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**DESCRIPTIONS OF MONASTERIES
AS A TYPE OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION IN CHURCH ARCHEOLOGY
OF THE XIXTH – BEGINNING OF XXTH CENTURY**

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Abstract. The paper examines the descriptions of monasteries as a special type of scientific publication representing the results of research activities in the field of church archeology. In Russia in the 19th – early 20th centuries, several hundred historical, historical-statistical, church-historical and other descriptions of famous and little-known monasteries were published. They still retain a high information value for science. The author of the paper for the first time gives the descriptions of monasteries a specific characteristic, taking into account modern methodological approaches in historiography. The main attention is paid to creative and communicative strategies, the way of writing history, practiced by their compilers. In this context, the author examines the scientific activity of Archimandrite Leonid (Kavelin) and his colleagues, whose works on the description of monasteries constitute an important part of the heritage of Russian historical science.

Keywords: monastery, description, church archeology, scientific publication, historiography