

The Cathedral of St. Michael of the Archangel (commonly known as St. Michael's Cathedral) is located in the center of the business district of Sitka, Alaska, the town which was the capital of Russian America from 1808 to 1867. The original structure was built between 1844 and 1848 and would experience relatively little modification or renovation for the next 118 years until a catastrophic fire in 1966 burned it to the ground. While the building was completely lost, many of the icons, royal doors and chandelier were saved. Thanks to measurements taken in 1942 and subsequent drawings completed in 1961 as part of a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) project, the building was faithfully reconstructed using more fire-resistant materials from 1967-76.