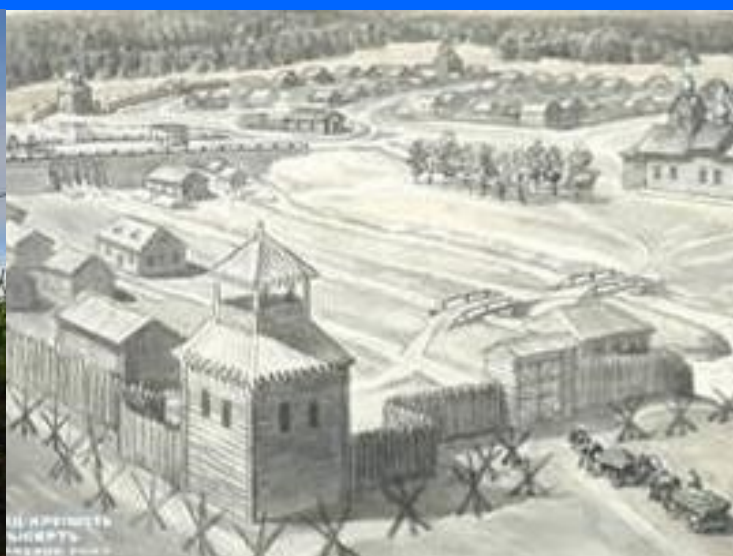


FRIENDSHIP

№ 18

THE MORE WE ARE TOGETHER
THE HAPPIER WE ARE

DECEMBER
2020



Sysert, my native land: past, present, future

School Poetry Recitation Contest

THE MYSTERY OF THE TSAR BELL



HAPPY NEW YEAR ! MERRY CHRISTMAS !



Friendship

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**Magazine for young learners
who love English and want to know it**



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School life

December 12th - Constitution Day

Constitution Day is a public holiday in Russia. It commemorates the adoption of the Russian Constitution in 1993 by the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR. Constitution Day is celebrated with official ceremonies and fireworks displays in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

On Constitution Day of the Russian Federation, an interactive quiz "My Constitution" was held in our school.

Kahoot is a relatively new service for creating online quizzes, tests and surveys. This resource was used by our teachers Svetlana Y. Tashlykova and Anton S. Sharapov to create an interactive game "My Constitution". Many

students from 5-11 classes, and their parents and teachers took part in the game. The winners in each category were awarded with diplomas.

All of us really enjoyed the game!!



We are the winners!



On December 8th, we found out the long-awaited results of the **autumn school trips**! Our team took 1st place in the competition of tourist routes within the framework of the municipal touring of schoolchildren of the Sysert District. Nine teams took part in competition.

The criteria of the contest were the following: the complexity of the route, its novelty, safety (strategy, tactics and

technique), intensity and usefulness. The members of our school team were: Vladimir V. Lukhanov, Maria A. Udintseva, Mikhail N. Zagvozdkin, Anton S. Sharapov, Tatiana A. Enikeeva, and the students of 8-11 classes! We are the winners!



We are proud of our sporty teachers and students!!!



All-Russia Schoolchildren's Olympiad

Students of the 7-10th grades swept honors at the municipal stage of the All-the-Russia Olympiad in different school subjects: Biology, Literature, Social science, English, German, Physical Education. The best students will take part in the regional stage of the Olympiad.



Biology

Pirozhkov Anton, 8C
Buzuev Alexandr, 7A
Emelianov Nikita, 7A
Sheveleva Elizaveta, 7C
Fedotenko Ivan, 7D
Solomein Artem, 7D
Hramtsova Maria, 7D
Maslova Valeria, 7D

Russian

Fedotenko Ivan, 7D

English

Chuvanev Denis, 10A

German

Trofimova Anastasia, 7C

Literature

Muhametchina Alina, 10A

Social studies

Pakseeva Angelina, 7A

Physical Education

Haritonov Danil, 10A

Strelnikov Alexandr, 10A

We congratulate our schoolmates and their teachers Elena Ya. Kobeleva, Ilia D. Krivonogov, Elena V. Shaburova, Irina B. Tsyupka, Elena V. Vatoropina, and Marina N. Demenshina on the great victory and wish them every success and great achievements!



«Russian dynamometer»

In our time the «Russian bogatyrs» have not disappeared. There are many strong and brave guys in our school! During the week they took part in the competition «Russian dynamometer». They had to perform exercises on a gymnastic bar for 1 minute.



The winners of the competition

I

Vladimir Holodenko

II

Maxim Ivanov

III

Ivan Shadrin



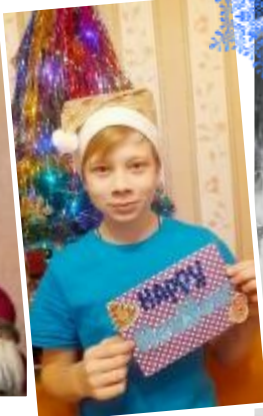
Such a wonderful competition was organized and conducted by our PE Teacher Ilya Dmitrievich Krivonogov.

We thank Ilya Dmitrievich for his creativity and an unconventional approach to teaching students, motivating them for a healthy lifestyle. His students have a great interest in physical culture and sports, and strive for self-improvement.

Thanks for participation: Artem Frolov,
Stepan Namyatov, Alexander Strelnikov.

School life

**We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!**



We love playing chess!



School life



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nj0zVcyg9Wk&t=4s>

All the pupils of the Primary School took part in a very unusual contest called «Parade of Snowmen». Our schoolchildren drew and painted snowmen, made them from paper and other materials, sewed, knitted, and molded them from plasticine. Their snowmen are funny, kind and merry!

All the students and teachers can visit the exhibition on the 2d floor of the school!

School Poetry Recitation Contest



The winners of the contest



Starkova Vasilina, 7B
Plotnikova Alice, 5A
Yakunina Daria, 5A



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bv2-j_WADIE

My native land

I love Sysert!



Alexander Savichev, an architect, local historian, guide, teacher, Deputy of the Sysert district Duma, and a member of the Urals Union of Guides

Sysert became well-known to tourists in 1982, when the house-museum of Pavel Bazhov was opened. At that time, travel agencies took people to Bazhov's places.

There are many interesting places in Sysert nowadays. The Porcelain Factory and the «Holzan» Raptor Nursery are the only ones in the Urals. «Bazhovskie Places» Natural Park is one of the most popular places among the tourists. It is visited by 40-60 thousand people a year. From a bird's eye view, this place resembles a heart in the center of the forest.

In addition, we have the largest country club in the Sverdlovsk region – «White Horse». About 200 thousand people visited «White Horse» last year. Major

holidays are usually held there, for example, Sabantuy. Annually, about 10 thousand guests come to Sabantuy. There is a Golf Club with an 18-hole course. It is the only one in the Urals Federal District. It's possible to hold international competitions there.

Every year, about 4,000 people visit the house-museum of Bazhov and the Local History Museum, 15,000 – the Porcelain Factory. For a small town with a population of 20,000 people, this is a good flow of tourists.

In recent years, some new tourist sites have appeared. Enthusiasts created a House of Crafts, where they demonstrate pottery and weaving for their guests. There is the «Bird cherry» Tea House, where old recipes of dishes are restored.

Many guests from Yekaterinburg visit the old metallurgical plant. Recently, it was abandoned. Not long ago, the Sysert Development Agency won a presidential grant, which allowed it to partially equip the territory of the plant. Last summer, cafes worked there, and an exhibition of vin-

tage cars was held. In August, a symphony orchestra performed there.

A stage and special stands for spectators were built.

For five years, I have developed 16 excursion routes. I often take tourists around the historical part of Sysert, through the old basements of the houses of the plant owners, to the building of the 19th century metallurgical plant. I conduct 110-120 excursions per year, mainly on weekends. About 1500 tourists take part in them.

To make my excursions amazing and unpredictable, I looked for information in the archives. I use photo comparisons. I show how the historical building looked many years ago and now.

In the 18th century Sysert was a very rich town. There were greenhouses with pineapples inside. Many travelers of that time called it «little St. Petersburg». In 1767, Turchaninov, the owner of Sysert factories, decided to build a palace with a botanical garden on the bank of the pond. An architect from St. Petersburg built a three-story mansion with 50 rooms, a home theater, a ballet hall and a museum. A park with fountains, grottoes, copies of antique and copper Asian sculptures appeared



My native land

on the territory of the estate. Pine-apples, grapes and other southern fruits were grown in the greenhouse. Later, most of the home's collection was transferred to the Museum of the Urals society of Natural History lovers. Now it is the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local History.

During my excursions, I show the buildings hidden from the eyes, the oldest ones in Sysert. At such moments, guests feel a sense of a real discovery. Tourists can touch the fence of the XIX century, and compare by touching the brick of the XVIII and XX centuries.

In Sysert, tourists buy porcelain. At the local bakery, it is worth trying hot bread and gingerbread, jam made from pinecones, and pinecones in chocolate. Recently, several cheese factories have been opened.

In 2018, I wrote the book «The Architectural Heritage of Sysert», which was actively bought by tourists. My second book «Bazhov Sysertsky» was published last year. In my book, I talk specifically about architecture. This is an album format with large photographs of old Sysert. To my mind, to consolidate impressions, for memories, a detailed source of information is needed. The book is one of the popularization tools.

Many buildings are being destroyed. The complex of the 19th century metallurgical plant is an

architectural monument of federal significance, but it has been dilapidated for a very long time. We fought for three years to make it comfortable. As a result, in February, 2020, we won the All-Russian Contest among small towns and historical settlements and received a federal grant for 70 million rubles. The improvement stage began in August. I think, by the end of September, 2021, the updated embankment will open, as well as the pedestrian part in the historic center.

Bazhov's estate is a monument of regional significance. There are many 18th century buildings and wooden houses in Sysert. Unfortunately, they are not protected yet, because Sysert does not have the status of a historical settlement. In the Sverdlovsk region, only Verkhoturys – the center of Orthodoxy in the Urals, one of the oldest towns east of the Urals – has such a status. In 2017, I became a member of Sysert District Duma. I actively interact with the Development Agency and the Sysert administration. We wrote an application for the contest of the Ministry of Development of the Sverdlovsk Region to receive a subsidy for the construction of the TIC (Tourist Information Center). Now we have the TIC. Interesting meetings and mas-



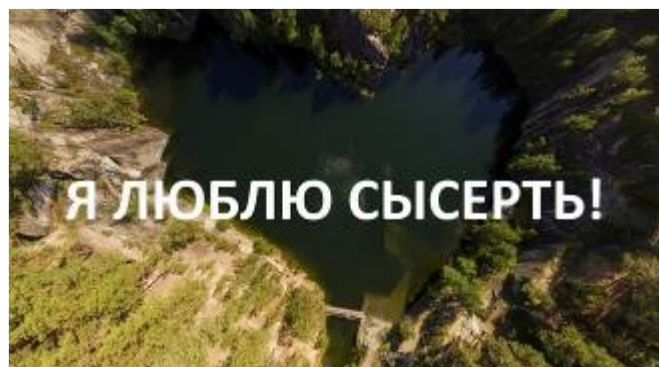
ter classes are held there. Everybody can buy souvenirs in the TIC.

Two years ago, my student came up with a mobile application «Find out Sysert!» with town routes. It can be downloaded on the Android platform.

A fundraiser was organized to create a museum on the grounds of the old metallurgical plant. The required amount has already been collected, and the museum will be opened soon.

Alexander Savichev

Photos from the Internet and A. Savichev's personal archive





*Georg Wilhelm de Gennin
(1665-1750)*



Coat of arms of Sysert



*Alexei Fedorovich Turchaninov
(1704-1787)*



*View of Sysert from Mount Bessonova,
XIX century*



Sysert on the map (XVIII century)



*In 1832, the first fire brigade
was created in Sysert*



*The oldest school
in the Urals*

The History of Sysert: Imperial era

In 1727, a peasant of the Aramil settlement, Fyodor Babin, announced to the head of the Urals factories, General Wilhelm de Gennin, that in 1680 the Aramilians had discovered iron ore near the Sysert River. They melted metal in small furnaces. The factory's location was chosen directly by Wilhelm de Gennin. He found this convenient place for a future factory at the confluence of the rivers Sysert and Chernaya in 1731.

The first settlement was based here in 1732, in connection with construction the metallurgical factory on the river Sysert. In 1732, the first buildings of an iron-making and iron-smelting plant appeared, and the history of the Sysert region began.

The Sysert plant became the core of the future mining district. The Sysert plant was built with state money. Therefore, the first owner of the plant was the state. However, the new plant produced less product than the officials of the mining department expected (35,000 poods of cast iron per year). After calculating the losses, the Russian government decided to sell the plant to private individuals.

Aleksey Fedorovich Turchaninov became the new owner of Sysert plant. Before that, he had a small Troitsk copper smelter near Solikamsk. The Russian Empress noticed his diligence and initiative, and he was granted a patent for the rank of titular councilor. In 1753, the Sysert factories with all the forests, lakes, mines, buildings and artisans were sold to him. The new owner had to

pay 146,685 rubles 67 kopecks to the state treasury within ten years. But under various plausible pretexts and delays, the state did not receive this money.

On January 1, 1759, A.F. Turchaninov came into possession of the tree plants in the Urals region - Polevskoy Copper Smelting Plant, Seversky Pipe Plant, and Sysertsy Plant. These factories represented the so-called Sysert Mining District. They were extremely profitable.

For a long time Sysert was the central administrative department of the Sysert mountain district, including the following metallurgical factories - Sysertskaa, Polevskoi, Severskii, Verkhnesysertskaa, and Iliinskii. Sysert was originally planned and built by Alexey Turchaninov (a famous salt producer and merchant in the Urals) in 1779—a monument of the architecture of the 18th century.

He did all his best to bring the enterprises out of the crisis state. For 30 years he did a lot for Sysert and its residents. People were given free timber, poles, firewood, mowing. Once a year, the workers had a month's vacation with family support. Medicines, medical care and schooling were free, too. And all that was in the 18th century! Sysert was a very rich town

The first school in Sysert was built in 1735. There were only three classes in the school. Only boys could attend lessons. They began studying at school at the age of 7 and graduated from it at the age of 10. Then they began working. There is School № 14

of Sysert in this building now. The first school for girls was opened in the 1870s.

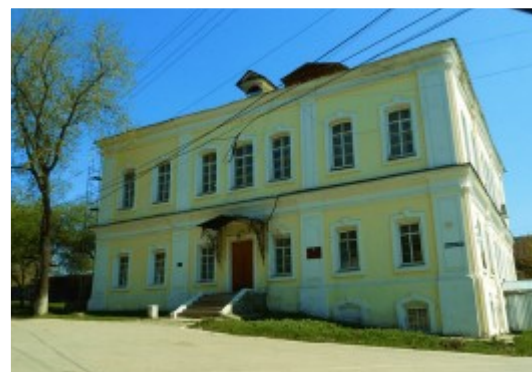
A.F. Turchaninov founded several settlements in the Urals region. Under Turchaninov, a zoo, a winter botanical garden, mineralogical museum, archaeological museum, and a scientific library appeared. During that time, factories flourished. They enjoyed a stable reputation and generated a lot of income for the owner. Sysert factories were among the best in the Urals. The mining of malachite was started.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the Sysert plant smelted 747,000 poods of cast iron and produced 187,000 poods of iron.

In the first quarter of the 19th century Sysert's metallurgical factory was one of the largest enterprises in the Urals. Sysert was known as the administrative centre of the rich mountain district, including Severskii and Polevskoi metallurgical factories, tin mines, gold mines and many subsidiary manufacturing enterprises and services. Sysert's factory smelted cast iron and manufactured iron articles. At various exhibitions the factory received many awards for the excellent quality of its products, on which the brand - the image of a heron, was put. Now we can see a heron on the coat of arms of Sysert.

Denis Chuvanev, 10A

Photos from the Internet



At the Local History Museum

Photos from the Internet

The History of Sysert: Soviet era

Local History Museum

The Local History Museum is situated in the historical part of Sysert called «a small Switzerland» for its beauty. The museum is located in the building of the main office of Sysert Mountain district. The office was built in 1779. Sysert district is rich in wonderful traditions. Its history is interesting and instructive, and therefore it was natural for many Sysert residents to preserve its history for future generations.

It all started in 1945, when enthusiasts decided to create a small local history circle. At first, various historical printed materials were collected. In 1947, local historians Viktor Mikhailovich Kolegov and Viktor Matveyevich Grebnev began collecting materials and antiquities to create a museum in Sysert. They took photos of old metallurgical plants and collected antiquities (tools, household items, handicrafts of the Urals masters).

In 1949, enthusiasts managed to organize an exhibition at vocational school № 35. That was the first local history corner, where about 300 exhibits were displayed. More than 250 people helped the museum to find and collect exhibits for a future museum. Later, all the exhibits were handed over to Vasily Eremin, the Chairman of Museum Council.

In 1957, the local history corner moved to the House of Pioneers

and received the status of National Local History. In November, 1957, on the 40th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, a new museum was opened. The museum had five departments: «Mineral wealth of Sysert district», «Pavel Bazhov, our countryman», «Sysert in 1905-1907», «February Revolution and October Revolution», and «The Civil War».

P. K. Grigoriev, a participant of three revolutions and the Civil War in Russia, presented the museum with some interesting photographs from 1905-1907 and a model of a grenade. Members of the combat underground squad at the Sysert factories were armed with such grenades. Komsomol members of the Furniture Factory helped the pioneers to make frames and showcases. The guys from the photo club restored some photos.

Workers of the Hydraulic Machinery Plant found a real museum rarity – shackles. Local historian V.M. Grebnev brought an interesting exhibit – a cannon of Emelyan Pugachev's army. Local geologists presented a rich collection of minerals. Many exhibits were given to the museum by V. I. Saburov, a participant of the Civil War. For example, a rare photo – Cossacks dispersing a rally of workers in Sysert in 1905.

In 1968, the museum moved to

a new building at 56 Bykova Street. On July 14, 1969, the first tour around the museum's halls was held.

In 1975, the museum became part of the Sverdlovsk State Historical and Revolutionary Museum. At the same time, a new exhibition was created on the first floor of museum.

Today's exposition of the museum occupies five exhibition halls, that describe the history of Sysert from the past to the present day. In the museum you can see a unique collection of antique furniture, musical instruments of the late XIX century, including the harmonium of the company «Muller-Dresden» and the hurdy-gurdy of the company «Zimmerman». Among the interesting exhibits visitors can see some products of the company «Uralhydromash», which include both modern production (hydraulic turbines) and products produced during the war of 1941-1945 (bombs, shells, grenades).

Sysert Porcelain Factory presents its beautiful products - tea and coffee sets, dinner sets and individual objects, as well as sculptures, souvenirs and elements of the faience iconostasis, cast and painted by Sysert masters for the Holy Cross Cathedral of the Verkhotursky St. Nicholas Monastery.

*Sergey Kozhemyachko,
Dalir Saidov, 9A*



Vasily Eremin (on the left) and local historian Victor Kolegov

My great-grandfather Vasily Ivanovich Eremin (January 13, 1906 - June 25, 1983) was the first Director of the Local History Museum (1957-1976).

My granddad (his son) told me much about Vasily I. Eremin. My great-grandfather was a very knowledgeable, active, creative, responsible, inquisitive, and hard-working man. He tried to do all his best to make our museum interesting for visitors, and collected unusual exhibits.

Vasily I. Eremin kept in touch with the son of Pavel Bazhov, war veterans, participants of the revolution. He was visited by the famous writer Vladislav Krapivin, and the pilot and Hero of the Soviet Union Alexey Maresyev.

Sergey Kozhemyachko, 9A

A sweet corner for my heart

I live in Sysert. It is a small town not far from Yekaterinburg.

My town is quiet and very beautiful with charming natural attractions. I like to spend my free time in «Bazhovskie places» park. I often walk there with my family or friends.

The most picturesque place in the park is Talkov

Stone Lake. The lake is small in size but very deep. It is surrounded by the forest and mountains. The water in the lake is very clean. On hot summer days we often swim in the lake. In autumn we gather mushrooms not far from the lake. There are many berries and mushrooms in the nearby forest. In winter we drive a snowmobile and go skiing. Talkov Stone is always beautiful – in all the seasons and in any weather.



by Kirill Khvoshch

The History of Sysert: Soviet era

Sysert Porcelain Factory: traditions and modernity

Local ceramic production has long existed in Sysert. The clay was mined on the banks of the Sysert River and along the banks of the factory pond. In the 19th century, one of the first workshops, «Goncharka», appeared. The brothers Kharitonov owned «Goncharka» before the Revolution of 1917. Pots, krynki and other ceramic utensils produced by «Goncharka» were bought by residents of all the surrounding villages.

In 1928, an artel appeared based on «Goncharka». In the pre-war and post-war years, dishes, sculptures, toys were produced here. In 1953, Sysert ceramists began casting small porcelain objects and sculptures using local colored and white clays. The experiments were successful. Since that time, the production of porcelain has become the main specialization of the Sysert ceramic factory. Today, the factory is called Sysertsy Porcelain. Everything was according to the old tradition: the clay mass was crushed "outside" in wooden vats, dried by a wood fire, and glazed with pottery glaze. They produced dishes, sculptures, toys, and doll heads.

Sysert Porcelain Factory was

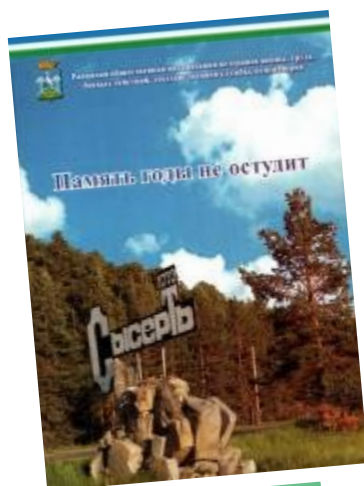
founded in 1960 based on the ceramics production co-operative, and in 1963 the staff was enlarged with artists who increased the artistic level of the factory's products. In 1970, the factory found its own unique style – painting household utensils and folk Ural house painting. The compositional motif «Sysertskaia rose» was firmly established at the plant together with hand smear painting. At present, iconostases have become a priority for the factory. Sysert iconostases adorn the temples of Verkhoturye, Nevyansk, Yekaterinburg and other towns and cities of the Urals.

An outstanding Ural writer Pavel Bazhov became the art inspirer of the plant. «Mistress of the Copper Mountain», «Danila Master», «Golden hair» and others in a series of sculptures were made on the basis of his fairy tales. Description of the process of making the porcelain and the work of masters and artists helps to establish the exclusivity of their products.

Today Sysert Porcelain Factory maintains the best traditions of the Ural folk art crafts. New raw materials allow increasing the whiteness and transparency of porcelain

to the level of world standards. A new generation of artists and technologists create a new direction in the development of the traditional craft. Products of «Porcelain of Sysert» have a great popularity, both in Russia and abroad. The products of the plant are loved by customers for their impeccable quality, which is achievable only in the handmade version, the whiteness of porcelain, respect for traditions and sense of modernity. Sysert Porcelain Factory preserves and develops the traditions of folk art of the Urals of the XIX-XX centuries. Among its popular items are tea and coffee sets, dinner sets and individual objects, as well as small series and individual decorative objects such as vases, jewelry boxes, and gifts designed to decorate various interiors.





One of the streets in the Northern village of Sysert will soon be named after Pyotr Filippovich Ushakov, our compatriot. Pyotr Filippovich Ushakov is a veteran of the Great Patriotic War and our countryman. P.F. Ushakov was born on September 25, 1925 in Sysert. In 1942, Pyotr Filippovich was sent to the front. In July 1943, he took part in the battles of the Kursk Bulge. The Battle of Kursk was the final strategic offensive that the Germans were able to launch on the Eastern Front. The battle was the first time in the Second World War that a German strategic offensive was halted before it could break through enemy defences and penetrate to its strategic depths. Though the Red Army had succeeded in winter offensives previously, their counter-offensives after the German attack at Kursk were their first successful summer offensives of the war.



P.F. Ushakov participated in the liberation of the Baltic States, Poland, Belorussia, Denmark, Germany and other countries.

The war ended for him on the German-Danish border in May 1945, but his service continued. He built military camps in Germany, and trained soldiers. He returned home in March 1948.

He was awarded two medals «For Courage», the medals «For the Capture of Königsberg», «For the Capture of Berlin», «For the Liberation of Warsaw» and others. He got six grateful letters from Supreme Commander-in-Chief I.V. Stalin.



The Great Patriotic War 1941-1945



During the Great Patriotic War, our region contributed a lot to the defeat of fascism. On the first day of the war, many people from Sysert voluntarily enlisted in the army. All conscripts appeared at the commission, most refused to undergo medical examination. Volunteers crowded the military enlistment office. They did not ask but demanded to send them to the front. The girls offered to donate their blood for wounded fighters. 13885 residents of Sysert district went to the front, 5080 of them did not return

Everything for the Front! All for Victory!

home. They fought for our Motherland and fell on the battlefield. We remember them, we are proud of them!

The years are passing by... Nine veterans of the Great Patriotic War live in Sysertsky District now: Afanasiy Stepanovich Bryukhanov, Ivan Demidovich Burnyshev, Tatiana Petrovna Davydova, Ivan Ivanovich Kutin, Nikolay Alekseevich Melnik, Leonid Petrovich Polovnikov, Pyotr Filippovich Ushakov, Vasily Matveyevich Shmakov, and Victor Ivanovich Shalagin.

At the beginning of the war, the main enterprise of Sysert – a mechanical plant - was rebuilt in a military way. It produced military products: shells of air bombs, mortar mines, shell casings, army knives. Women, old people, and children worked seven days a week, right in the open air. They did not leave the machines for several days.

So that children could reach the machine, they put wooden boxes under their feet.

We remember the home front workers E.G. Letemin, Nikolai Brui, A.A. Podkorytova, A.A. Alekseeva, P.I. Menchikov, M.D. Podkorytova, V.D. Zubrinskykh, L.A. Skrypnik, E.K. Bol-

shakov, E.P. Bannikova, Anna Kostareva, Anna Schipitsina, and Nina Rakova.

From overwork and hunger, people were dying right at the workplace.

Schoolchildren also did not stand aside. They collected scrap metal. They worked on collective farms for weeding and harvesting vegetables, gathered mushrooms and picked berries and medicinal plants in the forest. During the war, children helped adults build a factory railway. It was in the winter of 1942. Children got up early in the morning. They made a fire on the spot and went to school for lessons. After classes, they returned, dug the earth and made a mound. For that work they were given extra 200 grams of bread.

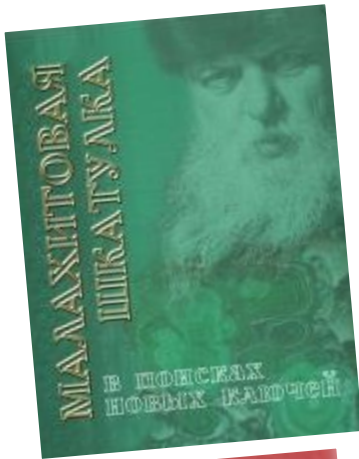
The assistance to the front was really comprehensive. Thousands of rubles were donated to the National Defense Fund. People starved and went naked, but they helped the soldiers win. No one was left out of this noble cause.

**Anastasia Mukhlynina,
Maria Tikhomirova, 8A,
Olesya Kolyasnikova, 8C,**

Photos from the Internet



Pavel Bazhov Memorial House-Museum



Bazhov statue outside the door to the house



Parents' clothes and family pictures



One of the town's main tourist attractions is Pavel Bazhov's house. The house holds many unique objects of the Russian peoples' daily life in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The exhibits include works made by gifted local artists and also kitchen utensils,



Cooking area

spinning wheels, a weaving loom, Russian sledges and other objects created by anonymous folk craftsmen.



Samovar

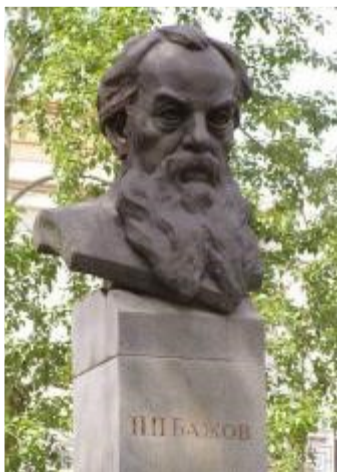
Photos by Bruce Bertrand



Our schoolmates at the Bazhov Museum

native land: pages of the history

Pavel Bazhov and Sysert



Sysert is the birthplace of the famous Russian writer Pavel Petrovich Bazhov. He was born on January 27, 1879, in the family of Augusta Stefanovna and Peter Vasilievich Bazhov. His father was a hereditary master and worked at the Sysert factory. His mother was a good lace maker. The future writer lived among the miners of the Urals. His childhood impressions were



Bazhov's house. Now it is a museum

the most vivid and important for him. Pavel was the only child in the family and his parents did everything to give

him a good education. He spent his childhood in Sysert. He graduated from school among the best students. Already in the first grade of the factory school, it became clear that Pasha had rare abilities and a thirst for learning. Then, Pavel studied at the theological school in Ekaterinburg. «It was a life-saving trip to the people», as the writer would later say.

Pavel Bazhov lived in a typical manor house. He worked as a Russian language teacher and collected folktales. In 1899-1917, Pavel Bazhov taught Russian, first in the village of Shaidurikha near Nevyansk, then in Kamyshlov at the ecclesiastical school, then in Yekaterinburg at the diocesan school for girls. The writer carried a trembling love for his small hometown in his heart through all his life. He returned to Sysert many times as an adult, regained his strength after life's vicissitudes, and drew inspiration. In 1920-1940, Pavel Bazhov often came to Sysert alone or with his family. There he worked on creating fairy tales, collected folklore materials, talked to old people, and recorded their memories. This is evidenced by many



Pavel Bazhov (in the top row on the left) with his mother and friends

memories of Sysert residents. The writer also visited other Urals factories. Pavel Petrovich became famous for such unique fairy tales as «Silver hoof», «Malachite box», «Mistress of the Copper mountain», and many others. His tales are real creations that attract not only children, but also adults. P. P. Bazhov had a great command of the Russian language – there is no stretch in his tales, there is nothing superfluous, but they have a lot of sayings, turns of speech of that time. Due to this, reading Pavel Bazhov's books you plunge into the atmosphere of the Urals of those times. The images are presented very clearly and you feel that all that was reality...

*Daria Yakunina, 5A
Anastasia Trofimova, 8C*

Photos from the Internet

Heroes of Bazhov's fairy tales



Pavel Bazhov wrote his first fairy tale in 1936, and his first and most famous book, the «Malachite Casket», was published in 1939, when Pavel Bazhov was already 60 years old. «Malachite Casket» was replenished with new fairy tales, and a total of 56 works were written. The main theme of Pavel Bazhov's tales was the skill and working character of the workers of the Urals. Pavel Bazhov opened the Ural life, legends and language of the people to the world with his fairy tales. In his fairy tales, the life and work of Ural masters - lapidaries, stone cutters, prospectors - are intertwined with fictional, fantastic characters - *the mistress of Copper mountain, a Golden Snake, Sinyushka, Danila master, Silver hoof* and other fairytale characters.

We'll tell you about the heroes of Pavel Bazhov's fairy tales, immortalized in the monu-

ments of our native town of Sysert.

The mistress of the copper mountain was considered the patroness of the Ural miners. She was the keeper of malachite. So, it was sometimes called Malachite. Before people, she appeared in the form of a fabulously rich woman with green eyes, dressed in a luxurious malachite dress, with an elegant kokoshnik diadem, decorated with malachite and precious stones, or in the form of a lizard with a crown. Her halls were decorated with malachite, diamonds, and native copper flowers. The mistress would reward the one who she liked by showing the malachite. If malachite is missing, it means that the mistress is angry. So, the legend went through the Urals that for great kindness, spiritual purity and honesty, the Mistress of the copper mountain gives her precious stones...

In 2007, a sculpture of a lizard appeared in the city square in the center of Sysert, as if the mistress of the copper mountain herself is closely following the life of the city.

Not far from the square, one of the main symbols of Pavel Bazhov's fairy tales – the *Stone flower* – is also located in the center of the town. They adorn the walls of the multistorey residential buildings that were built in 1988.

In the tale «Stone flower» it is said that the master Danila wanted to make stone look «alive», but it does not work out, the product remains dead. As an artist, he comes to a conclusion: he has achieved nothing, his work is imperfect. He cannot stop half way, he is obsessed with the dream of achieving perfection. Danila heard the legend of the stone flower of the Mistress of the Copper mountain, «*Who will see it, he will know the real beauty of the stone*». So, he went up the hill to the Mistress.

The largest collection of heroes of Pavel Bazhov's fairy tales is located at the foot of mount Bessonova in the historical center of Sysert.



In 2014, the first sculpture appeared – *Silver Hoof*. One of the main characters of Pavel Bazhov's tale is the silver hoof goat. He stamps his silver hoof and colored precious stones, like sparks, jump out from it.

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in the monuments of Sysert



But it is never shown to people with a greedy and avaricious soul. Only a humble and selfless person, who lives in harmony with nature is worthy of a reward.

Next to the sculpture of Silver Hoof, there is a sculpture of *Sinyushka* from the fairy tale «Sinyushkin well», pushing her hands forward.

Sinyushka is an evil old woman with long blue arms and a clear voice. She is the eternal guardian of the «land wealth», embodies the secrets of nature that can only be entrusted to wise, kind, thrifty human hands. Sinyushka tempts the hero to test him. The first temptation is a test of strength and courage. The second test is for prowess, intelligence, and sharpness of mind. Then the hero faces the most dangerous temptation - the possibility of easy enrichment. Sinyushka checks, if Ilya has bad thoughts. To do

this, Sinyushka does not spare all the forces of her magic, offering the guy all the riches of her well, piles of precious stones, gold sand and nuggets.

Sinyushka appears before him as a simple thing he wanted so much to see. The hero is struck not only by the beauty of the girl, but also by the fact that her attitude reminds him his grandmother Lukerya. The gift (berries) was presented to him in the same sieve that his grandmother left him. But the real happiness comes to Ilya when he meets another girl, similar to Sinyushka like two drops of water.

In the natural Park «Bazov places» near the town of Sysert is a *Golden Snake*. It appeared in 2012 and looks out of the ground along one of the paths. This is one of the forest characters in the tales of Pavel Bazhov, a giant snake-man, a magical creature. He is a huge wizard with a bearded human head, who has almost unlimited power over underground gold and evil people.



From Bazhov's story "The Great Serpent" - "Bazhov's Places" Nature Park

Photo by Bruce Bertrand

All these characters were created by the famous Ural story-teller Pavel Bazhov. He was a talented handler of folk tales, legends, and Ural tales. The fantastic characters of his fairy tales represent the elemental forces of nature, which confide their secrets only to the brave, hardworking and pure-hearted.

***Anastasia Vyatkina,
Maria Kucheryavaya,
Maxim Sokolov, 7D***



Natural attractions of Sysert

Sysert is surrounded by pine forests, and spread out at the foot of Mount Bessonovaya on the bank of a pond formed by the confluence of two rivers – Sysert and Chernaya. Previously, the mountain was called Karaulnaya because there was a guard post at the top. It defended the town from raids and fires. Mount Bessonova was named in honor of the deceased officer Bessonov who managed to command the defenders so that they were able to save Sysert from Pugachev. Bazhov mentioned Mount Big Ugor in his tale «Far-Near». It rises from the northern side of the pond shore. On the western shore there is Mount Chernovskaya Uval. It is covered with pine-birch forests. On the northern shore of the Chernorechensky Bay there is Sivka-Burka Stone, a small rock of pinkish-gray marble, reminiscent of a curled up sleeping horse. It is a place where Yakov Sverdlov held secret meetings of workers from Sysert factories.

Undoubtedly, the main attraction of Sysert is «Bazhovskie Places» Natural Park – an open

-air museum that has preserved amazingly charming natural monuments.

The park named in honor of our famous compatriot Pavel Bazhov was created in the valley of the Sysert River. Its area is about 40,000 hectares. The Urals Mountains in these places are rich in deposits of iron, copper, asbestos, marble, gold, and gems. There are many slender ship pines, larches and birches in the forests. Elks, roe deer, wild boars, foxes, lynxes, singing birds, fluttering butterflies, and ponds and rivers with bream, crucian carp, perch and pike... And so many berry and mushroom places are here!

And the most unforgettable place we can see in the park is Lake Talkov Kamien, with its clear water. From a bird's eye view the lake has a shape of a heart.

Lake Talkov Kamien («Talc Stone») is one of the sights in the environs of the town of Sysert. It is located in a westerly direction 4–5 km from the centre of the town near Mt. Chernovskoi Uval.

The lake has an artificial origin. It is an old abandoned talc mine, which was flooded by subterranean waters. Talc schist which was mined here by hand in the last decades of the 19th century was used as a fire-retardant material in the metallurgical factories of the former Sysert mountain district. By 1905 a deep quarry

was formed and then from the bottom of it subsoil water began to filter in, stopping the extraction of talc. In the first years after the Great October Revolution, however, work at the talc quarry was sometimes renewed. Lake Talkov Kamien has the outlines of an irregular shaped polygon, whose greatest length diagonally reaches 60-70 m. The lake's steep banks are of a greenish-white colour reaching 20-30 m above the level of the water.

A rare pine forest covers the upper parts of the banks and hollows on the slopes. On a clear sunny day, the walls formed by the greenish talc schist sparkle, reflecting in the greenish-grey water of the lake. In the evening when the sun disappears behind the hills, or on cloudy day, all grows gloomy. Light green talc schist becomes dark green in colour, almost black, and the reflections in the water become indistinct.

Typical types of flora around the lake include pondweed and sometimes on hot windless days «flowering» water is observed. On the banks of the lake, especially on the north-east side, it is possible to pick up different types of rocks and minerals – «noble» talc of a whitish green colour, greenish talc schist with small crystals of dark dolomite and green chlorite schist with crystals of quartz.

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and its surroundings



Walking along the shores of the lake, you can see different rocks and minerals: white-green talc, greenish talc shale with darker dolomite crystals, green chlorite shale with quartz crystals. It is believed that the famous collection of porcelain by the last owner of the Sysert factories, Solomirsky, may be hidden at the bottom of the lake.

Markov Stone Mount is well-known from Bazhov's tale. The author said that the mount was named after the serf Mark Beregovik, who escaped from cruel persecution with all his family to this place.

The hallmark of this mountain is a dilapidated wooden watchtower at the top. Archaeologists believe that on the mountain, our distant ancestors made sacrifices to their gods and there was an altar on the rocks. Therefore, they believe that there is very strong energy there today.

Lake Asbest Stone is located near the Mochalovka River and has a second name: Mochalovsky open-pit mines – two quarries, separated by an isthmus, one of which eventually filled with groundwater

and is a green lake with beautiful high banks, and the second quarry was drained and is overgrown with pine forest.

In one of the most inaccessible parts of the park are the «Snoring» cliffs. They are a part of the natural monument «Merry ridge». Bazhov wrote about these places in his «Urals reality» essays. The tallest rocks are located at the northern end of the «Merry ridge», which are called «Snores» or «Snoring head». This name came from the characteristic sound that people can hear in this place. The legend says that a hunter wandered through the forest for a long time searching for prey. He walked for many hours and became so tired that he laid down and snored. So, he snores today... The rocks are covered with nice forests.

The task of our generation is to protect and enhance all the natural beauty so that our descendants can see and admire it.

Vasilina Starkova, 7C
Olga Konovalova, 7C
Dmitrii Komlev, 8A

Project work

Sysert, my



The project «Improvement of the embankment in Sysert» won the All-Russia Contest among the small towns and historical settlements, which was organized on behalf of President Vladimir Putin. It is planned that near the pond there will be a restaurant, a super-modern coworking space, and tourist services. The cost of the project is 150,000,000 million rubles, 70,000,000 million is a federal grant.

The goal of the project: preservation of monuments of industrial heritage, stimulation of the creative economy through the creation of clusters and the production of creative industries and, as a result, the development of the territories surrounding such objects.



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Improvement of the embankment in Sysert

«It engages people, gives them the opportunity to fill their lives with interesting concrete content, gives them the opportunity to earn the necessary money and develop their ideas, which is even more important. It creates an environment in small and medium-sized towns»

Vladimir Putin

«Summer at the Plant»

In July 2020, the «Summer at the Plant» project was launched in Sysert. The territory of the Turchaninov-Solomirsky plant, founded in 1723, blossomed with new life.

Active actions on the territory of the plant began in June, when the initiators, together with volunteers from Sysert, Yekaterinburg and other neighboring settlements, began to improve the territory and remove the garbage that had accumulated here for decades. During one of these subbotniks, the Gornozavodskaya area (it is located between the blast-furnace and open-hearth workshops) was recreated.

On July 10th, different facilities began to be built with the help of the Urals Creative Camp. The camp was supervised by mentors

from the «100 City Leaders Territorial Development Program». During four weeks, practicing architects and artists from Moscow, St. Petersburg and other cities, with the help of camp participants, significantly transformed the site around the historic buildings, filling it with new functions.

At the first stage, a lecture hall, a concert hall, a coffee shop and a pizzeria were created on the site of the old blast-furnace shop. During 1.5 months, the cluster was visited by 20 thousand people, and dozens of events were held.

Photos from the Internet





Sysert plant-museum

A plant-museum will appear in Sysert. It is being created on the initiative of the local historian Alexander Savichev. The project is supported by the MTS company.

«I have the most important dream since my childhood. I want to open a museum about the plant at the plant. I want to show everyone the luggage of local lore that I have been collecting for 15 years. The museum will appear in a former open-hearth workshop built in 1894», Alexander Savichev wrote

on his Facebook page in early September.

Three weeks later, most of there-

quested materials were donated to the enthusiast by companies and people who believed in the idea.

«The plant» for the Urals is a synonym for «the city». It was with the creation of factories in the 17th century that the modern history of our region began.

The development of the culture of everyday life, the development of education, transport and even art is associated with factories here.

An architect by education and a fanatical popularizer of his hometown, for several years Alexander has gathered like-minded people from among government officials, entrepreneurs and volunteers who consider Sysert the best place to live and are ready to make efforts to bring reality in line with their dreams.

The museum will be dedicated to the history of the Sysert plant from the 18th century to the present day. Fundraising is open for its creation. Alexander Savichev says this will be a demo version of a large museum which the Sysert Development Agency will create as a part of the reconstruction of the plant in a few



years.

The premises of the museum are being renovated. The necessary furniture and equipment are purchased. All the information stands have already been made.

The exposition of the museum is about 110 sq. meters. It will include unique exhibits shared by local residents.

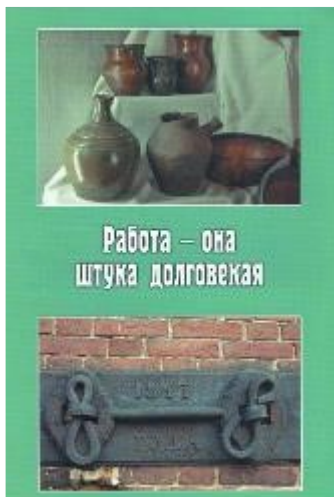
A well-known Sysert historian Andrei Gornov presented to the mu-



seum a super gift - blast furnace boots on old wooden blocks (so that the heat does not reach the toes). Igor Zyatev, the owner of the «Gorki» Hotel, with the blacksmith Evgeniy Shatunov, presented an agricultural harrow made by blacksmiths 100 years ago.

The first excursion around the museum has already been held. Alexander Savichev and his team have great plans for future!

Photos from the Internet and A. Savichev's personal archive



Instagram account:

<https://www.instagram.com/muzeinazavode>

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Improvement of the embankment in Sysert

We are for this project!

Sysert is my favourite town. I was born and live here. I especially like visiting the embankment near the old building of the Sysert plant, which is a monument of Federal significance. There is also one of the largest churches in Russia – the church of Simeon and Anna. Another historical and cultural monument of the embankment is Mount Bessonova, a place that offers a beautiful view of the river and town of Sysert. On the embankment there is a monument to Pavel Petrovich Bazhov, a famous Russian writer. Many children and adults love his fairy tales. I am glad that the embankment improvement project won the all-Russia Contest among small towns and historical settlements. In 2-3 years, there will be a restaurant, state-of-the-art coworking, and tourist services.

I believe that in the future, the embankment will become a favourite resting place for all residents of Sysert. It will decorate our city and make it even more attractive. Children will have a new place to play, and adults will be able to relax and enjoy nature.

I suppose, that thanks to the development of the embankment, more tourists will come to Sysert. Many people will learn about our small, but very beautiful town. Our residents will be given additional new jobs.

Ekaterina Maximova, 11A



Sysert is a very beautiful town with a lot of historical objects of the Urals. One of them (more precisely, a group of them) is located near the town pond, on its embankment. However, the state of it is awful. Some months ago we could see a broken road with a lot of cars, poor infrastructure and historical buildings in a very bad state there. What's happened? Now the embankment is closed almost for everybody because the reconstruction of it is in progress! What will we see next year?

Firstly, it will be a convenience for common people. Everyone will be able to walk there. I think, the conditions will be wonderful. A lot of trees, very smooth walkways and something for relaxing, like benches. And of course, the most important thing, in my opinion, is that there will be no cars, so the air will be clear and fresh as it was many years ago. To my mind, it will be a cozy and

beautiful place!

Secondly, it's our history. For example, before reconstruction we could see a very big quantity of pupils and vandals at the old metallurgical plant. But the situation has become better and the museum of the plant will be located there very soon. Something like this will be happen with other objects of our historical center, they will be modernized. It's our past, our grandparents worked there! (in my case, my grandmother worked there for 20 years!) We must keep it safe!!!

In conclusion, I would like to say that it's a very good project which will add something atmospheric to Sysert. I think that it's not just a modernization, it's a new life for our town and for us!

Vladislav Surin, 10A

Our guests



The Tsar Bell is the biggest bell in the world. It weighs 201.9 metric tons (201,924 kilograms), stands 6.14 meters tall, and is 6.6 meters wide. The bell's weight is 1.74 times that of the world's second heaviest bell, the Bell of Good Luck in China. It sits on a sandstone platform in the Moscow Kremlin, and is called 'Tsar' because of its large size. The Tsar Bell is also famous because it was never rung - it broke soon after it was made. Nonetheless, the bell has had a useful afterlife as a tourist attraction. It was actually used as a chapel for a while. Worshipers entered the chapel through the hole where the broken piece used to be [see the pictures].

The Tsar Bell is made of bronze. Bronze is an alloy, or mixture, of copper and tin. Sometimes small amounts of other metals are added. The bell's alloy contains copper (84.51%), tin (13.21%), sulfur (1.25%; not a metal), silver (0.26%), and gold (0.036%). The percentages of silver and gold are tiny, but the bell is very big. The value of the silver and gold in the Tsar Bell is more than 350 million rubles at today's prices!

The bell was cast November

THE MYSTERY OF THE TSAR BELL

23rd-25th 1735. Casting a bell involves two steps. First you melt all of the metals together in a furnace, and then you pour the melted mixture into a mold that is shaped like the bell. A ten-meter-deep hole was dug in Ivanov Square, close to where the bell is today. A bell-shaped clay mold was placed in the hole. Four furnaces were built around the hole. Casting was quick: the metal was smelted in 36 hours, and the melted metal was poured into the mold in 46 minutes.

They let the hot bell cool for a long time. In the summer of 1736 craftsmen began adding decorations to the outside of the bell. This is very detailed work that cannot be rushed. They were almost done when disaster struck. On June 9th 1737, a Great Fire - the Trinity fire - burned much of the Kremlin and a quarter of Moscow. More than 70 churches and monasteries burned. A wooden building that had been built over the casting hole also caught fire. Workers tried their best to save the Tsar Bell by pouring water on the fire. After the fire they discovered that a piece weighing 11.5 metric tons had broken off of the bell.

The Mystery of the Tsar Bell

What caused the Tsar Bell to break? Nobody really knows - that's why it's a mystery! People have suggested at least three possible causes.

1. The bell broke when water was poured on it during the Trinity fire. A large difference in temperature between the cold water and the hot bell caused it to crack in a number of places, and a big piece to break off.

2. The bell broke when it fell back into the casting hole. This happened after it had been raised part-way or all the way out of the hole.

3. The bell broke because of technological errors during casting. For example, maybe the mold was defective.

I disagree with possible causes 1 and 3. Most people think that the bell broke when cold water was poured on it. Two facts argue against this. First, bronze is a very ductile metal and is not likely to break this way. Second, the bell cooled completely during the year and a half between its casting and the fire. I doubt that the fire would have raised its temperature enough for it to crack. Some people think that a technological error caused the bell to break. I don't believe this because the decoration work appears to have been done on an unbroken bell. For example, the decorations near the bottom continue around the bell and across the broken piece [see the pictures]. Also, why would they spend time and money decorating a bell that was broken?

Interesting places of Moscow



Tsar Bell with the Ivan the Great Bell Tower on the right



Broken piece of the Tsar Bell - weighs 11.5 metric tons



Tsar Bell with Assumption Belfry on the left

On the other hand, it's possible that there was a defect inside the bell that you couldn't see. A defect of this type could have played a role in the bell breaking because of a temperature difference, or if it fell.

What I Think Happened

"Eliminate all other factors, and the one which remains must be the truth." - Sherlock Holmes in *The Sign of the Four* by Arthur Conan Doyle (1890)

After the Tsar Bell had cooled enough, it was raised out of the casting hole and into the building at the top. This would have made it easier for the craftsmen to do their decoration work. However, before they could finish, the Trinity fire struck. Workers tried to stop the fire but couldn't. The fire burned through the cross-beam that the bell hung from, and it fell back into the hole. It hit a cast-iron grate at the bottom that supported the bell

during casting. The Tsar Bell, whose maximum thickness is 61 centimeters, is very thin at the bottom [see the pictures]. If the super heavy bell hit the grate at a small angle instead of completely flat, then a tremendous amount of force would have been concentrated in a small area. This could have easily broken the bell. Bronze is a brittle metal, and can crack and/or break when falling from a height. At least two Kremlin bells broke this way before the Tsar Bell. They were both very heavy and fell during a fire.

Conclusion

I'm not an expert in any of the relevant sciences, e.g. physics, nor am I metallurgical engineer. And I'm definitely not a scholar of Kremlin documents from the period. My ideas are at best an educated guess, or perhaps simply a logical guess. But anybody is allowed to try solving a mystery! If you would like to learn more

about the Tsar Bell, then you can start by looking at these two internet articles, which are written in Russian:

<https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Царь-колокол>

https://aif.ru/society/history/mol-chaschiy_gigant_kto_slomal_car-kolokol

I urge you to visit the Tsar Bell when you're in Moscow. It's huge!

***Bruce Bertrand,
Lake Placid, USA
Photos by the author***

Our Achievements

