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”Mirnoe (Peaceful) ” Estate in Ollila: documents for its purchase and public significance in connection with the “Russian Society enthusiasts of World Science” (ROLM)

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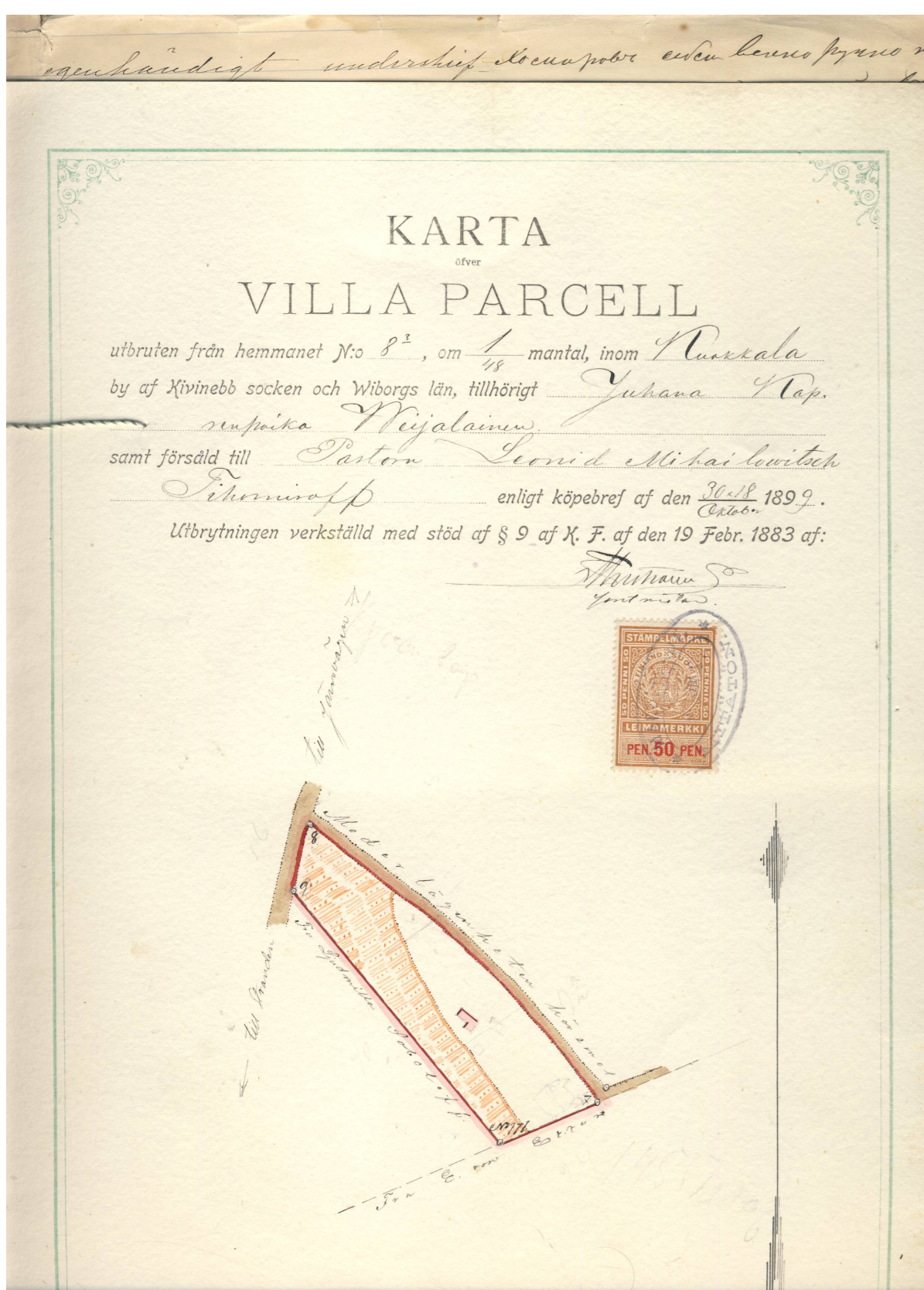


III.1 Leonid Mikhailovich Tikhomirov

In October 30 of 1899, the archpriest of the Orthodox Church of St. Catherine on the Vasilievsky Island of St. Petersburg Leonid Mikhailovich Tikhomirov (III.1) acquired a plot of land with a house standing on it in the Finnish settlement of Ollila in Vyborg Province. He put up new buildings and named his property "Peaceful."

According to the Bill of sale (III.12) the area of the site was 6677 square meters and it cost 1525 rubles. There are saved drawings of the plot plans as it looked when first bought, and also how it looked 6 years later when the owner modified existing buildings and erected new ones (III. 2 and III. 3). From the western part of the fenced site, the area was confined to a spruce alley parallel to which the Street of the Wooden Gate, still existing today, ran from the railway station to the beach. The southern boundary of the site was along a ditch preserved until present time. The northern border of the estate passed along the then existing street, which bore the name of the Finnish god of the sea, Ahto.

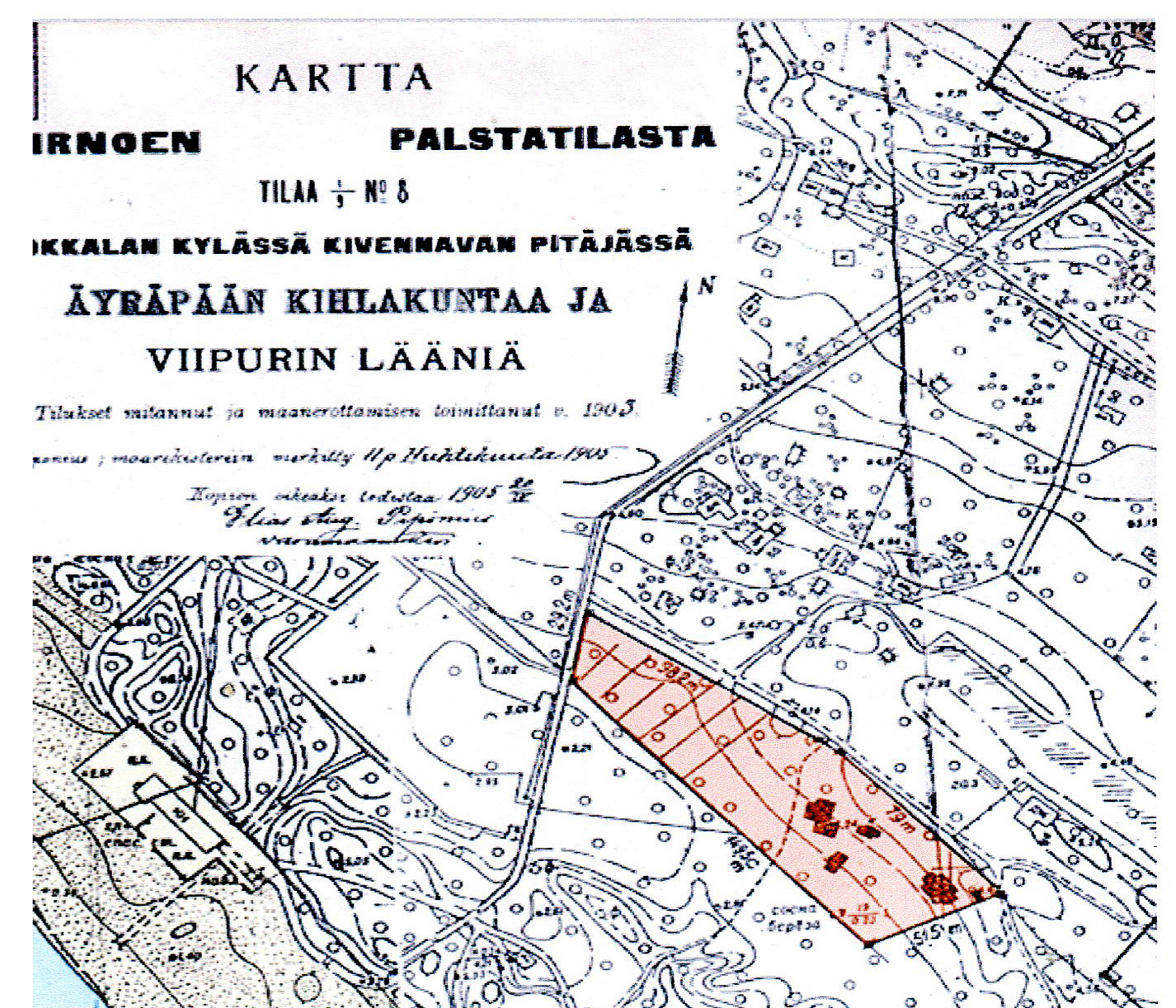
Through the plot, another ditch also passed. The configuration of the estate is transferred from the bill of sale and is superimposed on the modern map (III. 4).



III.2



III.3



III.4

In the 1970s, the grandson of the owner, Professor Rostislav S. Muratov (III.6) sketched out the dacha's plan (III. 5), from how it retained in his memory, showing the location of the buildings and their name. The sketch is oriented by the way people saw it coming from the station as opposed to the location of the site in the documents. In the middle of the plot there was a so-called "Pink Dacha", apparently a rebuilt house of the former owner. Near the south-eastern border the Great Dacha was built, and between them - a "black cottage" built out of railway sleepers. The location of the shed was approximately equal to the distance between the three buildings. The glacier was at the fence in the eastern corner of the estate. In the southern part of the site near the fence was an artesian well, behind it - a small lake. A free-standing cellar was used to store perishables and the toilet was a cesspool. On the other side of the ditch on the south side of the site, by the memory of his grandfather, was the "plot of Dorvatovsky" borders, although on the map (ill.2) one can read the names and surnames of other, apparently previous, neighbors in the country. Judging by the few remaining remains of the basement, the buildings stood on separate stones.



III.5



III.6 Prof. Rostislav S.Muratov



The family of L. M. Tikhomirov and the Astronomy historian D.O. Svyatsky on the dacha's veranda

There are some family photos that illustrate the country life of the first third of the twentieth century

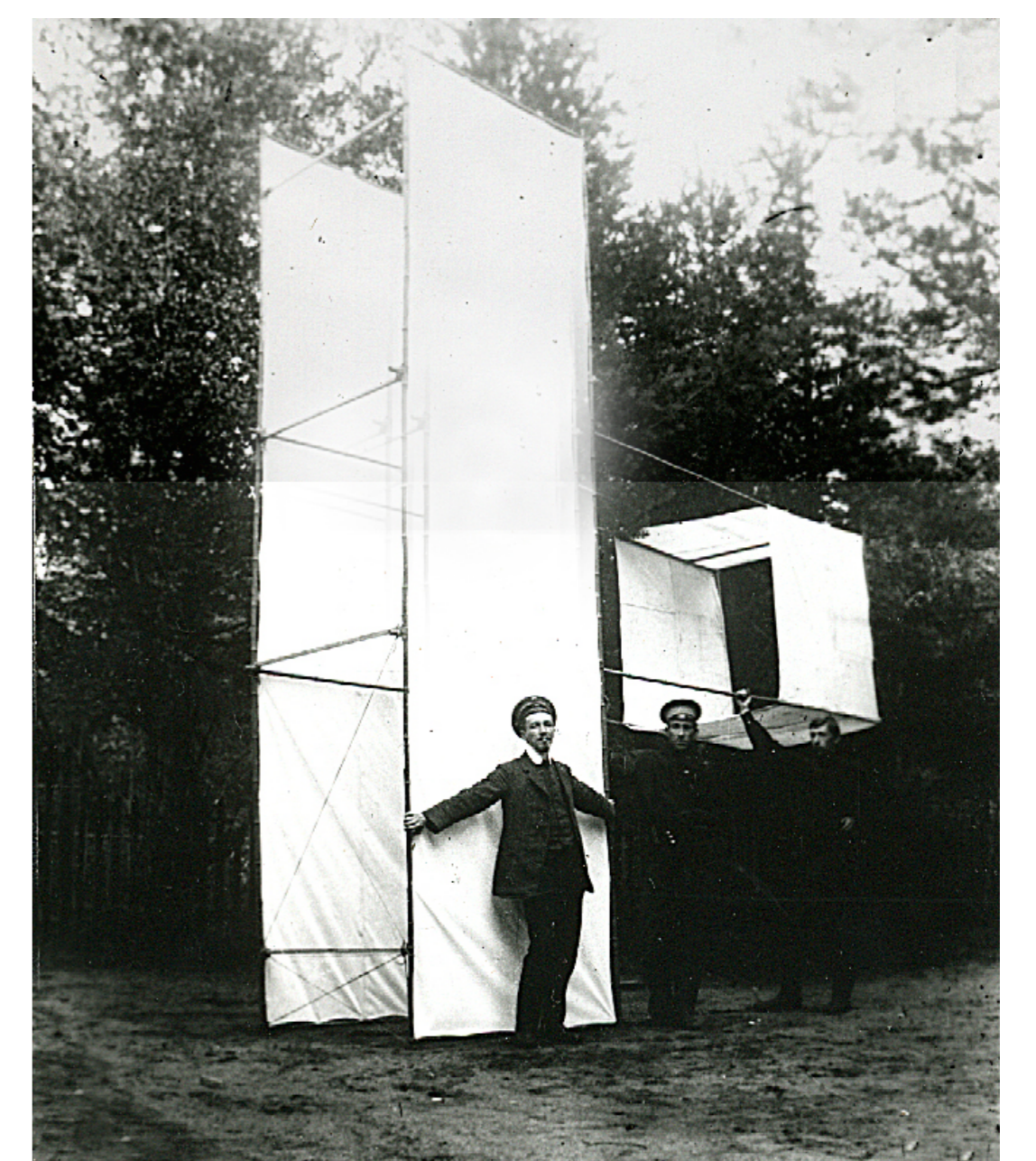
The dacha was always full of guests who came not only in summer but also in the winter to go skiing and sledging on Finnish sleighs.

Representatives of the metropolitan intelligentsia often met there in an informal atmosphere discussing the events of the rich social life that they had in those years. Tikhomirova's daughter, Lyubov Leonidovna (Ill .7), who was friends with the proprietress of the famous private gymnasium E. Peskovskaya and also taught there, was included in the circle of active social democrats among whom were the names of M. Elizarov, G. Zinoviev and V. Ulyanov.

During the conversations that took place, the idea arose of the creation of the Russian Society of enthusiasts of World Science (ROLM), officially registered in 1909. L.M. Tikhomirov and the father of his daughter Lyubov's husband, a real state counselor, who served in the St.Petersburg's Admiralitetet the general post in the Hydrographic Department of the Naval Ministry, V.N. Muratov, the great and great-grandfathers of the authors of the article, became one of its founders. The Company's Charter defined its tasks: to disseminate natural, distribute physical and mathematical knowledge among the population, to provide assistance and conduct scientific research.

By 1927, the ROLM numbered 2,400 members throughout the country, among which were subsequently famous scientists and engineers in the field of precision mechanics, optics, space exploration and astronomy such as D. D. Maksutov, V.P. Glushko, K.E. Tsiolkovsky, and others. Among the Honorary members of the society were the composer I.M. Glazunov, the "Red Countess" S.F. Panina and maccenas M.K. Tenisheva.

Also in "Mirmoe", the idea of the highschool of opticians was born, which in 1930 was transformed into a new higher educational institution for Russia, training engineers of precision mechanics and optics (now ITMO University). Mining engineer S.V. Muratov, the son-in-law of the owner of the dacha, was one of the creators, the author of the curriculum and the first head teacher of one of the leading centers of the country in training specialists in this field.



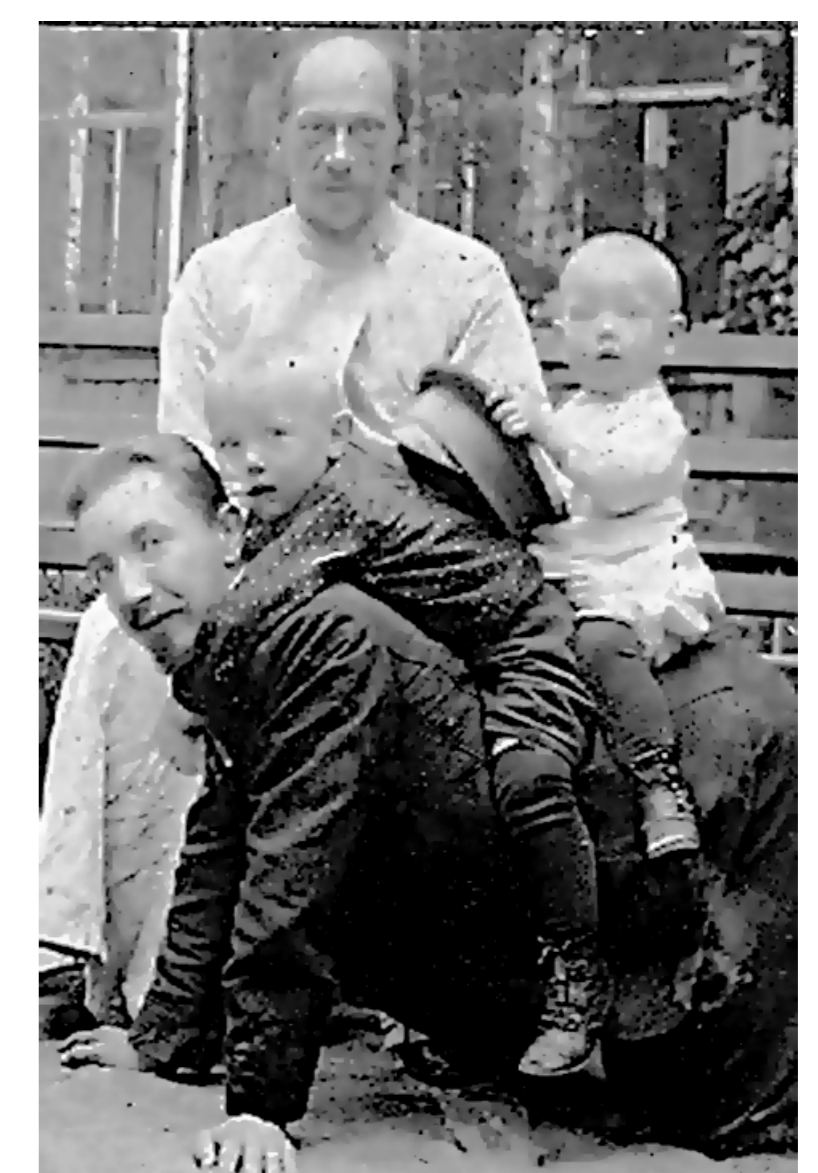
The son-in-law Sergei Muratov and the owner's son Vadim Tikhomirov by a homemade drake kite



Rostislav and Gelij with their parents and grandparents



L.M. Tikhomirov with his daughter Lyubov and her husband in front of the beach. The tower on the left belonged to the "Mansvetov's dacha" according to their son .



L.M. Tikhomirov with his son-in-law S.V. Muratov and grandchildren Rostislav and Gelij



. The owner's family on a picnic with guests

The owner's daughter's family was repressed and sent to the Ural Mountains in 1934, in connection with this it was possible to preserve the original documents for the acquisition of the estate, which represent historical and legal value as genuine examples of office work and property rights of the Russian border of the XIX-XX centuries.



III.7 Lyubov Leonidovna Muratova (Tichomirova)

In 1924 Lyubov Leonidovna appealed to the Finnish authorities with a request to recognize the power of attorney issued to her neighbor, a local resident, to conduct business and to supervise the site and the dachas located on it.

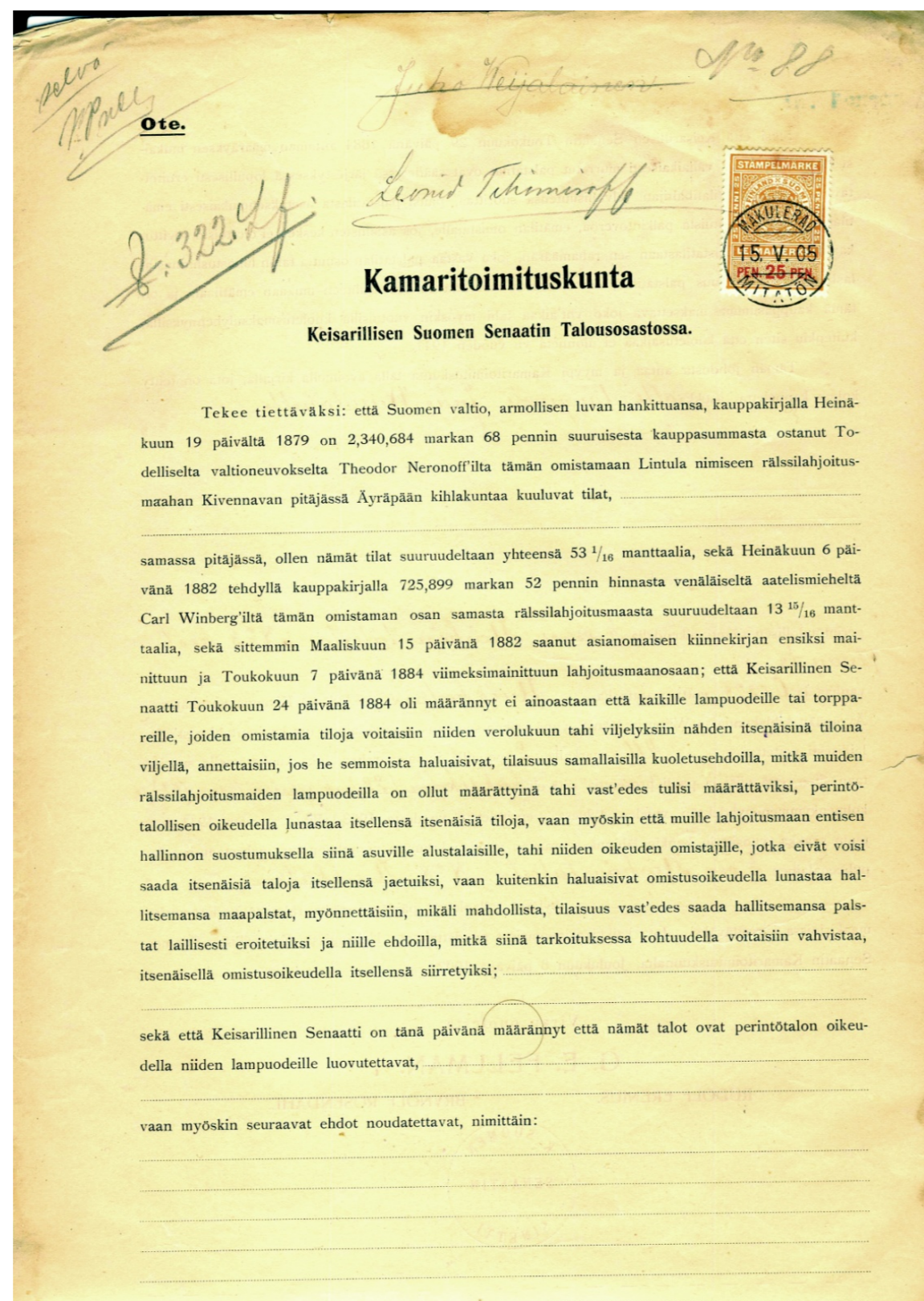
Her request was followed by a refusal from the Finnish side, motivated by the fact that Soviet Russia refused to settle all issues relating to private property with Finland. More precisely, you can read about this in the certificate (ill.8).

The last time that the Mirnoe estate is mentioned is in the interrogation of the owner's son Vadim Leonidovich Tikhomirov, who was arrested at the beginning of the WW2 and was charged under Article 58. In the course of the investigation, the investigator asked him whether it was his father – the priest, or himself owning of the dacha in Finland, to which he replied that such a dacha was the property of his sister. This interest shown by representatives of the Soviet government gives reason to assume that the fact of the ownership of the dachas to the owner's descendants was officially recognized.

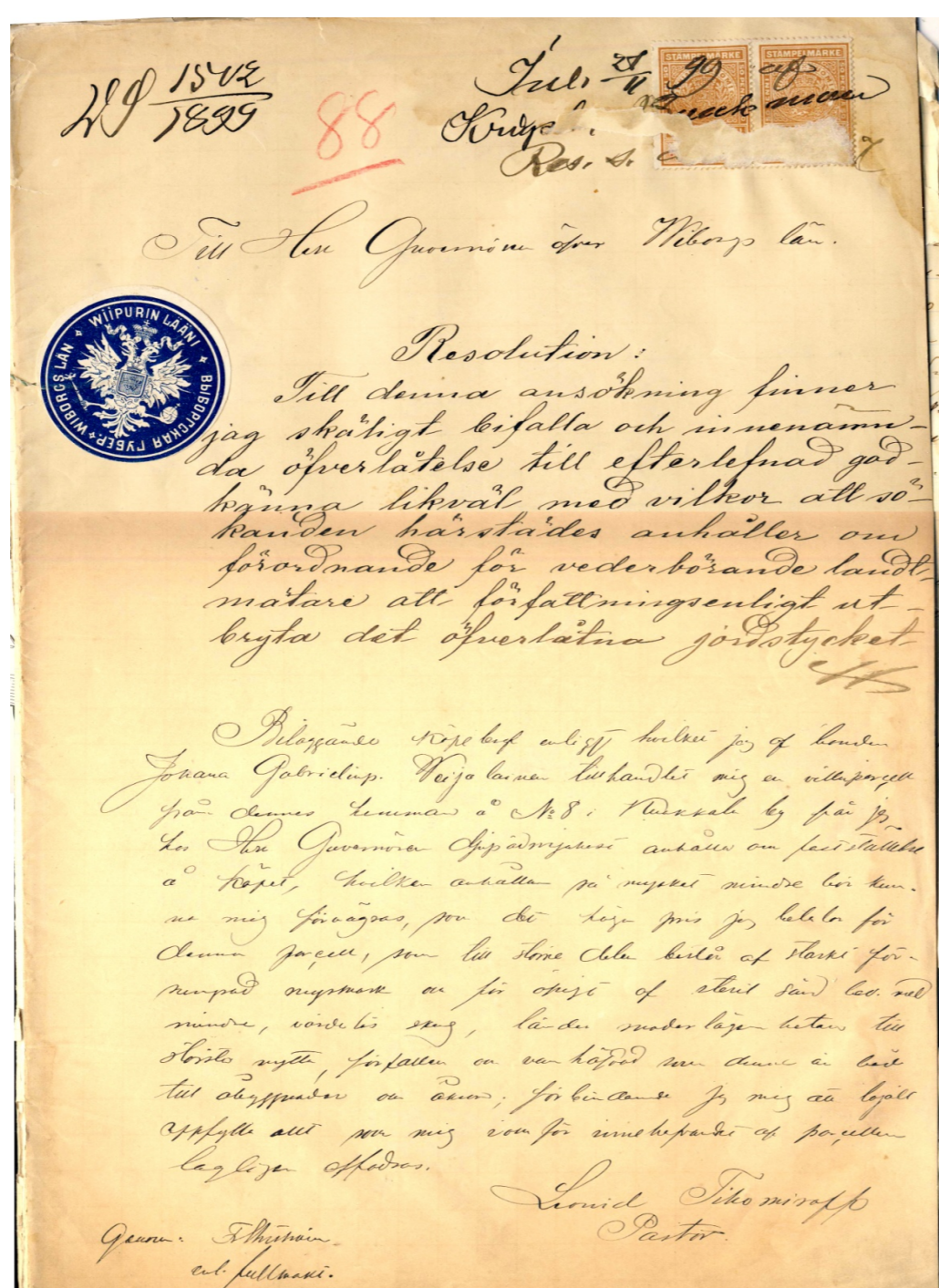
At present, the ruined territory of the estate, from which the fragments of the foundations have been preserved (Ill. 9a, b), is overgrown with wood.



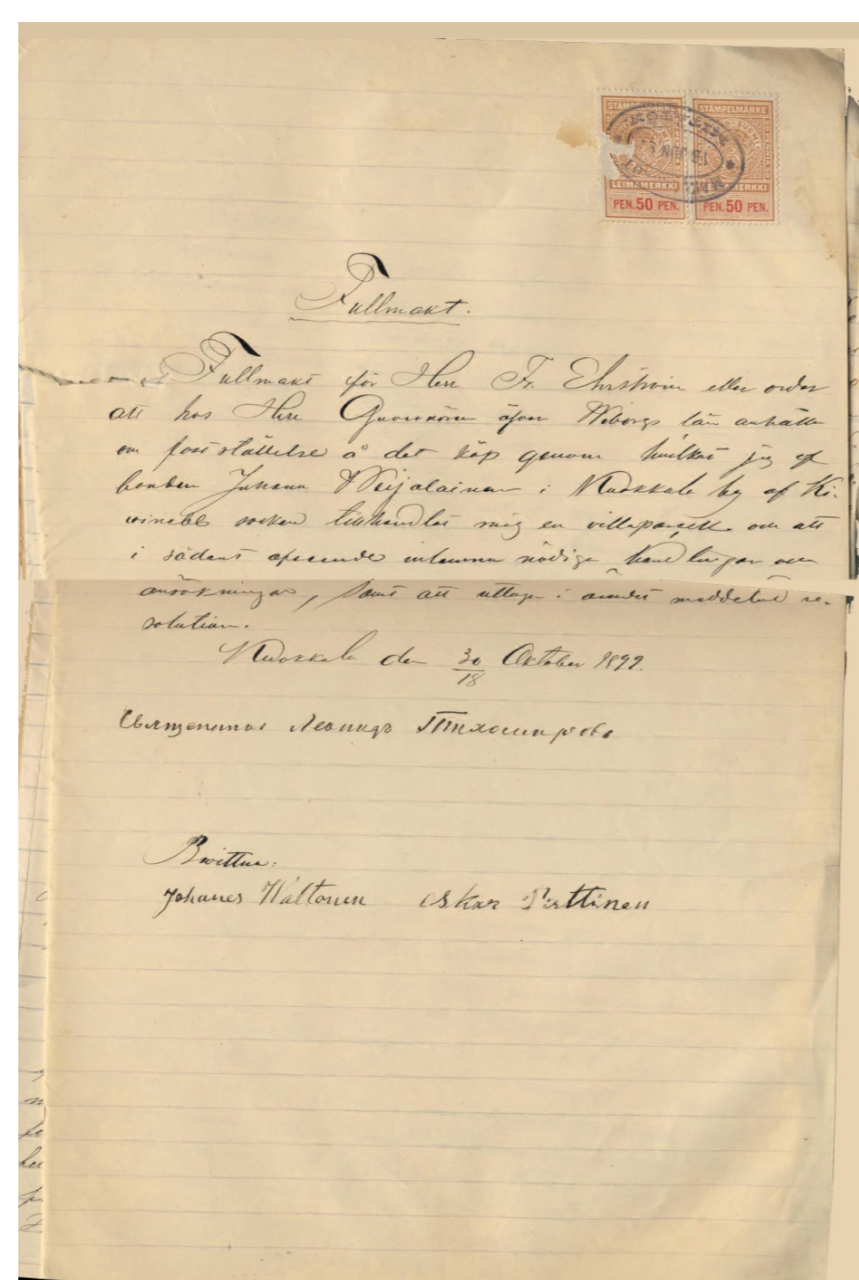
III.9a The owner's great-grandson and great-grandson on the foundations of the Dachas.



Certificate from the Economic Department of the Imperial Finnish Senate



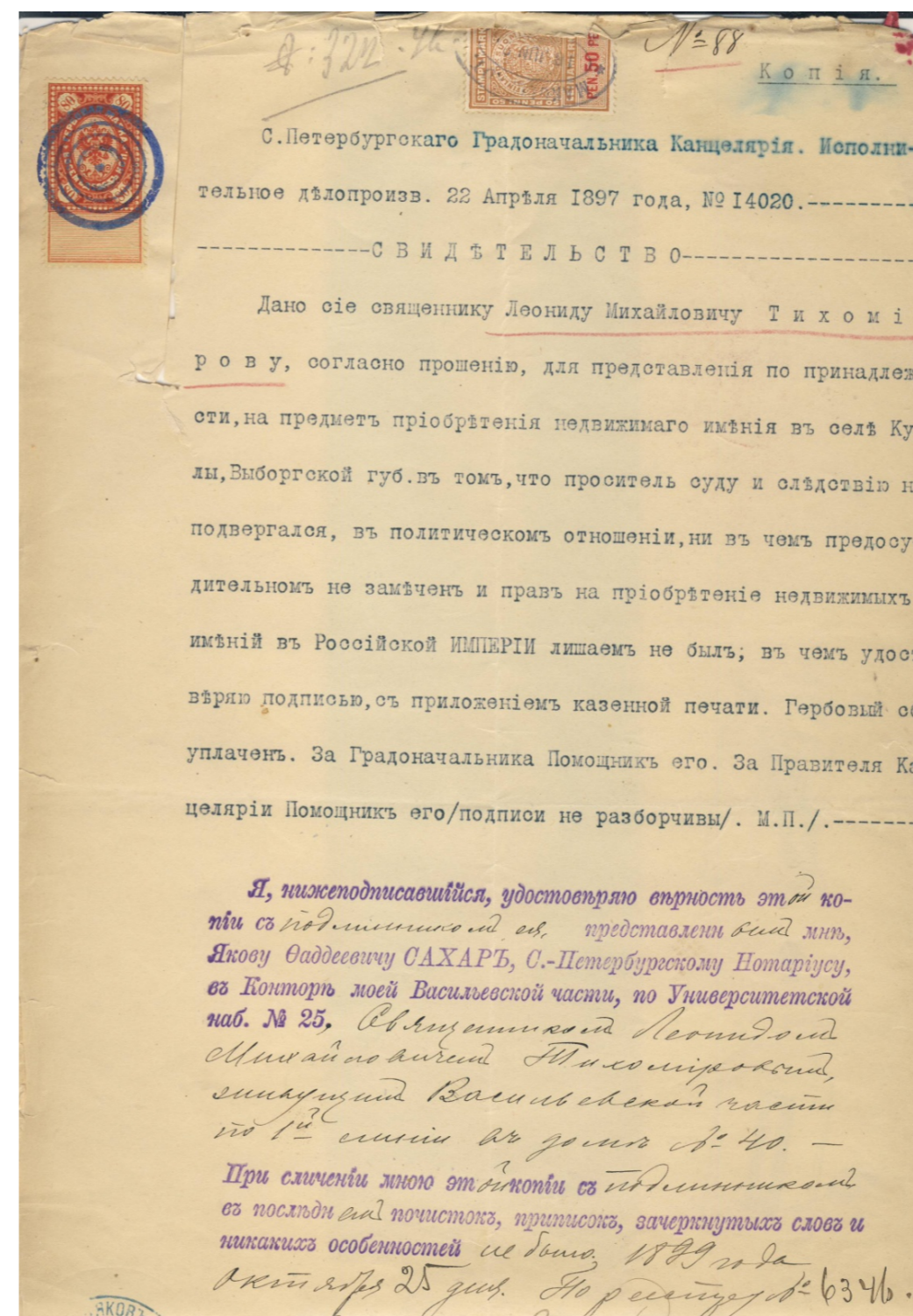
Resolution



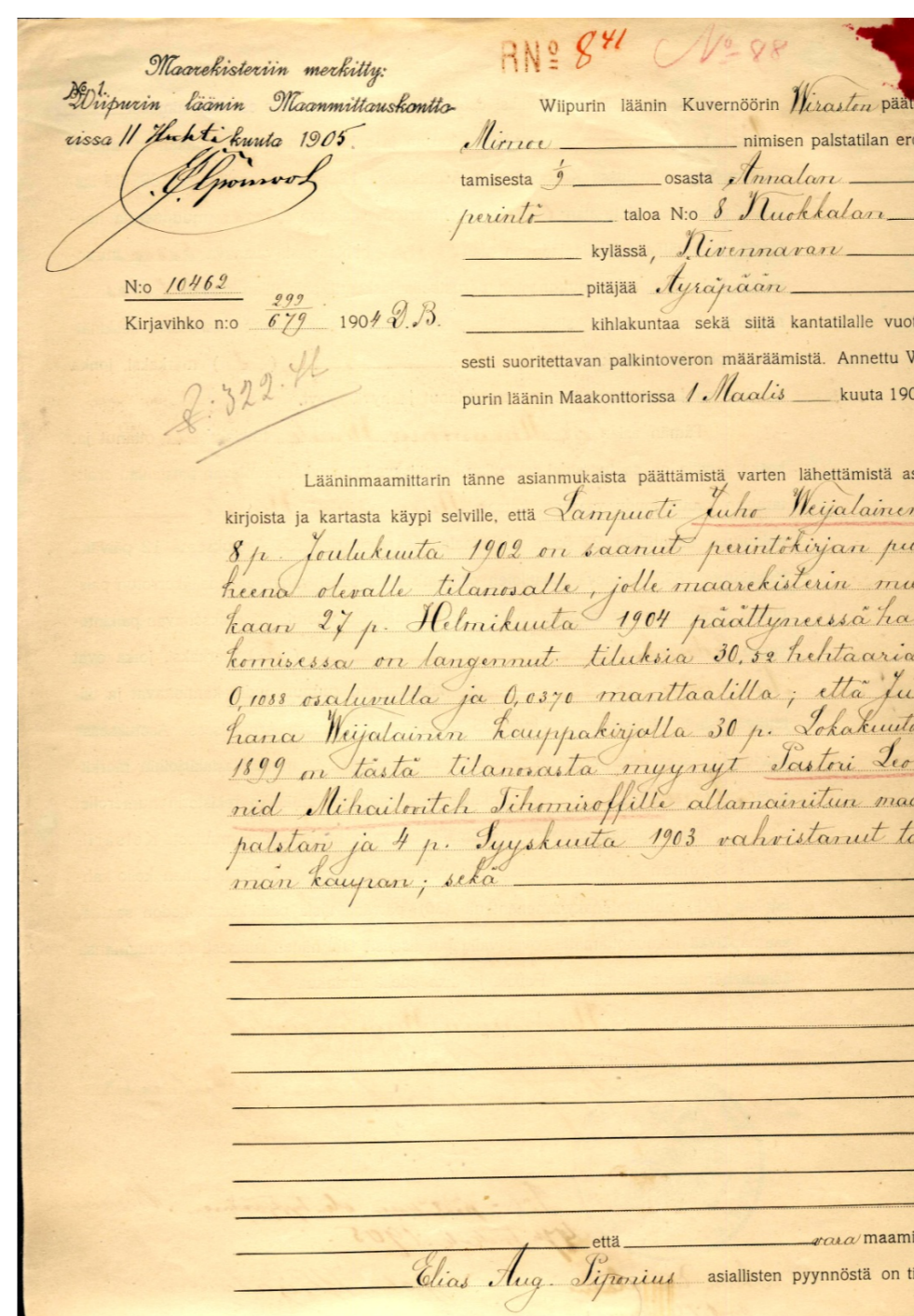
Authorization certificate (Warrant)



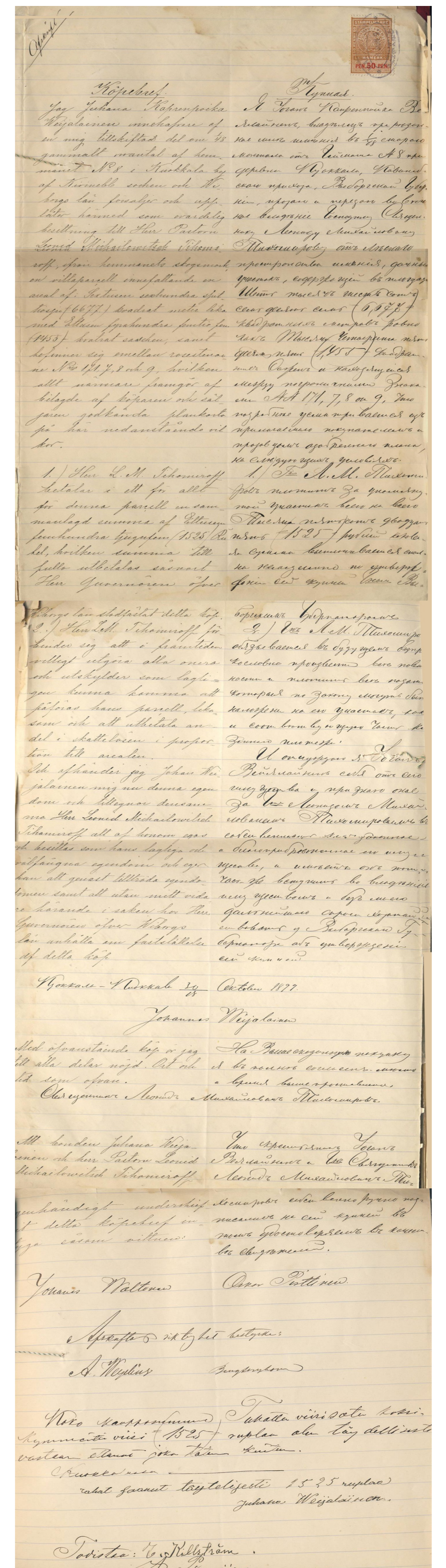
III.9 b



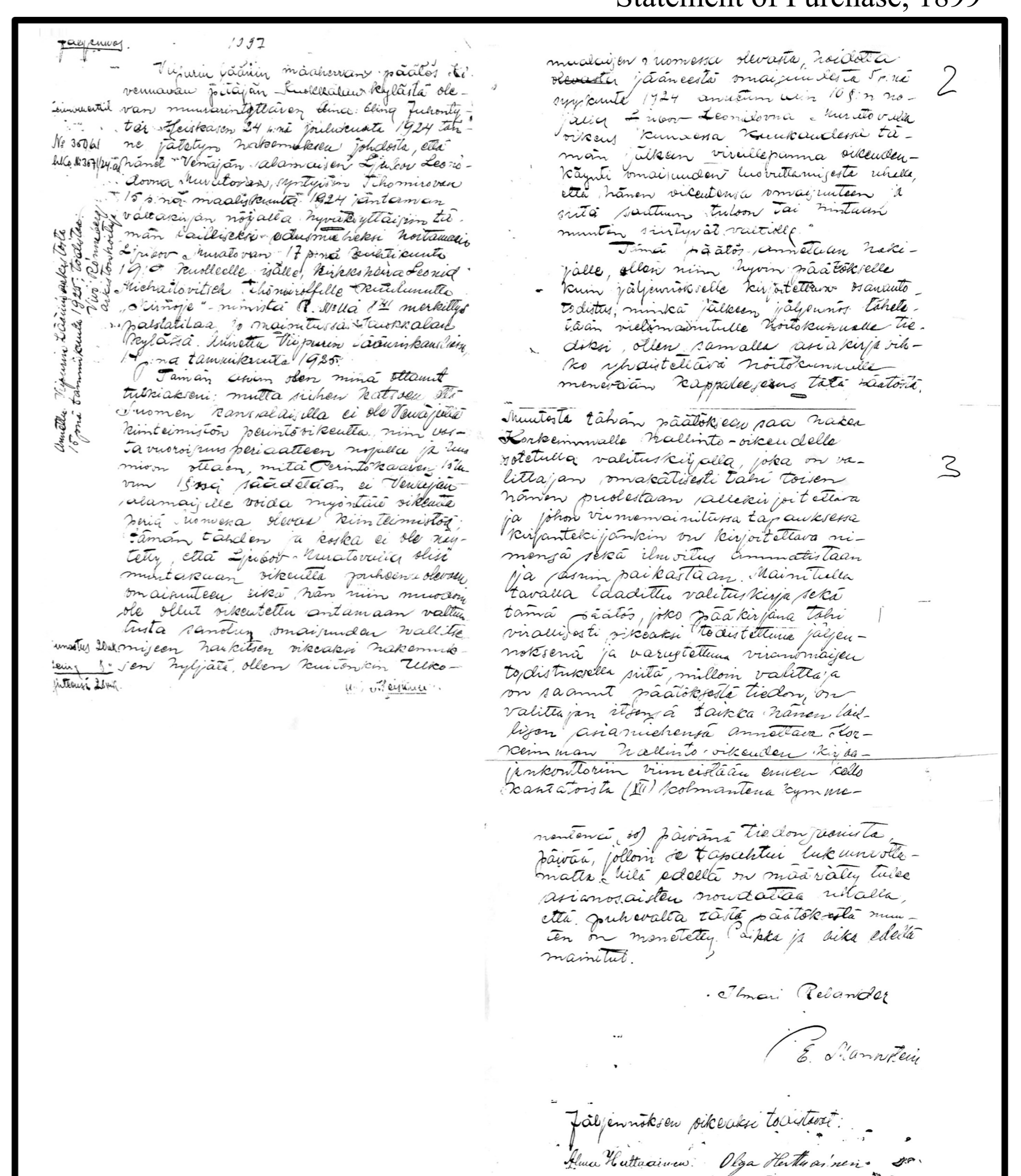
Evidence of the buyer's reliability



Certificate of tax payment



Statement of Purchase, 1899



III.8