БАЗЫ ДАННЫХ И ИНФОРМАЦИОННО-ПОИСКОВЫЕ СИСТЕМЫ

DATABASES AND INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS

ARCHEOBIBLIOBASE (ABB): СПРАВОЧНИК И БИБЛИОГРАФИЧЕСКИЙ УКАЗАТЕЛЬ ПО РОССИЙСКИМ АРХИВАМ

ARCHEOBIBLIOBASE (ABB): REFERENCE BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR RUSSIAN ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPT REPOSITORIES

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Содержится краткое описание масштабного международного проекта (руководитель: Патриция Кеннеди Гримстед), поддержку которого осуществляют на данном этапе Международный институт социальной истории (МИСИ, Амстердам) и Российская академия народного хозяйства и государственной службы при Президенте Российской Федерации (РАНХиГС, Департамент международного развития).

Ключевые слова: международный проект, информационная система, библиографический указатель, архивные документы, рукописные собрания.

The article briefly summarizes large-scale international project (managed by Patricia Kennedy Grimsted) presently supported by the International Institute of Social History (Amsterdam) and the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (Department of International Development).

Keywords: international project, information system, bibliographic index, archival documents, bibliographic index, handwritten corpora.

АННОТАЦИЯ*

Начиная с 1997 г. и до конца 2010 г. Международный институт социальной истории в Амстердаме (далее МИСИ) выступал в качестве хозяина и разработчика программного обеспечения англоязычной интернет-версии ArcheoBiblioBase (ABB; http://www.iisg.nl/abb/), наиболее полного справочника и библиографического указателя по почти 600 российским архивам и рукописным собраниям с их административными ведомствами. Начиная с лета 2012 г. Департамент международного развития Российской академии народного хозяйства и государственной службы при Президенте Российской Федерации (РАНХиГС; http://www.rane.ru/) согласился принять на себя содержание и обслуживание ABB в России. Соответствующее соглашение было подписано в начале 2013 г. В рамках этого соглашения МИСИ в Амстердаме продолжает поддерживать вебсайт и основную программу базы данных CMS, а на сайте РАНХиГС размещено зеркало ABB.

ABB начинался в Москве как совместный русско-американский проект между IREX и Отделением истории Российской Академии наук в 1991 г. и размещался в Государственной публичной исторической библиотеке (ГПИБ). В июне 1992 г. было подписано совместное соглашение между IREX и Росархивом. ABB переместился в Росархив, где размещался до 2004 г. Сегодня ArcheoBiblioBase — это совместный русско-голландский англоязычный веб-сайт со ссылками на русскоязычные архивные вебсайты и базы данных, представляющий собой всестороннюю справочную и библиографическую информационную систему по почти 600 российским архивам и рукописным собраниям. Статистические данные использования, собранные МИСИ, подтверждают востребованность информации, размещенной на вебсайте ABB: в месяц его посещают от 1300 до 3000 пользователей.

1. СОДЕРЖАНИЕ БАЗЫ ДАННЫХ

а) учреждения, хранящие архивные документы

В настоящее время база данных ABB включает сведения 577 учреждений Российской Федерации, хранящих архивные документы, которые распределены по следующим разделам: раздел B — 14 федеральных архивов, находящихся под юрисдикцией Росархива; раздел C — 30 ведомственных архивов, не входящих в юрисдикцию Росархива (архивы Президента, МИД, МО, ФСБ, ЗАГС, Госфильмофонда и др.), 26 из которых доступны на вебсайте; раздел D — 19 городских и областных архивов Москвы и Санкт-Петербурга, включая некоторые ведомственные архивы (архивы ЗАГС, архивы управлений ФСБ по Москве и Санкт-Петербургу и др.); раздел E — 60 архивохранилищ академических, учебных, научных институтов и университетов Москвы и С.-Петербурга, 53 из которых доступны на вебсайте; раздел F — 23 негосударственных архива, таких как «Мемориал», Народный архив (документы которого сейчас находятся в РГАНИ) и др. (находится в стадии редактирования и пока для пользователей на сайте открыто только 6 организаций); раздел G — 26 архивов и рукописных хранилищ ведущих библиотек Москвы и Санкт-Петербурга, 24 из которых доступны на вебсайте; раздел H — 221 архив и хранилищ рукописных собраний музеев Москвы и С.-Петербурга (128 московских музеев и 93 санкт-петербургских); в настоящий момент 53 хранилища доступно для пользователей на сайте ABB; раздел RusFed — справочная информация о 184 государственных архивах Российской Федерации (вне Москвы и Санкт-Петербурга) и библиография к ним.

Все эти разделы содержат:
— **справочную информацию об учреждениях**: русское название учреждения, написанное транслитерацией, и его английский перевод, наименование вышестоящей организации (русское и английский перевод), адреса, телефоны, время работы, ФИО руководства и их телефоны и т. д.;
— **исторические справки**, включающие предыдущие названия учреждения на русском (транслитерация) и английском языках, их аббревиатуру с датами переименований, а также текстовое описание;
— **описание хранящихся документов**, а также статистику хранящихся документов, если таковая имеется;
— **условия доступа к документам** и работы с ними, наличие читального зала;
— **научно-справочный аппарат**;
— возможности **копирования документов**;
— наличие **справочной библиотеки**;
— в базе данных предусмотрено также отдельное описание **подразделений** учреждений, хранящих архивные документы:
— **библиографию** данного учреждения, разделенную на общую библиографию (общие путеводители, справочники по фондам архива) и специализированные издания (обзоры, описания отдельных собраний, кол-

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лекций и т. д.), а также неопубликованные и машинописные издания — всего около 6500 изданий. Библиография привязана к своему учреждению.

Раздел **RusFed** пока не содержит такой подробной информации. Здесь размещена только справочная информация об архивах и библиография к ним. Архивы сгруппированы по принадлежности к федеральным округам и по регионам.

б) справочная библиография

В базе данных АВВ имеется обширный раздел общей библиографии — **раздел А**, включающий около 1500 изданий. Все издания, включенные в раздел А, так же как и библиография учреждений, имеют полное библиографическое описание. В библиографии имеются актуальные ссылки на имеющиеся электронные издания, в частности на базу данных «Путеводители по Российским архивам» на портале «Архивы России». Кроме того, в базе данных предусмотрены ссылки на наличие каждого конкретного издания в крупнейших библиотечных хранилищах, таких как Библиотека Конгресса США (DLC), библиотека Гарвардского университета, библиотека Росархива, Российская государственная библиотека (РГБ) и др. В случае если какое-либо издание имеет кроме печатной еще и микроформу (микрофильм, микрофиши), в базе данных также предусмотрена ссылка на коллекцию микроизданий: IDC, EastView и др.

2. ПРОГРАММНОЕ ОБЕСПЕЧЕНИЕ

MySQL. В 2005 г. Международный институт социальной истории (МИСИ, Амстердам) разработал информационную систему (Content Management System — CMS) для размещения на своем сайте английской версии АВВ. Для этого использовалась СУБД MySQL. База данных управляется с сервера, использующего операционную систему Linux, но также можно использовать MS Windows.

Русскоязычная база данных

Существующая база данных АВВ CMS не включает параллельные русскоязычные файлы с данными, разработанные в 1990-х гг. Файлы с данными АВВ на русском языке были сохранены в электронной форме в Москве, но они не обновлялись с 2000 г.

В последние два десятилетия АВВ является для всего мира своеобразным «окном» в российские архивы, открывающим доступ к все более открытому справочному аппарату, новостям архивной отрасли, новым электронным изданиям и т. д. Подобной по своему объему и информативности базы данных по архивам нет ни в одной стране, ни в США, ни в Англии, ни где-либо еще. В идеале

ArcheoBiblioBase может стать частью двуязычного архивного интернет-портала в Москве, включающего сведения не только о самих архивах, но и архивных собраниях библиотек, музеев, учреждений Министерства культуры РФ, Академии наук и др. Это может положить начало выходу России на ведущие позиции в мире в плане создания и развития современных международных справочных систем.

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ABB Project
International Institute of Social History (IISH), Amsterdam
Russian Presidential Academy for the National Economy and Public
Administration (RANEPA), Centre for International Projects, Moscow

ArcheoBiblioBase (ABB) —
<http://www.iisg.nl/abb/>
Directory and Reference Bibliography for Russian Archives and Manuscript Repositories

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Moscow Coordinator: Natalia Maslova, RANEPA (Moscow)
Programmer: Gordan Cupac, IISH (Amsterdam)
Library Consultant: Mikhail Afanas'ev, Director, State Public Historical Library (GPIB), Moscow

Summary Description and Specifications (June 2014)

Since 1997, the International Institute of Social History (IISH) in Amsterdam has served as the host and program developer for the digital English-language Internet version of ArcheoBiblioBase (ABB — **<http://www.iisg.nl/abb/>**, RANEPA mirror website: <http://www.ranepa.ru/eng/academics/center-for-russian-studies/crs-abb-database.html>), the comprehensive directory and reference bibliography for close to 600 Russian archives and manuscript repositories.

Starting in Summer 2012, the Centre for Russian Studies of the Russian Presidential Academy for the National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA; <http://www.rane.ru/homepage.html>; or in Russian — RANKhiGS) agreed to provide a new home for ArcheoBiblioBase in Russia and hired the Russian coordinator, Natalia Maslova. An agreement signed

in March 2013 provides that IISH in Amsterdam will continue to maintain the computer infrastructure — the website and master CMS database program, while RANEPA will be responsible for substantive upkeep of the data files (see the announcement on the ABB home page on the IISH website). As of Spring 2014, RANEPA now displays a mirror website and an international board of advisors is being formed. Plans call for revival of the ABB Cyrillic data files with expansion and updating to provide a bilingual facility.

ArcheoBiblioBase started in Moscow as a collaborative Russian-American project between the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) and the Division of History of the Academy of Sciences in 1991 with a computer center at the State Public Historical Library (GPIB). After a collaborative agreement was signed between IREX and Rosarkhiv in June 1992, the project moved to Rosarkhiv, where it was housed until 2004.

Currently ArcheoBiblioBase continues its English-language Internet website out of Amsterdam, with links to Russian-language archival websites and databases, providing a comprehensive directory and bibliographic reference system for close to 400 archives and manuscript repositories under various rubrics as noted below. Usage statistics compiled for IISH confirm that ABB is among the most heavily trafficked components of the IISH website, with between 1,300 and 3,000 unique visits per month. Efforts are underway for further updating and expansion of its basic coverage.

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.

1. DIRECTORY CONTENT

Repository data is maintained in the IISH-developed Content Management System (CMS) Internet database. Updated data is displayed on the ABB website: <http://www.iisg.nl/abb/>.

A. Repositories covered in ABB — total 583 institutions:

Part B — 14 Federal archives under Rosarkhiv

Part C — 29 Federal agency archives (with right of retention of their own records), including FSB, MID/MFA, and Ministry of Defense archives, etc.

Part D — 19 municipal and oblast state archives in Moscow and Saint Petersburg

Part E — 61 archives under the former Academy of Sciences and other Academies now under the Federal Agency for Scientific Organizations, as well as other Academies, universities, and research institutions in Moscow and Saint Petersburg (additional ones not displayed require updating)

Part F — 23 archives under independent (i.e. non-state) institutions or agencies,

Part G — 26 archives and manuscript departments under major libraries in Moscow and Saint Petersburg

Part H — 219 archives and manuscript holdings in major museums — 126 museums in Moscow and 93 in Saint Petersburg

Part R (RusFed) — 192 state archives of Subjects of the Russian Federation outside of Moscow and Saint Petersburg and their reference bibliography.

N. B. Coverage of others is gradually being added as updating continues in Moscow.

Repository Coverage:

For each repository, separate pull-down menu components cover:

History of the repository and its predecessors with correlated listings in English and Russian (transliterated) of all previous names (with dates and acronyms), as well as those of component repositories whose holdings are now incorporated in the present one.

Holdings with a survey of major categories and

highlights of documentation held by the archive.

Multiple Divisions (Departments): Coverage under many repositories extends to several different divisions, especially for libraries and museums where archival materials are located in different sections, or that have manuscript divisions as well as archives, and audio-visual units.

Access and Facilities, including under **Access**, a brief survey of relevant access restrictions and recent declassification highlights; **Working Conditions,** including quantity order limitation and delivery time; **Copy facilities,** with note about quantity limits and delivery time for photocopies, scans, or microfilm; **Reference facilities**, with links to electronic reference facilities, and notes about available finding aids (*opisi*); and the extent of **Library facilities** within the archive.

Bibliography of Guides and Finding Aids, divided into General and Specialized component sections; subsections are indicated on opening; links to electronic versions.

The "Access and Facilities", and **"Bibliography"** components cover all divisions under a given repository, with separate rubrics for subdivisions as needed.

B. Reference bibliography:

Over 8,000 numbered bibliographic records for archival reference publications:

Part A — over 1,500 (**General Bibliography of Archival Reference Publications**). Not currently displayed, it is hoped with Moscow assistance for further updating can be prepared for launch as soon as possible on the ABB website.

An interim selected "Reference Bibliography" is currently available on the ABB website in a PDF file, which also could benefit from further updating.

Parts B — H, and R — over 6,500 under specific archival repositories, guides, specialized finding aids, and other reference publications divided between "General" and "Specialized" categories, relationally linked to the repositories they describe, and links to electronic versions. "Categories" of bibliographic coverage are listed in red at the top of the opening screen under "Bibliography" for both "General" and "Specialized" listings.

Internal database reference websites available in many archives are indicated with direct links.

2. CURRENT PROGRAM PROVISIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS

MySQL. The state-of-the-art ABB Content Management System, developed by IISH in Amsterdam, uses a MySQL database engine with '.php' front end. This is a very general standard in web-technology and should not present any problem when ported to an-other host. The database is running on a server using the Linux operating system, but it could also run on a Windows server.

From ABB Amsterdam programmer (Gordan Cupac, IISH): Specifications:
<u>database:</u> — mysql database (v. 5); — 33.6 Megabytes;
— 47 tables;
— 101,023 records;
— 1,051 repositories/divisions;
— 7,556 bibliographic entries.
<u>website:</u> — php/mysql; — 23 Megabytes.
<u>CMS:</u> — php/mysql; — 2 Megabyte.

Cyrillic Data Files. The present ABB CMS database does not incorporate the parallel Russian-language data files developed in Moscow in the 1990s. The CMS program will require coding adjustments to handle Cyrillic, as well as parallel data files and program development for a new user interface for efficient bilingual utilization.

The ABB Cyrillic data files in the Russian language have been preserved in electronic form in Moscow, but they have not been updated since 2000.

3. ABB HISTORY:

ArcheoBiblioBase was initially formed on the basis of data from the series of archival directories, bibliographies, and research handbooks compiled by Patricia Kennedy Grimsted **(PKG)**, starting with her first article on Soviet archives in 1965. Most of the bibliographic files from the PKG published directory and bibliography series (Princeton University Press, 1972–1988) covering archives and manuscript repositories in what is now the Russian Federation have been entered with updated annotations as part of the current database (see bibliography below at the end of this report).

Most of Dr Grimsted's directories were produced under a series of grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (starting in 1971) with matching funds from various other sources. During most of that period, Dr Grimsted has been based at Harvard University, with an office furnished by the Ukrainian Research Institute, and as an associate of the Russian Research Center, currently the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies. Research travel abroad for gathering and verifying data was mainly sponsored by the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX), which also actively helped subsidize the collaborative directories prepared in Moscow during the 1990s.

Dr Grimsted regularly presented advisory seminars for IREX researchers on exchange programs in the Soviet Union, and benefited from many field reports regarding archival research from IREX and other schol-

ars in the USSR. She also consulted with out-going participants for the Canadian exchange programs. During the period 1986–1991, she represented the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies on the IREX-sponsored US-Soviet Archival Commission. Following the publication of the English edition of Archives of Russia (NY: M. E. Sharpe, 2000), she received the AAASS 'Award for Distinguished Contribution to Slavic Studies' in 2002.

1990s — Earlier stand-alone Database in Fourth Dimension (ASIUS)

Developed initially with the aim of producing automatic formatted output for printed publication, with later additional alternate automatic output formats for IDC microform catalogues, and then for Internet display on the IISH website in Amsterdam.

The initial ABB system was started at Harvard University in database format in 1990, on hard disks for stand-alone computers, under sponsorship of NEH, IREX, Smith-Richardson, and other U. S. foundations, was to produce automatically formatted printed copies of updated Russian archival directory coverage, including coverage of many sensitive institutions such as the Foreign Ministry and the KGB, then not generally covered in official archival directories.

ABB moved to Moscow in 1991, under as a collaborative agreement between IREX and the Division of History of the Academy of Sciences with a computer center first established at the State Public Historical Library (GPIB). A collaborative agreement between IREX and Rosarkhiv was signed in June 1992, and ABB moved to an office in the State Archive of the Russian Federation (GA RF) in 1993. The ABB database program was redeveloped by a Russian programmer, Yuri Liamin. Parallel bilingual data files for the ABB database were developed and maintained in Moscow — one in English with romanized Russian repository and bibliographic entries and a second in Russian (Cyrillic).

The database was used first to produce automatic formatted output for English-language directories for IREX participants and others (starting in 1992). Following an initial version in July, an updated version was presented at the International Congress of Archives (ICA) in Montreal in September 1992. By the mid-90s a Russian-language directory *Arkhivy Rossii* (Moscow, 1997) was published by Rosarkhiv, including several automatic indexing functions ABB developped for ABB. An advance copy was presented at the International Congress of Archives (ICA) in Beijing in August 1996.

Starting in 1994, an output format was developed by the ABB Moscow programmer for a short-form Internet Gopher at Yale University. Then in 1997 an alternate output routine from ABB produced html files for a short-form Russian-language Internet site at the State Public Historical Library (GPIB) and an English-language short-version website designed by IISH director Jaap Kloosterman on the IISH website in Amsterdam.

Subsequently with Soros (Open Society Institute) and IISH support, the data files were considerably expanded and more repositories added for the 2000 two-volume updated English-language printed version *Archives of Russia* (New York: M. E. Sharpe, 2000). Soros sponsorship in Moscow and IISH sponsorship in Amsterdam made possible the expanded publications and Internet development.

Rosarkhiv used retranslated text of the English data files from the 2000 U. S. publication to start the Russian-language "Arkhivy Rossii" website (using HTML) in Moscow in 2001 (with Soros funding). At that point, Rosarkhiv refused the IISH offer for cooperative development of a collaborative bilingual Internet database. Today, Rosarkhiv continues to use the earlier directory data and reference bibliography from the ABB data files for its own website; although still not in a database format, the Russian format and fields displayed resemble ABB structure and retain the original ABB reference bibliography.

In the original ABB database from the 1990s, publication facilities included automatic indexing and cross-referencing for authors, repository acronyms, and other features, as well as coordinating previous names and acronyms to present repository names and acronyms in both transliterated Russian and English (some hand-editing required). Those features have not been carried over to the CMS version, which aims only for Internet display and provides on-line searching rather than indexed printed editions.

The Russian (Cyrillic) Data Files are retained in Moscow, essentially updated only to correspond with the English-language 2000 publication. With RANEPA plans for an updated Russian version of ABB, additional coding will be necessary to add Russian-language (Cyrillic) capacity to the current CMS database, together with parallel data files. Updating substantive data and more automatic features for transliteration will also be needed.

Ukrainian Capacity was added in the mid-1990s, and considerable portions of the PKG electronic data files from the PKG published directory of Ukrainian archives (Princeton, 1988) were converted to separate Ukrainian files, housed in the Central Library of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kyiv. Ukrainian electronic files from the PKG 1988 published directory of Ukrainian archives were updated on line, and assisted by Ukrainian Derzhkomarkhiv, Internet coverage was initially produced in English only for the HURI website at Harvard, but is no longer continued. When Ukraini-

an archival agency Derzhkomarkhiv developed its own bi-lingual website with a parallel English component including the PKG bibliographic data, the ABB operation in Ukraine was discontinued. The current Internet version on the Amsterdam IISH database and website covers only the Russian Federation.

4. BIBLIOGRAPHIC AND FORMAT SPECIFICATIONS

a. Relational links between archives and full bibliographic references to their guides and other reference aids

One of the most important features underlying ABB coverage and database structure has been the relational link between **repository directory-level coverage and bibliography of reference aids.** Directory coverage includes brief description and history of holdings, with all previous repository names, dates and acronyms, working conditions, access restrictions, and other vital data. Bibliography of reference aids provides comprehensive coverage of general repository-level guides and related literature as well as specialized finding aids, including many unpublished or in-house issues and links to the growing number of electronic versions. Thereby our name — Archeo-Biblio-Base!

b. Relational Links to Microform and Electronic editions:

In the 1970s, the predecessor PKG published bibliographical coverage of archival reference literature (from the published Princeton 1972 and 1976 directories) was extended in conjunction with IDC Publishers (Zug, Switzerland and later Leiden, the Netherlands) to produce microfiche editions of all finding aids listed. The 1996 IDC Supplement to the Princeton 1972 Moscow-Leningrad coverage, simultaneous referenced the IDC microfiche editions linking the directory bibliographic coverage with microfiche editions. When the directories of Baltic (1981) and Ukrainian (1988) repositories were issued, corresponding microfiche collections of the finding aids listed were prepared under PKG direction and issued simultaneously, bibliographically linked to the printed directories.

When the database version was developed in the early 1990s, a separate bibliographic field was set up to reference IDC order numbers. Later a subfield for microfilm order numbers for regional guides produced in microform by EastView Publishers, with continued correlation tables on the microform publishers' websites.

Later in the 1990s, when so many repositories changed their names a correlated catalogue was produced for the IDC (later with Brill) website with the new names of archival repositories (with official acronyms) in the Moscow-Leningrad volumes correlated to earlier printed versions.

More recently in the 2000s, a field has been added with hot links to electronic versions of reference publications available on the Internet, but the link between archival repository and reference literature is always preserved.

5. UPDATING SINCE 2000 — ARCHIVES OF RUSSIA— AND FUTURE NEEDS

Updating the ABB data files since the 2000 publication of *Archives of Russia*, and the initiation of the IISH-developed CMS starting in 2005, has been handled in Moscow by Natalia Maslova in consultation with Patricia Grimsted, specialists at the State Public Historical Library (GPIB), Rosarkhiv, and direct consultation by visit, phone or e-mail with many of the individual archives covered. A stipend for Maslova's was largely covered by IISH through 2010, with some additional outside contributions. Given shifts in IISH priorities and funding limitations, however, IISH support for Russian upkeep substantive website maintenance for the English version of ABB expired at the end of 2010. The database remained on the IISH website with minimal programming support. Starting in 2011, Dr Grimsted found minimal interim support and supervised Maslova's work on ABB at a reduced level.

After RANEPA agreed to take over ABB updating in Moscow, since the summer of 2012, Natalia Maslova is serving as the Moscow Coordinator for ABB on the RANEPA staff, continuing updating and input functions. A cooperative three-year Agreement was signed in early 2013 between RANEPA and IISH, whereby IISH would continue supporting the ABB computer infrastructure for the CMS and website display.

As a signatory to the new Agreement, Dr Grimsted continues as a consultant for the immediate future, as an Honorary Fellow of the RANEPA Center for Russian Studies and Visiting Professor. However, given that she has long exceeded retirement age, a replacement senior editor-advisor will need to found to take over supervisory English-language editing as well as direction of ABB.

In connection with substantive upkeep of ABB data files in Moscow, provisions for more assistance in regular data and bibliographic support and consultative advice will be needed for many repositories and general bibliography.

More assistance from Russian specialists is badly needed, including senior consultants as advisors. In connection with substantive updating, consideration should be given for a new questionnaire and more on-site visits for key repositories.

Arrangements for a much-needed Saint Petersburg based consultant and regular on-going assistance

for coverage of Saint Petersburg repositories were discussed during a visit by Grimsted and Maslova in September 2013, but implementation is still needed.

Training of additional data-input assistants will be crucial. Natalia Maslova has drafted an extensive input handbook, on the basis of earlier instructions for ABB database input in the 1990s, which will be essential for others. She has agreed to assist with training specialists for data gathering and database input.

Now that a RANEPA mirror website has been launched, consideration will be needed of desirable visual website improvement with images or archives and orientation maps where available. Reference, search, and navigation improvements in the on-line component also need to be implemented, because the present database program and display have not been updated since development in the first decade of the new century.

If and when a parallel Russian version of the CMS data files becomes possible, much more assistance will be needed for verification and updating of earlier Cyrillic data files and implementation of an efficient bilingual system with provisions for parallel data entry.

6. RECENT WEBSITE USAGE STATISTICS

Statistics compiled by IISH confirm that the ABB website is heavily trafficked by researchers throughout the world, one of the most used components of their website. In the first four months of 2010, for example, the site had over 7,500 unique visitors, 10,728 visits and 331,570 page views, with a high for the month of April of over 2,200 unique visitors, over 3,000 unique visits, and over 100,000 page-views. For June 2013, IISH recorded 1,475 unique visits to the ABB website with 4,087 page views, down from February 2013, when 1,751 visits were recorded and 4,669 page loads.

This level of usage speaks to the importance of continuing and expanding the English version of ABB. Inquiries and praise from archivists in many countries suggest the need to maintain the basic English-language files, although as a Russian-based project in the future, the Russian-language files require more emphasis with expansion and regular up-dating.

7. NEGOTIATIONS FOR ABB COOPERATION AND A NEW HOME, 2010–2012

At the end of July 2010, Dr Grimsted presented of a report about ABB at the StockholmWorld Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES), emphasizing the hope and desirability of finding a new home for the project in Russia. The panel entitled "Archival Transition in Russia and the Legacy of Displaced European Archives," was chaired by IISH director Jaap Kloosterman and included presentations by Nikita Petrov (Memorial, Moscow); Sophie Coeuré (now University of Paris — 7 Diderot); and Elena Danielson, retired head archivist at the Hoover Institution (Stanford California).

During the previous decade, Rosarkhiv had declined IISH many offers to develop a web-based bilingual database for ABB, which in the end IISH developped on its own. By 2010, however, a new IISH director suggested it was time for ABB to move back to Moscow, where it could be better and more efficiently kept up to date. When Dr Grimsted was searching for a new permanent Russian home for ArcheoBiblioBase, first choice went to the Russian State Archival Agency (Rosarkhiv), which initially expressed interest in taking over ABB. However as it turned out, Rosarkhiv was not in a position to offer support for the sophisticated CMS database system developed in Amsterdam for the English-language data files, nor could Rosarkhiv guarantee that the entire English-language database would be maintained on the Rosarkhiv Internet Portal. Furthermore, Rosarkhiv was not prepared for a collaborative agreement with a foreign research and archival institute such as IISH, or a foreign university. Meanwhile in Moscow, the director of the State Public Historical Library (GPIB) agreed to continue institutional support and to serve as bibliographic consultant. He was also present at the Stockholm presentation.

Representatives of several other foreign universities expressed interest in joining forces to ensure the preservation and upkeep of ABB. For examle, in 2010, ABB was enthusiastically invited to join forces and participate in the projected International Communist Studies and Archives Portal (ICSAP), under the Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung (ZZF), Potsdam. Dr Grimsted demonstrated ABB at a ZZF workshop in Potsdam in June 2010, with considerable praise from archivists from the Bundesarchiv and participants from several European countries. Subsequently ZZF offered to take over ABB temporarily until a permanent home could be found. In consultation with IISH, however, a temporary move was declined, and there was still hope for a Moscow home. Besides, Dr Grimsted could not agree to ABB participation in the first stage of the ICSAP project, as later requested, because at that point ABB still lacked a permanent institutional host.

8. A NEW RUSSIAN HOME FOR ABB: RANEPA IN COOPERATION WITH IISH

Starting in 2012, negotiations began with RANEPA for upkeep of the database, and IISH agreed to a collaborative arrangement whereby they would continue to preserve the underlying ABB database on their server with their programmer supporting infrastructure and the website interface. As of Fall 2013, RANEPA is initiating a mirror website with home pages in Russian

and English for the English-language database, under its Center for Russian Studies. Eventually for Russian use funding needs to be found to revive the Russian version of the ABB database with bilingual display.

Recently RANEPA has been forming an international board of advisors. Plans also call for a future workshop and international conference presentations for ABB.

9. TECHNICAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC AND FORMAT SPECIFICATIONS

a. Bibliographic standards

Given the bilingual data files intended for publication in both Russian and English, it was not possible to adhere to strict library bibliographic standards, which did not have all the fields needed for both language files (with alternate variant usage and printed style requirements), or the added fields for annotations, microform editions, library locations, and more recently links to electronic editions, and/or inclusion of the latest database of Russian archival guides.

For English-language publication output, we adhere to a modified Chicago Manual of Style (CMS), as developed over the years for PKG published directories with Princeton University Press, with variants as required for correlated microfiche catalogues by IDC Publishers (now part of Brill), and now electronic versions. Similar bibliographic style is now used for website display.

We have never used MARC trained librarians or MARC fields for bibliographic data, which would have greatly added to the cost of production and upkeep. Although we explored this possibility at several instances in connection with NEH grant requirements, we always provided needed explanations justifying our variant usage. However, ABB bibliographic data fields cover all needed MARC fields and more, and our usage in this respect was approved by NEH.

Our bibliographic data-entry system may be complicated, because many fields and sub-fields are involved, but we have been able to train Russian assistants for data entry in the 1990s, when most of the data entry was done. Our current data-entry system is much less complicated and more intuitive than MARC data entry.

b. Transliteration standards

Bibliographic records in the 1990s included both original Cyrillic Russian data and romanized data in Library of Congress transliteration (as per AACR II) without ligatures, and English translations in many fields.

Bibliographic data in the current English-language IISH CMS are all romanized.

Geographic references use standards of the U. S. Board on Geographic Names, as used by the Library of Congress, with some cross-references to other widely used forms of geographic names.

c. Library, Microform, and Internet Hot Links for Bibliography

For U. S. researcher access to finding aids in the US (pre-Internet availability), library location fields and call numbers were added to aid researchers with verification of archival holdings for planning research visits in the Soviet Union (mostly then under IREX). Several U. S. librarians cooperated in checking and reporting their holdings against ABB listings, and ABB greatly benefitted from such cooperation with the Library of Congress, Harvard University, and the University of Illinois, among others.

For potential microform duplication or now digitization purposes of small pressrun and rare Russian editions, Moscow locations were added — e.g. VNIIDAD, Central Rosarkhiv Library (now under GA RF), and Rosarkhiv office holdings.

Recently, library locations for original printed editions have not been updated, because many important reference editions are now available in digital versions on the Internet, and links are provided within ABB repository bibliographic listings.

d. International Archival Standards

When ABB started in the 1990s, there were no repository-level international descriptive standards, although in the meantime they have been developed by the ICA.

Our data fields were adapted to Russian needs and usage, and the needs of foreign libraries and researchers in acquiring and circulating data about Russian repositories and reference bibliography.

When IISH started development of the CMS, we discussed revamping repository and bibliographic fields to conform to newly developed ICA standards, but IISH then decided it would be too costly to convert, and agreed that our standards were indeed appropriate to Russian usage and foreign researcher needs in Russia and the post-Soviet environment.

Dr Grimsted met with the Secretary General and others at the ICA Paris headquarters in October 2013. At their request, a copy of these specifications was forwarded to that office, where they have agreed to review and offer further advice.

In the future, consideration may want to be given to encourage conversion of data fields to international archival standards, once those are stabilized by the ICA and IFLA, and IF Russian libraries and archives were to adopt them. So far, such archival and bibliographic description has yet to be standardized in Russia.

So far, we have not found standardized international (ICA) repository-level coverage includes some of the fields that ABB attempts to portray reflecting complexities in Russian repositories. Most important we would not want to lose the unique ABB inclusion of annotated comments on working conditions and reference bibliography for individual archives relationally linked to their repository entries with hot links to electronic editions and the on-line Rosarkhiv database of "Guides to Russian Archives". When the General Reference Bibliography (Part A) goes on line, additional links should be provided from those bibliographic entries to their coverage related to individual repositories.

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