

= Russian monitor Strelets =

Strelets (Russian : ???????) was an Uragan @-@ class monitor built for the Imperial Russian Navy in the mid @-@ 1860s . The design was based on the American Passaic @-@ class monitor , but was modified to suit Russian engines , guns and construction techniques . Spending her entire career with the Baltic Fleet , the ship was only active when the Gulf of Finland was not frozen , but very little is known about her service . She was struck from the Navy List in 1900 , converted into a floating workshop the following year and renamed Plavmasterskaia No. 1 . The ship served as such through 1955 , although her ultimate fate is unknown .

= = Description = =

Strelets was 201 feet (61 @. @ 3 m) long overall , with a beam of 46 feet (14 @. @ 0 m) and a draft of 10 @. @ 16 ? 10 @. @ 84 feet (3 @. @ 1 ? 3 @. @ 3 m) . She displaced 1 @, @ 500 ? 1 @, @ 600 long tons (1 @, @ 500 ? 1 @, @ 600 t) , and her crew numbered 8 officers and 88 enlisted men in 1865 . They numbered 10 officers and 100 crewmen in 1877 .

The ship was fitted with a two @-@ cylinder , horizontal direct @-@ acting steam engine built by the Baird Works of Saint Petersburg . It drove a single propeller using steam that was provided by two rectangular boilers . Specific information on the output of the ship 's engine has not survived , but it ranged between 340 ? 500 indicated horsepower (254 ? 373 kW) for all the ships of this class . During Strelets 's sea trials on 16 July 1865 , she reached a maximum speed of 6 knots (11 km / h ; 6 @. @ 9 mph) . The ship carried a maximum of 190 long tons (190 t) of coal , which gave her a theoretical endurance of 1 @, @ 440 nmi (2 @, @ 670 km ; 1 @, @ 660 mi) at full speed .

Strelets was designed to be armed with a pair of 9 @-@ inch (229 mm) smoothbore muzzle @-@ loading guns purchased from Krupp of Germany and rifled in Russia , but the rifling project was seriously delayed and the ship was completed with nine @-@ inch smoothbores . These lacked the penetration power necessary to deal with ironclads and they were replaced by license @-@ built 15 @-@ inch (380 mm) smoothbore muzzle @-@ loading Rodman guns in 1867 ? 68 . The Rodmans were replaced around 1876 with the originally intended nine @-@ inch rifled guns .

All of the wrought @-@ iron armor that was used in the Uragan @-@ class monitors was in 1 @-@ inch (25 mm) plates , just as in the Passaic @-@ class ships . The side of the ship was entirely covered with three to five layers of armor plates , of which the three innermost plates extended 42 inches (1 @. @ 1 m) below the waterline . The gun turret was protected by eleven layers of armor and the pilothouse above it had eight layers of armor . Curved plates six layers thick protected the base of the funnel up to a height of 7 feet (2 @. @ 1 m) above the deck . Unlike their predecessors , the Uragans were built without deck armor to save weight , but Strelets was modified for the addition of 0 @. @ 5 @-@ inch (12 @. @ 7 mm) armor plates after completion , but it is unknown if they were ever fitted . They were , however , manufactured and then placed in storage .

= = Construction and career = =

Construction of the ship began on 13 June 1863 by S. G. Kudriavtsev at the state @-@ owned Galerni Island Shipyard in Saint Petersburg . Strelets , the Russian word for musketeer , was laid down on 1 December 1863 and she was launched on 2 June 1864 . She entered service on 27 July 1865 and cost a total of 1 @, @ 141 @, @ 800 rubles , almost double her contract cost of 600 @, @ 000 rubles . The ship was assigned to the Baltic Fleet upon completion and she , and all of her sister ships except Latnik , made a port visit to Stockholm , Sweden in July ? August 1865 while under the command of General Admiral Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolayevich . She was present when the American warships Miantonomoh and Augusta visited Kronstadt in July ? August 1866 .

Sometime after Strelets was completed , an armored ring , 5 inches (127 mm) thick and 15 inches (381 mm) tall , was fitted around the base of the turret to prevent splinters from jamming it . Later , an armored , outward @-@ curving bulwark was fitted around the top of the turret to protect any crewmen there . Three sponsons were later added , probably during the 1870s , to the upper portion

of the turret . Each sponson , one above the gun ports and one on each side of the turret , mounted a light gun , probably a 1 @. @ 75 @- @ inch (44 mm) Engstrom gun , for defense against torpedo boats . A fourth gun was mounted on a platform aft of the funnel when a hurricane deck was built between the funnel and the turret , also probably during the 1870s .

Little is known about the ship 's career other than that she was laid up each winter when the Gulf of Finland froze . On 21 July 1875 , the monitor Admiral Chichagov ran aground and Strelets was sent to aid her the following day . While assisting with the rigging of a hawser between Admiral Chichagov and the armored frigate Sevastopol , it unexpectedly slid across Strelets 's deck , injuring the ship 's executive officer and a bosun , who later died of his wounds . Coal and equipment from Admiral Chichagov was transferred to Strelets to lighten the former , but it was not enough to refloat her .

Strelets was reclassified as a coast @- @ defense ironclad on 13 February 1892 and turned over to the Port of Kronstadt for disposal on 6 July 1900 , although she was not stricken until 17 August . The ship was converted into a floating workshop the next year and renamed Plavmasterskaia No. 1 . She remained in service through the end of 1955 , but her ultimate fate is unknown .