



ArcheoBiblioBase



Dutch-Russian Cooperation Expands Russian Archive Directory

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The International Institute of Social History (IISH/IISG) in Amsterdam is cooperating with the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA/RANKhiGS) for further expansion of the ArcheoBiblioBase (ABB) Internet directory and bibliographic information system for archives in the Russian Federation.

On the basis of an agreement signed in 2013, a mirror website for ABB is now available on the RANEPA website in Moscow.

Founded by Dr Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, an Honorary Fellow of both IISH and RANEPA, and Associate of the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University, the extensive directory is based on collaborative directories published under her supervision in Russian and English:

Archives of Russia: A Directory and Bibliographic Guide to Holdings in Moscow and St. Petersburg, 2 vols.

(Armonk, NY/ London: M.E. Sharpe, 2000), and

Arkhiy Rossi: Moskva i Sankt-Peterburg: Spravochnik-

obozrenie i bibliograficheskii ukazatel'

(Moscow: "Arkheograficheskii tsentr," 1997).

The ABB website currently displays data nearly 400 archives and manuscript repositories of the Russian Federation (with an additional 70 administering agencies) for which coverage has recently been updated. (The ABB database itself contains data for over 200 additional repositories for which updating is still needed.)

Moscow and St. Petersburg coverage currently extends to 195 federal, local state and non-state repositories, including libraries, museums, and academic institutions. Presenting data about unpublished sources of all types and periods, from the Archive of the President of the Russian Federation (AP RF) to film studios and factory museums, it provides basic reference for those using traditional state and CPSU records, medieval manuscripts, and personal papers. The directory provides a starting place to locate manuscript maps, folk songs, motion pictures, genealogical data, technical documentation, and architectural drawings, to name only a few among the specialized sources covered. Data for individual institutions and their various divisions includes their history (with all of their previous names and acronyms), and brief characterization of holdings. Notes about access provisions and working conditions in each repository augment researcher-orientation. Data about reference facilities include annotated listings of guides and specialized finding aids (total over 8,000 records), with links to available digitized editions.

Basic listings also extend to 186 state archives throughout the Russian Federation, together with available guides and other reference listings.

This ABB coverage should alert researchers in all disciplines to the wealth of archival holdings of all types and historical periods. As ABB on-line coverage expands to a wider range of repositories, governmental and non-governmental, this directory with accompanying bibliography of reference aids significantly opens "intellectual access" for research opportunities in Russia.

Currently coverage is only in English, but funding and staff assistance are being sought to add Russian-language data, updating the 1997 Russian directory *Arkhivy Rossii*.

The Internet infrastructure for ABB with its unique CMS

