

To Thomas Johann Seebeck: with respect and gratitude



Photo of a painting, German Museum, Munich.

T. J. Seebeck, born 09.04.1770 in Tallinn (Reval), Estonia,
past away 10.12.1831 in Berlin, Germany

Thomas Johann Seebeck is one of the most known scientists born and grown up in Estonia. His discoveries in photoelasticity and thermoelectricity have a worldwide impact to engineering and technology also nowadays, in the 21st century, including the current research of Estonian scientists and engineers. As a result of the initiative of AHMT (Arbeitskreis der Hochschullehrer für Messtechnik) and the Department of Electronics at Tallinn University of Technology, opening of the memorial board of Thomas Johann Seebeck took place in Tallinn on May 11, 2007, in his city of birth (1770) and childhood. Seebeck obtained also his basic education in Tallinn – he graduated from the nowadays Gustav Adolf Gymnasium in 1788.

At the opening ceremony of the memorial board speeches were delivered by Mrs. Viola Brasgalladelschen from the German Embassy in Tallinn, by prominent German scientists, Professors Elmar Schrüfer, Hans-Rolf Tränkler and Volker Hans and by Estonian scientists Professor Enn Velmre and academicians Hillar Aben and Endel Lippmaa. Many Estonian scientists and engineers and citizens of Tallinn were present at the ceremony.

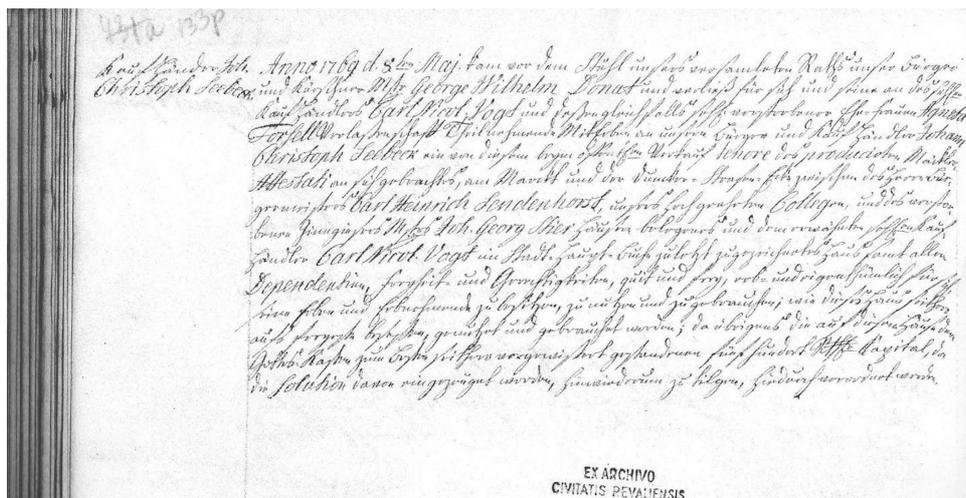
The event found a response in the Estonian medium. The newspaper *Mente et Manu* of Tallinn University of Technology expressed the Seebeck's story thoroughly (Mart Ummelas), also the Estonian Radio "Vikerraadio" (program "Laboratory" by Mart Ummelas) and Radio "Kuku" (program "Memoria", by Jüri Kuuskemaa) reflected the event. An article about the event was published also in the Swedish newspaper "Eesti Päevaleht" in Stockholm by Jüri Hain. I would like to

thank also pupils and teachers Helda Venderström and Arne Silas of Gustav Adolf Gymnasium and our colleagues, especially Mrs. Aiki Putting, Prof. Toomas Rang, Dr. Olev Märtens, and Dr. Toomas Parve for their support and collaboration by organizing the event.

Mart Min
Guest editor



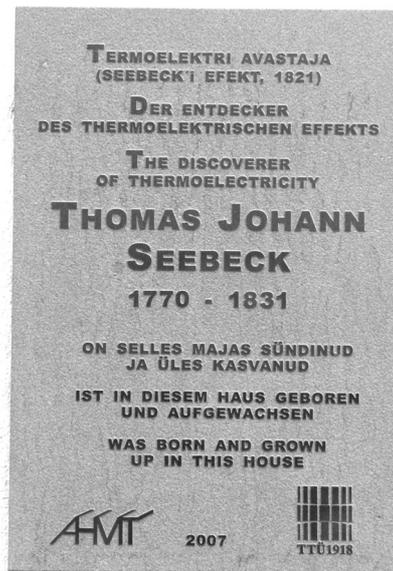
Seebeck's birth house in Tallinn at Raekoja plats 4/Dunkri 2 (Jan. 2007).



A document on purchasing of Seebeck's birth house in May 8, 1769 (Tallinn City Archive).



Opening of the memorial board on the wall of Seebeck's house on May 11, 2007.



The memorial board (designed by Lembit Palm, April 2007).