and Mongolia. In 1871, Radlov settled in Kazan', where until 1884 he held the office of a district inspector of Muslim schools, studying Turkic dialects (Volga and Bashkirian), as well as the Chuvash and Cheremis (Mari) languages. In 1891 he headed the expedition set up by the Imperial Academy of Sciences to study the ancient sites of the Orkhon valley, Mongolia, and in 1898 he organized the Turfan expedition to Central Asia led by D. A. Klementz. He was the first to read old Turkic Orkhono-Yenisei inscriptions and he began

to study and publish old Uighur monuments discovered by Klementz. In 1885–90 he was Director of the Asian Museum of the Academy of Sciences, and in 1894–1918, Director of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography. He was one of the initiators and Chairman of the Russian Committee for the Study of Central and East Asia (1903–18), Head of the Society for the Study of Siberia and for the Improvement of Living Standards of its indigenous populations.¹⁸

In view of the emergence of the Ethnographic Department of the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg (later it became a separate Russian Ethnographic Museum), the Academy of Sciences in 1903 ceased to use the words “mostly Russian” with reference to the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography. During the celebration of the bicentenary of St. Petersburg in May 1903, the Museum, which inherited most collections belonging to Peter’s favorite creation — St. Petersburg Kunstkamera, was named after him. It was decided to reconstruct within it a memorial exposition dedicated to Peter I. It was also decided to establish within the Kunstkamera a memorial museum housing all the preserved objects related to Peter. The opening ceremony of Peter’s Gallery was held on May 20th, 1912.

1918–21

On October 23rd, 1918, Academician Vassilii Bartold was elected Director of MAE. He held this office until September 2nd, 1921.

BARTOLD Vassilii Vladimirovich

(15.11.1869 – 19.08.1930)

A prominent Orientalist. Specialist in cultural history of the Near and Middle East, he authored many publications focusing on the history of Western Central Asia, Iran, the Arabic Caliphate, Islam and the history of Oriental studies, and supervised excavations near Samarkand. He graduated from the Department of Oriental Languages of St. Petersburg University. In 1900 he took the doctor's degree in history of the Orient for his research entitled "Turkestan During the Mongolian Conquest"; in 1910 he became Professor at St. Petersburg University. Corresponding Member of the Historical and Philological Section of the Academy of Sciences in Oriental literature (1910); Member in Ordinary of the Historical and Philological Section of the Academy of Sciences in literature and history of Asian peoples from 1913.¹⁹



¹⁹ See: Reshetov A. M. Vassilii Vladimirovich Bartold // Kurier Petrovskoi Kunstkamery. Issue 2–3. SPb. 1995. P. 37–55.

²⁰ See: Reshetov A. M. Evfimii Fedorovich Karskii // Kurier Petrovskoi Kunstkamery. Issue 4–5. SPb. 1996. P. 24–47; Reshetov A. M. Iz arkhiva akademika E. F. Karskogo [From the Archives of Academician E. F. Karskii] // Kurier Petrovskoi Kunstkamery. Issue 6–7. SPb. 1997. P. 88–110.

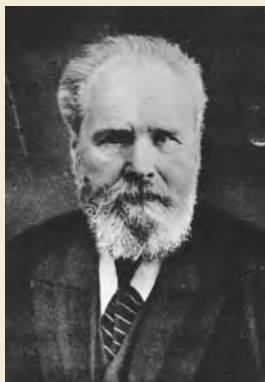
1921–30

On November 2nd, 1921, Academician Evfimii Karskii was elected Director of MAE. He stayed in office until September 2nd, 1930.

KARSKII Evfimii Fedorovich

(01.01.1861 – 29.04.1931)

Founder of Belorussian linguistics and philology, ethnologist, paleographer, and folklorist. His works deal with Russian dialectology, the Belorussian language and literature, old Belorussian system of writing, and Slavonic paleography. He was Professor at Warsaw University. From 1916 he was Member of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences, and from 1917, Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences.²⁰



On February 2nd, 1933, the General Meeting of the Academy of Sciences of USSR endorsed the resolution of the Section of Humanities merging the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography with the Institute for the Study of the Peoples of USSR into a single Institute of Anthropology and Ethnography of the Academy of Sciences of USSR. Within the new institute, several sections were formed (ethnographic, archaeological, anthropological, and folkloristic).

1930–33

On October 12th, 1930, Professor Nikolai Matorin was elected Director of MAE. After the Institute of Anthropology and Ethnography was founded in 1933, Matorin remained its Director. On December 23rd, 1933, the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of USSR resolved to dismiss N.M. Matorin from this position as of January 1st, 1934, retaining his position as Senior Specialist.



MATORIN Nikolai Mikhailovich

(1898–1936)

Ethnographer, folklorist. Lecturer at the Geographic Institute from 1924, Associate Professor at the Ethnographic Department of the Geographical Institute (1928), Professor (1930), leading specialist in religious studies. In 1930 he became Deputy Chairman of the Committee for the Study of Ethnic Composition of USSR. Director of MAE (1930–33), Director of the Institute of Anthropology and Ethnography (from February 1933).

In 1930–33 he was among the founders of the Museum of the History of Religion. He was arrested in 1935 and shot in 1936.²¹

1934–37



On January 1st, 1934, Academician Ivan Meshchaninov was appointed Director of the Institute, and remained in office until the transformation of the Institute of Anthropology, Archaeology and Ethnography into the Institute of Ethnography in 1937.

MESHCHANINOV Ivan Ivanovich

(24.11.1883 – 16.01.1967)

Philologist, archaeologist, and ethnologist. Specialist in ancient languages of the Near East. Hav-

ing graduated from the Faculty of Law of St. Petersburg University in 1907, he spent two semesters at Heidelberg University. At the same time he studied at the Archaeological Institute in St. Petersburg from which he graduated in 1910. In 1910–23 he headed the historical archives of the Archaeological Institute; described the collection of Elamite antiquities owned by this institute. In 1925–33 he participated in, and headed, archaeological expeditions to the Northern Pontic region and Transcaucasia. Member of the Section of Social Sciences of the Academy (Caucasian studies) from March 29th, 1932. He studied Elamite, Hittite, Urartian, and Semitic languages. In 1934–37 he was Director of the Institute of Anthropology and Ethnography. After the death of N. Ja. Marr, Meshchaninov succeeded him as Director of the Institute of Language and Mind (1935–50). After Stalin's criticism of Marr's ideas in 1950, he was dismissed from all leading positions, but continued his scholarly activities.

On January 25th, 1935, the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of USSR resolved to transform the Institute of Anthropology and Ethnography into the Institute of Anthropology, Archaeology and Ethnography. The decision was endorsed by the General Meeting of the Academy on November 20th, 1935.

On February 11th, 1937, it was decided to change the structure of the Institute and replace sections by several departments ("cabinets") within the research part of the Institute: that of Europe and Caucasus, headed by D. K. Zelenin; that of Siberia and Western Central Asia, headed by Ya. P. Koshkin; that of East and South Asia, headed by N. V. Kühner; that of Africa, America, Australia and Oceania, headed ad interim by I. N. Vinnikov; that of Archaeology, headed by P. P. Efimenko; that of Folklore, headed by M. K. Azadovskii (this department included the archives of audio recordings headed by E. V. Hippus); and that of the History of Religion, headed by Yu. P. Frantsev. A separate part of the institute was the Museum of Anthropology, Archaeology and Ethnography consisting of several departments (that of Europe, Caucasus and Western Central Asia, headed by N. A. Kislyakov; that of Siberia, headed by V. N. Chernetsov; that of India, Indonesia, and the Far East, headed by N. V. Kühner; that of the Early Stage of the Primeval Society, Australia and Oceania, headed by I. N. Vinnikov; that of North, Central and South America, headed

²¹ Reshetov A. M. N. M. Matorin — pedagog, organizator nauki, issledovatel' (K 90-letiyu so dnya rozhdeniya) [N. M. Matorin — Teacher, Organizer of Science, Researcher (on the occasion of his 90th anniversary)] // Polevye issledovaniya GME narodov SSSR. 1985–87. Tezisy dokladov nauchnoi sessii. L. 1989. P. 23–25; Reshetov A. M. Nikolai Mikhailovich Matorin (Opyt portreta uchenogo v kontekste vremeni) [Nikolai Mikhailovich Matorin (The portrait of a scholar in the context of time)] // Etnograficheskoe obozrenie. 1994. # 3. P. 132–159; Reshetov A. M. Repressirovannaya etnografiya. Lyudi i sud'by [Repressed Ethnography. Persons and Fates] // Kunstkamera. Etnograficheskie tetradi. Issue 4. SPb. 1994. P. 213–216; Reshetov A. M. Muzei antropologii i etnografii RAN v poslednei chetverti XIX — pervoi chetverti XX veka. Problemy sozdaniya i organizatsii [Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography in the last quarter of the 19th century — first quarter of the 20th century. Problems in Foundation and Organization] // Kunstkamera. Vchera, segodnya, zavtra. Vol. 1. SPb. 1996. P. 9–44. Reshetov A. M. Tragediya lichnosti: Nikolai Mikhailovich Matorin [Tragedy of a personality: Nikolai Mikhailovich Matorin] // Repressirovannye etnografy [Repressed ethnographers]. M., 2003. Issue 2. P. 147–192.

by S. A. Sternberg; that of Africa, headed by D. A. Olderoogge; that of Archaeology, headed by S. N. Zamyatnin; and that of Physical Anthropology, headed by B. N. Vishnevskii). Dmitrii Alekseevich Olderoogge was appointed Director of the Museum.

On August 5th, 1937, the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences resolved to transform the Institute of Anthropology, Archaeology and Ethnography into the Institute of Ethnography including Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography. On December 17th, the General Meeting of the Academy approved this decision.

1937–43

The position of the Director of Museum as a department of Institute of Ethnography was filled by Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences Dmitrii Alekseevich Olderoogge.



OLDEROGGE Dmitrii Alekseevich

(06.05.1903 – 30.04.1987)

One of the initiators and leading authorities of Russian African studies, specialist in ethnology, history, languages and cultures of Africa. Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences from June 10th, 1960. He graduated from Leningrad University (1925). In 1927–28 he studied languages, ethnology and museology in Germany, the Netherlands, and Belgium. Head of the Department of African Ethnography at the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography. In 1937–43, Director of MAE. Lecturer (1939), Professor and Head (1945) of the Department of African Studies of Leningrad University, Head of the Sector of Africa of the Institute of Ethnography (1947). His principal publications concern social organization, systems of kinship, cultures and languages of Africa. He was a member of numerous international societies, including the French Society of Africanists and the International African Institute. Corresponding Member of the School of Oriental and African Languages (London) and of many academies.²²

²² See: Dmitry Alekseevich Olderoogge v pis'makh i vospominaniyakh [Dmitry Alexeevich Olderoogge in letters and memories] / Editor in chief C. B. Chernetsov. SPb., 2003.

1937–40

Academician Vassilii Struve was appointed Director of the Institute of Ethnography AS USSR by the decision of the Presidium AS USSR and filled this position until 1940.

STRUVE Vassilii Vassilievich

(02.02.1889 – 15.09.1965)

Orientalist, specialist in Egypt, historian. He studied at St. Petersburg University, where his teachers were famous historians A. S. Lappo-Danilevskii, B. A. Turaev, and M. I. Rostovtsev. Assistant Professor (1916), Professor (1920) of the University. Member of the Academy of Sciences, Section of Public Sciences (Oriental studies) from 1935. At the same time he worked at the Department of Ancient Egypt of the Hermitage, in 1937–40 he was Director of the Institute of Ethnography, in 1941–50, Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies. Struve's lines were numerous and not restricted to ancient Egypt. He studied Mesopotamia, especially the earliest (Shumerian) period of its history, the Hittite State, Syria, Palestine, and Phoenicia. He was the first Russian scholar to conduct a detailed study of ancient Near Eastern societies, which was the subject of his numerous studies and textbooks. Struve addressed other ancient civilization centers as well. When the Institute staff began preparing for publication the complete body of Greek inscriptions related to the Bosporan Kingdom that had existed in the northern Pontic region, he headed a large team of researchers involved in this project. Also, he authored a study focussing on the history of the Northern Pontic area, the Caucasus and Western Central Asia.



1940–42

Director of the Institute of Ethnography was Professor Isaak Vinnikov.

VINNIKOV Isaak Natanovich

(1897–1973)

D.Sc. (Philology), Professor of Leningrad University Oriental Department. Specialist in philology and history of Semitic peoples.



1943 — Institute of Ethnography Moscow branch was constituted, and became the main one. Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences Sergei Pavlovich Tolstov was appointed Director of the Institute of Ethnography (Moscow).

 1945–48



Deputy Directors of the Institute of Ethnography heading the Leningrad Branch were Professor Arkadii Anisimov and Professor Nikolai Stepanov. Nikolai Kislyakov was appointed the Director of Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography was Nikolai Kislyakov.

KISLYAKOV Nikolai Andreevich

(1901–1973)

D.Sc. (History), ethnologist and specialist in cultures of the Near and Middle East and Western Central Asia (primarily Persian and Tajik).

 1948–67

On March 20th, 1948, Leonid Potapov, D.Sc., was appointed Deputy Director of the Institute of Ethnography and Head of the Leningrad branch. The detached position of Director of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography was abrogated. In 1967 Potapov was dismissed from the position of Deputy Director (Head of the Leningrad branch of the Institute).


POTAPOV Leonid Pavlovich

(1905–2000)

D.Sc. (History), Professor. A prominent specialist in Siberian ethnology.²³

²³ See: Leonid Pavlovich Potapov: k 90-letiyu so dnya rozhdeniya [*Leonid Pavlovich Potapov: on the occasion of his 90th anniversary*]: Bibliogr. ukaz. / A. S. Myl'nikov and Ch. M. Taksami, Eds. SPb.: MAE RAS, 1995. 24 p.

1950 — *The Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of USSR resolved to establish the Leningrad part of the Institute of Ethnography.*

 1967–82

On December 26th, 1967, Lyudmila Saburova, Cand. Sc. (History), was appointed Deputy Director of the Institute and Head of the Leningrad branch. On July 14th, 1982, she was dismissed from her position.

SABUROVA Lyudmila Mikhailovna*(1921–1998)*

Cand. Sc. Specialist in Russian, mostly Siberian, ethnology.

**1982–90**

On July 24th, 1982, Professor Rudolf Its, D.Sc., was appointed Deputy Director of the Institute of Ethnography and Head of the Leningrad branch. He remained in office until his death (July 11th, 1990).

ITS Rudolf Ferdinandovich*(1928–1990)*

D.Sc., Professor. Founder and head of Leningrad State University Department of Ethnography and Anthropology. Staff member and, from 1982 and until his death Deputy Director of the Institute of Ethnography and Head of the Leningrad branch. Ethnologist and anthropologist, specialist in cultures of East and Southeast Asia, Siberia, the Far East, and in ethnological theory.²⁴



fiya: Sb. st., posv. 80-letiyu so dnya rozhdeniya prof. Rudolfa Ferdinandovicha Itsa [*Historical Ethnography: Collection of articles dedicated to the 80th anniversary of Professor Rudolf Ferdinandovich Its*] Issue 3. *Malye etnicheskie i etnograficheskie gruppy* [*Minor Ethnographical Groups*]. SPB., 2008. P. 66–76; Reshetov A. M. Rudolf Ferdinandovich Its kak sinolog [*Rudolf Ferdinandovich Its, a Sinologist*] // *Istoricheskaya etnografiya: Sb. st., posv. 80-letiyu so dnya rozhdeniya prof. Rudolfa Ferdinandovicha Itsa* [*Historical Ethnography: Collection of articles dedicated to the 80th anniversary of Professor Rudolf Ferdinandovich Its*]. Issue 3. *Malye etnicheskie i etnograficheskie gruppy* [*Minor Ethnographical Groups*]. SPB., 2008. P. 29–43.

²⁴ See: Reshetov A. M. Rudolf Ferdinandovich Its (1928–1990): chelovek, uchenyi, pedagog [*Rudolf Ferdinandovich Its (1928–1990): a person, a researcher, a teacher*] // *Vestnik Sankt-Peterburgskogo universiteta* [*Bulletin of the St. Petersburg University*]. Series 2. Issue 1–2. *Istoriya* 2004. P. 107–116; Ivanova E. V., Maretina S. A., Gokhman I. I. Vospominaniya o Rudolfe Ferdinandovich Itse [*Memoirs of Rudolf Ferdinandovich Its*] // *Istoricheskaya etnogra-*

1990–92

The Deputy Director of the Institute of Ethnography and Head of its Leningrad branch ad interim, and, from July 1991, Director of Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) was Nikolai Girenko, Cand. Sc.

GIRENKO Nikolai Mikhailovich*(31.10.1940 – 19.06.2004)*

Africanist, specialist in ethnological theory, and expert in interethnic relations in Russia. In



1990–93 he was elected Delegate of Leningrad (St. Petersburg) Council, where he acted in the Committee for Inter-Ethnic Relations. He headed the Group for the Protection of Rights of the Ethnic Minorities at St. Petersburg Union of Scientists, was an acknowledged expert at trials for the instigation of ethnic intolerance, and played a key role in elaborating the methodology of expert advices at such lawsuits. On July 19th, 2004, he was killed by hired assassins.

On June 25th, 1991, the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences resolved to transform the Institute of Ethnography into the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology. The Leningrad branch of the Institute of Ethnography was turned into the Leningrad branch of the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology with Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography as its part.

By the Presidential Decrees nos. 294 of December 18th, 1991 (On the Most Valuable Monuments of Russia's National Heritage) and 1487 of November 30th, 1992 (On the Most Valuable Monuments of the Cultural Heritage of the Peoples of the Russian Federation) Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography was listed among such monuments.

On June 14th, 1992, the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences resolved to transform St. Petersburg branch of the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology into Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera).



1992–97

On February 20th, 1992, Professor Alexander Myl'nikov, D.Sc., was appointed Director of St. Petersburg branch of the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology. On December 21st, 1992, Myl'nikov was elected Director of MAE at the General Meeting of the Section of History of the Academy. On October 24th, 1994, he was confirmed in office by the Governmental decree. On October 28th, 1997, Myl'nikov resigned from his post.

MYL'NIKOV Alexander Sergeevich

(1929–2003)

D.Sc., Specialist in European cultural history, mainly Western Slavonic and Scandinavian. In 1952–73 he worked as a Bibliographer, Chief

Bibliographer, then Head of the Department of Manuscripts of the M. E. Saltykov-Schedrin Public Library. Senior researcher (1973), Head of the Department of General Ethnography and European Studies, Director (1992) of St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Ethnography and Anthropology, later Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) RAS.

1997–2001

On May 12th, 1998, Chuner Taksami, D.Sc., was elected Director of MAE for a three-year term by the General Meeting of the Section of History of the Academy. On November 25th, 1998, he was confirmed in office by the Governmental decree.

TAKSAMI Chuner Mikhailovich

(born in 1931)

D.Sc., Specialist in cultures of Siberia and the Far East.



2001 — untill present days

On November 15th, 2001 Yuri Chistov, D.Sc., was elected Director of MAE for a five-year term by the General Meeting of the Section of History of the Academy. On April 29th, 2002, he was confirmed in office by the decree of the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation # 578-p. On March, 26th, 2007 he was re-elected for this position by the General Meeting of the Section of History and Philology of the Academy for another five-year term.





ADMINISTRATION OF THE MUSEUM

Director

Yu. K. CHISTOV

Phone: (812) 328-07-12, ext. 101

E-mail: director@kunstkamera.ru

Yuri Chistov, D.Sc., graduated from Leningrad University Department of Ethnography and Anthropology in 1976, and received a full-time postgraduate training at the Leningrad Branch of the Institute of Ethnography and Anthropology (now Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography), Department of Anthropology, in 1976–79. He worked at the Department of Anthropology as a Research Assistant (1979), Researcher (1986), Senior Researcher (1992), and Leading Researcher (2001). In 1983 he defended his candidate (first doctoral) dissertation titled *Differentiation of Human Populations Based on Sagittal Cranial Profiles*, and in 2000 he defended his second (doctoral) thesis based on his monograph *Anthropology of Prehistoric and Modern Populations of South Yemen*.

He was elected Director of Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) for a five-year term on November 15, 2001, at the general meeting of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Section of History. On April 29, 2002, his status was endorsed by the Prime-minister decree. On March, 26th, 2007, he was re-elected for this position for another five-year term by the general meeting of the Section of History and Philology of the Academy of Sciences.

His scholarly interests concern physical anthropology of prehistoric and modern populations of the Near East, Eastern Mediterranean, and Central Asia, evolutionary morphology of the human cranium, paleopathology, multivariate statistical methods, applied databases in anthropological studies, computerized catalogs of museum collections, museology, and application of multimedia technologies in museums. He has several hundreds publications, and he has designed several specialized databases (including the Russian Bank of Cranial Data), and a computer software for the statistical elaboration of anthropological data. He has participated in anthropological, archaeological and ethnographical expeditions to the Far East, South Siberia, Central Asia, Northwestern and Central Russia, South Yemen, Egypt, Ethiopia and China.

In 1993–94 he held a fellowship at Durham University, Britain, and in 1996 he was a visiting professor at the Institute of Anthropology of Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany. He has lectured in a number of European universities, and is a member of editorial boards of several Russian and foreign journals. He represents Russia in several international societies and associations. He is member of the Section of History and Philology and of the board of directors of the MAE RAS.

In 2003–05 he was President of the Association of Anthropologists and Ethnographers of Russia. Since 2004 he has been a co-founder and member of the governing body of the World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA), member of the Consulting Council of WCAA, representative of the Association of Anthropologists and Ethnographers of Russia in WCAA. In 2009 he was elected member of the executive committee of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnographical Science (IUAES) and Treasurer of the IUAES.

Since 2001 he has been head of the Scientific Council of the MAE RAS and head of the Council for the defense of doctorate theses of the MAE RAS (D 002.123.01).

Deputy Director
for Research
E. A. REZVAN

Phone: (812) 328-07-12, ext. 116
E-mail: rezvan@kunstkamera.ru



Efim Rezvan, D.Sc. and Professor, specialist in Islamic and Arabic studies, honourable member of the UNESCO Department for inter-religious dialogue for inter-cultural understanding (since 2006), Editor-in-chief of the international journal *Manuscripta Orientalia*, author of 9 monographs and more than 250 publications published in the Russian, English, Arabic, French, German, Japanese, Italian, Uzbek, Finnish and Persian languages.

His main scientific achievements are related with the study of archive and manuscript collections of St. Petersburg. The study of archive collections has resulted in a series of monographs dedicated to Russian-Arabic relations. His several-years long research of the Koran, the history of Koranic exegetics, publications and translations of the Holy Book of Islam, resulted in a monograph entitled “The World of Koran” — a modern introduction into Koranic studies that has aroused great interest in Russian and abroad. An important phase of his scientific activity was related to attribution, scientific description and publication of one of the oldest and most important manuscripts — the so-called *‘Usman’s Koran*, that for almost five hundred years was worshiped by Central Asian Muslims as the original manuscript of the Holy text.

E. A. Rezvan is member of the editorial committee of the international research and publication project “Early Qur’ans. The Era of the Prophet, the Right Guided Caliphs and the Umayyades (Noseda Foundation, Italy)”. He is one of the authors of the system of automatic recognition of the Arabic font, that today is the most popular system in the Arabic East. He is Editor-in-chief of the series entitled “Culture and Ideology of the Muslim East”, head of the editorial board of the series entitled “Kunstkamera–Archive”, member of editorial boards of a number of Russian and foreign scientific journals and periodicals, and organizer of a number of international scientific conferences held in St. Petersburg. He has lectured in the Oriental and Philosophical Departments of the St. Petersburg State University, and in the Moscow

Center of Stanford University (the USA). He has headed and participated in a number of historical and ethnographical expeditions in Central Asia, Arabia, India and Africa.

E. A. Rezvan is one of organizers of the exhibition called “From Bagdad to Isfahan. Miniatures and calligraphy from the collection of the St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of the Oriental Studies RAS” (Paris–New York–Lugano–Salzburg), and co-author of its fundamental catalogue. He has acted as head of a number of exhibition projects that have been successfully carried out in the MAE RAS, such as “Dreams about the East. Russian avant-garde and Bukhara silks” and “Expeditions go on”. He is editor, compiler and co-author of a series of exhibition catalogues, and head of the media project “Idzhma‘ = Understanding”, in the framework of which he also acted as scriptwriter and producer of nine documentaries.

He was awarded with an honourable award of the Soka University (Tokyo, 1998), the prize of the Committee of Asian Muslims (Tashkent, 1998), is the winner of the National award “The Book of the Year” (Federal Agency for publications and mass communications of Russia and the Association of publishers of Russia) (2001), the winner of the National award “The Book of the Year” of the Islamic Republic of Iran (analogue of the State Award of the Russian Federation) (2002), the winner of the Russian National Award “The Book of the Year” in “Humanitas” nomination (2005), the winner of the Second International Contest of the CIS countries “The art of book” (2005). Besides, he holds several UNESCO awards.

His main responsibility is management (together with the Director) of the scientific and research work of the MAE, and development of the corresponding research spheres.

E. A. Rezvan coordinates research, publication, and archival activities at the museum.

Deputy Director for the Museum

Ju. A. KUPINA

Phone: (812) 328-08-12, ext. 109

Fax / phone. (812) 323-29-06

E-mail: julkup@kunstkamera.ru



Julia Kupina, Cand.Sc., graduated from Leningrad University Department of History in 1984 as an ethnographer. In the same year she became a full-time postgraduate at the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, and in 1987 she upheld her candidate (first doctoral) dissertation *Evenki Traditional Sculpture: Problems of Origin and Function (Late 19th — Early 20th Centuries)*. Since 1987 she has been a staff member of the Department of Siberia of the museum. In 2000 she headed the Department of External Relations and Exhibitions (since 2004, Expositions and Exhibitions Department). Deputy Director for the Museum since 2004.

Her main research areas are ethnography of Siberia and museum management. Ju. A. Kupina has published several studies on the traditional culture of the indigenous populations of Siberia, and exhibition catalogs. In 1998 she won a Fulbright grant, in 2001 she participated in the Open Society Institute program *Management in the 21st Century Culture*; and in 2002 she held a fellowship in Sweden on the program *New Managers for Russia*. In 2003 she studied at the Institute of Museum Management of the Getty Institute, USA. She has received a second higher education in computer designing (Saint-Petersburg Polytechnic University degree, 2001).

In 2006–09 — a UNESCO expert on projects, related to museum business development and preservation of museum collections in the CIS countries.



Chief Curator
P. I. POGOREL'SKI

Phone: (812) 328-07-12, ext. 106
 E-mail: pogorelskiy@kunstkamera.ru

Pavel Pogorel'ski, Cand.Sc., graduated from Leningrad University Oriental Department in 1979. He is a specialist in Arabic history. Since 1989 he has worked at the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography Department of South and Southwest Asia. He was Curator of the Special Storeroom, Deputy Director for Development since 2002; Chief Curator since 2003.

In 1984, 1990 and 1998 he participated in the Soviet (Russian)-Yemeni Expedition from the Academy of Sciences. In 1992 he defended a candidate (first doctoral) dissertation *Traditional Occupations of the Sedentary Population of Hadramauth*.

His research areas include Arabic ethnography and museology, traditional occupations and handicrafts.

Academic Secretary
E. A. MIKHAILOVA

Phone: (812) 323-08-12, ext. 103
 E-mail: academsecretary@kunstkamera.ru



Elena Mikhailova, Cand.Sc., graduated from Leningrad University Department of Ethnography and Anthropology. In 1980 she defended her dissertation on the traditional and modern culture of Siberian Eskimos. In 1980–2002 she worked at the Department of Siberia. As the Academic Secretary of the Museum since 2002, she is also in charge of postgraduate training.

Her main research area is history and culture of Circum–Beringia. She has authored more than thirty publications mostly focusing on the traditional culture of northeastern Siberia.



Deputy Director for the Maintenance
A. A. MEL'NIKOV

Phone: (812) 328-16-71,
(812) 328-07-12, ext. 125

E-mail: melnikov@kunstkamera.ru

Andrei Mel'nikov, a technologist by education, is also a specialist in computer engineering and programming, multimedia museum and publishing projects and the internet.

His responsibilities include the supervision of the maintenance services of the museum, design and implementation of construction works, the supervision of implementation and the use of modern security systems, and the supervision of maintenance in the museum departments.



OFFICE

Assistant Director
Rubtsova Maria

Phone: (812) 328-07-12, ext. 104

E-mail: rubts@kunstkamera.ru



Secretary of Office
Andreeva Julia

Phone: (812) 328-08-12, (812) 328-07-12, ext. 100

E-mail: info@kunstkamera.ru;
andreeva@kunstkamera.ru

ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

Phone: (812) 328-41-61

E-mail: accounts@kunstkamera.ru



Savina Tatyana,
Chief Accountant
Tatyana.Savina@kunstkamera.ru



Chistova Elena,
Chief Economist
Elena.Chistova@kunstkamera.ru

Kozhemyaka Natalia, Deputy Chief Accountant

Kharevich Natalia, Leading Accountant

Romanova Galina, Leading Accountant

STAFF OFFICE

Phone: (812) 328-08-12, ext. 102

E-mail: rudnova@kunstkamera.ru



Staff Office Head
Rudnova Tayana

RUNNING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE OF MUSEUM BUILDINGS

Phone: (812) 328-16-71

E-mail: melnikov@kunstkamera.ru



Voronin Nikolai,
Superintendent

Fyodorova Alla, Economic Manager.

Sokolova Lyubov', Head of Storage.

Schukin Sergei, carpenter.

Kobba Alexander, carpenter.

Shil'tsov Alexander, electrician.

Kuznetsov Valery, worker.

Ivanenkov Dmitry, worker.

Akishina Maria, cleaner.

Zen'ko Yuri, cleaner.

Zvorykin Alexander, cleaner.

A. A. Mel'nikov, Deputy Director for the Maintenance, supervises the work of the maintenance services group.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

General Academic Council

The General Academic Council was elected on April 26, 2007, at the museum's main staff meeting. Results of voting were endorsed by the Russian Academy of Sciences Section for Historical and Philological Sciences on May 16, 2007.



*Session of the General
Academic Council
of the MAE RAS.
April 15th, 2008*

Council Members:

Chistov Yuri, D.Sc. Museum Director, Council Chair

Rezvan Efim, D.Sc., Deputy Director for Research, Deputy Council Chair

Mikhailova Elena, Cand.Sc., Academic Secretary of the Museum, Council Secretary

Albedil' Margarita, D.Sc., Leading Researcher

Berezkin Yuri, D.Sc., Head of Department

Baiburin Albert, D.Sc., Head of Department

Vasil'kov Yaroslav, D.Sc., Leading Researcher

Vydrin Valentin, D.Sc., Head of Department

Karpov Yuri, D.Sc., Head of Department

Kozintsev Alexander, D.Sc., Chief Researcher

Kupina Julia, Cand.Sc., Deputy Director for the Museum

Pavlinkaya Larisa, Cand.Sc., Head of Department

Pogorel'skii Pavel, Cand.Sc., Chief Curator

Rakhimov Rakhmat, D.Sc., Chief Researcher

Revunenkovna Elena, D.Sc., Chief Researcher

Rodionov Mikhail, D.Sc., Head of Department

Teryukov Alexander, Cand.Sc., Head of Department

Fyodorova Tatyana, Cand.Sc., Senior Researcher

Khartanovich Valerii, Cand.Sc., Head of Department

Khlopachev NAME, Cand.Sc., Head of Department

Chistov Kirill, Correspondent Member of the RAS

Academic Council for Doctoral Dissertations

D 002.123.01.

Academic Secretary

Teryukov Alexander, Cand.Sc., Senior Head of Department
phone (812) 328-41-41

Technical Secretary

Kislyakov Vladimir, Cand.Sc., Senior Researcher
phone (812) 328-41-22



*Session of the Academic Council for Doctoral Dissertations of the MAE RAS.
December 30th, 2008*

Council Members:

Chistov Yuri, D.Sc., Museum Director, Council Chair

Baiburin Albert, D.Sc., Head of Department, Deputy Council Chair
(MAE RAS)

Teryukov Alexander, Cand.Sc., Head of Department, Council Secretary (MAE RAS)

Albedil' Margarita, D.Sc., Leading Researcher (MAE RAS)

Berezkin Yuri, D.Sc., Head of Department (MAE RAS)

Vasil'kov Yaroslav, D.Sc., Leading Researcher (MAE RAS)

Vakhtin Nikolai, D.Sc. (European University in St. Petersburg)

Vydrin Valentin, D.Sc., Head of Department (MAE RAS)

Ivanova Elena, D.Sc., Leading Researcher (MAE RAS)

Ivanova Tatyana, D.Sc., Head of Department (Institute of Russian Literature (Pushkinskii Dom) RAS)

Karpov Yuri, D.Sc., Head of Department (MAE RAS)

Kozintsev Alexander, D.Sc., Chief Researcher (MAE RAS)
 Kramarovskiy Mark, D.Sc. (State Hermitage)
 Ostrovskiy Alexander, D.Sc. (Russian Ethnographical Museum)
 Popov Vladimir, D.Sc., acting as Head of Department (MAE RAS)
 Rakhimov Rakhmat, D.Sc., Chief Researcher (MAE RAS)
 Rezvan Efim, D.Sc., Deputy Director for Research (MAE RAS)
 Rodionov Mikhail, D.Sc., Head of Department (MAE RAS)
 Savinov Dmitry, D.Sc. (St. Petersburg State University, Historical
 Faculty, Department of Archaeology)
 Salmin Anton, D.Sc., Leading Researcher (MAE RAS)
 Steblin-Kamenskii Ivan, D.Sc. Member of the Russian Academy of
 Sciences (Institute of Linguistic Studies RAS)
 Tunkina Irina, D.Sc., Director of the St. Petersburg Branch of the
 Archive RAS
 Fedorova Irina, D.Sc., Leading Researcher (MAE RAS)

DEPARTMENT OF POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

Phone: (812) 328-08-12, ext. 103
 E-mail: academsecretary@kunstkamera.ru

Head of Graduate Training Department
Mikhailova Elena, Academic Secretary

Curriculum

The postgraduate training centers on three main areas: (a) Physical Anthropology, (b) Ethnology, and (c) Museology, Conservation and Restoration.

At present, 5 postgraduates are being trained at the museum on the full-time basis. Other 15 persons are preparing their first (candidate) dissertations independently, 5 staff members are preparing their doctorate dissertations.

In 2004–08 the Museum staff members defended one doctorate and ten candidate dissertations.