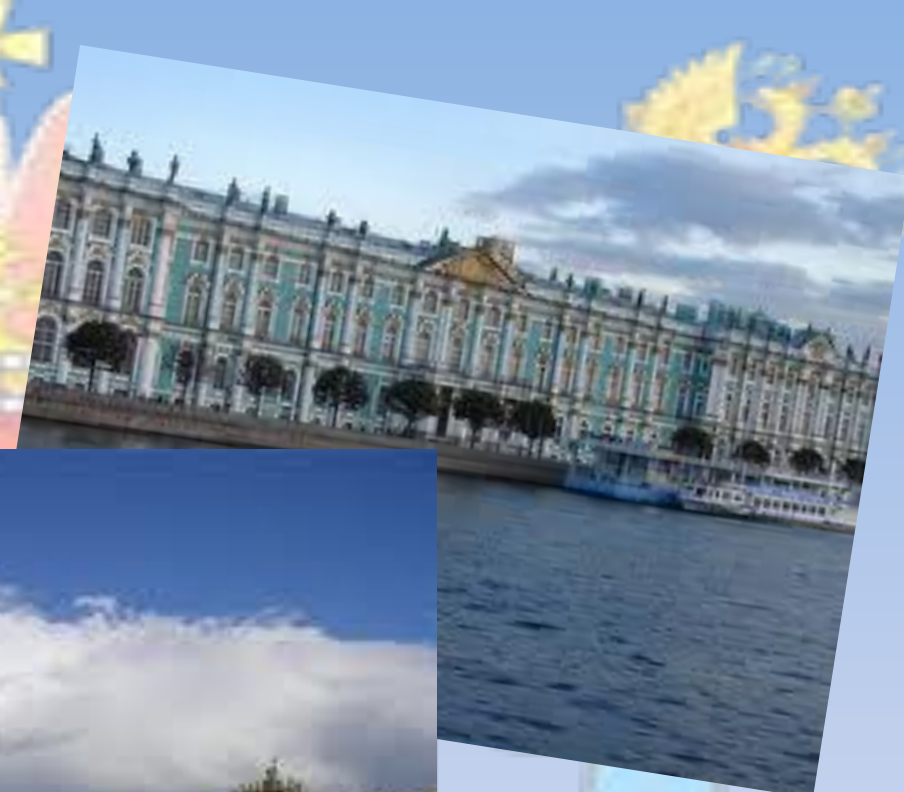


ARCHITECTURAL MONUMENTS OF SAINT PETERSBURG. ST. ISAAC'S CATHEDRAL



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The beauty of the city amazes and takes the breath away. There are a lot of architectural monuments. St. Petersburg can be called Palace City indeed.

One of the
most amazing
constructions
in
St. Petersburg
is St. Isaac's
Cathedral.



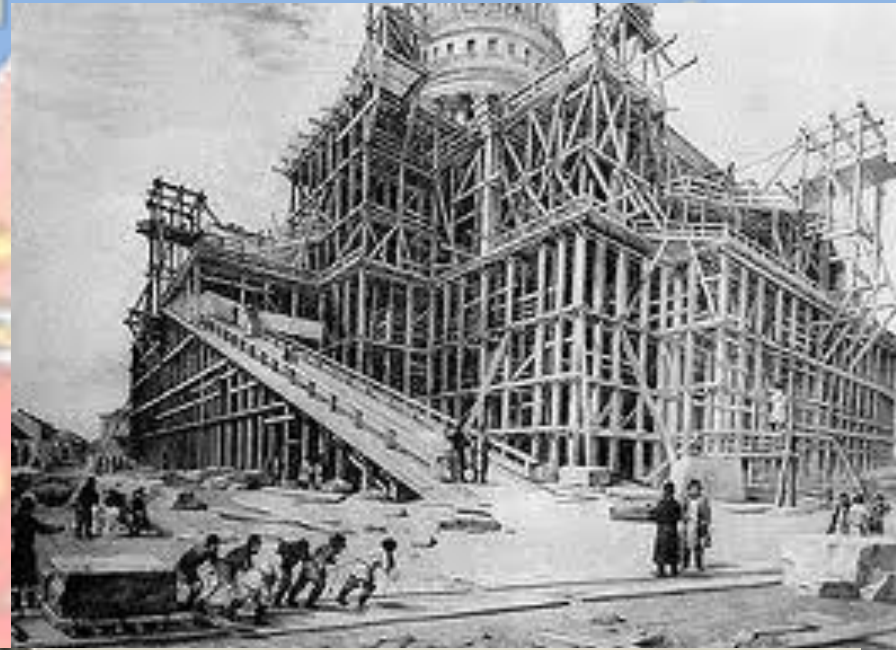
*In 1816 Alexander I charged the young
French architect Auguste Ricard
Montferrand with designing the Cathedral.*



*The cathedral was being built for
40 years.*

*Looking at it one can understand
how much afford was made in
order to carry out the architect's
plans.*

*The Cathedral was being built on a
swampy soil. Nearly 11 thousand
piles and 120 granite columns were
used to build it. The heaviest
columns' weigh was 144 tons. It
took workers only 45 minutes to set
the columns in their places.*



In plan the Cathedral is an equilateral Greek cross with four porticos. It is faced with grey Karelia marble. There are a lot of big arch windows. On the top of the Cathedral there is a great golden dome. The Cathedral is 101 m high.





*The diameter of outer dome is 25 m.
100 kg of pure gold was used for building the
main dome.*



*On the porticos there
are statues of 12
apostles. In the left side
Peter the apostle hands
the keys to the gate of
Eden.*

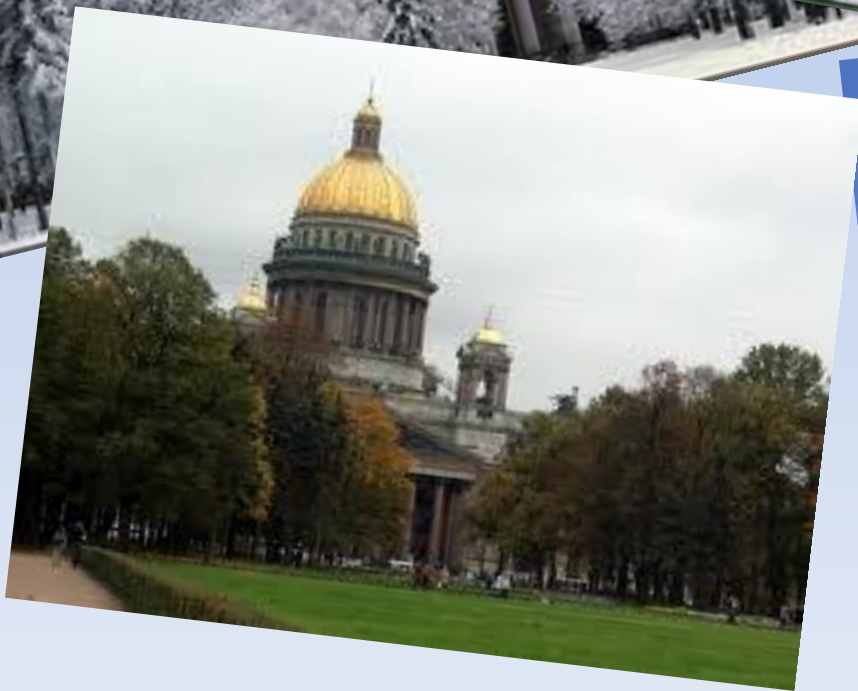
*In the right side
Paul the apostle
hands a sword
which is the symbol
of his earnest service
to Christ.*





On the northern relief you can see resurrection of Christ and in the centre there is Christ risen from the dead. Beautifully made sculptures wonder.

The Cathedral is wonderful in any season.



The background of the page features the coat of arms of the Russian Empire. It consists of a red shield with a white cross, a golden crown on top, and two golden eagles on either side. A blue ribbon is draped across the shield. The shield is set against a light blue background.

Fill in the missing words:

- 1. In _____ Alexander I charged the young architect with designing the cathedral.*
- 2. It was being built for _____ years.*
- 3. It took workers _____ minutes to set the column in its place.*
- 4. The total height of the cathedral is _____ meters.*
- 5. _____ kg of pure red gold was used for building the main dome.*
- 6. On the porticos there are _____ apostles.*
- 7. Peter the apostle hands _____*
- 8. Paul the apostle hands _____*
- 9. _____ supervised the building of the cathedral and was its architect*

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