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The main trends in the use of documents in the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation of the Republic of Kazakhstan

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Abstract: *According to the state program 'Archive 2025' for wide access to archival documents in Kazakhstan the web portal 'Unified electronic archive of documents was launched'. At the moment, there is no information on the funds of the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation on this site yet, but it is planned to add it to the electronic catalog in the future. For the successful implementation of data on documents stored in the funds of the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation, it is necessary to analyze which types of documents are most popular among the archive users (both in the reading room and when executing information requests by the archive) and which need to be translated into electronic format as a priority, for this purpose, the reports of the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation were studied for the period from 1974 to 2021.*

Key words: History, Archival Science, Archives, Documents, Kazakhstan

Introduction

The Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation (CSA STD) was established in 1974, it is a specialized archive that stores documents of research institutes, design bureaus and other institutions of a scientific and technical nature.

The main array of the CSA STD consists of project documentation for the construction of electric power facilities in Kazakhstan, Central Asia and Eastern Siberia,

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housing, civil, industrial and transport construction, land reclamation, water and forestry.

It is represented by the documents of the largest design institutes of Kazakhstan: Kazakh State Design and Research Institute for the Development of projects for the organization of work of the Ministry of Construction of the Kazakh SSR Kazgorstroyproject (KAZGOR CJSC), Alma-Ata State Design Institute for the Design of the city of Alma-Ata (Alma-Atagiprogor), State Research and Design Institute for the Enrichment of Non-ferrous Metals (Kazmehanobr), Kazakh Head State Design Institute for the Exploration and Design of Highways (Kazdorproekt) of the Ministry of Highways of the Kazakh SSR, Central Asian Branch of the All-Union State Research and Design Institute for Industrial Energy and Rational Use of Electric and Fuel Energy and Secondary Energy Resources in Industry (VNIPIenergoprom), etc.

The research documentation of the leading republican institutes and centers is widely presented, reflecting scientific research in various fields of economics, industry, agriculture, medicine and education. The most interesting are the reports on the topics of research and development projects, reflecting the theoretical and practical solution of scientific and technical problems.

These are the documents of such organizations as: Research Economic Institute (NIEI) Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Kazakh Research Institute of Scientific and Technical Information and Technical and Economic Research under the State Planning Committee of the Kazakh SSR; Kazakh branch of the All-Union Research Institute for the Study of Population Demand for Consumer Goods and Trade Conditions; Kazakh Research Institute of Energy (KAZNIIE), etc.¹

Previously, researchers conducted a study of certain aspects of the work of the archive, for separate chronological periods. Basically, these are reports at various conferences² or in periodicals, in which an analysis of individual areas was given, such as the work of the reading room,³ or the work of the CSA STD on the execution of socio-legal requests for individual years.⁴ Articles were also published on the work of the archive in emergency conditions, for example, during the Covid-19⁵ pandemic. The problems of publishing activities on the funds of the CSA STD⁶ were touched upon, but no comprehensive analysis of the activities on the use of the archive's documents for the entire period of its operation was carried out.

If we consider the experience of using research and scientific and technical documentation in other archives of scientific and technical documentation in post-

¹ Sarsenova, Zarutskaya & Chaushanskaya, 2013.

² Erkenova, 2020.

³ Griбанова, 2016.

⁴ CSA STD web site.

⁵ Zhumataeva, 2020.

⁶ Pecherskikh, 2020.

Soviet countries, then most often such documents are used for exhibition activities, when executing thematic requests of a property nature,⁷ exhibitions can be timed to the anniversaries of organizations or fund-makers, as well as related with a certain theme, they are held both in traditional form and in electronic format, with online access to archive materials.⁸ Also, this type of documents is used when publishing various collections on the history of individual institutions or branches of activity.⁹ STD documents are used in the publication of various specialized reference books and software applications.¹⁰ Most often, requests for STD come from various design organizations for the purpose of reconstruction or repair of architectural objects, documents on the history of architecture are also popular.¹¹ Research documents are used in studying the problems of the impact of scientific and technological achievements on the development of society, assessing the role and place of individual industries in the economy of the country.¹² In most articles and other materials on the use of documents in the archives of scientific and technical documentation, it is noted that documents on architectural structures and the history of architecture are almost always in greatest demand, documents from other industries are used, but on a smaller scale.

According to the state program *Archive 2025*¹³ for wide access to archival documents within the information system and acceleration of processes for providing information based on archival documents (certificates from the place of work, studies, address documents, etc.).¹⁴ At the moment, there is no information on the funds of the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation on this site yet, but it is planned to add it to the electronic catalog in the future.

Methodology and methods of research

During the preparation of the article, a content analysis of the annual reports of the CSA STD was carried out, a quantitative characteristic of the main forms of use of documents was given. The methods of description are used in order to reveal the content of the documents that are most in demand among researchers. The study of the archive's activities was conducted in accordance with the principle of historicism.

When reviewing reports, it should be borne in mind that over the 50 years of the archive's operation, certain accounting indicators have been changed or supple-

⁷ Kurapova, 2016.

⁸ Kulinok, 2020.

⁹ Paramonov, 2016.

¹⁰ Zhumar, 2019.

¹¹ Aleksenko, 2020.

¹² Malinovskaia, Kuriatnikov & Klimochkina, 2019.

¹³ PPRK, 2019, № 953.

¹⁴ the web portal EeadRK.

mented. For example, with independence, requests from other countries began to occupy a large share among requests of a socio-legal nature, and therefore this parameter is allocated in a separate column, whereas in the Soviet period there is no such detail in reports. In addition, some indicators were included in the reports periodically, such as the composition of researchers visiting the reading rooms. The changes made could also be reflected in the final data.

When studying the topics of research carried out according to the documents of the archival funds of the CSA STD, it is necessary to take into account the fact that the archive did not give an accurate description of the researchers' topics until the end of the 2000s. In the Soviet period, the general characteristics of research directions were described, in the modern period, an approximate list of research topics began to be indicated regularly only since 2010.

Results

The report provides data on the main forms of use of archival documents:

1. providing researchers with information in the archive's reading room;
2. fulfilling social and thematic requests;
3. popularization of documents in one form or another (radio broadcasts, TV stories, publication of articles and other information materials in periodicals, excursions and exhibitions in the archive and beyond);
4. publication of collections of documents and other materials on the funds of the archive.

Figure 1 shows data on the number of researchers who worked in the archives reading room, as well as the number of social and thematic requests received by the archive.

As can be seen from the graph, until the end of the 1980s, the predominant form of using documents in the archive was working with researchers in the reading room, but from the 1990s onwards, the number of social requests is growing more and more, and scientific and technical information on documents is beginning to yield to them in quantitative terms. Thematic requests for the entire time of the work of the CSA STD are present in small quantities.

In the reports in the document usage section, the following parameters are used to measure the main indicators: number of researchers and the number of issued documents in graphic sheets and text form.

As follows from Figure 2, until 1990 the number of issued documents was constantly growing, especially since 1983, from the 1983 report it is known that

“considerable attention in the design and construction of facilities was paid to the reconstruction and expansion of previously constructed buildings and structures”.¹⁵

Since the 1990s, not only the number of researchers has been decreasing, but also the volume of requested documentation, including the number of graphic materials issued. There is also a decline in 2020, when the archive was closed to the public for the duration of the pandemic.

When analyzing the content of annual reports, it can be seen that certain data may or may not have been entered at the discretion of those who prepared them, certain parameters and performance indicators of the archive appear and disappear from the reports in different years. In different years, the content of the reports differs, although not radically, but the main numerical indicators are always present. This mainly concerns the period 1980-1990. Since 2000, data on the work of the archive has been stabilizing and ceasing to change from year to year. Since that time, new parameters have also appeared, such as the number of visits, the number of inventories issued, and the number of copies of documents issued. But some data, such as information about the composition of researchers who worked in the archive, are indicated only periodically, both in the Soviet period and in current reports.

Work in the reading room

In fact, the work of issuing documents to researchers began only in 1976, because in the first two years of its existence the emphasis was placed on the acquisition of documents by the archive, and from 1976 the reading room of the archive began to work.¹⁶

The annual reports did not specify the exact topics on which the researchers worked. For example, the report for 1976 states:

“The documents on civil and industrial construction were most intensively used, this is due to the reconstruction of facilities, administrative buildings and structures, or with the use of individual structures in the construction of new facilities.

The most used complexes: TSUM in Alma-Ata, restaurant ‘Alma-Ata’ (facades, profiles, Architectural and Construction part, etc.). There are 60 drawings in total, from which copies are made.

The work on fulfilling requests of a socio-legal nature is insignificant, because the archive does not have and does not accept personnel documents”.¹⁷

¹⁵ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6. – D. 142. – L.9.

¹⁶ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 10. – L. 3-4.

¹⁷ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 31. – L. 5.

The report for 1977 provides the following information:

“Documents on energy, civil, transport and water-economic construction were mainly used.

Work was carried out to fulfill the thematic requests of party and Soviet bodies and design institutions. 4 thematic queries.

Work was carried out to fulfill citizens’ requests, the number of such applications is insignificant”.¹⁸

At the same time, there is a general description of the subject of the work, but not in all reports, for some years the compilers of the report did not even give general descriptions.

Later, new types of information were added to the report, for example, in 1980, for the first time, a characteristic of the researchers themselves visiting the archive appeared:

“130 researchers, mainly design engineers using documents for national economic purposes; graduate students of the Architectural and Construction Institute”.¹⁹

In the report for 1982 we read:

“172 researchers, design engineers using documents for practical purposes, graduate students from the Leningrad Institute of Painting, Architecture and Sculpture named after I. Repin and the Alma-Ata Architectural and Construction Institute. Most of the NTDs (in separate drawings) are issued for temporary use for making copies.”²⁰

Then the description of the research topic reappears. In the report for 1985:

“The documents were used for major repairs, for project adjustments, for technical re-equipment, for expansion and reconstruction of factories and factories, dissertation works”.²¹

¹⁸ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 52. – L. 6-7.

¹⁹ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 87. – L. 4-6.

²⁰ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 120. – L. 11-12.

²¹ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 160. – L. 9-10.

In the reports of the archive, since the 2000s, the description of the topics on which the researchers worked becomes more detailed. A parameter such as ‘number of visits’ appears. For example, in the report for 2009:

“Research topics: Reconstruction of the Medeo high-altitude skating rink, familiarization with the project documentation of the following objects: The Palace of the Republic, the Kazakhstan Hotel, the Saryarka cinema, the Kazfilarmony building, the Vishenka kindergarten, the mosque building for 1000 people in Zhana Uzen, Baluan Sholak sports Complex, etc.”²²

When analyzing the list of topics (Figure 3) and general characteristics of the work of the reading room, it can be seen that the most popular documents among visitors to the reading room are documents on architectural projects that are used for restoration and other types of construction work. Basically, these are design and estimate documents for the most famous architectural monuments of Almaty or industrial facilities. Other types of scientific and technical documentation are used much less frequently, mainly in dissertations and scientific research, these are works on biology, mechanical engineering, history and other disciplines.

Pro-active information and the main forms of promotion of documents

Informing users on their requests, as well as on an initiative basis about the availability of certain documents in the organization's archive and their contents, is one of the forms of using archival documents.²³

Information letters include data on the composition and content of documents stored in the Central State Archive STD of the Republic of Kazakhstan; sending of such letters is often timed to various anniversaries in the founding institutions (this applies to letters sent since the second half of the 1990s). In addition, letters are drafted on various thematic areas (land management, water resources, etc.). For example, in the report of 1989, information letters on the subject: *From the history of development of virgin and fallow lands in Kazakhstan in 1963-1974* and *On the composition and content of documents of SoyuzdorNII*.²⁴

²² TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 426. – L. 14-18.

²³ PPRK, 2018, № 575.

²⁴ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 284. – L. 3.

These are the two main directions in compiling information messages, but there are letters of a different kind, for example, in the early 1990s, the Archive sent out the following letters:

“To the Standing Commission on Ecology of the City Council of People’s Deputies of Almaty on the documents kept in the Archive on environmental protection issues in 1991”.²⁵

A detailed description of the reasons for compiling the information letter and its addressees can be found in the 1992 report:

“As part of the identification of the source base for research on the genesis of agrarian policy in Kazakhstan during the Soviet period, the archive informed all the regional archives of the republic about the composition, extreme dates and informative richness of the land-use documents stored in the Central State Archive of the STD.

The letter to Alma-Ata Irrigation College ‘On the composition and content of documents of CSA STD RK’ with the proposal to use the records of the archive for the seminars on the history of urban development for archival practice of students.

Within the framework of revealing of documents on history of development of medical science in Kazakhstan the letter ‘About documents on history of development of medicine in Kazakhstan’ was made to institute of history and ethnology of Academy of Sciences of RK, chair of history of medicine KazHMI, chair of history of Kazakhstan KazSU, museum of medicine and all research institutes of system of Ministry of Health. As a result there were applications of several research institutes for revealing of documents for creation of museums at institutes”.²⁶

In the 1993 report the topics are given without detailed description of the objectives: *On Forest Management Documentation, On Patent Documentation, On Grassland Records*.²⁷

Also in 1997: *On documents on the history of medicine in Kazakhstan to all research institutes of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan, On documents on the history of architecture in the 1950s in KazGASA*.²⁸

In addition to information letters, the media are used to popularize the documents, it is the publication of articles in various periodicals (newspapers, scientific journals, bulletins, etc.), most often the articles are related to the anniversaries of organizations and fonds of CSA STD.

²⁵ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.2-6 – D. 55. – L. 3-6.

²⁶ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.2-6 – D. 73. – L. 11-15.

²⁷ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.2-6. – D. 93. – L. 7-9.

²⁸ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.2-6 – D. 211. – L. 9-11.

As shown in Figure 4, from the late 1990s until 2014 the number of publications and newsletters increases, then the number of publications decreases and data on newsletters is almost never reported, the reason is explained in the 2014 report:

“In 2014 the number of articles produced decreased significantly, which is a consequence of changed tactics in organizing the use of documents. At this stage, characterised by the creation of an information society, the task of the archive's specialists in preparing materials based on the preserved fonds is not to produce highly specialised texts, but to produce articles of interest to a wider audience. Therefore, the number of initiative letters and articles for media publications is limited in order to free up time for the preparation of materials”.²⁹

In addition to newsletters and publications in the media, CSA has conducted radio broadcasts with the participation of archive staff or on topics related to STD's documents, including stories on anniversaries and discussions of draft laws on archives. For example, in the 1981 report: Radio broadcast lecture on *Ensuring the preservation and use of the USSR GAF for research purposes in the light of the new regulations on the USSR GAF*.³⁰

In the 1983 report: a radio broadcast on *Prospects for the use of documents of state archives and, in particular, of the Central State Archive of the Kazakh SSR, in the light of the implementation of the USSR Food Programme for the period until 1990 and measures for its implementation*.³¹

In the 1991 report: 2 radio broadcasts on *On the problems of Lake Balkhash according to the documents of the archive*; Round table on the discussion of the draft law *On science and scientific-technical policy*.³²

In addition to radio, the archive also participated in TV broadcasts with stories about the activities of the CSA STD (interviews with the heads of the archive, shooting various events, etc.). However, in many reports the data on TV and radio broadcasts are combined into one column.

The archive also exhibits documents both in the archive itself and by organising travelling exhibitions. These events are also held to mark various anniversaries (of organisations and scholars). Or to certain historical events, e.g. in the 2007 report:

“in accordance with the instructions of the Committee on Information and Archives, exhibition plans were drawn up, archival documents were selected and copied for

²⁹ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op. 2-6 – D. 607. – L. 18.

³⁰ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op. 1-6 – D. 103. – L. 5-6.

³¹ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op. 1-6 – D. 142. – L. 8-10.

³² TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op. 2-6. – D. 55. – L. 5

the exhibition ‘Relocation of the Capital of the Republic’ and for the Second Forum of Creative and Scientific Intellectuals of CIS Member States”.³³

As can be seen from the graph after 2013 (Figure 5) the archive did not take part in radio broadcasts anymore, but the number of exhibition events organised by the archive has increased.

Enforcement of social and legal enquiries

Social-legal enquiries are enquiries about employment history and wages, age, family composition, education, awards, pension contributions and social contributions, academic degrees and titles, accidents, medical treatment, evacuations, repression, rehabilitation, service in military units and formations, residence in ecological disaster areas, imprisonment and civil status certificates.³⁴

The specialisation of the archive is also reflected in its activities, because unlike other state archives the preservation of documents on the personnel is not its main purpose. However, the Archive accepted these documents together with other documents from the sources of acquisition, although in comparison with other state archives such volumes may not seem so large. This fact is reflected in the reports of the STD Central Archives of the 1970s.:

“The work on the fulfillment of enquiries of a social and legal nature is insignificant because the archive does not possess and does not accept documents on the personal composition”.³⁵

This trend continued until the 1990s. From this period begins a progressive increase in the number of social and legal enquiries, beginning with several dozens and increasing to several hundreds by the mid-2010s, it is associated with the acceptance of documents of specialized organizations from the Central State Archive of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

As it is said in the report for 1991:

“Though the archive as a whole stopped accepting documents, we are forced to accept documents of profile organisations from the Central State Archive of the Republic in accordance with the ‘Instructions on the order of acquisition’...”³⁶.

³³ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op. 2-6. – D. 384. – L. 7-10.

³⁴ PPRK, 2018, № 575.

³⁵ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 10. – L. 3-4; F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 31. – L. 5; F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 52. – L. 6-7.

³⁶ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.2-6 – D. 55. – L. 3-6.

Social-legal enquiries include requests for employment history and/or wages, in some cases the CNT requests other documents such as birth certificates (but these are classified as non-core enquiries).

Since 2006, the number of requests of a socio-legal nature has begun to include the number of requests received from abroad. On average about half or more of the requests are foreign (mostly from the Russian Federation and the CIS countries). The answer to most of the requests is given by post, some of them by e-mail or through e-archive system (from 2022).

From 2019 there are data on the senders of queries: legal entities and natural persons. In special cases (such as requests from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan) the sender is described separately from all other requests.

The increase in the number of requests concerns only socio-legal documents; thematic requests always remain small in number, no more than 10 per year on average, both in the Soviet and modern periods (Figure 6).

From the second half of the 1980s onwards, the first positive responses to topical requests appeared, with an average of no more than 5 or 6 requests per year.

Data on the composition of topical requests is not always indicated, often the reports give only the total number of requests per year or the data may be given partially (only the subject of the request or only the sender)

In the Soviet period, thematic queries concerned data on architectural and industrial sites: for example, in 1978 queries on *Leninogorsk concentrating factory*, *Metallurgical factory in Karaganda* and *Alma-Ata wedding palace*.³⁷ In 1980. *Thematic enquiry into the history of the Kazmekhanobr Institute*.³⁸

In some cases only the sender of the request is indicated, for example in the 1982 report, *Thematic enquiry from the SoyuzdorNII Institute*.³⁹ In other cases, only the subject of the request is indicated, but not the sender. In 1989, *On the Search for the Project of the Cinema Tselinnyi; Clarification of the KGB Fund of the Semi-palatinsk Information Centre*.⁴⁰

In the archive's reports after independence, the following requests appear, from the 1991 report:

“From the Research Institute of Tuberculosis in connection with its 60th anniversary, an overview of the history of the institute for the years 1930-1960 was prepared.

A letter on documents containing information on the problem of Lake Balkhash was prepared at the request of the VOSKhNIL”⁴¹

³⁷ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 61. – L. 8-9.

³⁸ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 87. – L. 4.

³⁹ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 120. – L. 11.

⁴⁰ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 284. – L. 5.

⁴¹ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.2-6 – D. 55. – L. 3.

To date, the majority of thematic enquiries are requests for design and estimate documentation for various facilities, for example, among the enquiries for 2021 are specified: *Working projects (construction) for facilities of KazNMU named after Asfendiyarov; Design documentation for construction of KazGASA building located at 28 Ryskulbekova Street, Almaty.*

Most often information is requested by legal entities – research and scientific centres (Scientific Centre of Hygiene and Epidemiology named after Kh. Zhumatov, JSC ‘National Scientific Medical Centre’, National Research and Design Branch of RGP on PHV ‘Kazrestavratsiya’). Media (Vlast Publishing House, Sanmar Information Agency). Educational institutions (K. Satpayev University, College of Architecture and Construction – Lyceum under KazGASA’ LLP), enterprises (Aralvodstroy, Batys Su Arnasy LLP) and other institutions (Directorate of Sports Facilities of Almaty LLP).

One of the differences in the work of the Central State Archive of STD during the Soviet period and today is its work with the All-Union Research Institute of Archival Affairs (VNIIDAD) and the Main Archives Directorate (GAU) of the USSR. Joint activities included the reviewing of sent papers, participation in various works of VNIIDAD:

“In accordance with the five-year plan for the development of archival business in the USSR for 1976-1980, a number of documents of the Institute were published. VNIIDAD, together with the archival institutions of the GDR and Czechoslovakia, was developing the theme: 3.3.2 ‘Principles of Development of an Automated Information Retrieval System for Scientific and Technical Documentation (AIRS STD)’. The work programme of the subject included collection and study of documents within the scientific and technical documentation reference system and the form of reference and information service (RIS) for researchers and other subscribers of state archives, which keep scientific and technical documentation. To perform this task, the archive prepared information on the composition of the NSA and forms of S&I of researchers planned in the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation of the KazSSR and sent them to VNIIDAD”.⁴²

On the assignment of the Main Archive of the Kazakh SSR, the Central State Archive of STD participated in the identification of documents for the collection *Scientific and Technical Societies of the USSR*.⁴³

In such work, the Archive carried out tasks and assignments, as well as joint projects with other archives. In the Soviet period, in contrast to the archive’s work during the period of independence, the Central State Archive of STD did not publish the archive’s documents in archaeological collections. Since 2010. The Central State

⁴² TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 248. – L. 2.

⁴³ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 103. – L. 5.

Archive of STD began to publish regular collections of documents⁴⁴ in two main directions:

These are collections of documents on personal collections: *Academician A.Sh. Tatigulov: Collection of documents and materials*, 2010; *Sources of Life. Documents from the Funds of the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation (Personal Fund of P.I. Marikovskiy)*, 2012; *Son of Kazakhstan and Hellas: Spiridon Georgievich Kosmeridi. Collection of documents and materials for 1942-2014*, 2014; *Ahead of Time. Collection of documents and materials about Saken Nugmanovich Nugmanov, doctor, scientist, organizer of oncological service of Kazakhstan*, 2017; *Azamattyǵy asqaq hyalym. Scientist. Citizen. Patriot. Collection of documents and materials about the doctor, scientist, organizer of healthcare of Kazakhstan Bakhiy Atchabarovich Atchabarov*, 2019; *Khalida Mamanova. Collection of documents and materials*, 2020; «*Til bilimi tarikhynnda esimi erekshe tulga*». *Doctors in Philology, Professor Turahul Konyrov. Collection of documents and materials*, 2022.

And thematic collections: *From the History of Scientific Medical Institutions. Kazakhstan: 1941-1945. Collection of documents and materials*, 2015; *From the History of the Design of Cultural Objects in Almaty (1930s-1980s). Collection of documents and materials*, 2018; *From the history of design of sports facilities in Alma-Ata (1950s-1980s). Collection of documents and materials*, 2021; *From the history of the design of administrative buildings of republican government agencies and public organizations in Alma-Ata (1940-1990s). Collection of documents and materials*, 2022.

Conclusions

If we take into account the general description which is given in the reports from 1970 to 2020, then in almost 50 years of the archives' work, the documents on architectural constructions were and still are the most demanded part of the STD's archive fund. This situation is similar to other archives of scientific and technical documentation in CIS countries (Belarus State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation, Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation of St. Petersburg, TSNTA of Ukraine, RSA of Samara, etc.). There is a demand for records on architectural objects due to the need to reconstruct and restore various buildings and structures (cultural, industrial and others). At the same time the documents of scientific research institutes are used less frequently and are mainly used to study the history of various directions of scientific thought and the history of scientific research institutions, as well as in various anniversary events.

Other uses such as the publication of articles, exhibitions, and participation in radio and television programs play an additional role, most often as a way of popu-

⁴⁴ TsGA NTD. – F. 36. – Op.1-6 – D. 452. – L. 4.

larizing the archive's documents and, as mentioned above, they are usually timed to coincide with anniversaries or state programs. Their number has not changed on average, with the exception of radio programmes in which the archive has practically ceased to participate since the mid-2010s.

One of the main features of the STD Central State Archive's work in the modern period has become the publication of collections of documents on the archive's finds; this work began in 2010. As with other forms of use, this work is primarily aimed at publishing the most in-demand documents, i.e. documents on architecture and construction, but in addition to this, collections of personal funds are published, which include documents of prominent scientists and science figures of Kazakhstan.

This is an important difference from the Soviet period, because at that time the Archive provided only methodological support to the GAU SSR and VNIIDAD and carried out various joint projects. At the same time, close cooperation with VNIIDAD made it possible to maintain the archive's methodological support at a high level. At present, the Archive publishes methodological literature in small quantities.

Thematic enquiries for all time of work of CSA STD RK were few, the description of subjects was not given always and also in work of researchers, the basic part consists of enquiries about architectural constructions, and in rare cases enquiries of fund-formers on their documents stored in archive.

Every year the number of socio-legal enquiries in the STD's Central State Archive is increasing, many times exceeding the number of researchers who visit the reading room. This trend began in the 1990s when the archive was forced to accept documents from closing institutions (mainly research institutes), but given that the last couple of years there has been a decrease in the number of requests, perhaps this trend will change in the future.

These factors should be taken into account when studying the process of digitization of the documents of the Central State Archive of Scientific and Technical Documentation of the Republic of Kazakhstan. First of all, this work is aimed at providing those areas that are in the highest demand among the public, the digitization of documents necessary to fulfill social and legal requests in order to make this type of work more efficient and ease the burden on the staff of the CSA and accelerate the process of providing services for citizens and researchers. The published collections are then also made available in electronic format on the Archive's website.

Fig. 1. Using the documents of the Central State Archive of the Science Technical Documentation of the Republic of Kazakhstan

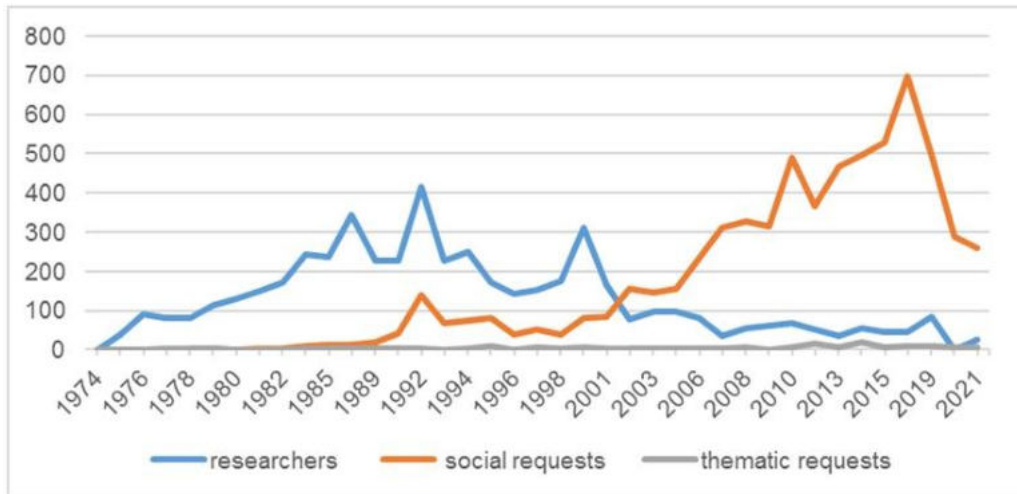


Fig. 2. The volume of use of documents in the reading room of the CSA STD

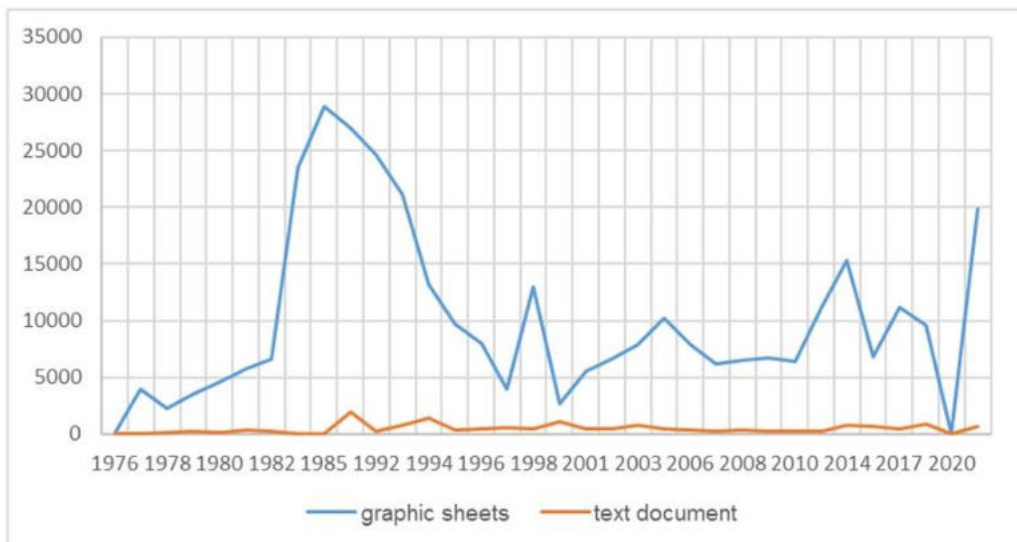


Fig. 3. Research topics in the reading room of the SA STD

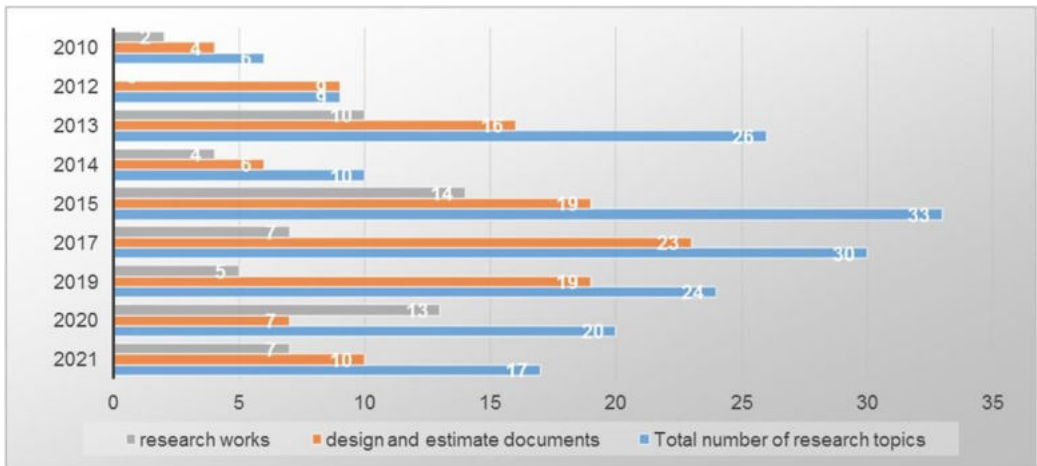


Fig. 4. Number of information letters and media publications

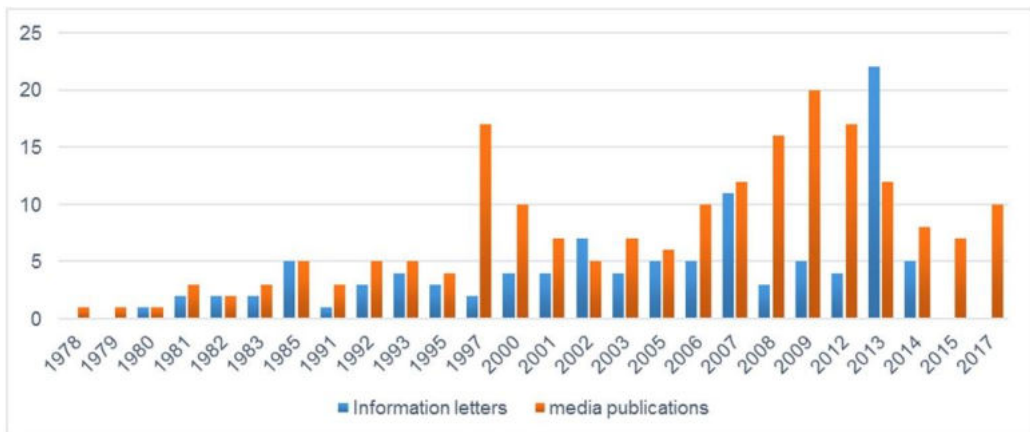


Fig. 5. Number of radio broadcasts and exhibitions conducted by the NTD CGA

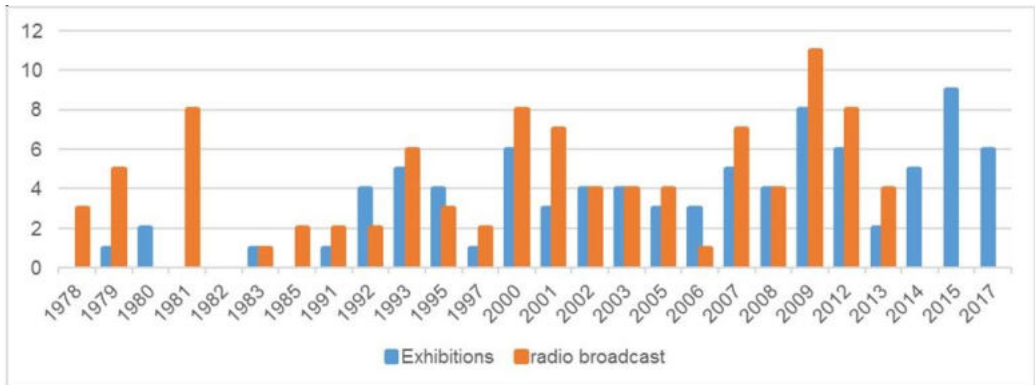
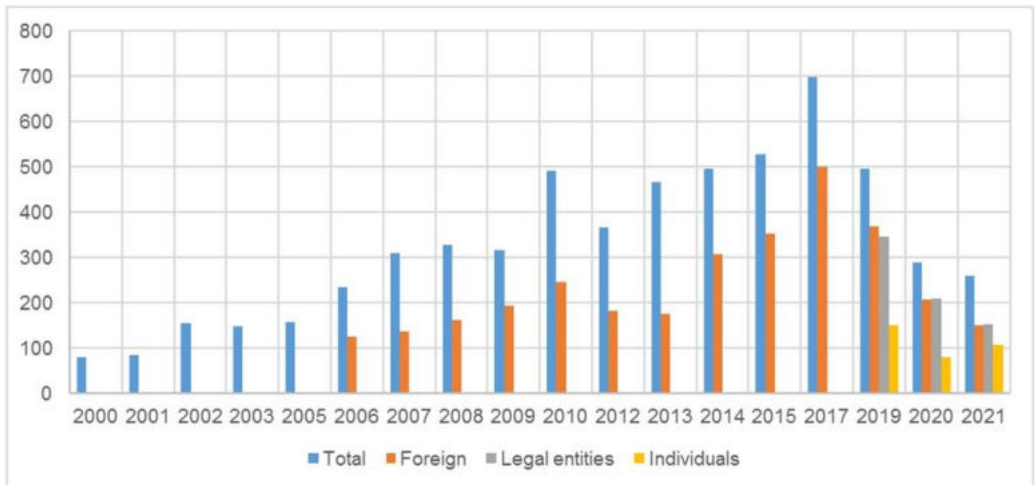


Fig. 6. Data on requests of socio-legal nature in the CSA STD of the Republic of Kazakhstan



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