

= Russian battleship Sinop =

The Russian battleship Sinop (Russian : ?????) was a battleship built for the Imperial Russian Navy , being the third ship of the Ekaterina II class . She was named after the Russian victory at the Battle of Sinop in 1853 . The ship participated in the pursuit of the mutinous battleship Potemkin in June 1905 and towed her back to Sevastopol from Constanța , Romania , where Potemkin had sought asylum . Several proposals were made for Sinop 's reconstruction with modern guns and better quality armor during the 1900s , but both were cancelled . She was converted to a gunnery training ship in 1910 before she became a guardship at Sevastopol and had her 12 @-@ inch (305 mm) guns removed in exchange for four single 8 @-@ inch (203 mm) guns in turrets . Sinop was refitted in 1916 with torpedo bulges to act as " mine @-@ bumpers " for a proposed operation in the heavily mined Bosphorus . Both the Bolsheviks and the Whites captured her during the Russian Civil War after her engines were destroyed by the British in 1919 . She was scrapped by the Soviets beginning in 1922 .

= = Design and development = =

Sinop was 331 feet 8 @.@ 5 inches (101 @.@ 1 m) long at the waterline and 339 feet 3 inches (103 @.@ 4 m) long overall . She had a beam of 68 feet 11 inches (21 @.@ 0 m) and a draft of 28 ft 3 in (8 @.@ 6 m) more than 28 inches (711 mm) than designed . Her displacement was 11 @, @ 310 long tons (11 @, @ 490 t) at load , over 1 @, @ 200 long tons (1 @, @ 200 t) more than her designed displacement of 10 @, @ 181 long tons (10 @, @ 344 t) .

Sinop was the first large warship to use vertical triple expansion steam engines , having two 3 @-@ cylinder engines imported from Napier & Son of the United Kingdom . Fourteen cylindrical boilers provided steam to the engines . The engines had a total designed output of 9 @, @ 000 indicated horsepower (6 @, @ 711 kW) , but they only produced 8 @, @ 888 indicated horsepower (6 @, @ 628 kW) on trials and gave a top speed of 15 knots (28 km / h ; 17 mph) . At full load she carried 900 long tons (910 t) of coal that provided her a range of 2 @, @ 800 nautical miles (5 @, @ 200 km ; 3 @, @ 200 mi) at a speed of 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) and 1 @, @ 367 nautical miles (2 @, @ 532 km ; 1 @, @ 573 mi) at 14 @.@ 5 knots (26 @.@ 9 km / h ; 16 @.@ 7 mph) .

She differed from her sisters mainly in the design of her gun mounts . Sinop had six 12 @-@ inch (305 mm) Obukhov Model 1877 30 @-@ caliber guns mounted in twin barbette mounts , two forward , side by side , and one aft . Each of the forward mounts could traverse 30 ° across the bow and 35 ° abaft the beam , or a total of 155 ° . The rear mount could traverse 202 ° . Their rate of fire was one round every four minutes , thirty @-@ five seconds , including training time . Sixty rounds per gun were carried . The main guns were mounted very low , (only 4 feet 6 inches (1 @.@ 4 m)) above the main deck , and caused extensive damage to the deck when fired over the bow or stern . The seven 6 @-@ inch (152 mm) Model 1877 35 @-@ caliber guns were mounted on broadside pivot mounts in hull embrasures , except for one gun mounted in the stern in the hull . Six of the eight 47 @-@ millimeter (1 @.@ 9 in) five @-@ barreled revolving Hotchkiss guns were mounted in small sponsons that projected from the hull with the aftermost pair mounted in hull embrasures to defend the ship against torpedo boats . Four 37 @-@ millimeter (1 @.@ 5 in) five @-@ barreled revolving Hotchkiss guns were mounted in the fighting top . She carried seven above @-@ water 14 @-@ inch (356 mm) torpedo tubes , one tube forward on each side , able to bear on forward targets , two other tubes were mounted on each broadside fore and aft of the central citadel ; the seventh tube was in the stern .

= = History = =

Sinop was named after the Russian victory in the Battle of Sinop in 1853 . She was built by the Russian Steam Navigation Company (RoPIT) at Sevastopol . She was laid down in late June 1883 , launched on 1 June 1887 , and completed in 1889 . Sinop began her trials in the middle of 1889 and she had a boiler accident the following year that killed eight and severely burned 10 more . Her

machinery was upgraded between 1899 and May 1904 with 20 new Belleville water @-@ tube boilers , but the ship suffered a boiler explosion in 1903 that left seven sailors badly burned . Plans for a radical reconstruction were made to be done while she was docked for replacement boilers . It involved cutting her down by one deck and replacing her armament with two twin @-@ gun turrets equipped with 12 @-@ inch 40 @-@ caliber guns and ten 6 @-@ inch 45 @-@ caliber guns between the turrets in an armored citadel that used Krupp armor . However , this proved to be too expensive and was cancelled .

Sinop participated in the pursuit of the mutinous battleship Potemkin in June 1905 and towed her back to Sevastopol from Constan?a , Romania . In 1907 the Naval General Staff made a proposal for a radical reconstruction that was similar to the proposals to reconstruct her and her sister Chesma made before the Russo @-@ Japanese War . This involved cutting her down by one deck and replacing her armament with two twin @-@ gun turrets equipped with 12 @-@ inch 40 @-@ caliber guns and her compound armor replaced by Krupp armor . This new proposal differed from the older one in that eight 120 @-@ millimeter (4 @-@ 7 in) guns replaced the ten 6 @-@ inch guns originally planned . This was also rejected as she still would have lacked the speed to stay with the main fleet and her armor was too obsolete to withstand modern high @-@ explosive shell fire .

She was converted to a gunnery training ship in 1910 and had four 6 @-@ inch 45 @-@ caliber guns installed on her upper deck . Sinop 's 12 @-@ inch guns were removed in 1912 and she received four single 8 @-@ inch (203 mm) 50 @-@ caliber guns in turrets that were also mounted on the upper deck . The ship 's original 6 @-@ inch 35 @-@ caliber guns were replaced with 45 @-@ caliber guns and two more were added in the Admiral 's salon . Four more 47 @-@ mm guns were also added as were four machine guns . Her torpedo tubes were removed and Sinop also received a central fire control station . She spent World War I as a guardship at Sevastopol .

Sinop was refitted in Nikolaev with torpedo bulges to serve as ' mine @-@ bumpers ' in 1916 to allow her to lead other ships into the mined waters of the Bosphorus , but the operation was later cancelled . She was captured by the Germans in April 1918 in Sevastopol and was handed over to the Allies in November 1918 . The British sabotaged her engines on 25 April 1919 as they abandoned the Whites to prevent any use by the advancing Bolsheviks . Sinop therefore remained at Sevastopol for the duration of the Russian Civil War , being captured by both sides as they occupied the city in turn , but was then abandoned by Wrangel 's fleet when it evacuated the Crimea in 1920 . Although Russian archives say that Sinop was gradually scrapped from 1922 , an underwater expedition under the leadership of Robert Ballard found a wreck that has been tentatively identified as Sinop upside down off not far from Sevastopol .