ДЕРЕВЯННОЕ

KPYMEBO TOMCKA





ДЕРЕВЯННОЕ КРУЖЕВО ТОМСКА

The Galart Gallery

WOODCARVING OF TOMSK

Contributors, Yuri Shepelev and Zinaida Zaitseva 69 illustrations, 56 in colour, 80pp.

The wooden architecture of Tomsk, beginning in the early 17th century, is an encompassed living encyclopedia of what the people understand as beautiful and useful. Having passed and preserved all stages of development – from archaic mansions of the Neoclassical period and structures in the Art Nouveau style to modern buildings – it represents a history of Russian architecture in wood. Moreover, numerous houses of Tomsk are embellished with the most beautiful carved ornamentation.

The wooden "lacework" reveals diverse types and motifs. The earliest, dating from the mid-19th century, were carving in depth and fretwork, modest decorative motifs from the Neoclassical repertory being used. In the late 19th century the decor became more refined and sumptuous. The Art Nouveau stylized forms and motifs of the early 20th century derived in general from the local traditions of folk art. Woodcarving in the Art Nouveau style was the most important stage in the development of woodwork decoration of the city, due to a high level of professional skill and perfect mastership of the carpenters and joiners.

The unique heritage is treated in Tomsk with great care. The old master-craftsman's art is destined to have a long life and, of its generosity, give people joy.

Front cover: 46, Tatarskaya Street. Main façade

Back cover: 10, Shishkov Street. Back front