

Welcome to Kalvsvik's Hembygdsgård



A description of the cottage at Hembygdsgården

Översatt av Monica Siljeström 1997.

Ryggåsstugan / A cottage open to the roof

This cottage consists of a large open living room, a kitchen and a small hallway. The cottage was built in 1848 at the croft *Granelund*, belonging to *Rungeboda* farm in *Jät*. The crofter Anders Svensson and his wife Christina built it and then sold it to the owner of *Rungeboda* farm. The price was forty "riksdaler".

Anders and Christina had a leasing kontrakt for the cottage and "2 skäppeland" (approx 1600 sq meter) of the property for the rest at their lifetime. The lease was to be 10 "riksdaler" per year. The kontrakt stated that the cottage should be maintained by the leaseholder. On the other hand he was allowed to collect fencing material and fire wood from wind fallen trees but he could not chop down any trees. The leaseholder and his wife were also supposed to supply the *Rungeboda* farmer with three days' work each every year. The original copy of this kontrakt is now the property of *Hembygdsföreningen*.

In 1931 the Farmers Youth Association in *Kalvsvik* bought what was then called "*Finka Katrin's*" cottage for 225 SEK. The cottage was then moved to its present location. In Nov. 1946 members of association decided to lease the cottage for the next 49 years. According to the lease it was to be used as a "countryside house and ancient moment". The building and the site is today owned by *Hembygdsföreningen*.

Nybygget / The New Building

The new barn was built between 1993 and 1996. Building of the barn was made possible by donations and collections. All labor has been on a voluntary basis by members of the Association.

From the spring of 1997 various exhibitions will be arranged in the new barn. It also houses a workshop for maintenance of the collections of *Hembygdsföreningen* and a small archive.

Knektastugan / The soldiers cottage

The soldiers cottage was originally located a few km from here, at the *Hesslelycke* cross-roads. It used to be the home of the local soldier at *Allatorp*.

From 1684 until 1901 Sweden had an army of employed soldiers. Each soldier was given a small cottage and a piece of land for his family's support. In return he had to be prepared to do military service whenever needed. This system was called "*indelningsverket*". In 1946 the cottage was bought by *Hembygdsföreningen* (the Local District association with the aim to preserve local culture) and was moved to the present location where it was reassembled in 1848. The work was carried out on a voluntary basis by members of the Association.

The stone at the entrance is one of the old millstones from the nearby *Lanke* water mill.

Ängsladan / The hay barn

This hay barn has been used for storing hay. It was one of many similar barns located at the marsh *Hössjökärr*. When overlooking the vast marshlands you could count up to 15 such barns. Today all but one of them have disappeared. The simple door and its closing mechanism is typical for this type of barn.

When it was time for hay-making, the farmers from *Kalvshaga* village would bring food for a couple of days, go to the marshlands and stay until all the hay had been gathered. They would use the hay barns to sleep in at nights.

The hay barn was moved to its present location by voluntary members of *Hembygdsföreningen* 1947. Their wish was for it to stand as a reminder of the old hay-making days. Many armfuls of hay have been carried into this hay barn.

The bell is from *Hässlelycke* farm, where its ringing called the field workers to dinner.

Ladugården / The cattle barn

All the time when this cattle barn was moved here in 1986 it was already 120 years old. Some of the logs may be even older, since they carry the signs of previous use.

The barn had room for two cows and a calf or a pig. On top of the so called "*fähus*" (cattle room) was a hay storage room. In the middle of the cattle barn is a small room where the crops, mainly rye and oats, were threshed by hand. The sheaves were stored on one side of the threshing room. The straw that remained after threshing was stored in the fodder barn near the cattle room. Hay and sheaves of grain were brought in through the small doors on the long side of the barn.

This cattle barn was part of a crofters holding called *Fiskalyckan*, belonging to *Ekamåla* farm. The crofter, Nils Peter Nilsson, married in 1866 and moved into the recently built cottage together with his wife, Catarina. Nils Peter (born in 1827) had been working as a farmhand for the Peterson family at *Ekamåla* farm since 1845. Catarina, who was born in 1816, had been working as a maid at several nearby farms. After marriage Nils Peter continued to work at the *Ekamåla* farm and finally after 30 years of labour he received a medal from the Patriotic Society. Catarina died in 1890 after being ill for several years. A woman named Emma Fisk had among others been helping Nils Peter during this time. She now moved in and lived with Nils Peter until 1912 when he moved to the poorhouse, *Strömsborg*. Two months later he died at the age of 86. Emma lived another 14 years at *Fiskalyckan* and then moved to a home for elderly people. Two years later, in 1929, the cottage house was torn down and the barn was used for hay storage.

In 1985, the barn was donated to *Hembygdsföreningen*, dismantled and reconstructed at its present location. Some of the building material, which had to be added, came from similar barns. The barn was equipped with a shingled roof in 1986.