

Real Photo Postcard Kamenets-Podolskiy, Ustim Karmelyuk Tower, 1962.

The size is regular standard 5 1/2" x 3 1/2", postally unused and unmarked. Circulation 10,000 copies, very low by Soviet standards. The photo presents a view on one of the most historically significant architectural landmarks in the city of Kamenets-Podolskiy and all of Ukraine, the Ustim Karmelyuk Tower. The back is divided, the printed verbiage is in Ukrainian. The photographer's name, V. Kotetskiy, is printed in the bottom right-hand corner. The vignette with "900 years" in the upper left-hand corner on the verso means that the postcard was manufactured in celebration of the 900th anniversary of the city.

In excellent condition. The image is pristine, the verso is very clean and free of any wear or damage.

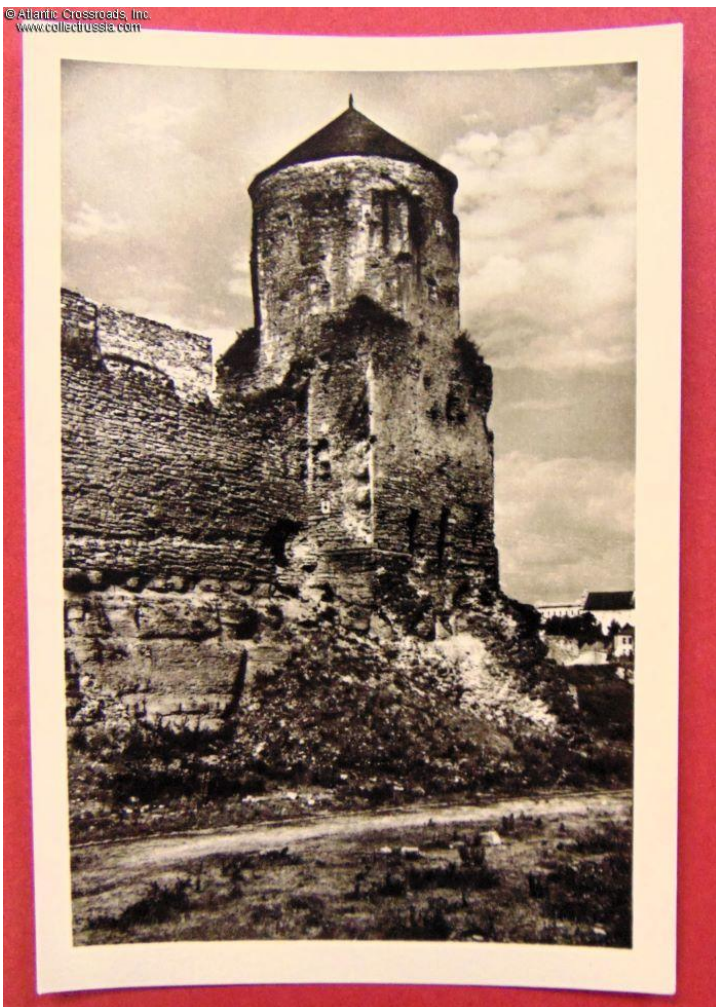
Ustim Karmelyuk (1787 - 1835) was born to a family of peasant serfs, an extraordinary and very intelligent person who was literate and spoke three languages - Russian, Polish and Yiddish. His strong sense of rebellion against oppressors crystallized into a "career" of an outlaw whom Maxim Gorky nicknamed "Ukrainian Robin Hood". His biography reads like a ready-made scenario for a major Hollywood thriller, with theft, arseny, murder, torture, imprisonment, Siberian penal colony, escapes, and more crimes. To dispel the "Robin Hood theory", Karmelyuk's victims were peasants as much, if not more than, landowners and nobility. Yet, he is revered in Ukraine as a national hero.

The tower in the Kamenets-Podolskiy Fortress is where Karmelyuk was imprisoned for 5 years and escaped. That was his fourth, but not last, escape from a prison.

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