



RUSSIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1845

LUKOMORYE

Project of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug

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All-Russian Public Organization

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Introduction.

Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug is a wide geographical region, which includes forests, forest tundra, tundra, polar and mountain areas. Numerous lakes and branched rivers of the district form various riverside areas with peculiar flora and fauna. One of these areas is the historic Lukomorye, where the district preserves were established for the purpose of conservation and recovery of flora and fauna resources and protection of rare and endangered species of animals, plants and their gene pool. Lukomorye is interesting not only in terms of the landscape and natural features, it is also the historical and cultural heritage, which includes abandoned objects of human activity of different times.

Natural and historical potential of the poorly explored areas of Lukomorye requires complex disclosure and provision of information about the area. The nature conservation zone, availability of historical and cultural items and the large area of the river basins of Lukomorye (the Gulf of Ob, Ob, Kunovat, Poluy, Nadym, Yarudey, etc.) with numerous tributaries, untouched by modern civilization, establish the conditions for development of environmental and local history adventure tourism. The purpose of the project is not only to obtain reliable information as a result of data collection from museum sources and expected research expeditions within the project, but also to attract the younger generation to active lifestyle in the study of the native land, to increase public interest in the local history, to draw attention of researchers to exploration of inaccessible areas of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (YNAO).

The Lukomorye territory, located in the three districts of YNAO, creates the background for an integrated approach in the development of tourism.

Due to inaccessibility of the main area, its remoteness from large settlements, lack of comprehensive prepared information, poor knowledge about the area, activities aimed at collection of geographical, natural, ethnographic, historical data about the local history of Lukomorye and their processing for later presentation to the public for informational and educational purposes are required.

Goal: To establish the brand of historic location "Lukomorye" for the development of complex tourism and research activities in the three districts of YNAO: Shuryshkarsky, Priuralsky and Nadymsky.

Tasks:

1. Theoretical works to describe the location of Lukomorye in YNAO.
2. Organization and conduction of research and exploratory expeditions in Lukomorye.
3. Development of a set of tourist routes with construction of intermediate bases in Old Russian, Khanty and Nenets styles.
4. Construction of a pilot tourist complex under the dome with the help of new technologies in the upper reaches of the Poluy River for winter, interseasonal and summer tourism.
5. Construction of scientific bases in Lukomorye.
6. Construction of an all-weather complex of ice sculptures under the dome providing a possibility of conducting international competitions, exhibitions and festivals.
7. Construction of a complex for children in a fairy tale style.
8. Consideration of a possibility to create an ecovillage in Lukomorye.
9. Development and publication of maps of tourist routes and facilities in Lukomorye.
10. Development and production of branded merchandise.
11. Organization of workshops in YNAO settlements for development of traditional crafts of indigenous peoples of the North.
12. Development and release of electronic and printed materials.

1. Lukomor'ye - Historic Territory of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug.

1.1. Stories about Lukomor'ye.

Geographical discoveries in the Yamalo-Nenets region are closely related to the history, which describes the events from the late 16th century: in 1595 Obdorsky jail was built by the Cossacks of the Berezovo Governor, the famous city of Mangazeya on the bank of the Taz River was built in 1601 ... But what was on this land before the Ermak's conquest?

In his paper "To the History of Acquaintance with Siberia before Ermak" published in "Antiquities", the works of the Imperial Archaeological Society, in 1890 (Fig. 1) D. N. Anuchin describes an interesting manuscript "About Unknown People in the Eastern Country" (XV-XVIII cc.), which tells about the Samoyed people (the old name of the Nenets people) living "in the eastern country, behind the Yugra land" (Fig. 2, 3, 5) and called "Molgonzei."

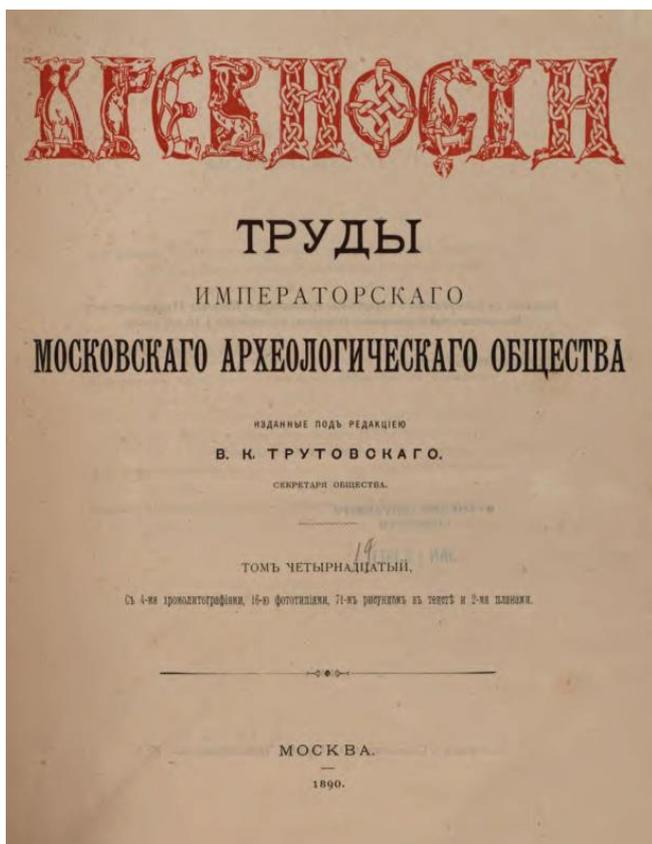


Fig. 1. Cover of the collection of works "Antiques".

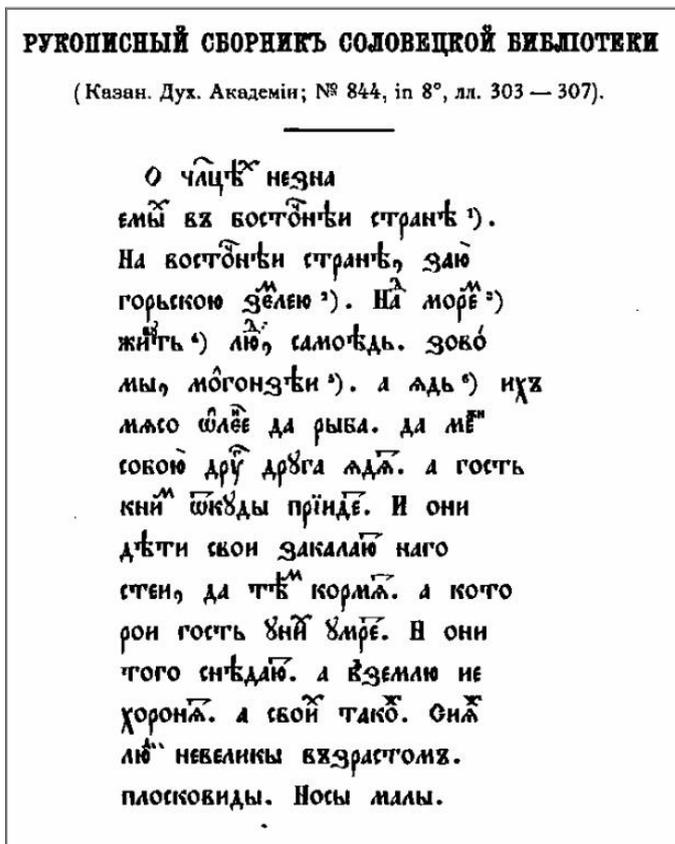


Fig. 2. Page 1. Manuscript "About Unknown People in the Eastern Country".



Fig. 3.

The manuscript is like a fairy tale, which confirms the poor knowledge of the described peoples and territories. Despite this, some of the stories are very plausible. We should pay attention to the travel map of Barents of 1598 (Fig. 3), which indicates the location of Obdora and Molgomzeya: Obdora is on the left side of the Ob River and Molgomzeya is on the right (perhaps, the name of Mangazeya town originates from the people living there, taking into account that the Taz River is precisely in this area).

Но рѣзвы вѣми, и стрѣлцы
скоры и горазды. а мѣдѣ
на оленѣ и на собакаѣ. а пла
тѣе носѣт соволюе. и оленѣ. ⁷⁾
ѿ товарѣ ихъ соволи. ⁸⁾
втой странѣ ⁹⁾ Инаѣ само
ѣдѣ такоѣ. дѣлаѣ словѣ.
дѣтѣ мѣць живѣ вѣмори.
ѿ на свѣтѣ не живѣ того радн. ¹⁰⁾
за нѣ тѣло на нихъ трѣскаѣса.
и они то мѣць вѣводѣ лежѣ.
а на верѣ несмѣю вылаѣсти. ¹¹⁾
втой странѣ ¹²⁾ ѣ инаѣ само
мѣдѣ. по пѣ лю мохнатѣ.
до долѣ. а шѣ пѣпа вѣверхѣ
мѣдѣ ¹³⁾ и прочѣи члѣци. а мѣдѣ ѿ
рыбы и мѣсо. ¹⁴⁾ а торгѣ ихъ
соболи и песцы и пыжи.
и оленѣи кожн. ¹⁵⁾
втой странѣ. инаѣ само
ѣдѣ. вѣверхѣ рѣты на чѣ

Fig. 4. Page 2. Manuscript "About Unknown People in the Eastern Country".

мени, а не говорѣ. а обрѣ
в пѣлинь члѣць. ¹⁶⁾ а коли мѣдѣ,
и они крошѣт мѣсо, или
рыбѣ. да кладѣт по колпѣ. ¹⁷⁾ или
по шапкѣ. И кѣ почнѣт ѣсти,
ѿ они плечима движѣт вѣ
рухъ и внѣ. втой странѣ ¹⁸⁾
ѣ инаѣ самоѣдѣ. Икѣ и про
чѣи члѣци. Но зими ѣмираю
на двѣ мѣца. ѣмираюже тако,
кѣ гѣ ¹⁹⁾ которѣ застанѣ вѣтѣ
мѣци. то тѣ и мѣдѣ. ²⁰⁾ а ѿ нѣ
износа вода изондѣ. кѣ шѣпо
тока. да примерзнѣ кѣзѣли. ²¹⁾
никѣто члѣкѣ иные зѣли, не
видѣнѣ ²²⁾ потѣ тои шѣразнѣ
ѿ него, и сопѣхнѣ смѣста, и
ѿ оумрѣ, то ѿже не оживѣ.
а несопѣхнѣ смѣста, тои
оживѣ, и познѣе и речѣ емѣ,
очѣ ма еси дрѣже подрѣва. ²³⁾

Fig. 5. Page 3. Manuscript "About Unknown People in the Eastern Country".

D. N. Anuchin in his work points to the fact that the text of the manuscript (Fig. 4, 5, 6) is similar to the story of Baron Sigismund Herberstein, whose work "Notes on Muscovite Affairs" was published in 1549. In the text of S. Herberstein one can actually find a lot of similarities in the description:

"It is a two months trip from the mouth of the Irtysh River to Grustina fortress, the journey from this point to the China Lake (Kitai) along the Ob River, which, as I said, originates from this lake, takes more than three months. From this lake a great number of black people come, they do not speak the commonly understood language and bring a variety of products that are bought by the Grustintsy and Serponovtsy people. The latter got their name from Serponov fortress in Lukomorye, lying on the mountains across the Ob River. There are stories about amazing, incredible and fabulous things happening to the people of Lukomorye: namely, they say that every year on November 27, the day dedicated in Russia to St. George, they die and the next spring they, like frogs, come alive again. The Grustintsy and Serponovtsy people hold with them unusual and unprecedented trade. When the time for their dying or falling asleep comes, they put the goods in a certain place; the Grustintsy and Serponovtsy carry them away, leaving their products as a fair exchange. If they, having come back to

life, see that their products were carried away at the unfair price they demand to return the goods.

ТИ ВЕЕ МНОГО ³⁹⁾ И ТОВАРѢ
ВСАКО. КОМУ ЧТО НАДОВѢ.
И ѿ ПОЛОЖИВЪ ЦѢНЪ ПРОТИ-
ВЪ ТОГО, ДА ВОЗМѢ ЧТО КО-
МУ НАДОВѢ. ⁴⁰⁾ И ПРѢ ШХОДА.
А КТО ЧТО ВЕЩНЫ ВОЗМѢ,
И ПРѢ ШИДЕ. И ЧОКА ѿ НЕГО
ПОГЫВНЕ ⁴¹⁾ ѿ ОВРАЩЕСА ПА
КЪ ВЪ СВОЕ МѢСТѢ. И КА
ПРѢ ШХОДА ⁴²⁾ Ш ГРАДА ТѢ. И
ШЮ ПАКЪ СЛЫШѢТИ КА
И ВЪ ПРОЧІИ ГРАДѢ. ⁴³⁾
ПВОСТѢНКИ ЖЕ СТРАНѢ ѿ
ИНАА САМОѢДЪ КАМѢСКАА. ⁴⁴⁾
ОВЛЕЖИ ОКОЛО ЮГОРЬСКІЕ
ЗѢЛИ. А ЖИВѢ ПО ГОРАМЪ ВЫСО-
КЪ. А ѿЗДАѢ НА ОЛЕНѢ И НА СО-
БАКА. А ПЛАЕ НОСА СОБОЛІЕ.
И ОЛЕНІЕ. А МДА МАСО ОЛЕЕ
ДА И СОБАЧИНЪ. И ВОВРОВИНЪ
СЫРЪ МДА. А КРОВЬ ПЬЮ ЧАЧЮ
И ВСАКЪЮ. ДА ѿ ѿ НИ ⁴⁵⁾ ЛѢКАРИ.
ѿ КОТОРОГО ЧАКА ВНѢРИ НЕ ЗРА-
ВО. И ОНИ ВРЮХО РѢЖѢ. ДА
НѢГРЪ ВЪНИМАЮ И ОЧИЩАЮ
И ПАКЪ ЗАЖИВЛАЮ. ⁴⁶⁾ ДА КТО
НИЖЕ САМОЕДИ. ⁴⁷⁾ ВИДАЛИ СКА-
ЖЮ САМОЕДЪ СТАРЫЕ ЛЮДИ
ЗГОРЫ ПОДЛѢ МОРЕ, МРТВЫ
СВОИ ИДѢТЬ ⁴⁸⁾ ПЛАЧЮЩИ МНО-
ЖЕСТВО И. А ЗА НИМИ ИДЕТ ⁴⁹⁾
ВЕЛІ ЧАКЪ, ПОГОНАА ИХЪ
ПАЛЦЕЮ ЖЕЛѢЗНОЮ.

That causes frequent disputes and wars. Going down the left side of the Ob River, the Calami people live, who moved there from Obiowa and Pogosa. In the lower reaches of the Ob River to the Golden Crone, where the Ob flows into the ocean, there are the rivers Cossa, Berezwa and Danadim, all of which originate in Big Belt Stone mountain and the adjacent rocks. All the peoples that live from these rivers to the Golden Crone are considered tributary of the Moscow monarch. The Cossin River flows from the Lukomorye mountains; at its mouth there is Cossin fortress, which was once owned by the Crown Prince and now belongs to his sons. It takes two months to get to these places from the waterhead of the great Cossin River. At the waterhead of the same river another river, the Cassima, begins and going across Lukomorye flows into the big Tachnin River, across which, they say, a monstrous kind of people live: some of them, like animals, have bodies covered with fur, some have dog heads, others are completely devoid of a neck and instead of a head they have a chest or long arms, but no legs. In the Tachnin River there is also some fish with a head, eyes, nose, mouth, hands, feet and other parts (of body) of a perfect human form, but voiceless; like other kinds of fish, it is a tasty food.

All I have said until now was literally translated by me from a Russian road book delivered to me. Although it seems to contain some fantastic and scarcely probable data, such as information about the dumb, dying and coming to life people, about the Golden Crone, about the monstrous people and the fish with human appearance, and though I have also diligently inquired about this and could not find anything for sure from any person who has seen this with their own eyes (but the general rumor claims that this is really so), yet I do not want to omit anything providing others with more freedom of interpretation of the matter. Therefore, I have reproduced the same place names that exist in Russian"

(S. Herberstein. Notes on Muscovite Affairs. *The Way to the Pechora, Yugra and to the Ob River*).

Fig. 6. Page 4. Manuscript "About Unknown People in the Eastern Country".

Comparing the manuscript "About Unknown People in the Eastern Country" and the text of S. Herberstein it is easy to assume that they describe the same locality to the east across the Ob River. The location of Mongomzeya is shown on the Barents's map (Fig. 3) and according to the contemporary map it is located in the area of the Gydan Peninsula (Fig. 7).



Fig. 7. Contemporary map of the Gulf of Ob district.

The names Molgomzeya, Lukomorya, Yugorya can be seen to the right of the Ob River on many European maps (Fig. 8).

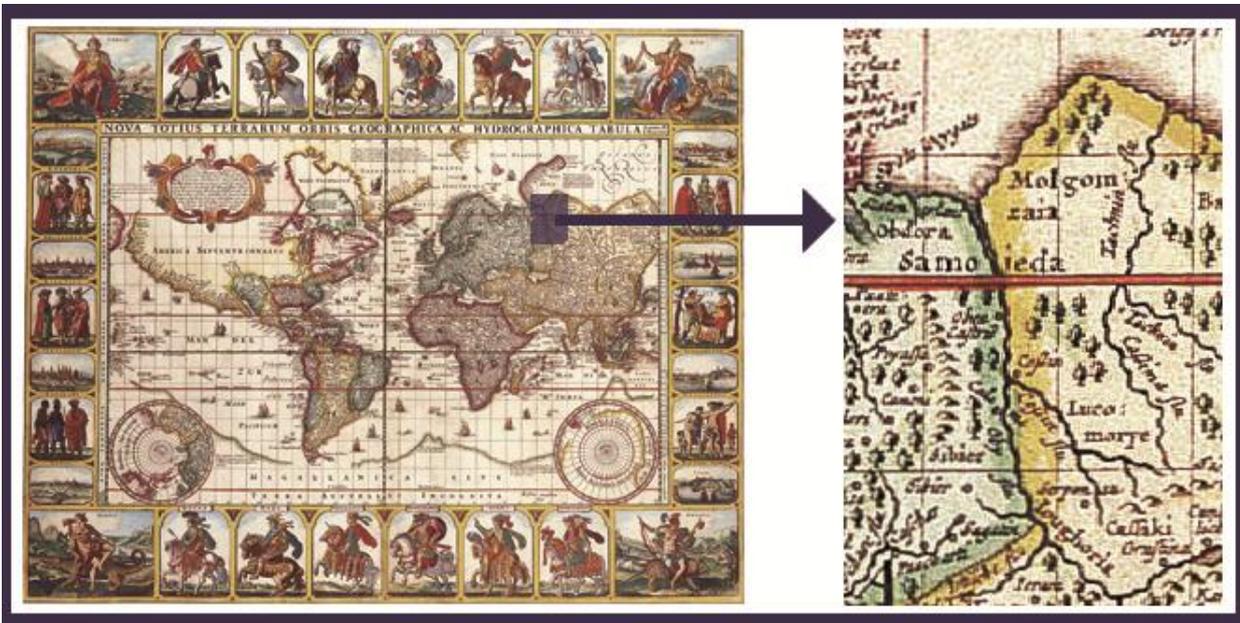
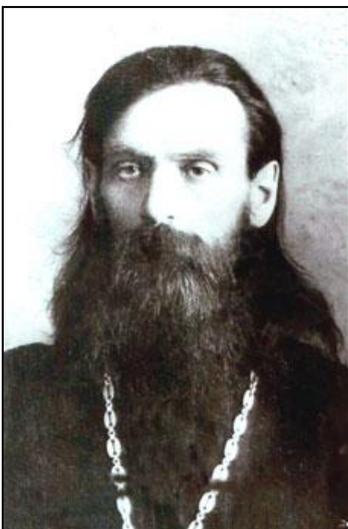


Fig. 8. World Map of 1652 and zoomed fragment of the Gulf of Ob district.



Later reference to the name of the "Lukomorye" territory belongs to Ivan Semenovitch Shemanovskiy – Russian church leader, historian, ethnographer, founder of the first museum on the Yamal Peninsula. In his records (published in the Orthodox Journal in 1907) about a trip from Kho settlement to Obdorsk (modern Salekhard) he writes:

"It was a wonderful polar evening when I went by transit deer from Kho settlement to Obdorsk, the Lukomorye poetized by the ancient Novgorod chronicle. The moon hanging above the earth lit the majestic Gulf of Ob with its gentle light. Hardened by frequent strong winds, its snow-white sheet sparkled with myriads of blue-white phosphorescent lights. Clean air of the cool night was so transparent that you could see really far. In front of me and to the right the horizon merged with the gray-blue sky, where one could hardly see the small northern stars; far away to the right one could see vague outlines of the mountain front representing indefinite mass of snow and ice ... Everything was so mysteriously quiet".

1.2. Lukomorye and A. S. Pushkin

Apparently, the name "Lukomorye" in the modern language is associated with the works of the Russian poet A. S. Pushkin, and you cannot help remembering the lines familiar to everyone from childhood:

«У лукоморья дуб зеленый,
Златая цепь на дубе том:
И днем и ночью кот ученый
Все ходит по цепи кругом;
Идет направо - песнь заводит,
Налево - сказку говорит.

Там чудеса: там леший бродит,
Русалка на ветвях сидит;
Там на неведомых дорожках
Следы невиданных зверей;
Избушка там на курьих ножках
Стоит без окон, без дверей;
Там лес и дол видений полны;
Там о заре прихлынут волны
На брег песчаный и пустой,
И тридцать витязей прекрасных,
Чредой из вод выходят ясных,
И с ними дядька их морской;
Там королевич мимоходом
Пленяет грозного царя;
Там в облаках перед народом
Через леса, через моря
Колдун несет богатыря;
В темнице там царевна тужит,
А бурый волк ей верно служит;
Там ступа с Бабою Ягой
Идет, бредет сама собой;
Там царь Кащей над златом чахнет;
Там русской дух... там Русью пахнет!
И там я был, и мед я пил;
У моря видел дуб зеленый;
Под ним сидел, и кот ученый
Свои мне сказки говорил».



Geographical concept of the Lukomorye area had been known to cartographers for more than two hundred years before the birth of Alexander Pushkin (born in 1799) and probably the stories of travelers about the remote Siberian land could affect the work of the poet. The fabulous descriptions contained in the manuscript and the notes of Herberstein provide grounds for that. Have Pushkin's relatives ever been to Siberia? This question is answered by the historian, researcher V. I. Shcherbachenko in his book "The Pushkins in Siberia":

"One of the ancestors of the poet was described in the drama "Boris Godunov" – the actually existed Belgorod and Pelym Governor Gavrila Grigoryevich Pushkin, also known as the "Blind". The poet characterizes him as follows: "Gavrila Pushkin is one of my ancestors. I have pictured him as he was reflected in the history and in our family papers. He was very talented - as a warrior, as a court rank, and particularly as a conspirator ... In 1601 G. G. Pushkin was the head in the newly built city of Pelym in the Tobolsk territory".

"Another distinguished statesman and politician was Evstafiy Mikhailovich Pushkin ... the tsar sent him to serve in Siberia. He was awarded the rank of the Duma nobleman and appointed Tobolsk Governor. All the Siberian governors were subordinate to Tobolsk Governor ... Two sons of Evstafiy Mikhailovich were killed during the Time of Troubles. Nikita Evstafievich served in 1625-1627 in Surgut. After the death of Evstafiy Mikhailovich the post of Tobolsk Governor was taken by his brother Nikita Mikhailovich Pushkin".

«Воеводы не дремали,
Но никак не успевали:
Ждут, бывало с юга, глядь, -
Ан с востока лезет рать».

The Moscow state in the XVI-XVII centuries was almost in the same position as the kingdom described in the "Tale of the Golden Cockerel". When Pushkin was writing this piece, the thoughts about the provincial service of his ancestors must have come to his head quite frequently. Having analyzed the military service of the Pushkins, one can see that the ancestors of the poet had fought in practically all more or less major battles.

When Russia started expanding to Siberia some of the first governors were the ancestors of Pushkin, both from the direct line and sidelines of the kind. In 1629-1631 Voin Timofeevich Pushkin was Berezovo Governor, Ivan Nikitich Layko (Pushkin) in 1619 was a stolnik in Verkhoturye, Mangazeya.

The historian N. M. Karamzin quotes from the book of 1601: Tsar Boris sent the Pushkins to Siberia. Ostafiy brother for disfavor ... and Levontiy and Ivashka Pushkins for the fact that they had made obeisance to Prince Ondrey Yeletsky in the homeland and the Tsar was thereby upset".

In Mangazeya and Turukhan in 1601-1602 the son of Tobolsk Governor Evstafiy Pushkin Savluk Pushkin served as a governor. In 1674-1676 Ivan Fedorovich Pushkin served as a stolnik in Tobolsk, the head Fedor Semenovich Pushkin served as Tyumen Governor (1601-1603). The direct ancestor of the poet, Peter Timofeevich Cherny Pushkin, served in Tyumen in 1625-1628".

The famous A. P. Hannibal was ordered to go to Tobolsk to build a fortress ...

On the ground of the above mentioned circumstances one can definitely say that the name "Lukomor'ye" in the works of Pushkin is used with sufficient reason.



Fig. 9. Khanty storage shed. Photographs by Liudmila Lipatova. (Shuryshkarsky district, YNAO).

The image of the hut on "chicken legs" in the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug can be found in the settlements of the Khanty, where storage sheds are traditionally constructed (Fig. 9.) on cut trees as follows: they find four larches positioned so as to form a square base for the construction and cut them down leaving poles about 2 meters high. Then a storage shed is built, which is used to store products and to protect them from animals. To enter the storage shed a small door is used to which one can climb by an access

ladder. These structures have been widely used since the ancient times among the Khanty living along the Ob, Poluy, Kunovat and other rivers. Protruding roots of pole bases resemble "chicken legs". Store sheds can be built on four poles (if large) or on two (if a storage shed is small).

Museum of History and Archeology of Nadym district of YNAO keeps an archaeological find from a 14-16 cc. settlement in the lower reaches of the Nadym River (Lukomorye territory) directly connected with the image of the hut on "chicken legs". The antique wooden figure was used for a game by the Khanty, which is proved by the hole (Fig. 10).



Fig. 10. A hut on legs (left leg is lost). A figure from archaeological excavations of Nadym settlement. Museum of History and Archeology of Nadym district of YNAO.

There is a definite connection of the works of the great poet with the real historical names. However, we cannot speak about the accuracy of the stories, because the works of A. S. Pushkin composed on the ground of folk tales were initially changed by the poet. For example, here is a fragment of a folk tale recorded by Alexander Sergeyeovich and taken as a ground for the mentioned work:

"The Queen and the Prince had been swimming in the sealed barrel for a long, long time – finally, the sea threw them to the ground. The son noticed it. "Oh my Mother, bless me so that the hoops crack and we come into the light". - God bless you, my child. – The hoops cracked, they came to the island. The son chose the place and with the blessing of his mother suddenly built the city and began to live there and rule. A ship was going by. The Prince stopped the sailors, examined their pass and, having learned that they were going to Sultan Sultanovich, the Turkish emperor, turned into a fly and flew after them. The stepmother wanted to catch him but could not. The guests and the sailors told the king about the new state and the miraculous boy - silver legs and so on. "Oh, - said the king - I'll go see the miracle". – Is that a miracle? - said the stepmother, - the miracle is this: at the sea of Lukomorye there is an oak, and on the oak there are golden chains, a cat walks on those chains: up he goes – he tells fairy tales, down he goes – he sings. - The Prince flew home and with the blessing of his mother moved the wonderful oak to the front of the palace".

1.3. Where is Lukomorje?

The name Lukomorje comes from the word "luka" (curve) and "more" (sea) – a bend of the sea, which is the Gulf of Ob with the lower reaches of the Ob River. Can any sea bend be called “lukomorje”? Of course it can, **but on the European maps the geographical name "Lukomorje" describes only one area – to the right of the Ob River.**

Despite the fact that the name "Yugra" of the area in Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug has survived to the present day, the name "Lukomorje" has miraculously fallen into disuse and is not found on the Russian maps.

- Austrian Ambassador S. Herberstein mentions Lukomorje in the early **16th century**, i.e. before the conquest of Siberia by Yermak.
- One of the detailed local maps of Siberia was drawn up in **1701** and was included in the first Russian atlas of Semen Ulyanovich Remezov, "Drawing Book of Siberia" (Fig. 11). The map contains the names of the cities in the new representation of the Russian lands with their administrative and territorial division (Berezovo, Obdorsk, Mangazeya) and the following names are missing: Obdora, Mangamzeya, Yugra, Lukomorje.

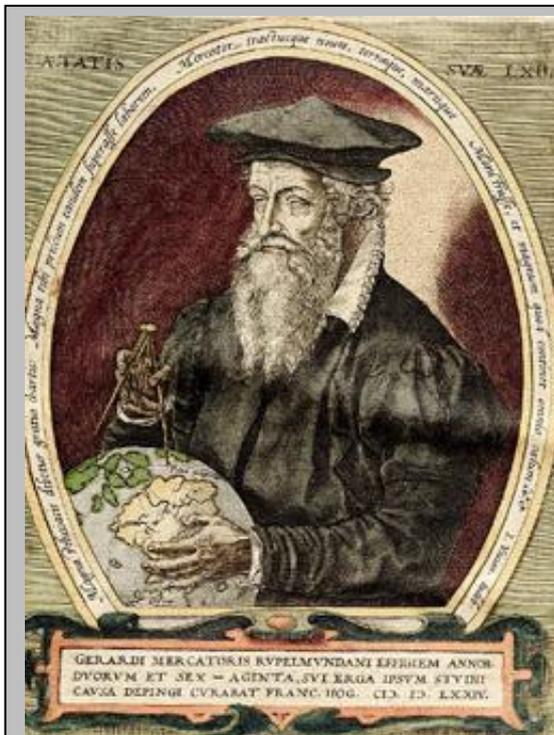


Fig. 11. A map from the atlas of S. U. Remezov, 1701.

Taking into account that on many European maps (Fig. 8) Lukomorje is shown below Mongomzeya and above Yugoria (the territory of Yugra - Khanty-Mansi Okrug) it is reasonable to conclude that **Lukomorje is in the territory of the contemporary Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug.**

With regard to the fact that Lukomorje is indicated on European maps of the 15-18th centuries, to clarify its location one should refer to one of the authoritative sources of that time – the Mercator Atlas.

On the map of Russia from the famous Mercator Atlas of 1595 one can easily find the Kola Peninsula, the Polar Ural and the Ob River. Comparing this map with the contemporary one the similarity of the North coast is observed (Fig. 13). The locations of the White Sea, the Kola Peninsula, the Pechora River, the Usa River, the Polar Ural and the Ob River match. Novaya Zemlya is depicted much larger in size than it actually is, but roughly correctly. The Mercator map does not show the Yamal Peninsula or marks it in a modified way.



**Gerhard Mercator (1512 – 1594) -
Flemish cartographer and geographer.**

After graduation in 1532 Mercator worked with Gemma-Freeze on creation of globes of the Earth and the Moon, at the same time he was engaged in production of precise optical instruments and teaching of geography and astronomy.

In 1537 he published a map of Palestine on 6 sheets and in 1538 - a map of the world (that for the first time showed the location of the southern continent, which existence was long in doubt). These two works gave Mercator the glory of an outstanding cartographer and he was ordered to make a map of Flanders, which was completed in 1540.

In 1541 Mercator created the globe of the Earth, 10 years later - the globe of the Moon and in 1552 presented them to Charles V. In 1544 Mercator published a map of Europe on 15 sheets. There for the first time he correctly showed the outlines of the Mediterranean, having eliminated the errors repeated since the ancient Greek geographer Ptolemy. In 1563 Mercator made a map of Lotharingia and in 1564 – of the British Isles (8 sheets). In 1569 Mercator published "Chronology" – an overview of works on astronomy and cartography. In three years he released a new map of Europe on 15 sheets, and in 1578 - engraved maps for the new edition of "Ptolemy's Geography", and then he started working on the Atlas (the term was first proposed by Mercator for a set of maps). The first part of the Atlas with 51 maps of France, Germany and Belgium was published in 1585, the second with 23 maps of Italy and Greece - in 1590, and the third with 36 maps of the British Isles was published after Mercator's death by his son Rumold in 1595.

The conformal cylindrical projection of Mercator is one of the main map projections. It was designed by Gerhard Mercator to be used in his Atlas. Since the Mercator projection has a different scale in different areas, this projection does not preserve the area. If the basic scale corresponds to the equator, the greatest distortions of the size of the objects will be at the poles. This is clearly seen on the maps of this projection: there Greenland seems to be 2-3 times larger than Australia and is comparable in size to South America.



Fig. 12. Map of Russia from the Mercator Atlas, 1595



Fig. 13. Comparison of the contemporary map with the Mercator map.

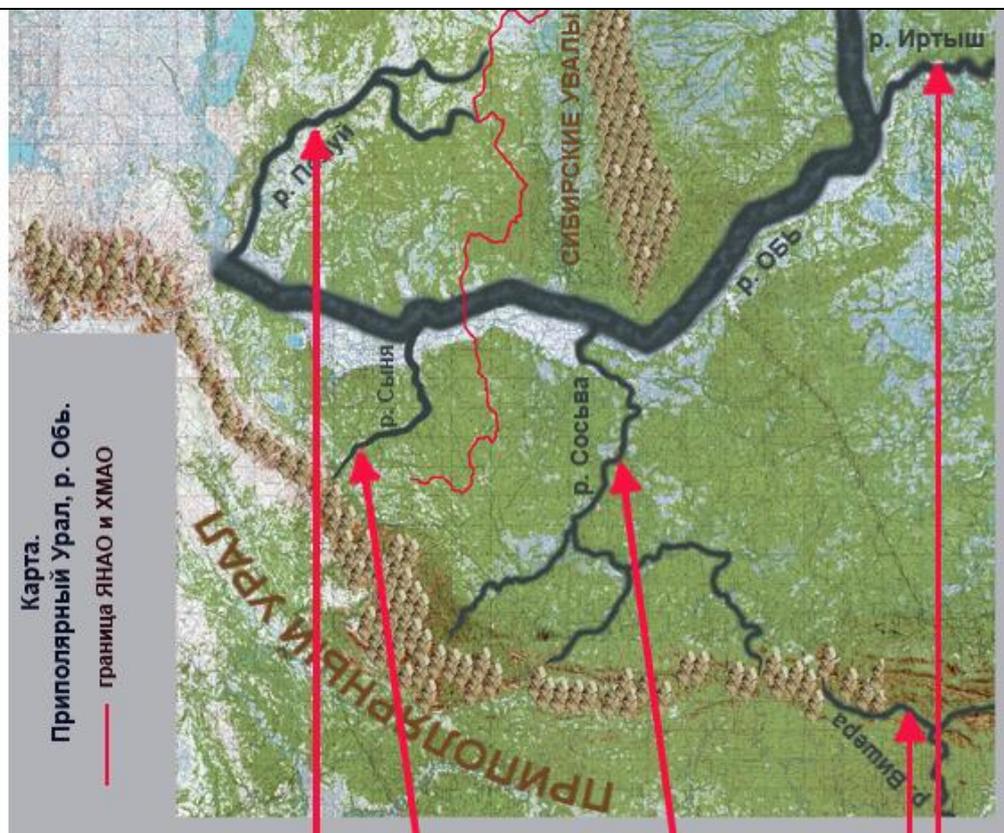
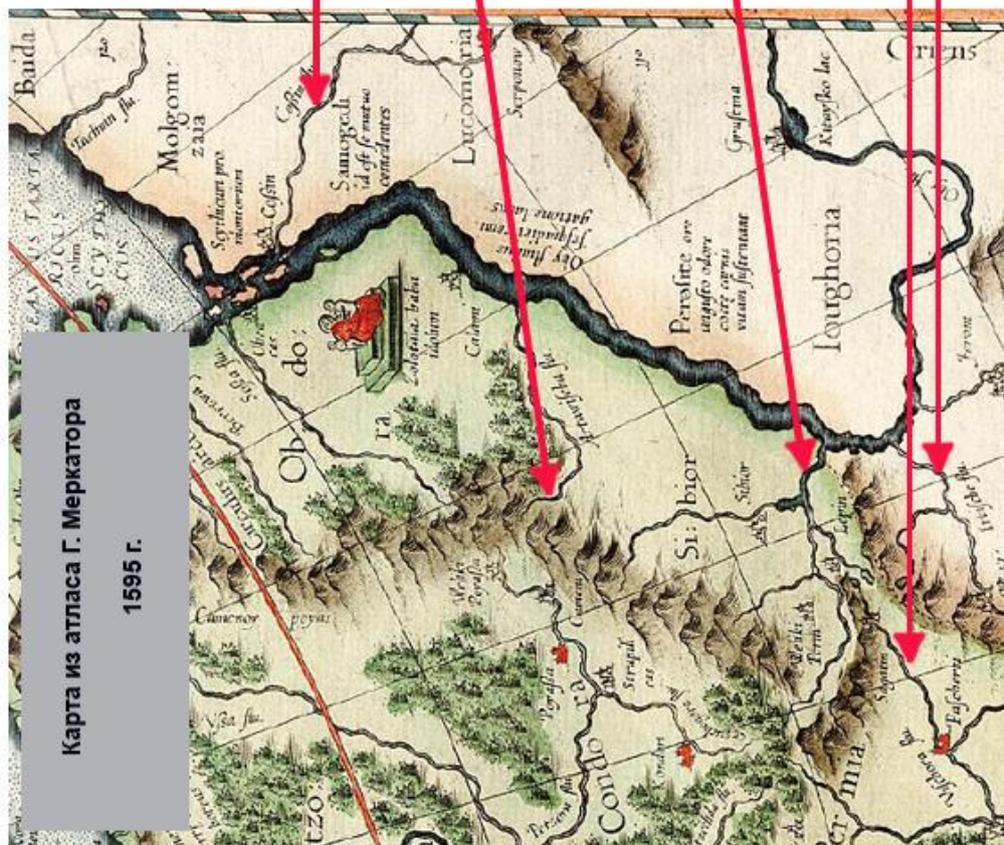
Careful comparison of the right section of the G. Mercator map with the contemporary map reveals detailed similarities of the area (Fig. 14). The mountains (marked on the map of 1595 and on other European maps of the time) located to the south of the Cossin River are parallel to the latitude lines and correspond to the modern name "Siberian Ridges", which are located from the Ob River to the Yenisei River. The images of the Ob, Irtysh, Vishera, Poluy, Synya and Sosva rivers match. Despite the fact that the bend of the Ob on the Mercator map has a slight offset to the western side, on the whole the location of the rivers relative to each other is correct. As the Siberian Ridges are in Khanty-Mansi Okrug, the Lukomorye territory is clearly localized in the southern part of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Fig. 15). The Cossin River, having the north-west flow, exactly corresponds to the Poluy River, which originates in the upper reaches from two tributaries (the Sukhoy Poluy and the Glubokiy Poluy) and flows across the Sub-Ural region of YNAO. Due to this fact, the fortresses mentioned in the text of Herberstein and on the Mercator map (Cossin, Serponov) are situated on the Poluy River.

Сравнительная схема притоков р. Обь на карте Меркатора и современной карте.

Условные обозначения:

Cossin - название реки на карте Меркатора

Полуй - название реки на современной карте



Cossin - Полуй

Artawischa - Сыня

? - Сосьва

Vischora - Вишера

Irtische - Иртыш

Fig. 14.

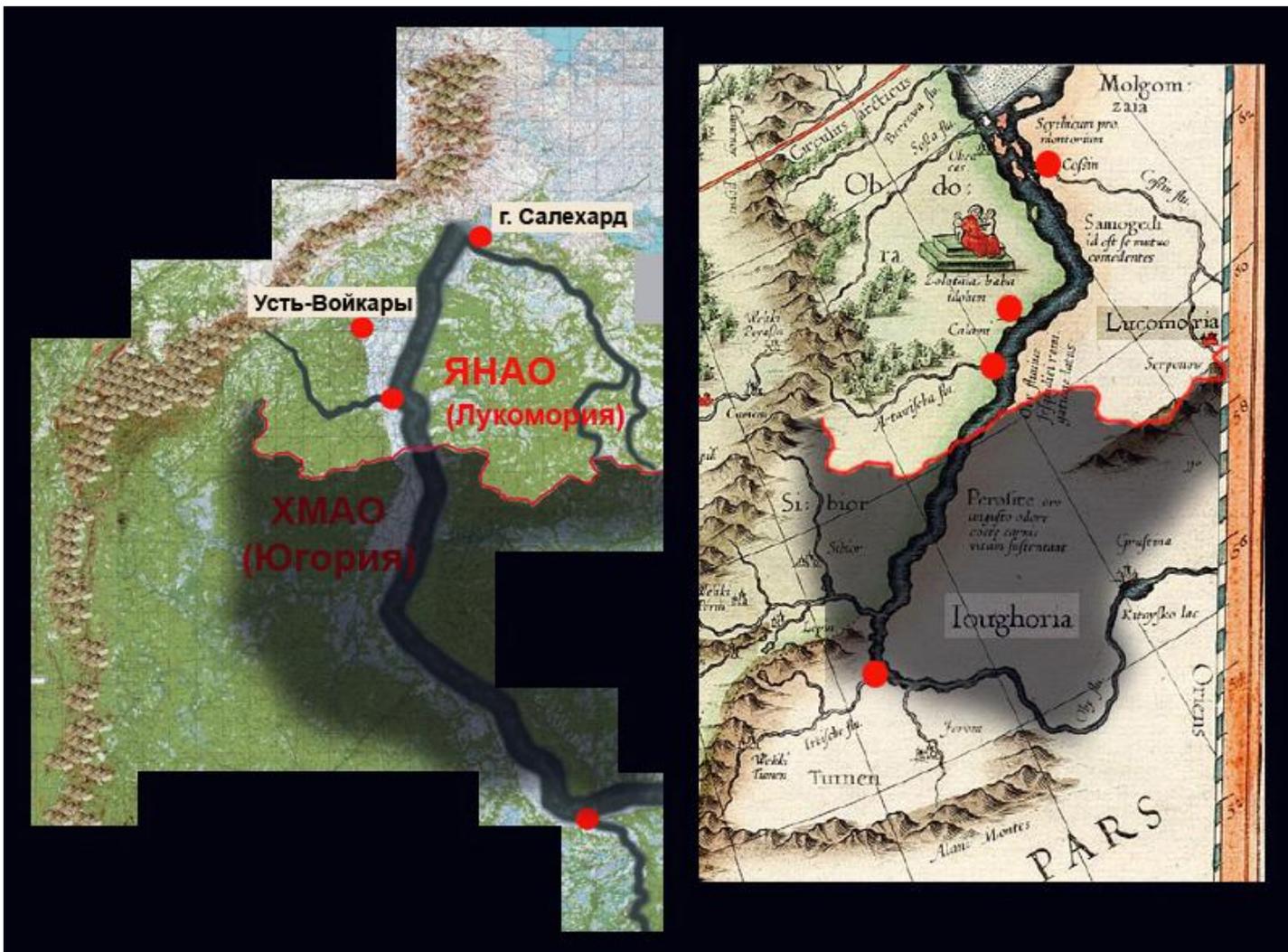


Fig. 15. Contemporary map and G. Mercator map.

There is a characteristic bend of the Cossin River, where Serponov fortress stood (Fig. 16, A). The left tributary of the Poluy (see the contemporary map, Fig. 16, B) also has a similar bend, on the right bank of which bold peaks are located on the topographic map (Fig. 14, B).

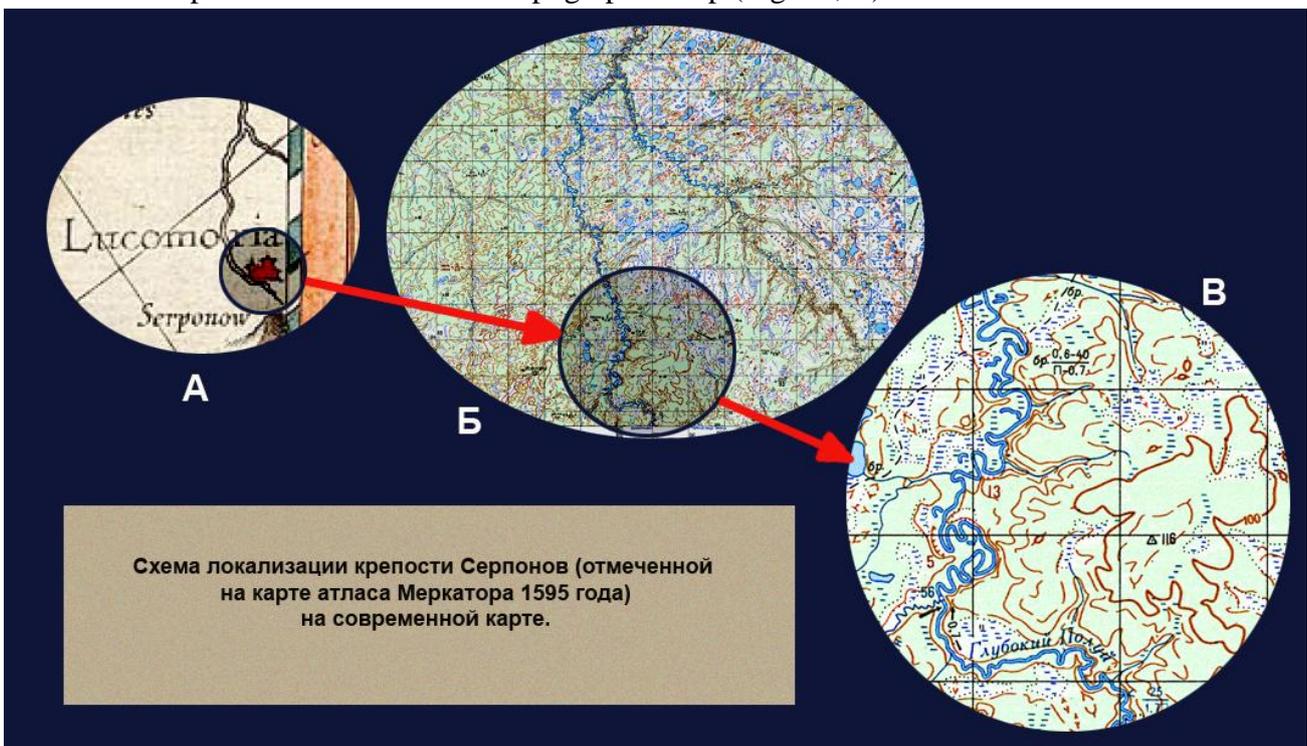


Fig. 16. Scheme of localization of Serponov fortress.

S. Herberstein writes: "... Serponov fortress in Lukomorje, lying on the mountains across the Ob River". According to the contemporary map of this area there are no mountains, except bold peaks and the Siberian Ridges (altitude 200-300m), respectively, the "Lukomorje mountains" mean a belt of the ridges,

which is distinguished from the surrounding area to the south and to the north. Indeed, at the bend of the Glubokiy Poluy there are bold peaks and along the right bank of the tributary there is only moorland with lakes and small streams (Fig. 16 B)

At the confluence of the Cossin River to the Ob since 1595 there was Obdorsky jail. In the 20th century archeologists found here the ancient site of Ust-Poluy (contemporary name) within the city of Salekhard (Fig. 15). As its location coincides with Cossin fortress on the Mercator map, **Ust-Poluy and Cossin** is the same place. Moreover, forty kilometers to the south of Salekhard on the bank of the Poluy a tomb of the 13th century was discovered. The Mercator map indicates the location of Calami, which is situated around Ust-Voykar settlement on the contemporary map ((Fig. 15), excavations are conducted here and recently an ancient settlement has been found). Herberstein writes on this subject: "... Going down the left side of the Ob River the Calami people live". The concordance of the archaeological finds and the settlements indicated on the Mercator map is the basis for the search of Serponov fortress.

From a strategic point of view regarding the waterway Cossin fortress is in an advantageous position, blocking the way to the Poluy. Accordingly, Serponov fortress is situated in an inaccessible place. From the upper reaches of the Poluy rightward originates the Heygiyaha River, which flows to the Nadym River. It is quite possible that in the 16th century the local people had a waterway from the Sukhoy Poluy to the Heygiyaha. The Sukhoy Poluy and the Heygiyaha are connected by the lakes of their tributaries: the Bol. Hulymyogan and the Lekyu (Fig. 17). Thus, it is possible to go by water from the Poluy to the Nadym and further to the Gulf of Ob.

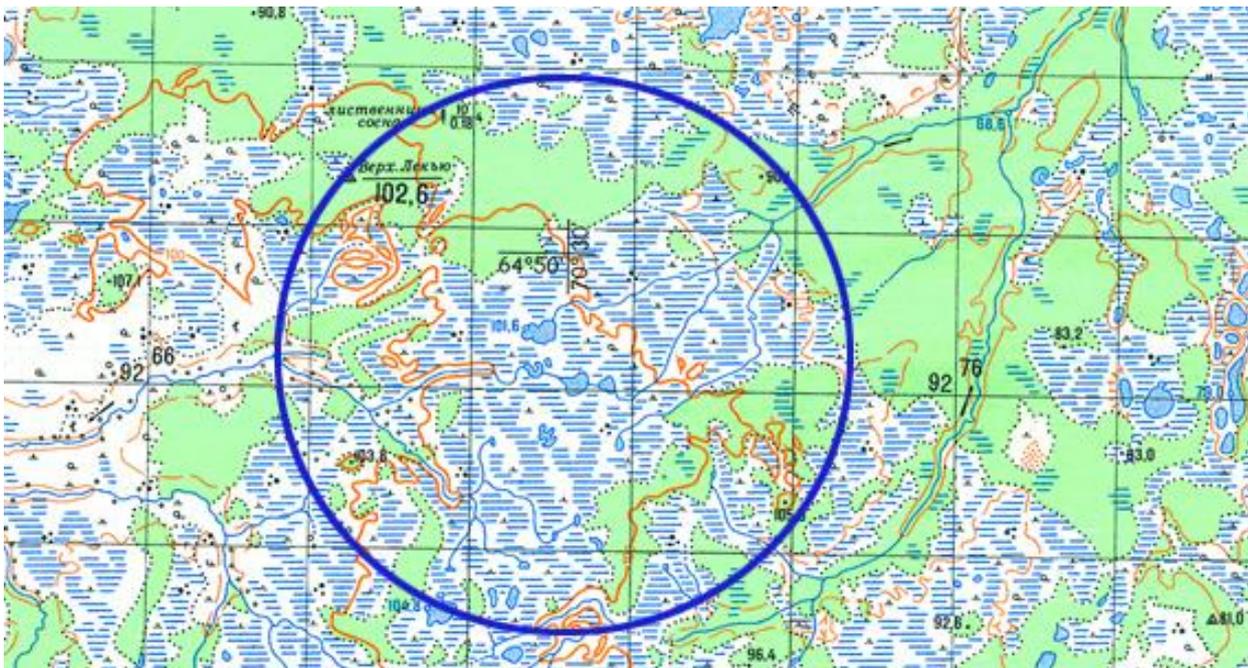


Fig. 17. Map of the connection area with the lakes of the Bol. Hulymyogan and the Lekyu tributaries.

According to the above mentioned data, maps and Herberstein's notes the Lukomor'ye area is located eastward of the Ob, northward of Yugra (Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug) and southward of Mongomzeya, it's limited from the right by the Nadym River (due to the fact that the "Pyaki" people lived in Purovsky district) and from the north by the Ob River and the Gulf of Ob. The Lukomor'ye territory (Fig. 18, 19) occupies the area where now there are practically no formal populated localities (except the settlements along the Ob, Salekhard, Aksarka, Zeleny Yar, Nadym with surrounding settlements that are not residential areas of the central part of Lukomor'ye, Fig. 19).

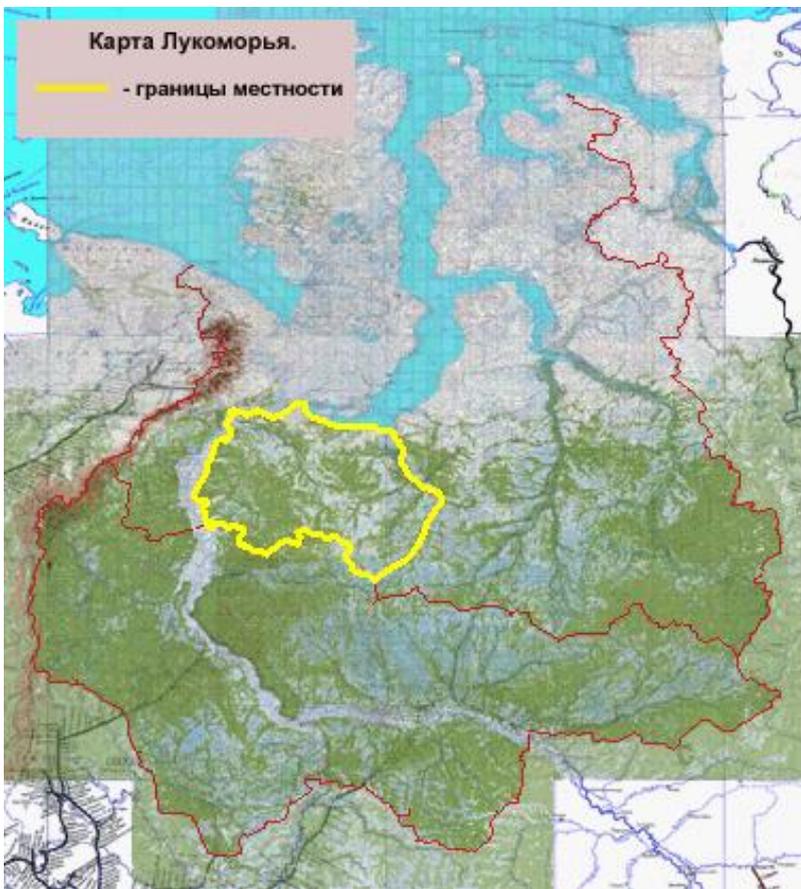


Fig. 18. Map of Lukomorye situated in YNAO.



Fig. 19. Map of the Lukomorye territory with populated localities.

Perspectives:

The area of Serponov fortress (upper reaches of the Poluy) is characterized by the fact that from the western part starts a tributary of the Kunovat River flowing through Shuryshkarsky district of YNAO to the Ob River. On the eastern side originate the Heygiyaha and the Ngarka-Pyrya-Yaha, which can be reached through the tributaries of the Poluy. Thus, the area of the upper reaches of the Poluy is convenient to create a

centralized base of water tourism with routes extending to the three districts of YNAO: Shuryshkarsky, Priuralsky and Nadymsky. This location of the tourist center and construction of additional intermediate bases on long routes create conditions for integrated development of tourism in the south-western part of YNAO. Preserved, wild, poorly known places and territories with forgotten history provide for development of environmental, local history and adventure tourism. A center **museum** located in the area for educational purposes, buildings in the Old Russian style, huts of indigenous Northern peoples (Khanty and Nenets) can make qualitative complements to this base. The center can be considered as an ecovillage with bases for biologists and archaeologists who study this area constructed with the use of new technologies

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2. Organization and Conduction of Research and Exploratory Expeditions in Lukomorye

The main plan of expeditions (the plan does not include the number of additional trips and expeditions). Depending on the results of the conducted expeditions the plan may be adjusted to achieve the goals of the Lukomorye project.

Code	Expedition	Means
A	Lukomorye. The Poluy River.	Water
B	Lukomorye. The Nadym River.	Water, winter off-road transport
C	Lukomorye. The Kunovat River.	Water
D	Lukomorye. The Ob River.	Water, motor vehicles

A. Expedition “Lukomorye. The Poluy River”

Goal of expeditions: Studying and summarizing information about the area of the Poluy River basin in Priuralsky district of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug.

Project tasks:

- Collecting information about the area of the Poluy basin;
- Summarizing information and providing it to the public;
- Developing ecological and local history tourist routes.

I. Methods and stages of Realization.

I.1. Stage One. Collection of Information. COMPLETE.

- I. 1. 1. Collection of previously published information materials (sources: libraries, archives, museums);
- I. 1. 2. Gathering information from the local population (surveys);
- I. 1. 3. Preparation of cartographic material for the expeditions (drawing a single map with marks of objects, developing and studying the proposed routes for the activities within the expedition "Construction Site No. 501" and a large-scale expedition "The Poluy River");

I.2. Stage Two. Expeditionary Activities. COMPLETE.

I. 2. 1. “In Search of Sapoto Settlements”.

Exploratory expedition in search of Sapoto settlements in the area of the Poluy basin (within the expedition "Construction Site No. 501").

Period: September 2009;

Goal: To find settlements of 1st Sapoto site and 2nd Sapoto site. To study the area of the Poluy River basin.

Tasks:

- To make photo and video fixation of the area and the found objects, of the confluence of the Tanopcha River to the Poluy;
- To make GPS marks - coordinates of the found objects of human activity;
- To make descriptions of the found objects of human activity.

Format of the expedition: Separation of the participants from the main route of the expedition "Construction Site No. 501".

Number of participants: 2

Route: Crossing of the railroad of Construction site No. 501 and the Tanopcha - 2nd Sapoto site - 1st Sapoto site - Crossing of the railroad of Construction site No. 501 and the Tanopcha.

Route features: Waterway "2nd Sapoto site - 1st Sapoto site" upstream the Poluy, on the walking route there are marshy areas.

Means of passing the route: walking, water.

Duration: 5 days.

Members of the expedition: I. G. Kuznetsov, I. Y. Sharovатов (expedition team "North Road").

Required expedition equipment: (Appendix 7)

Mapping: (Appendix 4, Fig. 5)

Funding of the expedition: personal funds of the participants;

I. 2.2. "The Poluy. Camps of Construction Site No. 501". COMPLETE.

Expedition to search for objects of construction site No. 501 in the lower reaches of the Poluy (within the expedition "Construction Site No. 501").

Period: September - October 2009;

Goal: To find and describe the camps of construction site No. 501 in the vicinity of the Poluy.

Tasks:

- To make photo and video fixation of the found camps and bridges of construction site No. 501;
- To make GPS marks - coordinates of the found camps, bridges and other artifacts;
- To describe the camps.

Format of the expedition: Within the expedition "Construction Site No. 501" without diversion from the main route but marking the objects in the vicinity of the Poluy;

Number of participants: 4

Route: Meteorological station Poluy – Salekhard;

Route features: Marshy areas at the route "Taypugorsky Sor – Salekhard", absence of communications and populated areas;

Means of passing the route: walking, water.

Members of the expedition: I. G. Kuznetsov, I. Y. Sharovатов, S. F. Osipenko, K. E. Partum (expedition team "North Road").

Required expedition equipment: (Appendix 7)

Mapping: (Appendix 4, Fig. 5, 6)

Funding of the expedition: personal funds of the participants.

I. 2.3. Large-Scale Expedition "The Poluy River".

Goal: To study the Poluy River basin and its tributaries, to search for traces of human activity.

Object of the expedition: The coastal zone of the Poluy basin in Priuralsky district of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug.

Main tasks:

- To search for the ancient city-fortress Serponov in the upper reaches of the Poluy;
- Passing the route by all members of the expedition;
- To search for objects of human activity at the coastal area of the Poluy according to prepared data (Appendix 5);
- To make GPS-coordinates, photos and videos of the found objects of human activity all along the route;
- To survey the upper reaches of the Poluy (Glubokiy Poluy and Sukhoy Poluy), to describe the area, to make photos and videos;
- To see the confluences of the tributaries to the Poluy according to the prepared data (Appendix 6), to make photos and videos, to describe the terrain of the confluences;
- To maintain the log during the whole expedition.

Additional tasks:

- To make coordinates for possible campsites under the conditions of the water route along the Poluy;
- To make photos and videos of the flora and fauna on the way of the route marking the images with GPS-coordinates;
- In case of meeting local people to gather information about the nature and historical data in the area of the Poluy basin, to collect ethnographic material;
- To describe the terrain at different points of the route, to note the features of various localities in the upper, middle and lower reaches of the Poluy River;

Format of the expedition: task-oriented, research, exploratory;

Number of participants: 10

Route: Nadym – the Sukhoy Poluy – the Glubokiyy Poluy – the Poluy – Meteorological station Poluy - Salekhard;

Route features:

- Estimated route length - 750 km, an increase of the length due to search activities;
- Delivery of the expedition team and equipment by helicopter or off-road vehicles to the area of the Sukhoy Poluy due to absence of a transport road to the upper reaches of the Poluy;
- Duration of the expedition (estimated - 40 days);
- Absence of infrastructure and settlements at the section the Sukhoy Poluy – Meteorological station Poluy (380 km);
- Presence of wild animals (bears);

Means of passing the route: main – water, exploratory - walking.

Members of the expedition: expedition team under formation.

Required expedition equipment: (Appendix 7)

Mapping: (Appendix 4)

I.3. Stage Three. Processing of Gathered Materials.

- I. 3. 1. Developing general description of the area of the Poluy basin;
- I. 3. 2. Making a map with description and photos of the places of confluence of the tributaries to the Poluy;
- I. 3. 3. Making a map with description and photos of the objects of human activity found in the area of the Poluy basin;
- I. 3. 4. Describing flora and fauna of the Poluy basin;
- I. 3. 5. Compiling local history photographic atlas on the basis of the processed information;
- I. 3. 6. Developing educational program "The Poluy River";
- I. 3. 7. Making web-site "The Poluy River";
- I. 3. 8. Drafting general informational material on ecological and local history tourism;
- I. 3. 9. Mapping the routes with description of the terrain, photos, advice on methods of passing the routes and required equipment. Mapping the proposed sites for water tourism routes;
- I. 3. 10. Making a list of required permits and issuing agencies to visit the areas of the Poluy River.

II. Expected results.

- II. 1. Issue of a large printed atlas with cartography, photographs and detailed description of the area of the Poluy River basin, places of confluence of the tributaries, description of cultural items, abandoned settlements, existing settlements and stations, descriptions of flora and fauna;
- II. 2. Issue of a printed map with pictures of the area of the Poluy basin;
- II. 3. Meetings and lectures on educational program "The Poluy River";
- II. 4. Development and maintenance of web-site "The Poluy River";
- II. 5. Issue of a multimedia CD "The Poluy River";
- II. 6. Issue of a guide to ecological and local history tourism on the basis of the expedition with recommendations for passing of the Poluy basin water routes, general cartography and marks of

recommended places, descriptions of characteristics of the route, information on required equipment, a list of required permits and issuing agencies to visit the Poluy basin.

II. 7. Holding photo exhibitions "The Poluy River".