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The Russian Academic Expedition to Bukovina during the First World War: Aims, Routes, Objects and Results

Start of the Expedition and Participants

During the First World War, the Imperial Russian Academy of Sciences established a 'Commission for the Protection of Historical Monuments and Scientific Collections in the Area of Military Activities' (*Komissia Imperatorskoj Akademii nauk po ohraneniū pamâtnikov stariny i naučnyh sobranij v rajone voennyh dejstvij*). Special representatives were appointed for the Western, Caucasian and Turkish fronts¹. Between 1914 and 1918, numerous expeditions were planned and conducted as part of this project, but only some of the results were made available to the scientific community². This paper presents some of the initiatives in the Bukovina region, drawing on the material collected during this expedition, which is now kept in the 'Scientific Archive of the Institute for the History of Material Culture of the Russian Academy of Sciences' (*Naučnyj arhiv Instituta istorii materialnoj kul'tury Rossijskoj akademii nauk*, IIMK RAN) in St. Petersburg.

During the war, Russian troops twice managed to occupy large parts of the Bukovina, the easternmost part of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, for long periods: from 30 August 1914 to 13 June 1915 and, after the successful offensive of General Aleksei Brusilov (1853–1926), from 10 June 1916 to 7 March 1918. Chernivtsi (Ukr. Чернівці, Ger. Czernowitz, Rom. Cernăuți), the capital of the Bukovina, underwent three Russian occupations: from 2 September to 2 October 1914, from 28 November 1914 to 15 February 1915 and from 18 June 1916 to 3 August 1917. The survey of museum collections, architectural monuments and ecclesiastical antiquities in the Bukovina was first prepared by the 'Imperial Archaeological Commission' (*Imperatorskaâ arheologičeskaâ komissia*, IAC). The expedition took place in response to reports sent in July 1916 by Alexander Trepov (1862–1928), Minister of Railways, and his brother Fyodor Trepov (1854–1938), Military Governor-General of Bukovina, to the President of the IAC, Alexei Bobrinskoi (1852–1927), in which they

reported on the looting of the museum collection in Kimpolung (Rom. Câmpulung Moldovenesc) and the poor condition of other monuments and collections in the military conflict zone³.

Alexander Trepov reported: "[...] during the trip I just made to the front roads, on 23 July [O.S.]⁴ this year, I had the opportunity to visit the town of Kimpolung in Bukovina. The Governor General of Galicia and the Governor of Ternopil, who were travelling with me, told me that the local agricultural school in Kimpolung had a large collection of ancient icons, church utensils, household items, etc., and that they feared that the entire collection might be looted for lack of adequate security." Fyodor Trepov instructed the local administrations to "take measures to protect the ancient monuments, libraries, scientific and artistic collections, etc.", and wondered whether "the Imperial Archaeological Commission might consider it necessary to send one of its members to Galicia and Bukovina to learn about the ancient monuments and art preserved there"⁵.

Upon receiving this information, the Chairman of the IAC, Alexei Bobrinskoi, reported to the Minister of the Imperial Court: "The Minister of Railways and the Military Governor-General of the Austro-Hungarian Regions Held Under the Law of War have notified me by letters dated 27 July [O.S.] this year of the need to inspect and describe the antiquities in the parts of Bukovina and Galicia occupied by our troops. In view of the fact that the discovery of art treasures and antiquities in the above-mentioned places will provide a solid basis for further measures for their preservation, I regard it as desirable to dispatch a member of the Imperial Archaeological Commission entrusted to me, the academician of architecture Piotr Pokryshkin, and the engineer Vladimir Leontovich to Bukovina and Galicia [...]"⁶.

At the same time, the St. Petersburg⁷ branch of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Monuments (Towarzystwo Opieki nad Zabytkami Przeszłości; TOnZP) in Warsaw⁸ addressed a letter to the Impe-

rial Academy of Sciences stressing the need to protect Polish monuments, museum collections and libraries in the war zone⁹. The Society proposed:

“1/ To set up permanent commissions at the Headquarters of the Commanders-in-Chief of the Armies, especially on the south-western front, composed of special representatives of the Imperial Academy of Sciences and the Archaeological Commission, as well as members of the Society, to ensure the protection of antiquities in the area of military operations; it would be highly desirable that the military authorities provide the commission with military guards, if necessary, to protect valuable antiquities and artefacts.

2/ In view of the extreme urgency of the matter, to send its representative to Galicia again, together with

a member of the Society, as a temporary measure pending the establishment of the above-mentioned commissions, in accordance with the experience of the previous year, when Professor E. Shmurlo after several trips with the Director of the Lviv City Archive and National Museum, A. Czołowski, was sent by the Academy to Galicia to assess the damage caused by the war events and to take appropriate measures to protect the surviving remains of the past”¹⁰.

In the autumn of 1916, the Imperial Academy of Sciences, having heard of the IAC expedition, asked Piotr Pokryshkin (1870–1922) to take on the additional task of protecting antiquities in the southwestern war zone. The Academy also sent him a copy of a letter from the St. Petersburg branch of the TOnZP recom-



fig. 1. Vladimir Leontovich, *Piotr Pokryshkin at the wooden church in Kalichanka*, 1916, FO NA IIMK RAN, neg. I 84508.

mending that members of the Society be included as participants in the planned expedition. Later, the expedition became part of the aforementioned programme of the Academy of Sciences. On the basis of these instructions, the scientists were tasked with surveying the heritage sites documenting their state of preservation and devising measures for their continued protection. In the event of danger, permission was granted to move valuable works of art to safer locations, but only with the permission of the local authorities or with the consent of the owners¹¹.

The architectural historian and conservationist Piotr Pokryshkin (fig. 1)¹², a member of the IAC, was appointed to lead the work¹³. The involvement of Pokryshkin and the IAC in the Bukovina project was based on their expertise and commitment, as well as their many years of organisational and scientific experience in the field of research and conservation of ancient monuments. Founded in St. Petersburg in 1859 by decree of Emperor Alexander II (r. 1855–1881), the IAC was the only state institution systematically engaged in the study and protection of the Russian archaeological and architectural heritage in the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Its activities combined scientific-research, organisational and coordination functions¹⁴. By 1917, Pokryshkin had become the undisputed leader of the IAC's practical architectural, archaeological and conservation research. Almost all projects for the restoration of church architecture in the Russian Empire were decided with Pokryshkin's participation. The main objectives of the Bukovina expedition were the study of local museum collections and historically significant monuments and to record their state of preservation through sketches, descriptions, and photographs. It was not technically possible to record all the monuments in the region. The realisation of the expedition depended on the available means of transport. In the first place, the protagonists studied the well-known painted monasteries, which are considered monuments of outstanding importance, as well as wooden churches. It should also be mentioned that among the photos of the expedition there are pictures of the Armenian Church and of the fortress in Suceava (Germ. Suczawa, Ukr. Сучава).

The expedition was carried out by a multinational team of scientists from a number of different disciplines;



fig. 2. Members of the Bukovina Expedition at the Headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief of the Southwestern Front, from left to right: Alexey Udalenkov, Vladimir Leontovich, Piotr Pokryshkin, Anikita Hotulev, Peotr Neznamov, December 1916, RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, fo. 106, p. 8.

with key participants selected by the expedition organiser himself, who had worked with them successfully in the past. In autumn 1916, on the recommendation of Piotr Pokryshkin, Vladimir Leontovich (1881–1968), the Volhynian Diocesan Architect¹⁵, and Anikita Khotulev (1871–1941), an artist from Moscow¹⁶, joined the staff of the Bukovina expedition. Later, the young architect Aleksandr Udalenkov (1887–1975)¹⁷ and a representative of the TOnZP Zygmunt Borawski (1888–1956)¹⁸ joined the first expedition (fig. 2). In the summer of 1917 Sergey Maslov (1880–1957)¹⁹, a lecturer at Kyiv University, the bibliographer Aleksandr Bagriy (1891–1949)²⁰ and Fyodor Vasilevich Korallov (1865–?)²¹ were invited to a second field visit to Bukovina (fig. 3).

The interdisciplinary investigations lasted from December 1916 to July 1917. Two of the longest field trips under the direct leadership of Piotr Pokryshkin took place from 18 December 1916 to 9 January 1917 [O.S.] and from 20 May to 10 June 1917 [O.S.]. In addition to architectural sites, the researchers recorded and described historical artefacts from archives, museums and library depositories and collected ethnographic evidence. The materials they gathered are presently kept in the St. Petersburg Branch of the Archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Library of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and the Archive Collec-

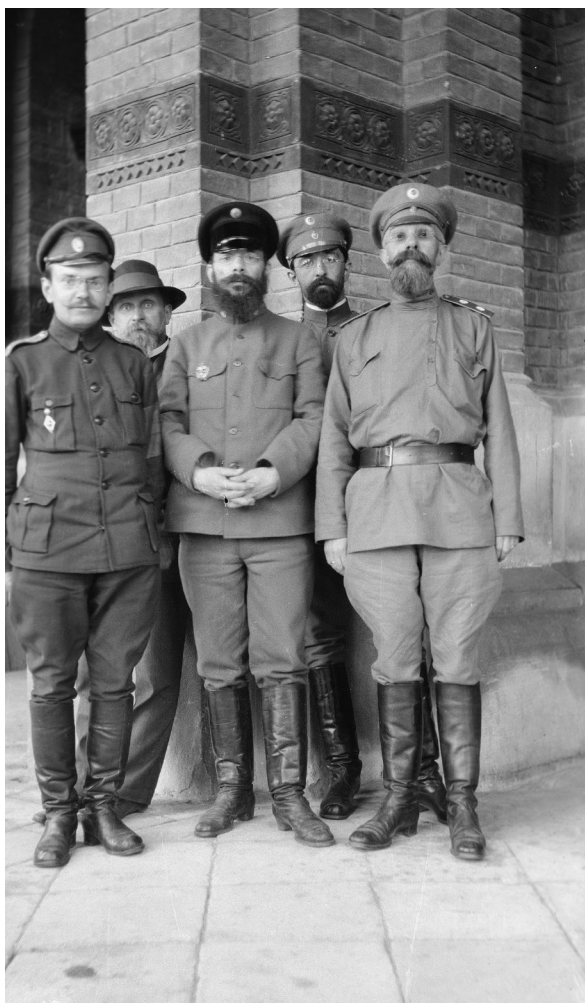


fig. 3. Participants on the Bukovina trip in the summer of 1917, from left to right: Alexander Bagriy, Anikita Hotulev, Piotr Pokryshkin, Sergei Maslov, and Fyodor Korallov, FO NA IIMK RAN, neg. II 37193.

tion of the Institute for the History of Material Culture of Russian Academy of Sciences. They include diaries, reports, correspondence, drawings, and photographs. More than a century later, the valuable evidence of the Bukovina expedition remains little known and unpublished. Luckily, the preserved records in the archives offer details about the expedition routes, the condition of the surveyed locations, and a portion of the research outcomes.

The Two Major Field Trips and the Sites Inspected

In December 1916, the members of the expedition set off on their first journey. Travelling via Kyiv, they arrived in Kamianets-Podilskiy (Ukr. Кам'янець-Подільський,

Rom. Căminia, Pol. Kamieniec Podolski), where the headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the Southwestern Front resided. The researchers then moved to Chernivtsi and spent a considerable amount of time there. First, they visited the Ecclesiastical Museum in the residence of the Metropolitans of Bukovina and Dalmatia. After the first occupation of the capital of Bukovina, Vladimir (Basilius) of Repta (1842–1926), Archbishop of Chernivtsi and Metropolitan of Bukovina and Dalmatia, first took up residence with the Consistory in the spa town of Dorna Watra (Rom. Vatra Dornei). On the initiative of the Austro-Hungarian central authorities, an evacuation to Vienna and then to Prague took place in June 1916. Following that, the ecclesiastical authorities and the regional government of Bukovina continued to handle their affairs from Prague²².



fig. 4. Piotr Pokryshkin, Wooden church model from the Ecclesiastical Museum in the Residence in Chernivtsi, December 1916, FO NA IIMK RAN, Neg. II 37623.



fig. 5. Johann Krzanowski, *Church of the Resurrection of the Lord of the Monastery of Sucevica*, 1906, FO NA IIMK RAN, imp. Q 713/16

During their inspection of the residence, the expedition members found the Ecclesiastical Museum in a very desolate state. The museum curator insinuated that the ruin had been brought upon by Russian soldiers who had taken possession of the keys to the cabinets²³. They described in detail and documented with drawings the old books and icons from the Greek-Catholic Cathedral of St. George in Lviv (Ukr. Львів, Ger. Lemberg, Pol. Lwów), and from different churches of Bukovina, church furniture and a wooden tabernacle in the shape of a three-domed church (fig. 4)²⁴. Amidst the museum holdings, a remarkable collection of photographs (comprising around 400 negatives) capturing the painted monasteries in Bukovina came to light (figs. 5–6)²⁵. These photographs had been made between 1906 and 1909 by the Chernivtsi photographer

Johann Krzanowski under the guidance of Volodymyr Milkovicz (1857–1920), a professor of Eastern European history at the University of Chernivtsi. He was also the founding director (1907) of the Archives of the Chernivtsi Regional Administration (Germ. Landesarchiv) and since 1912 conservator of the Austrian Imperial Royal Central Commission for Monument Preservation (Germ. *k.k. Zentralkommission für Denkmalpflege*)²⁶ and at the same time well-known for his pro-Russian stance. During the Second World War, the collection of the Chernivtsi Museum suffered a sad fate, and today hardly any information is known about it²⁷. Therefore, the materials of the 1916–1917 Bukovina expedition are of great historical importance.

After the museum, the members of the expedition inspected churches in the suburbs and surroundings of



fig. 6. Johann Krzanowski, *Interior of the Church of the Resurrection of the Lord of the Monastery of Sucevica, Eastern Wall of the Narthex*, 1906, FO NA IIMK RAN, imp. Q 714/15.

Chernivtsi. They recorded the state of preservation of churches of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel (1768) in Rosha (Ukr. Роша, Rom. Roșa, Germ. Rosch), the Holy Trinity (1774) in Klokuchka (Ukr. Клокучка, Rom. Cloucica, Germ. Klokuczka), the Assumption of the Mother of God (1783) in Kalichanka (Ukr. Калчанка, Rom. Calieanca, Germ. Kaliczanka), the Assumption in Hariachy Urban (Ukr. Гарячий Урбан, Rom. Horecea rbana, Germ. Horecza Urban) and the monastery of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin (1767) in Ludy-Horecha (Ukr. Люди-Гореча, Rom. Ludi-Hrecea, Germ. Ludy-Horecza)²⁸. The latter had been most severely affected by the events of the war (fig. 7).

From Chernivtsi, the participants of the expedition reached Suceava, where they inspected the 15th-century fortress, the churches of St. George (the Old Metropolis, between 1402–1522), of St. George (the Mirauti Church, 1390), of the Birth of St. John the Baptist (1634), of St. John the New (the New Metropolis,

build 1514–1522), and of St. Demetrius (1534) (figs. 8–9). Additionally, the researchers examined the nearby monasteries of Gura-Humora (Rom. Gura Humorului) (fig. 10) and Voronets (Rom. Vroneț,; Germ. Woronetz). Along with architectural monuments and the murals, the icons and objects of church utensils were described in detail.

On the morning of the 31 December 1916 [O.S.], the members of the expedition arrived in Kimpolung. There they inspected the museum collection and the library of the School of Woodworking. At that time, the museum was used as the seat of the military headquarters and the objects of the collection were in disarray. The researchers compiled a list of the antiquities:

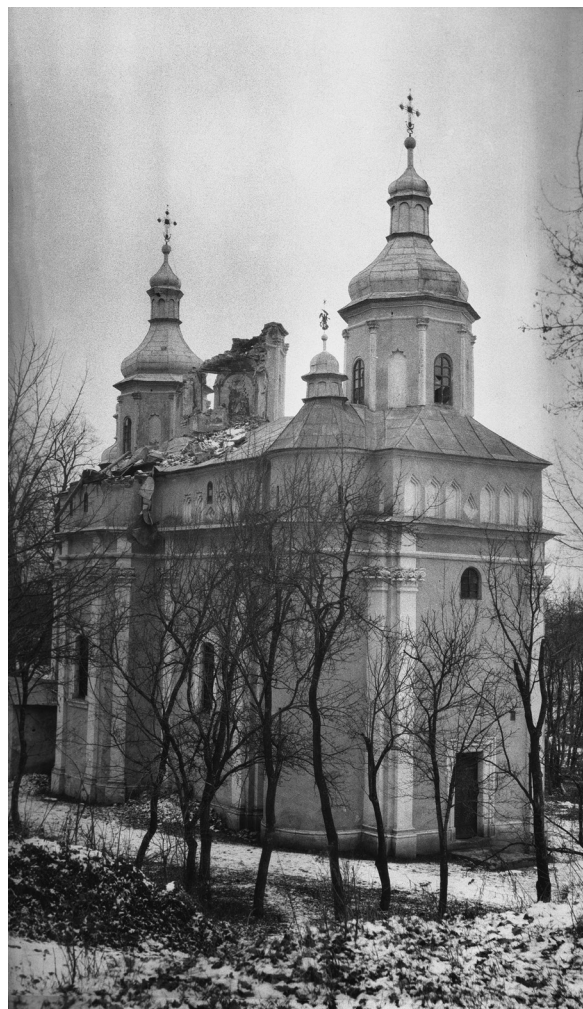


fig. 7. Piotr Pokryshkin, *Ludy-Horecha. Church of the Nativity of the Virgin with the destroyed middle dome*, December 1916, FO NA IIMK RAN, neg. II 37648.



fig. 8. Vladimir Leontovich, *Suceava. The Monastery of St. John the New*, December 1916. FO NA IIMK RAN, imp. O.475/1861.

icons, church utensils, and an ethnographic collection in which wooden objects outweighed (fig. 11). After the survey, the rooms of the museum were sealed off until better times. Unluckily, the current Kimpolung Wood Art Museum does not house the ecclesiastical artefacts described in the 1916–1917 expedition, however, it does still hold some ethnographic objects.

In the first days of January 1917, the expedition visited the wooden churches of the Ascension of the Lord in Vama (1783), and that of St. Nicholas in Fundul-Moldova (Rom. Fundu Moldovei) and examined the Churches of the Assumption of Our Lady and St. Nicholas in Kimpolung. The route of the winter tour also included the monasteries of Dragomirna, Moldovica (Rom. Moldovița) (fig. 12), Radovtsy (Rom. Rădăuți, Germ. Radautz), Sucevica (Rom. Sucevița, Germ. Suczawitz) and Putna. At each site the researchers studied the architectural monuments in detail; they made thorough descriptions of the interior and exterior paintings, the iconostasis, the interior furnishings, and the antiquities stored in the monastery's depositories; they made drawings and took photographs.

During the second trip, in May and June 1917, the expedition again visited the monuments in Suceava



fig. 9. Vladimir Leontovich, *Churches of Suceava*, Page from the *Album with Photographs of the Bukovina Expedition*, December 1916. FO NA IIMK RAN, imp. O.475/1863–1864.



fig. 10. Vladimir Leontovich, *Peotr Pokryshkin* and *Alexei Udalenkov* photographing the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary at Humora Monastery, December 1916. FO NA IIMK RAN. neg. I 84507.

and Dragomirna and explored the church of St. John the Baptist (1672–1673), the church of the Holy Trinity (1353–1358) in Siret (Germ. Sereth), the churches of the Holy Cross (1487) in Patrivtsi (Ukr. Парівці, Rom. Pătrăuți, Germ. Petrouitz), and of the Sunday of All Saints in Parhivtsi (Rom. Părhăuți, Germ. Parhoutz, 1522) near Koshtana (Rom. Costana, Germ. Kostina), the wooden church of St. John the Baptist (1773) in Mamaivtsi (Ukr. Мааївці, Rom. Mămăești Vechi, Germ. Alt-Mamajestie), and the stone church of the Ascension built in the 15th century in Luzhany (Ukr. Лужани, Rom. Lujeni, Pol. Łużan, Germ. Luzan) near Chernivtsi²⁹.

Some results

The loss of the occupied territories and the political changes in Russia led to the disbandment of the Bukovina expedition at the end of the summer of 1917. Piotr Pokryshkin intended to publish a detailed account of the Bukovina explorations, including all descriptions of architectural antiquities, drawings and photographs. His work on preparing these materials for publication in 1919–1920 was rendered impossible due to upcoming events in Russian scientific life and personal changes. In parallel with his work as Head of the Monumental Architecture Department of the Russian State (formerly Imperial) Archaeological Commission, Pokryshkin was also appointed Head of the Archaeological Depart-

ment of the All-Russian Department of Museums and Antiquities Protection in December 1918. In 1921 Pokryshkin left the State Academy for the History of Material Culture (the successor of the IAC) and decided to devote his life to the service of the Church. In 1922 he died of typhoid fever while serving as archpriest of Tikhonov Monastery in Lukoyanov. All the materials that Pokryshkin submitted to the IAC after the Bukovina expedition remained forgotten on the shelves of the archives for many years. It was only at the beginning of the twenty-first century that scholars began to rediscover them³⁰.

The archival documents from the Scientific Archive of the Institute for the History of Material Culture of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IIMK RAN) enabled the summarization of some of the results of the Bukovina expedition³¹. Piotr Pokryshkin listed the most urgent minimum measures for the preservation and restoration of the monuments and museums that had been surveyed:



fig. 11. Vladimir Leontovich, *The Museum in Kimpolung*, Page from the Album with Photos of the Bukovina Expedition, December 1916. FO NA IIMK RAN, imp. O.475/1867–1868.

“In the Chernivtsi museum, the wooden items in the collection need to be protected and treated against bark beetle infestation;

In Rocha: a cross needs to be placed on the church;

In Klokuchka, the holes in the wooden church need to be repaired;

In Ludy-Horecha, a temporary roof should be urgently installed over the destroyed dome of the stone church, and the church should be cleared of rubbish except for the bricks and some fragments of paintings;

In St. George’s Church in Suceava, the water pipes should be repaired to prevent leaks destroying the ancient murals and preventing the growth of mould, and the cupboards should be removed from the walls to preserve the paintings inside the church;

To fix the cracks in the church of St. John in Suceava;

At Dragomirna: Eradicate the rubbing beetles that destroy the stasidia [church pews M. M.], prepare wooden covers to protect the tombstones and restoring the fragments of the wall paintings that have fallen off;

In Humora: prepare covers to protect the gravestones, repair the exterior wall paintings and the levkas [the gesso undercoat M.M.] on the icons, restore the crumbling masonry;

In Voronets: install a cross on the church, repair cracks, install covers for gravestones, clean the murals of soot and eradicate the mill beetles.

In Kimpolung, the museum’s collection was to be preserved until the end of the war and further clearing up. Repair the roof of the Church of St Nicholas and insert glass in the windows;

In the church of Sucevica, the cupboards should be removed from the walls so that the frescoes would be visible and the cracks could be examined.

In Radovtsy, Vatra Moldovica, take preventive measures against the beetle and put levkas on the icons;

No heating should be installed in the churches of Bukovina with wall paintings”³².



fig. 12. Piotr Pokryshkin, *Church of the Moldovica Monastery with the Scaffolding Left Over from the Restoration Work by the Austrian Imperial Central Commission*, 1917, FO NA IIMK RAN, neg. II 37699.

For the following years, Pokryshkin planned an expedition with the participation of Russian restorers to take practical measures to preserve the monuments in the Bukovina, but this could not be carried out as the Russian troops withdrew from these areas.

Piotr Pokryshkin admired the exemplary attitude of the Bukovinian priesthood towards ecclesiastical antiquities: “[...] the clergy is generally more civilised than ours; the priests have all graduated from grammar school, and most of them have a degree from the Faculty of Theology at the University of Chernivtsi; all the priests we met were firmly convinced that antiquity is sacred and inviolable”³³. He also praised the system for protecting the wooden and stone churches

in Bukovina and the restoration work carried out so far by the Austrian architect Karl Adam Romstorfer (1854–1916)³⁴: “The monuments in Bukovina are in a comparatively better state than those in Russia. This is mainly because they receive better financial support from the ‘Bukovinian Orthodox Religious Fund’, which is subsidised by the income from church property and, above all, from forest property. Half of Bukovina is woodland, hence the name of the fund, ‘Zelena Rus’³⁵, is derived from the woodlands. The fund is estimated at 150 million, with an annual income of 15 million; the fund is at the disposal of the Austrian government [...]. The Austrian government, which took possession of the Religious Fund in 1775³⁶, became the sole owner of the ecclesiastical antiquities. No work could be carried out in the churches without the authorisation of the Imperial-Royal Central Commission for the Research and Preservation of Artistic and Historical Monuments. The architect Romstorfer comes all the way from Vienna to Bukovina, and it is easy for him to assess the condition of the antiquities. Bukovina is the size of an average Russian district, and at the same time it has many excellent roads and railway lines. There are also ‘conservators’ at local level who are authorised by the Central Commission”³⁷.

Piotr Pokryshkin displayed a particular interest in this system of protecting ecclesiastical monuments and employed it as a potential model for drafting regulations for the protection of Russian ecclesiastical antiquities. What impressed him most was the highly educated clergy in Bukovina who recognised the importance of ancient monuments. He also appreciated the fact that there was a separate organisation within the church structure concerned with the protection of monuments and at the same time being involved in the state structure for the same purposes. In Russia Piotr Pokryshkin had often encountered a different situation³⁸. The expedition leader expressed overall satisfaction with the results of the work. Despite facing transport problems that caused the expedition to proceed at a slow pace, its members were still able to examine, describe, and photograph a multitude of Bukovinian historical monuments. In his report, however, Piotr Pokryshkin noted that not even half of the expedition’s tasks had been completed, and over hundred churches remained to be examined. He recog-

nised the great potential for further scientific research into the architecture of Bukovina. The scientific expedition produced a rich documentary complex, a significant part of which is now stored at IIMK RAN.

The manuscript collection of the Imperial Archaeological Commission contains two folders with official documents on the organisation of the expedition and correspondence with scientific societies on ancient monuments damaged as a result of military actions³⁹. The personal fund of Pokryshkin includes official correspondence, letters from the participants of the trip, photographs, scientific report, maps of the Galicia-Bukovina railroads with the route, travel documents, diaries, permits, letters to various departments with a request to authorize scientific work in the area of military activity, financial statements, and more⁴⁰. The photographic collection of the IIMK RAN holds more than 500 glass and film negatives and prints related to the Bukovina expedition of 1916–1917, and depicted monuments of ancient architecture, icon painting, and various items from museum collections. All the photographs were taken by the architects Piotr Pokryshkin and Vladimir Leontovich. The two albums with large-format images of the Sucevica Monastery (126 prints)⁴¹ from the above-mentioned collection of photographs by Krzanowski belong to the same materials.

The photographic and other documents from the 1916–1917 expedition provide exceptional information on the state of preservation of local ethnographic collections and historical monuments in the multi-ethnic Habsburg Monarchy at the beginning of the 20th century, which were secured by its Central Commission for the Preservation of Monuments. Some of the objects documented are now on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Abbreviations

- IIMK RAN – Institut istorii materialnoj kultury Rossijskoj akademii nauk [Institute for the History of Material Culture, Russian Academy of Sciences], St. Petersburg
- FO NA IIMK RAN – Fotografičeskij otdel Naučnogo arhiva Instituta istorii materialnoj kultury Rossijskoj akademii nauk [Photographic Department, Scientific Archive, Institute for the History of Material Culture, Russian Academy of Sciences], St. Petersburg
- RO NA IIMK RAN – Rukopisnyj otdel Naučnogo arhiva Instituta istorii materialnoj kultury Rossijskoj akademii nauk [Manuscripts Department, Scientific Archive, Institute for the History of Material Culture, Russian Academy of Sciences], St. Petersburg

Endnotes

- Ekaterina Basargina, *Imperatorskaâ Akademiâ nauk na rubeže XIX–XX vekov* [The Imperial Academy of Sciences at the Turn of XIX and XX Centuries], Moskva 2008, pp. 488–489. For a general overview of the state of the research on Russian *Kunstschutz* initiatives, see the contribution by Aleksandr Musin in the present volume.
- Aleksandr Bagrij, *V zašitu cennostej duha (Iz otčeta po sohraneniû pamâtnikov stariny, iskusstva i kul'tury v rajone voennyh dejstvij)* [Defending the Values of the Spirit (From the Report on the Preservation of Monuments of Antiquity, Art, and Culture in the Field of Military Activities)], Samara 1918; Ekaterina Basargina, *Istoriko-arheologičeskaâ êkspediciâ v Trapezund (1916 g.)* [Historical and Archaeological Expedition to Trabzon (1916)], in: *Vspomogatelnye istoričeskie discipliny*, vol. XXIII, 1991, pp. 295–306; Anna Ereemeeva, *Ohrana kul'turnogo naslediâ na territoriâh, podkontrolnyh russkoj armii, kak sostavlâûšââ nacionalnoj i konfessionalnoj politiki (1914–1917 gody)* [The Protection of Cultural Heritage in the Territories Controlled by the Russian Army as Part of Russian National and Confessional Policy (1914–1917)], in: *Religioznaâ i nacionalno-kul'turnaâ politika gosudarstvennoj vlasti v Rossijskoj imperii* [Religious and National-Cultural Policies of the State Authorities in the Russian Empire], ed. by Irina Ivanova Gorlova, Moskva / Krasnodar 2015, pp. 181–205; Natalâ Kolpakova and Natalâ Baženova, *Deâtelnoš' biblioteki Rossijskoj Akademii Nauk po sohraneniû ličnyh arhivov i bibliotek v hode Pervoj mirovoj vojny* [The Library of the Russian Academy of Sciences during World War I], in: *Peterburgskaâ bibliotečnaâ škola*, no. 2 (39), 2012, pp. 65–70; Dmitrij Starostin, *Trapezundskaâ êkspediciâ 1916–1917 gg.* [The Trabzon Expedition of 1916–1917], in: *Novejšââ istoriâ Rossii*, no. 3, 2014, pp. 283–291; Fedor Uspenskij, *Očerki iz istorii Trapezuntskoj imperii* [Essays on the History of the Empire of Trebizond], Leningrad 1929; Anna Tsyapkina, *Russkie naučnye êkspedicii v Trapezund (1916, 1917 gg.)* [Russian Scientific Expeditions to Trabzon (1916, 1917)], St. Petersburg 2021.
- RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 1. in. 1 (1916), № 104, fol. 1–4, 11–13.
- All dates in this article are given as they appear on the documents, i.e. according to the old style of dating and according to the new style of dating, without converting the dates from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar. Old style dates are followed by [O.S.].
- The passages quoted verbatim from RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 1. in. 1 (1916), № 104, fol. 1–2.
- RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 1. in. 1 (1916), № 104, fol. 3–3r. For information on Pokryshkin and Leontovich, see footnotes 12, 15.
- For the sake of clarity, the name St. Petersburg will be used throughout this text, although the city was called Petrograd from 1914 to 1924.
- The Polish Society has been cooperating with the IAC and the Academy of Sciences on the *Kunstschutz* since February 1915. See more in the article by Ewa Manikowska, *Mutual Influences: Kunstschutz and the Shaping of Polish Art History at the Time of the First World War*, in: *Apologeten der Vernichtung oder 'Kunstschützer'? Kunsthistoriker der Mittelmächte im Ersten Weltkrieg*, ed. by Robert Born and Beate Störckuhl, Köln et al. 2017 (Visuelle Geschichtskultur, vol. 16), pp. 85–101, here pp. 97–98, https://www.vr-elibrary.de/doi/pdf/10.7788/9783412508340_02.12.2023; Beata K. Nykiel, *Petersburskie/Piotrogradskie Koło warszawskiego Towarzystwa Opieki nad Zabytkami Przeszłości i jego działalność w latach 1908–1922* [The St. Petersburg/Petrograd Branch of the Warsaw Society for the Protection of Ancient Monuments and its Activity in the Years 1908–1922], in: *Stan badań nad wielokulturowym dziedzictwem dawnej Rzeczypospolitej* [The State of Research into the Multicultural Heritage of the Former Republic of Poland], ed. by Wojciech Walczak and Katarzyna Wiszowata-Walczak, vol. 12, Białystok 2020, pp. 311–344, here pp. 319–321, and in the contribution by Aleksandr Musin in the present volume.
- The letter was signed by Count Władysław Wielopolski, Chairman of the Board of the Society, Jägermeister of the Imperial Court, Alexander Borawski, Vice-Chairman, Manager of Affairs, and W. Jakubowski, Secretary of the Society. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 360, pp. 9–10. See Maria Medvedeva, Aleksandr Musin and Volodymir Aleksandrovič, *Po sledam učenoi poezdki P.P. Pokryškina v 1916–1917 gg.: K 100-letiu Bukovinskoj êkspedicii Arheologičeskoj komissii i Akademii nauk* [On the Traces of the Scientific Mission of P. P. Pokryshkin in 1916–1917: On the 100th Anniversary of the Bukovina Expedition of the Archaeological Commission and the Academy of Science], in: *Arheologičeskie Vesti*, vol. 23, 2017, pp. 416–421, here p. 417.
- RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 360, fol. 9r.
- RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 360, fol. 28–29.
- Piotr Pokryshkin (1870–1922) – architect and art historian, since 1909 professor at the Imperial Academy of Science, one of the founders of the Russian school of building research, archaeological building research and conservation. See Maria Medvedeva, *Petr Petrovič Pokryškin (1870–1922)*, in: *Otcy-osnovateli RAIMK: ih žiznennyj put' i vklad v nauku* [The Founding Fathers of the RAHMC: Their Life Path and Contribution to Science], ed. by Vladimir Goroncharovskiy, Sankt-Petersburg 2022, pp. 142–167, <https://www.archeo.ru/izdaniya-1/vagnejšhije-izdaniya/pdf/2022FATHERS.pdf>, 02.12.2023; Nadezhda Platonova, *Arhitektor-arheolog P.P. Pokryškin: stranicy biografii* [The Architect-Archaeologist P. P. Pokryshkin: Pages of a Biography], in: *Kratkie soobshheniya Instituta arheologii RAN* [Brief Communications of the Institute of Archaeology] issue 241, Moskva 2015, pp. 422–437; Eadem, *Poslednie gody P. P. Pokryškina* [The Last Years of P. P. Pokryshkin], in: *V kamne i v bronze. Sbornik statej v čest' Anny Peskovoj* [In Stone and Bronze. Essays Presented in Honor of Anna Peskova], ed. by Aleksandr Musin and Olga Shcheglova, St. Petersburg 2017, pp. 445–451; Stefan Dmitruk, *Rola profesora Piotra Pokryszkina w ochronie dziedzictwa prawosławnego, etnicznego i narodowego w okolicach Chelma na początku XX wieku* [The Role of Professor Piotr Pokryszkin in the Protection of Orthodox, Ethnic and National Heritage in the Chelm Region at the Beginning of the 20th Century], in: *Latopisy Akademii Supraskiej*, vol. 9, 2018, special issue *Rola laikatu w życiu cerkwi* [The Role of the Laity in the Life of the Orthodox Church], pp. 81–96, <https://bibliotekanauki.pl/articles/2168703>, 07.03.2024.
- Imperatorskaâ arheologičeskaâ komissiiâ (1859–1917): Istoriiâ pervogo gosudarstvennogo učreždeniâ rossijskoj arheologii ot osnovaniâ do reformy* [The Imperial Archaeological Commission in Russia (1859–1917): History of the First State Institution of Russian Archaeology from its Beginnings to the Reform], ed. by Aleksandr Musin and Maria Medvedeva, 2nd ed., vol. 1–2, St. Petersburg 2019, here vol. 2, p. 1240.
- For more details on the history of the IAC: Musin and Medvedeva (eds.) 2019, *Imperatorskaâ arheologičeskaâ komissiiâ (1859–1917)*, 2019, vol. 2, p. 1616.
- Vladimir Leontovich – engineer, architect and conservator. In the 1910s he was involved in the conservation of architectural monuments in Volhynia, and as a diocesan architect took part in the activities of Piotr Pokryshkin. The two architects not only had a

- business relationship, but also a friendly one. Leontovich later worked as a professor at the Kyiv Institute of Civil Engineering and the Kyiv University.
16. Anikita Khotulev was an artist, a student of the famous painter Ilja Repin (1844–1930). He graduated from the Moscow School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture attached to the Imperial Academy of Arts. During that period he worked at the Russian Historical Museum in Moscow.
 17. Aleksandr Udalenkov was an architect, conservator and assistant at the St. Petersburg Academy for the History of Material Culture in the 1920–1930s. He participated in the restoration of architectural monuments in Moscow, Novgorod, St Petersburg/Leningrad, Samarkand etc. In 1916 he was a student at the Academy of Fine Arts. At that time he had already begun to help Pokryshkin with his surveys for the restoration of monuments. See Maria Medvedeva, *Aleksandr Petrovič Udalenkov (1887–1975)*, in: Goroncharovskiy (ed.) 2022, *Otcy-osnovateli RAIMK* pp. 242–254, <https://www.archeo.ru/izdaniya-1/vagnejsihje-izdaniya/pdf/2022FATHERS.pdf>, 02.12.2023.
 18. Zygmunt Borawski was the son of Aleksandr Borawski (1861–1942), an artist and restorer, an employee of the Russian Museum of His Imperial Majesty Alexander III (1896–1910s), and the secretary of the St. Petersburg branch of the TOnZP. See Artur Kijas, *Borawski Aleksander Sergiusz*, in: *Polski Petersburg*, <https://www.polskipetersburg.pl/hasla/borawski-aleksander-sergiusz>, 02.12.2023. As an ensign of the railway troops, Zygmunt Borawski was included in the mission by the Academy of Sciences as a representative of the St. Petersburg branch of the TOnZP and as an ‘expert on Polish antiquities’. In the summer of 1917 he was a delegate to the First General Assembly of Military Poles in St Petersburg, and during the congress he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Central Union of Military Poles. After 1920 he made a career as an officer in the Polish army.
 19. Sergey Maslov, bibliographer, literary critic, book expert and pedagogue, professor (1935), Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (1939), Doctor of Philosophy (1943). Piotr Pokryshkin involved him in the project as an authorised expert on manuscripts.
 20. Aleksandr Bagriy was a literary critic, historian and bibliographer. Peotr Pokryshkin called him a ‘bibliophile’; he was included in the expedition’s staff as an expert for the study and description of library collections.
 21. Fyodor Vasilevich Korallov was a graduate of the St. Petersburg Theological Academy, and later worked as a school district inspector in the Chelm School Directorate and as head of the Siedlce School Directorate (1910–1912). He was one of the organisers of the Museum of Ecclesiastical and Archaeological Antiquities in Chelm (Ukr. Холм), and could read Old Slavic manuscripts fluently. Piotr Pokryshkin knew him from the time of his architectural and archaeological work in Chelm in 1909–1912. Cf. Dariusz Szewczuk, *Naczelnicy Siedleckiej Dyrekcji Naukowej (1864–1912) / Heads of the Siedlce School Directorate (1864–1912)*, in: *Res Historica*, vol. 50, 2020, pp. 269–284, here pp. 278–281, DOI:10.17951/rh.2020.50.269–284, 04.12.2023.
 22. Kurt Scharr, *Der griechisch-orientalische Religionsfonds der Bukowina 1783–1949. Kontinuitäten und Brüche einer prägenden Institution des Josephinismus*, Wien et al. 2020 (Veröffentlichungen der Kommission für Neuere Geschichte Österreichs, vol. 119), pp. 208–209.
 23. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 48, p. 104r.
 24. The residence also housed the Bukovina Provincial Museum (Lan-
desmuseum) since 1893. The expedition visited it and took several photographs, but there is no description of it in Pokryshkin’s report.
 25. In 1917, by order of Piotr Pokryshkin, imprints were made from some of them which are now stored in the Archives of the IIMK RAN – two albums of large size photos of the Sucevița Monastery (126 photos). The fates of the negatives remain unknown.
 26. On Milkowicz as curator of the Austrian Imperial Royal Central Commission for Monument Preservation, see: *Personenlexikon zur österreichischen Denkmalpflege (1850–1990)*, ed. by Theodor Brückler and Ulrike Nimeth, Wien 2001, p. 179. Information on the photographs of the monuments in Bukovina taken by Johann Krzanowski on behalf of the Austrian Central Commission in: Waldemar Deluga, *Protection of Eastern Christian Monuments in Bukovina at the End of the 19th and the Beginning of the 20th Century*, in: *Monumentorum Tutela = Ochrana pamiatok*, vol. 30 no. 1, 2020, pp. 51–59, here p. 56.
 27. Kassian Bogatyrets, *Istoriia Bukovinskoj eparhii. Chast’ 4. Bukovinskaja eparhija vo vremja rumynskogo pravlenija (1918–1940, 1941–1944)* [History of the Bukovina Eparchy. Part 4. The Eparchy of Bukovina Diocese under Romanian Rule (1918–1940, 1941–1944)], in: *Biblioteka zhurnalov «Rusin»*, vol. 1, 2015, pp. 201–308, here pp. 275–276.
 28. Medvedeva, Musin, Aleksandrovič 2017, *Po sledam učenoj poezdki P.P. Pokryškina*, p. 418.
 29. Medvedeva, Musin, Aleksandrovič 2017, *Po sledam učenoj poezdki P.P. Pokryškina*, p. 419.
 30. Medvedeva, Musin, Aleksandrovič 2017, *Po sledam učenoj poezdki P.P. Pokryškina*, pp. 416–421.
 31. The full text of the report on the winter trip to Bukovina is present in the personal archive of Piotr Pokryshkin in two typed copies and a single handwritten copy. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 48.
 32. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 48, pp. 43–44.
 33. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 48, p. 100.
 34. Karl Adam Romstorfer – Austrian architect, graduate of the Technical University of Vienna. From 1884 to 1904 he taught at the Staatsgewerbeschule (State School of Commerce) in Chernivtsi. In addition, he devoted himself to the study and conservation of monuments and sites in the Bukovina. As a conservator of the Central Commission, he oversaw a series of excavations and restorations of medieval monuments, especially the famous monasteries of the region. The results of his research were published in the publications of the Vienna Central Commission. See *Personenlexikon zur österreichischen Denkmalpflege* 2001, p. 228; Șerban Constantin, *Karl Adolf Romstorfer (1854–1917)*, in: *Codrul Cosminului*, N.S., nr. 2 (12), 1996, pp. 511–519; Robert Born, *The Vienna School of Art History and Bukovina*, in: *History of Art History in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe*, ed. by Jerzy Malinowski, vol. 2, Toruń 2012, pp. 127–135, here pp. 129–130; Victoriâ Grăban and Michail Čučko, *Tradicionne žiliše bukovinskih lipovan v issledovaniâh avstrijskogo arhitek-tora K.A. Romštorfera (1854–1916)* [Traditional Housing of the Bukovina Lipovans in the Studies of the Austrian Architect K. A. Romstorfer (1854–1916)], in: *Lipovane. Istoriâ i kultura russskih-staroobrádcev*, vol. 5, 2008, pp. 171–173.
 35. A common German designation for the region is ‘Buchenland’ (Beech land). Pokryshkin used the name “Zelena Rus” in his report. This name (“Green Rus” as opposed to the neighbouring “Chervona Rus”) of Bukovina appears in the Orthodox Theological Encyclopaedia, published in St. Petersburg in 1901–1911. See *Pravoslavnaja bogoslovskaja enciklopedija ili Bogoslovskij jenciklopedičeskij slovar, soderžashhij v sebe neobhodimija*

dlja kazhdago svedenija po vsem vazhnejšim predmetam bogoslovskago znanija v alfavitnom porjadke [The Orthodox Theological Encyclopedia or Theological Encyclopedic Dictionary, containing alphabetically arranged information necessary for everyone on all the most important subjects of theological knowledge], ed. by Aleksandr Lopukhin, vol. 2, St. Petersburg 1901, p. 1164.

36. This information in Pokryshkin's account is incorrect. In 1775 Bukovina became part of the Habsburg Empire. The Greek-Oriental Religious Fund associated with the Bukovina was not established until 1783. Due to its growing economic and political importance, the Greek-Oriental Religious Fund became a decisive factor in shaping the region until its dissolution in 1949.
37. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 48, pp. 99r–100. For details on the activities of the 'Bukovinian Orthodox Religious Fund', see Scharr 2020, *Der griechisch-orientalische Religionsfonds*; on the activities of the Central Commission in the Bukovina see Deluga 2020, *Protection of Eastern Christian Monuments*.
38. In the early twentieth century Pokryshkin took an active part in the development of the state law on the protection of antiquities in Russia. In his notes on that occasion, he described how Russian clergymen were very rarely aware of the historical value of churches; in their efforts to improve the interior, they sometimes painted over ancient "lunsightly" frescoes, removed historic elements of decoration, etc. See Musin and Medvedeva (eds.) 2019, *Imperatorskaâ arheologičeskaâ komissiâ (1859–1917)*, vol. 2, pp. 1240–1241.
39. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 1. in. 1 (1915), № 29; f. 1. in. 1 (1916), № 104.
40. RO NA IIMK RAN, f. 21. in. 1, № 46–51, 72, 110, 339, 360, 1611, etc.
41. FO NA IIMK RAN, Albums Q 713–714.

Abstract

During the First World War, in 1916–1917, an extensive expedition of Russian scientists, organised by the Imperial Archaeological Commission (St. Petersburg), was carried out on the territory of Bukovina (now the Chernivtsi region in Ukraine and the Suceava region in Romania) occupied by Russian troops. It involved architects, ethnographers, philologists, and other experts. Their main task was to analyse the state of preservation of the historical monuments and museum collections. The records and photographs kept in the archives of the Institute for the History of Material Culture of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg provide information about the expedition routes, the condition of the sites studied, and of some of the research results. The aim of this article was to highlight the valuable, largely unknown and unpublished material of the Bukovina expedition.

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Titel

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