Stone in the history and architecture of Vyborg
Vyborg Castle, 13th century (Castle Island).

The Castle is the oldest architectural monument of the town and the witness of its whole history. It was built in 1293 by the order of the Swedish ruler Torkel Knutson (Tyrgils Knutsson) on the land of the Karels occupied by the Swedes during the Third Crusade. The castle is built on the natural granite foundation - the
outcrop of rapakivi granite. The walls and buildings of the castle are made of the wild stone (mainly boulders and blocks of rapakivi granite and at a lesser degree – the other rocks).

The southern wall with embrasures and the main building of the castle.
Fragment of the stonework in the southern wall of the castle.

Fortifications of the lower rampart of the castle.
Stonework of the Commandant’s House (17th century) (the former Fire Tower, 15th century) of the castle.

Saint Olaf’s Tower. The Tower and the walls are built of the glacier boulders. In the middle of the 16th century it was rebuilt, its height was
reduced up to the second storey and a new octagonal brick tower was added.

Passage to the courtyard of the castle. Blocks of rapakivi granite in the stonework of the wine cellar (right) and the northern building (left). The lantern is designed in the style of the old lamp.
Walls of the stone (old) town, 15-16th century.

Until the mid-15th century the earthen ramparts defended the peninsular part of Vyborg. Construction of stone walls with ten towers around the town began in the 1470s by the order of Eric Axelsson Tott.
Part of the stone wall of the 15th century at the Fortress bridge. It is made of the crushed granite boulders (mainly rapakivi) which were laid on the lime mortar with the flat side outwards (Severny Val st.).

Stone wall of the 15th century made of rapakivi granite boulders and constructed upon the natural outcrop (Podgornaya st.)
Town Hall Tower, 15th century (Vyborgskaya st, 15).
Town Hall Tower is a stone quadrangle building constructed in the 1470s. It was part of the medieval town wall. In the middle of the 18th century the Town Hall Tower was heightened and acquired the octagon over the tetragon shape. The restoration in the end of the 20th century returned to the Town Hall Tower the exterior of the 18th century. The tower is crowned with a Baroque spire covered with red copper.
The walls of the lower part of the Town Hall Tower (tetragon) are made of wild stone – mainly rapakivi granite boulders and, at a lesser degree, other rock types. The walls of the upper part (octagon) are made of brick.
Clock Tower, 15th century (Krepostnaya st., 5).

Clock Tower was the bell-tower of the old Gothic Cathedral.
(1494). Donjon of the Castle and the Clock Tower dominates over the medieval part of Vyborg. The first town clock with a bell was mounted in 1753. In the end of the 18th century the Tower acquired the third storey after the project of architect I. Brockmann. The bell, installed in 1848, is still producing music.

Natural outcrop of the rapakivi granite makes up the foundation of the Clock Tower, the rock is under urban conditions since the end of the 15th century. The lower storey of the tower is made of the glacial boulders.
The foundation of the Clock Tower - the natural outcrop of rapakivi granite.
Fragment of the stonework of the lower storey of the Clock Tower.
Round Tower, 16th century (Market square).

Round Tower built in 1547-1550 near the Scotoprogonnyaye (Cattle Drive) Gates used to be the stronghold of the medieval Vyborg.
Round Tower was made of wild stone, mainly of rapakivi boulders. The walls at the foundation were four meters thick and the diameter of the Tower was 21 meters. The drive to the Scotoprogonnaye Gates was also made of wild stone.

Fragment of the stonework of the Round Tower wall.
Cobbled pavement of the Market Square. In the centre of the cobble is the number of a trading place which evidence to the strict trade order at that time.
Medieval buildings in Vyborg, 14-16th centuries.

House of the Merchant Guild (Vyborgskaya st., 8). The walls of the medieval houses in the old town were made of the wild stone – natural boulders (mainly rapakivi granite) of glacial origin abundant in Karelian Isthmus.
Stone house of 16th century (Krepostnaya st., 13a). It is admitted that Vyborg printing house was placed here.
The walls of the house are made of mainly rapakivi granite boulders.
House of the merchant guild (Vyborgskaya sr., 10) was built of boulders. It belongs to the period before the 1640s.
Hyacinth Catholic Church (Vodnaya Sastava st., 4). The building dates from the 16th century and is constructed from boulders and bricks. In 17th century it was rebuilt and named the “Knight House”. In 1802 it became a Roman Catholic Church dedicated to Saint Hyacinth.
Medieval house (belonged to merchant Borchard) (Podgornaya st., 10). Historical exterior was returned to the building in the end of the 20th century. Some cellars of the 1650s are preserved in the building. Stonework of the ground floor wall is mainly of rapakivi granite boulders.
Pancerlaks bastion of the Fortress with Horns, 16th century (at the corner of Vyborgskaya st. and Ladanov st.).

Fortress with Horns is a medieval fortification of the second part of 16th century (fortifiers Andreas Maalari and Johann de Mess, 1563). Construction of the fortress took about 30 years. One of its corner bastions (horns) – Pancerlaks survived, it was built in 1579-1580.
The bastion played an important role in fortification system on the banks of the Gulf of Vyborg.

Pancerlaks bastion and part of the curtain are made of wild stone – granite boulders. The foundation of the bastion and fortress is the natural outcrop of the rapakivi granite.
Gunpowder cellar of the Pancerlaks bastion is faced with wild stone – rapakivi granite boulders.
House on the rock, 17th century (Progonnaya st., 5).

One storey house formerly owned by a town hairdresser is remarkable for its unusual foundation. The house was built in the 17th century upon the granite rock which juts out of the hillside as a small flat terrace.
Natural outcrop of the rapakivi granite makes the foundation of the 17th century house (fragment).
Old Town Hall Square, mansion of the merchant Borchard, 17th century (Severny Val st., 3).

Constructed in 1650 the house was several times rebuilt. In the second half of the 19th century it was owned by the merchant Y. Vekroot. In 1772 Empress Catherine II stayed here on her way to Finland. In 1897 the house was rebuilt by architect Eduard Dippel, the façade was decorated in the style of the German Renaissance.
The walls of the ground floor are partly made of the crushed granite boulders which were laid on the lime mortar the flat side set outwards. The boulders are mainly rapakivi granite.

The foundation of the building is a granite rock – natural outcrop of the rapakivi granite.
Old Town Hall Square, the building of the former Town Hall, 17th century (Krepostnaya st., 2).

The first two floors of the building were built in 1643. The town historical museum was organized here on the occasion of the 600th anniversary of the foundation of Vyborg. Two more floors and rich decoration were added in 1898 (architect Johan Brynolf Blomkvist). The façade was designed in the style of
German Renaissance. Now it is a dwelling house.
The basement of the building is decorated with the blocks of grey rapakivi granite cut in the “rock” texture.

The monument to Torkel Knutson (Tyrgils Knutsson) the founder of Vyborg by sculptor Ville Vallgren (1908) in the Old Town Hall Square. The monument was restored by sculptor V. Dimov and installed in 1993 on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the Vyborg castle.
Construction of Anna’s fortifications in Vyborg in the first half of the 18th century is a significant event in the defence of the North-Western borders of Russia and the outskirts of St. Petersburg. It took about 30 years (1730-1750s) to complete these fortifications by the project of General de Coulomb.
The fortifications are made of glacier boulders. The stones were cut and laid on the lime mortar with the flat side outwards. The boulders are mainly the rapakivi granite.
Building of the Guard post at the rampant near the Friedrikshamn Gates. At the foreground – natural outcrop of rapakivi granite.
Old Town Hall Square, the former Guardhouse, 18th century.

The building overlooking the square was built in 1776 by the architect K.J. Speckle (?), in 1857 its outer appearance was changed – the façade was decorated with arches. Now here is a gift shop.
The basement of the building is faced with hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.
The former residence of the Governor, 18th century (Storozhevaya Bashnaya st., 29).

The former palace of the Governor stands in the southern part of the Theatre Square. It was built in 1784 by architect K.J.Speckle in the classical style. Nowadays here is the school № 1. The basement of the building is faced with hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.
Saint Peter and Saint Paul Cathedral, 18th century (Theatre Square).

The Lutheran Cathedral was built in 1793-1799 by architects Brockmann and Y. Felten in classical style. The
Cathedral was consecrated in 1799 in the name of St. Apostles Peter and Paul. In 1991 it was consecrated for the second time. The basement of the building is faced with hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.

The stylobate of the church and stairs are made of grey granite, rapakivi granite blocks are used for the basement of the fencing.
Previously two granite bears (sculptor Eva Gyldén) decorated the old railway station. Now, one of them stands at the Lutheran Cathedral on the Theatre Square and the other – at the Pancerlaks bastion.
Transfiguration Cathedral, 18th century (Cathedral Square).

Transfiguration Cathedral was built in 1787-1793 by architect N.A. L’vov. The Church was consecrated in 1817. The basement of the cathedral as well as the stylobate and the stairs of the main entrance are made of the hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.
Dwelling house, 18th century (Krepostnaya st., 8a).

The dwelling house was presumably built in the second half of the 18th century. The basement of the building is faced with the hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.
The former house of the President of the court, 19th century (Theatre st., 27).

The building stands at the corner of Theatre Square and Theatre Street. It was built in 1847 by architect E.B. Lormann. The façade of the building looks onto the square. Now it houses a kindergarten.

The basement of the building is faced with the hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.
Public building, 19th century (Leningradsky prospect, 15).

The building was built in 1868 by architect Johan E. Johansson. The basement of the building is faced with the hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.
Fragment of the basement facing.
Mansion of the merchant Theodore Sergeev, 19th century (Lenin prospect, 14a).

The mansion was built in 1882 by architect Fredrik August Odenwall in Rococo style. The basement of the building is faced with the hewn blocks of rapakivi granite.
Fragment of the basement and stairs.
Former residence of Vyborg’s Governor, 19th century (Krepostnaya st., 35).

The building was constructed in 1891 by architect Johan Jacob Ahrenberg. In the 20s of the 20th century the building housed the residence of Vyborg’s Governor.
The ground floor of the building is faced with the blocks of rapakivi granite in three rows: the hewn blocks of pink rapakivi granite are in the lower row, blocks of grey rapakivi granite cut in the «rock» texture decorate the middle and the upper rows.
Dwelling house, 19th century (Vyborgskaya st., 1).

The house was built in 1897 by architect Carl Eduard Dippel in the style of national romanticism. The building stands at the corner of Vyborgskaya street and Yuzhný Val
street, the façade of the building overlooks Yuzhny Val street. The basement of the building is faced with hewn blocks of rapakivi granite; the ground floor is decorated with blocks of rapakivi granite cut in the «rock» texture.

Fragment of the ground floor facing.
Fragment of the pediment facing.

Fragment of the basement and ground floor facing.
Former United Bank of the Nordic Countries, 20th century (Pionerskaya st., 4).

The building of the Former United Bank of the Nordic Countries resembling a Renaissance Florentine Palazzo was built in 1900 by architect V. Aspelin for Vyborg merchants from Germany. Now here is the bank ”Vyborg”.
The façade of the building is decorated with different local granites. The basement and cornice of the ground floor are faced with hewn blocks of pink granite and the ground floor is faced with the same granite cut in the «rock» texture.

Balcony of the first floor is decorated with figures of winged lions made of rapakivi granite. Columns of the ionic order of
polished reddish-brown gneiss-granite decorate the windows of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd floors.

The main entrance from the Market Square.
Union (former United) Bank, 20th century (Pionerskaya st., 2).

The building of the Union (former United) Bank was designed by architect Gustaf Nyström in 1990. The exterior of the building resembles a Venetian Palazzo of the Renaissance. The basement is faced with hewn blocks of grey granite.
Outdoor staircase of the main entrance is made of grey granite. It is adorned with a decorative lamp placed on a granite pylon-pedestal designed by sculptor Hilda Flodin-Rissanen. High reliefs of children
with fruit are carved in granite at the bottom of the pedestal on three sides.

Both sides of the lancet gates into the courtyard are decorated with pylons of grey granite with bas-reliefs of bear’s heads.
National Stock Bank, 20th century (Lenin prospect, 8a).

The building was designed by architects Usko Nyström and Vilho Penttilä in 1901. It is one of the most remarkable architectural monuments of Vyborg. Natural stones (granite and soapstone) are used for decoration and facing of this building.
The basement and partly the building are faced with hewn blocks of pink granite; blocks of rapakivi granite cut in the «rock» texture are used for decoration of the basement under the windows of the ground floor.
Fragment of portal decoration with carved granite.

Soapstone (talk-chlorite schist) is used in facing of the first and second floors. The façade of the building is decorated with caved flora and fauna elements. Also, there are caved staffs.
with railroad symbols and some marine symbols.

The corner at the second floor level is also faced with soapstone and decorated with the coat of arms of Finland with heraldic lion and roses.
The former Finnish Trade Bank, 20th century (Lenin prospect, 12).

There is a complex of three buildings in Lenin prospect, 12 (architect Uno Ullberg, 1915). The central building of the former Finnish Trade Bank is faced with light-grey granite, to the left of it there is the former shop of merchant Selgren and to the right – the building of joint-stock company “Karelia”. The first two floors of these two buildings are faced with light-grey granite.
Portal of the main entrance of the building of the former Finnish trade Bank (light grey granite). On both sides of it there are sculptures of allegorical female figures. One of them holds a bouquet of flowers, and the other one holds a caduceus – a sceptre, entwined by snakes (symbol of trade and diplomacy).
Coat of arms of Karelia made of light-grey granite is placed on the wall of the ground floor of the building of joint-stock company “Karelia”. Coat of arms of Karelia represents two raised hands, gripping the swords, as a sign of confrontation between East and West.
Consolidation Bank, 20th century (Lenin prospect, 8).

The building of Consolidation Bank is interesting for its architectural style - the nascent of national romanticism with a mixture of neo-Renaissance. Façade designed by architectural Bureau Nyström-Petrelius-Penttilä (1901).
The façade is faced with pink granite and soapstone. Some stone plates are decorated with carving.

The ground floor of the building is faced with hewn plates of pink granite.
Fragment of carved granite in decoration of the portal.

The first floor is faced with plates of soapstone (talk-chlorite schist).
Carved soapstone with floral ornaments decorates the frieze of the building.
Hackman’s House (Granite palace), 20th century (Severny Val st., 5).

One of the most beautiful houses in Vyborg owned by trade company Hackman & Co was built in 1908 by architects Uno W. Ullberg and Clas A. Gyldén. In Vyborg this building is called “the Granite Palace”. The façade is decorated with different granites cut in different styles. Portals of the building and window frames are decorated with floral ornament and figures of animals and birds beautifully carved from granite.
Portal of the building overlooking Severny Val Street is decorated with floral ornament carved from pink granite.
Fragment of portal decoration. Carved granite.

Fragment of decoration of the second portal overlooking Severny Val Street. Carved granite.
Fragment of the window frame on the side of Severny Val Street. The window frame is faced with plates of pink granite cut in different styles.

Decoration of the entrance from Podgornaya Street. Carved granite.

Famous Vyborg building in the style of national romanticism built in 1906
(1905?) by architect A. Shulman. Nowadays it is a dwelling house. Western and Northern facades are faced with dark-red granite. Bay windows and window frames are decorated with hewn and rough-cut granite plates. The scenes from “Kalevala” in sunk-relief style designed by sculptor Emil Halonen (carved granite) are carved on some hewn plates of the window frames of the ground floor and the plates decorating the portals.
Fragment of the corner part of the building.
Dwelling house, 20th century (Leningradsky prospect, 9).

The dwelling house (Leningradsky prospect, 9) was built in 1907 by architect Allan Shulman in the style of national romanticism. It is called "house with pelicans", probably due to the fact that some decoration elements of the building besides the original figures and details resemble the pelicans.
The basement and porches of the building are faces with blocks of rapakivi granite cut in the “rock” texture. The porches are decorated with pedestals of hewn rapakivi granite.
The former house of Pietinen, 20th century (Leningradsky prospect, 31).

The former house of furniture manufacturer Matti Pietinen was built in 1908 by architects B. Jung and O. Bomanson. Decoration of the façade is designed by the architect A. Lindgren. The building overlooks the square in front of the railway station.
and has an important architectural role.
Large windows of the ground floor are divided by blades of grey granite, crowned at the level of the first floor by the mascarons of the same granite. The masks reproduce the epic heroes of "Kalevala".
Especially expressive are three granite lion’s heads above the archway of the main entrance from the side of the railway station square which is faced with grey granite.
Indoor market was built in 1904-1906 by architect K. Segerstad in the Northern corner of the Market square. The building was restored after the World War II. It is built in the style of national romanticism and has a beautiful façade with a clock tower overlooking the square.
The basement and portals of the building are faced with the blocks of grey granite both hewn and cut in the «rock» texture. Below the windows the whole building is surrounded by the frieze made of polished and rough-cut granite tiles.

Fragment of the basement and portal of the building.
The archway of the main entrance from the Market square is decorated by granite bas-relief of the old coat of arms of Vyborg which depicts the five-pronged tower crown.
Vyborg railway station, 20th century.

The modern building of the railway station in classical style of the Stalin era was built by Leningrad architects A.V. Vasiliev, D.S. Goldgor, S.B. Speransky and A.N. Berkov on the site of the building of 1913 destroyed in retreat of the Soviet troops during the World War II. The portal and the
pillars of the main entrance are faced with polished plates of brown granite.

Only the former Luggage office (to the right of the modern building if standing in front of it) remained from the old railway station building (architects Gottlieb E. Saarinen and Herman Gesellius, 1913). The building is faced with blocks of pink granite cut in various styles.
Fragment of portal decoration.
The wheel carved in granite above the entrance to the Luggage office symbolizes technical progress.
Former Art Museum and Art School, 20th century (Ladanov st., 1).

The building was constructed in 1931 (architect Uno W. Ullberg) in the functionalist style. Now it houses the exhibition center “Hermitage – Vyborg”.
Natural outcrop of rapakivi granite makes the foundation for the building.

The foundation overlooking the street is faced with cut blocks and boulders of the granite which were laid on the lime mortar with the flat side outwards.
Sculpture garden, 20th century.

Vyborg is rich in parks, gardens and urban areas located in forest-park areas. Sculpture garden has become one of the popular places in Vyborg since 1988. It is situated at the corner of Leningradskoe Shosse and Vokzal’naya Street. Each sculpture in the garden is allegorical and has a symbolic meaning. The sculptures are made of local grey granite. "Orpheus playing the lyre" (sculptor Y. V. Yevgrafov) is one of them.
Stone sculpture in the streets of the town, 20th century.

Sculpture “A boy with a cat” (sculptor L.A. Baibutyayan) adorns the small garden at the corner of Leningrad prospect and Embankment of the 40th anniversary of Komsomol. The sculpture is made of grey granite.
Monument to Mikael Agrikola, 20th century, (Pionerskaya st.).

Mikael Agrikola was the farther of Finnish written language, reformer and poet. He translated the New Testament into Finnish. The first monument to this great son of Finland (sculptor Emil Wikstöm) was installed in Vyborg in 1908 in front of
the New Cathedral. The Cathedral and the monument were lost during the Winter War. In 2009 the exact copy of the monument was made and set next to St. Peter and St. Paul Cathedral. The pedestal is made of granosyenite (quarry “Baltic”, Oyajärvi area).

Fragment of the pedestal.
Memorial stela “City of Military Glory”, 21st century (square of Vyborg Regiments at the corner of Suvorov and Krepostnaya streets).

Vyborg was conferred the status of “City of Military Glory” by the President of the Russian Federation D. A. Medvedev on March 25, 2010. The monument was opened on May 9, 2011. It is a granite column of Doric order 11 meters high, crowned with
the Russian coat of arms – the two-headed eagle of gilded bronze. On the front side of the pedestal there is the President's Decree on conferring the status and from the opposite side – the bronze coat of arms of Vyborg. The column is set on the site 17 × 17 meters in size. In the corners of the composition there are four pedestals with bas-reliefs depicting the memorial heroic events and deed in the history of the town.
On one of the pedestals there is the bas-relief devoted to Vyborg naval battle of 1790. The authors of the monument – architects I.N. Voskresenskiy, G.A. Ishkildina, V.V.Perfiliev, sculptor S.A. Scherbakov. The monument is made of granosyenite from quarry “Baltic” (Oyajärvi area) of “Vozrozhdenie” mining enterprise.
Monrepos Park

Manor house and landscaped English park Monrepos on the shore of the Gulf of Vyborg was founded in the middle of the 18th century by Vyborg military commandant P.A. Stupishin. In the 80s of the 18th century it was bought by Baron Ludwig Heinrich von Nicolai, President of the Imperial Academy of Science in Saint-
Petersburg, a highly educated man, the poet and writer.

Among the park designers were such architects as Auguste de Montferrand, Thomas de Thomon, J. Martinelli, A. Shtakenshneider, Ch. Tetam, artists Ya. Mattenleiter, P. Gonzago, sculptors Johannes Takanen, Gotthelf Borup, gardeners J. Biesterfeld, Zweiger. The historic core of the museum complex is a manor from the early 19th century. This consists of the Main house and the Library house, monuments of wooden classical architecture, and the landscape rock park designed in the romantic style with beautiful alleys, pavilions, grottos, sculptures and delicate bridges. Natural outcrops of rapakivi granite abundant all over the park and covered with colored lichen.
and creepers create a unique poetic spirit of the park.

In the 19th century the park was famous all over Europe. Its rare beauty created by Nature and man was remarkable. The family of Nicolai preserved the manor till 1939. In 1988 due to attention and support of academician D.S. Likhaschev Monrepos received the status of the Museum-reserve and is now gradually returning itself the true purpose - a haven of culture, beauty and spirituality. Rocky cliffs of rapakivi granite in the Park Monrepos are outstanding monuments of nature in the north of modern Leningrad region, as well as geological objects for the study of the rocks of the crystalline basement of the southern part of the Fennoscandian shield.
Sculpture of Väinämöinen – the hero of Finnish epic poem “Kalevala” was restored in 2007. It represents the exact copy of the monument by famous Finnish sculptor Johannes Takanen (1873) who was born in Vyborg. The very first plaster sculpture by Gotthelf Borup (1831) was destroyed by vandals in 1871.
Chapel Ludwigsburg on the island of Ludwigstein. The island is a rocky outcrop of rapakivi granite.
Text, photos and compilation by Olkhovaya E.A., Saint-Petersburg State University.

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