

Some useful websites for early Slavic

This is perforce a very selective list, since it would be silly to try to replicate what some of these websites do. My particular interest here has been to identify sites that provide access to electronic versions of the widest possible range of sources, especially primary source publications. As it turns out, most of the older series of source publications are available on-line and can be freely downloaded. And increasingly we are getting newer publications and ones specifically created on-line, including scans of complete manuscripts and manuscript collections. I have included toward the end of the list a few more focussed Internet resources, including ones about which there were recent postings to the Early Slavic list.

I would be happy to add to the list (and then repost the file) particular recommendations for resources you feel are especially valuable and which might not otherwise come to people's attention. If you have suggestions, write me at dwaugh@u.washington.edu.

-- Dan Waugh

Russian State Library (Rossiiskaia gosudarstvennaia biblioteka/RGB/ex-Lenin Library [GBL])

The access page for the electronic resources they are posting (which are many) is: <http://elibrary.rsl.ru/>. The website provides a virtual keyboard to facilitate your typing in search words in Cyrillic. I have not yet done any searches here, by the way.

Russian National Library (Rossiiskaia natsional'naia biblioteka)/RNB/thePublichka[GPB]

Access page for electronic resources <http://leb.nlr.ru/>. They have a good many early Slavic books accessible in their entirety; they have loaded up the *Polnoe sobranie zakonov Rossiiskoi imperii*, and, I am sure, much more....

Portal archeologia.ru <http://www.archeologia.ru/>

This is a valuable access point for all sorts of electronic sites, where in particular you may want to click on "resursy seti" <http://www.archeologia.ru/Links/>. It is not just for archaeology. By clicking on boxes you can select categories you wish to search (e.g.: istoriia: srednevekov'ia) to get a list of descriptive links. That is, you don't need to be able to type into their search boxes Cyrillic. Without specific searching though you need to scroll down long lists.

Gbooks <<http://gbooks.archeologia.ru/>>

This is an astounding resource, by far and away the best source for pdf files of source publications and secondary works on history, archaeology, etc. etc. published primarily prior to 1917. As the compilers explain, much here comes from work that can be accessed via a “Google Book Search,” but they have added a great deal else, some via the Russian National Library, other volumes thanks to scans various individuals have provided. While the books themselves are out of copyright, it is not clear what the copyright status may be of the scans, in that they have loaded them up to a separate server for easy access and download.

On the left bar is an alphabet of links to the catalogue pages. Click on a letter, you get the books under that letter in alphabetical order, in each case linked to the pdf file. Click on the pdf button for the download, you get a separate page at rapidshare.com. Your security software may ask whether you really want to go there, but it seems OK to indicate you do. Once on the rapidshare page, you click on the green “download” button to start the process. Apart from the basic alphabetic search, there are several other categories one can choose (e.g., “periodika”). Within the catalogue pages are some crosslistings—so you may find things by title or by issuing institution repeated on different pages.

The downloads can be slow, as some files are as large as several dozen MB. But what you can get! Most notably, complete sets of most of the basic primary source series (PSRL, AI, AAE, AIuZR, etc.). Occasionally I have found something is wrong with the download link, but probably eventually those problems will be fixed.

Vostochnaia literatura. Srednevekovye istoricheskie istochniki Vostoka i Zapada
<<http://www.vostlit.info/>>

This is the best single site for Russian translations of basic primary sources over a wide range of geographical and historical areas (not just early Slavic, pre-modern Russia etc.)—here you find such things as Latin, Arabic or Persian sources in translation, but also the modern Russian translations of foreign travel accounts about pre-modern Russia. One accesses the material via the alphabet links to the catalogue (where listings are either under author or title alphabetically). Under “dokumenty” at the end of the alphabet are collections arranged by country or political entity—e.g., a valuable set of links to documents pertaining to (emanating from) the Golden Horde. There is a link to a set of historical maps (that is, modern maps relating to particular areas and their history), another link to a page with indexes to such things as important periodicals. The basic source publications have been scanned and edited into html files, preserving the notes to introductions and texts. Some of the other material varies in format: .xls, .djvu, etc.

Biblioteka elektronnykh resursov Istoricheskogo fakul'teta MGU im. M. V. Lomonosova <<http://www.hist.msu.ru/ER/index.html>>

One of the better sites for easy access to a lot of resources, with choice of Russian or English version. Start with the first rubric, "Elektronnye teksty" for very useful set of links.

Among the linked sites for historical sources, I found these to be of particular interest:

Rukopisnye pamiatniki Drevnei Rusi <<http://www.lrc-lib.ru/>>. Includes links to first vols. of PSRL and to separate site with all the Novgorod birchbark *gramoty*.

Izbornik – 2002 <<http://litopys.narod.ru/>>. Ukrainian texts, including chronicles and other primary sources.

There is a very extensive set of links to museum websites

<<http://www.hist.msu.ru/ER/museum.htm>>

You start here with ones in Russia, but can select other countries or scroll down through the list of them.

International Institute of Social History/ArcheoBiblioBase

<<http://www.iisg.nl/abb/index.php>>

"This newly revised expanded website presents updated major sections of the ArcheoBiblioBase directory and bibliographic information system for archival repositories in the Russian Federation, maintained in Moscow under the direction of Patricia Kennedy Grimsted and a Russian coordinator with cooperation from the Federal Archival Agency of Russia (Rosarkhiv before March 2004, Federal Archival Service of Russia) and the State Public Historical Library (GPIB). The present information, presented in English by the International Institute of Social History (IISH/IISG, Amsterdam), should alert researchers abroad to the wealth of holdings and research opportunities in repositories in Moscow and St. Petersburg and state archives throughout the Russian Federation." [from the website]

Some more focused resources:

Obshchestvo liubitelei drevnei pis'mennosti

<<http://oldp.sterligoff.ru/>>

Presumably eventually there will be a lot more here—manuscript descriptions, facsimiles, etc., but as it is, the site has valuable resources that can be downloaded: several different manuscripts of famous Evangelia, and, so far, the first 11 volumes of the facsimile edition of the *Litsevoi letopisnyi svod* (!!). Click on "faksimil'nye izdaniia." Apart from the facsimile of the litsevoi svod, they are putting up modern Russian translation of

selected parts of the text. Apparently we can expect all 20 volumes to be posted for free download here.

Sviato-Troitskaia Sergieva Lavra

<<http://www.stsl.ru/>>

A huge array of online resources, including varia on the history, buildings, etc. of the monastery itself, an edition of the Vita of S. Sergius, A. V. Gorskii's volumes on the library. For the the greatest treasure on this site click on "rukopisi", where you find links to (to date) 4282 complete manuscript facsimiles grouped in folders by fond number in a joint project with the Russian National Library (RGB). They include the following fondy of the latter's collection: 173/I-IV [the MDA collection], 229, 317, 557303/I, 303/II, 304/I, 304/II, and miscellaneous including the 1878 descriptions of the MSS.

As posted by Yulia Mikhailova to the Early Slavic list:

Biblioteka Literaturny Drevnei Rusi on-line at

<<http://www.pushkinskiydom.ru/Default.aspx?tabid=2070>>

As posted by Sergei Bogatyrev to the Early Slavic list:

The Russian National Library has launched an excellent website about the Laurentian chronicle. The site features an online publication of the chronicle, including digital images of the manuscript folios, transliteration and translation of the text, and brief historical comments about persons and places mentioned in the text. Additional material includes very useful table of contents with links to folios, a description of the manuscript, essays about the history of the manuscript and its historical context, and a search facility to find folios with particular names and dates. The interface of the website is quite friendly.

Title page of the project:

<<http://expositions.nlr.ru/LaurentianCodex/index.php>>

On-line publication:

<http://expositions.nlr.ru/LaurentianCodex/Project/page_Show.php>

Provided to the Early Slavic list by Georgi Parpulov:

A website (in Russian) about Russo-Greek relations through the 17th c.:

<<http://kapterev.csu.ru/index.shtml>>

It features on-line editions of some classic and modern works about the subject, including Belokurov, Kaptelev, Sinitsyna, Fonkich, Chentsova, Chesnokova, as well as the collections *Rossii i Khristianskii Vostok* and *Kaptevskie chteniia*.

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