Russian American History Projects 1980 – 1986

American Rendezvous Magazine, 1986

Fort Ross Coloring Book

Fort Ross Visitor Center Exhibits

Fort Ross Living History Weekend, 1986
The Fort Ross Bicentennial Costume Project
Rip Van Winkle by John Quidor 1829
Art Institute of Chicago
Costume Research
Researching Frontier Clothing

[Left to Right] Mission Indian Blacksmith, La Purisima SHP; Anza National Historic Trail illustration; Costume manual, Sutter’s Fort SHP
Researching Frontier Clothing
Researching Russian American Company Clothing

[Left to right] Clothing fragment with buttonhole, Castle Hill, Sitka; a page of drawings from New Archangel by Japanese seaman, Jirokichi; title from the atlas to Russian naval officer Frederic Litke’s account of his voyage of circumnavigation.
Recent Discoveries

[Above] Detail from a print in the *Atlas* of Litke’s voyage, 1827 [Right] A page from Dr. Edward Blaschke’s *Topographia medica portus Novi-Archangelscensis, sedis principalis coloniarum rossicarum in Septentrionali America*
Outsiders’ Perspectives

[Left] Two drawings of his clothing made by the Japanese seaman, Jirokichi, at Sitka, circa 1842

[Above] Portrait of one of the naturalists on the Litke Expedition, c. 1827.
Jirokichi’s drawing of a button on his Jacket

Button excavated from the Russian Hospital, Sitka (note inscription, “A.W. Spies – Gilt – For Sea Service”)

Gilt U.S. Navy officer’s button manufactured by A.W. Spies, (author’s collection)
[From left to right ]
Kamchadal hunter, Great Russian peasants. Aleut hunters
[Left] Prison shoe shop near Irkutsk [Below] Army workshop producing overcoats, 1905
[Right] Native Alaskans in European clothing, 1867 [Below] Tlingit woven cap modeled on Russian naval cap
Two Approaches: Classes of people versus types of clothing

- Russians
  - Officials
  - Promyshlenniks

- Native Alaskans
  - Aleuts, Chugach, etc.

- Associated Native Peoples

- Voyaging and work Clothing
- European fashion and military-influenced clothing
- Company wives’ clothing
- Californio Clothing
Voyaging and Work Clothing

[Left] Russo – Siberian clothing
[Above] Working-class dress, St. Petersburg, c. 1835
Russian traditional dress meets European fashions in the streets of St. Petersburg – detail of a print by I.G. Shchedrovskii, c. 1835
navis, saeviente tempestate et laboribus gravioribus, cui-
vis nautae quotidie mensuram assignare possit; hisce ad-
dantur thea, syrupus molassus, succus citri et solani 
tubera.

Amictus operariorum, longiori commorationi in äere 
libero et climate valde correspondens, maxima parte con-
sistit ex indusio laneo, ex tunica et braccis, panno utrin-
que villoso vel panno laneo confectis, et tunica indusio 
non absimili ex stragulo laneo anglico, tempore laborum 
mutum liberum non impediente. Tempestate, pluvia, prae-
cinque autem in aperto mari, superinduunt camleas (indusia

“et tunica indusio non absimili ex stragulo laneo 
anglico” – “and a coat, not unlike an English blanket”
Edward Blaschke, Topographia Medica Portus Novi-
Archangelscensis, 1842
[Left] Woven belt found at Castle Hill, Sitka [Right] Carpenters, St. Petersburg, c. 1835. Detail of a print by I.G. Shchedrovskii
“[The Sitka Tlingit] offered to sell us two small round hats woven of bast – which are very common here, although apparently made for visitors. A native is never seen wearing such a hat, rather the Russian and American sailors, who seem to love them very much.”

Frederic Kittlitz, 1827
European Fashion and Military Influenced Clothing

*Camp scene from the Kashevarov Expedition, c. 1838. Anonymous*

Anchorage Museum of History and Art
[Above] Polynesians visit the Seniavin, 1827 from Litke’s Atlas
[Right] Sailors at a Bootmakers by A. Denisov, 1832
Early daguerreotype taken by J.P. Abert at a mining compound near Irkutsk
Clockwise] Managers and workers; a working man walking in St. Petersburg; a tailor and his apprentice; textile mill workers – All late-19th to early-20th centuries
[Above] Aleksandr Baranov, lithograph after the portrait by Mikhail Tikhanov, 1818

[Right] Portrait of the President of the Academy of Arts, Aleksei Nikolaevich Olenin by Alexander Warnecke, after 1824
[Above] Detail of a lithograph in Litke’s Atlas showing a warehouse in Sitka, 1827 [Right] An Inhabitant of Sitka c. 1842 by Jirokichi
[Left] Jirokichi’s drawing of the kind of clothes he was given to wear at New Archangel, c. 1842

[Right] A woodworker hawking his wares in the streets of St. Petersburg. Detail of a print by I.G. Shchedrovskii, c. 1835
Buttons from Castle Hill – Sitka
[Left to right] Part of a man’s garment excavated at the Fort Ross Cemetery; a tail coat and frock coat, both American c. 1835 – 1840, private collections
[Left to right] Sunday morning on Unalaska, 1842, by Voznesenskii; two portraits of Native men by Pavel Mikhailov, 1827
The Real Traditionalists

[Above] Bodega Miwok by Mikhail Tikhanov, 1818.- Scientific Research Museum of the Russian Academy of Arts, St. Petersburg  
[Left] Sitka Tlingit man, 1827. Detail of a plate in Litke’s Atlas
Tailors and Apprentices

The Novice by Ivan Bogdanov, 1893
She stretcheth out her hand to the Poor – She looketh well to the ways of her Household – Proverbs 31
High Style

[Left] Portrait of Olga Vladimirovna Basina by Petr Basin, 1837 - State Museum, St. Petersburg

[Above] Silk day dress, American, 1835 – Metropolitan Museum of Art
[Left to right] Kamchadal woman in clothing derived from Great Russian traditions, c. 1770; Kamchadal women c. 1828; Aleut woman c. 1816
Jirokichi’s Women of New Archangel
VUE PRISE DANS LA COLONIE RUSSE DE Novo-ARKANGELSK, 1827
from Litke’s *Atlas*
“Women’s clothing consists of a garment made of fine cotton or even twilled linen; a silken cloth, which is wrapped around the head.”

Drawing of a Native Alaskan woman from by Pavel Mikhailov, 1827.
“... and they almost always wear over all the fur of ground squirrels which keeps their bodies warm, but unevenly, because they often go about barefoot.”

Dr. Edward Blaschke, 1841
Influenced Clothing

[Left to right] Two Americans in Californio clothing, c. 1850 (private collection); A Spaniard, Don Garcia by Il'ya Voznesenskii, 1840.
Don Cirilio

[Above and right] A drawing of Cherynykh’s Ranch
[Below right] Mexican caballeros, c. 1830. Detail from Carlos Nebel’s *Voyage pittoresque et archéologique dans la partie la plus intéressante du Mexique*
Cependant la jeune fille qui nous servit des rafraîchissement au salon du directeur, et pour la toilette de laquelle celui-ci probablement avait fait quelques frais, ne me parut pas trop mal. Ses cheveux étaient bien peignés et soigneusement relevés derrière la tête ; ses traits me parurent assez réguliers ; son coup d'œil et sa physionomie exprimaient la gaieté et le contentement ; disons encore que sa chemise blanche serrée à la ceinture et son jupon en toile de coton, d'une propreté irréprochable, laissaient soupçonner des charmes que du moins les durs travaux et la misère n'avaient pas encore flétris.

*Cyrille Pierre Thèodore Laplace, Campaign de Circumnavigation de la Fregate L’artemise*

*Mexican woman in chemise and petticoat, c. 1830. Detail from Carlos Nebel’s *Voyage pittoresque et archéologique dans la partie la plus intéressante du Mexique*.*
Спасибо
Application
A world and a lifetime apart, but still . . .

[Above] Settler and his wife in California, 1840, by Voznesenskii [Left] The Shanty of the Settler Artemis, Russia c. 1910