

УДК 63.3.2-2

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ЖИЛЬЕ В САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГЕ В КОНЦЕ 19-го - НАЧАЛЕ 20-го ВЕКОВ

Жилье является насущной потребностью человека. До сих пор нет специальных исследований об истории петербургского жилища. Сведения о том, какими были квартиры петербуржцев в конце 19 – начале 20 веков разбросаны по различным книгам и журналам. В этой работе авторы попытались кратко рассмотреть, в каких квартирах жили горожане в тот период, а также насколько благоустроенными были эти квартиры.

At the end of the 19-th – the beginning of the 20-th century nobody could think about purchasing a flat and making it personal property. Individual flat were not bought or sold to the dwellers . At the real estate market only plots of land were displayed for sale. Practically at the end of the 19-th century all the free plots of land in central parts of the city had been sold out. The built-up land cost two or three times as high. The choice was still limited, however. The tenements for renting out were constructed by wealthy people on the acquired land. It was profitable to build tenements due to the constant growth of prices. The tenements increased in number very quickly, and their quality was often bad: the rooms were cold, the floors and partitions were wooden, the walls did not save from frost. That is why the quality of the 18-th century buildings is normally higher than the quality of the 19-th century houses.

The residents of the city started purchasing individual flats only at the beginning of the 20-th century. The price rates for the rented flats were not standardized, and there was a lot of distinction in the rent payment. The main factors determining the rent were the flat location, the floor, the view from the window. Flats facing a street or a canal cost much more than those facing court yards. The tenements were scattered around the city. The most prestigious houses were in the so called "golden triangle", limited by the Moika Embankment, Palace Square, Sadovaya Street.

The population grew impetuously, the real estate rose in price. The tax imposed on accommodation made the tenants rent out the rooms in their flats to another tenants. The beds and the corners were also rented by poor people of the city.

The flats were heated by wood. The wood was kept either in wood-sheds in the court yards or in the corridors of poor flats. The air in most flats contained the smell of fumes. The washing was done in special basement locations with low ceilings and dim windows .The most popular source of light was an oil lamp. Electricity appeared only at the end of the 19-th century. It was very expensive and the lighting was far from being perfect. Most of wealthy flats were connected to the urban water supply. There was no running water in poor flats. The quality of water was bad, because the water pipes of the urban water supply were made of cast iron, and the water pipes in flats were made of lead .Bathrooms were only in wealthy flats.