

Contacts:
Reading room
of the Department of Written Sources
opi@shm.ru

The Department of Written Sources is the largest museum collection of documents in Russia. It holds more than 90 thousand archival units. The core part of its collection is built by documents from private, family and clannish archives, many of which came into museum as part of collections of individuals, scientific societies and institutions. Most of the documents are dated back to late XVII–XX c.

At the department there works a reading room.

Reading room opening times

Wednesday, Thursday from 10.00 till 17.00 (may change).

In summertime (July-August) no reception of visitors is carried out.

Applications for selected files are only accepted in case they are made in person while visiting the reading room.

Issue of a temporary pass

A temporary pass is issued upon the provision of a cover letter (a request) from an institution that refers the researcher to the museum library. The letter should be provided on a corporate letterhead with a signature of the director of the institution, addressed to the attention of Aleksei K. Levykin, Director of the State Historical Museum, or Marina V. Chistiakova, Deputy Director on scientific work and collections. A pass can either be issued upon the provision of a personal request indicating the purpose, scientific topic and chronological framework of the research.

Letters should be forwarded at shm@shm.ru.

When needed, it is possible to involve assistants or interpreters in the work provided that all the document required for their work are made out in accordance with the standard procedure.

A temporary pass for foreign citizens can only be issued for the period of duration of their trip but for no longer than 1 year.

A temporary pass can be received in the museum pass office (Main Building, entrance № 3) upon the provision of an identity document.

The reading room is accessed via Visitors entrance in the Museum of Patriotic War of 1812. The reading room is located on the second floor in room 2.03.