



Kulturarv Hälsingegårdar

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The Nominated Objects

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The selection has been carried out with the aim of highlighting different aspects of the Hälsingland farms and Hälsingland's building culture, not only so that the best and the best conserved examples are chosen, but also with a view to the farms having the best conditions for their continued preservation and conservation, naturally with the owners' consent. Two of the objects are not farms but phenomena of great significance in relation to the origin and special character of the farms – a summer pasture and an environment characterised by the important production of linen and the mechanisation of the rural area.

Buffer zones have been laid out in such a way that they do not only function as a respected area but also include buildings and milieus that complete the picture of building culture and its prerequisites. In some cases a larger district with several villages has been included in the designation of "village/buffer zone". Very important visitor objects are to be found within the buffer zones as well as in other places in the region, so the selection of areas should not mean that the cultural and educational content of Hälsingland and the Hälsingland farms as a whole will be diminished. The most important qualities of the nominated milieus are described below. See also *Appendix 1* in which the farms and village areas are described in more detail.

1, Västerby, Rengsjö

Three farms of heritage value that together form an old village milieu of extraordinary value. For some time both *Regnells* and *Norrgården* have functioned as local history museums with educational activities, while *Utigården* is privately owned. All the farms have richly painted and wallpapered interiors carried out by the same family of painters over a limited period of time. These interiors provide an extremely valuable documentation of what was for Hälsingland a very important family of painters. The first two farms reflect the Rengsjö way of building and furnishing during the mid 19th century. *Utigården* on the other hand illustrates how farmers modernised their farms at the time of Legal Partition.

2, Trolldalen and Växbo Mill

Trolldalen, with its numerous flax processing and linen production works uniquely illustrates what was for Hälsingland a particularly developed mechanised flax production that provided the Hälsingland farms with an income. The adjacent *Växbo Mill* is Hälsingland's most complete mill complex. It testifies to the rural industrialisation of the late 19th century and illustrates that the farmers were not only farmers but were also entrepreneurs. Both sites are operational. One of Hälsingland's most important visitor venues.

3, Hillsta – Trogsta, Forsa

Characteristic and very well preserved settlement with scattered villages and large farms in a confined valley where agriculture's historical structures can be clearly seen. Ancient remains,

such as house foundation terraces and grave mounds from the earlier Iron Age illustrate a close connection between present and past settlements. The farms *Byströms* and *Ystegårn* are extremely well preserved and built in quadrangle format with several dwelling houses. *Ystegårn* is a museum with extensive collections of personal objects and artefacts and is open to visitors. *Byströms* is privately owned.

4, *Norrgården, Flatmo, Forsa*

A three-plan farm with three very large dwelling houses. The older of the houses is made up of two similar accommodation areas intended for two families, and a joint assembly or banqueting room on the upper floor with painted and wallpapered interiors dating from 1843. A common dwelling house for two families is unusual and such a living solution probably originates from changes of ownership as a result of alterations to the farm during the 1830s. The building to the west is unique, with its combination of animal stalls and barns on the ground floor and a large room with adjacent beautifully furnished living accommodation on the first floor. Privately owned.

5, *Delsbobygden, the culture reserve of Västeräng*

A large area of villages and large scale farms; an unusually well preserved yet typically central agricultural district of northern Hälsingland. The *culture reserve of Västeräng* comprises three farms close together in a village nucleus where all the houses that in days gone by belonged to one farm are preserved in good condition. Agriculture is carried out in the traditional way. One of the farms, *Ol-Ers*, is very lavishly built and has many unusual details. *Ol-Ers* is a visitor venue, together with the adjoining ancient farm of *Delsbo* with its old buildings and elaborate 18th century paintings.

6, *Bommars, Letsbo, Ljusdal*

Farm from the 1840s on the rural fringes of northern Hälsingland. The buildings at *Bommars* are a singular example of how farmers in such outlying areas built lavishly and furnished rooms for festivities and large assemblies. Here the banqueting rooms are decorated with printed wallpapers, of which similar patterns are also to be found in Swedish castles and mansion houses, yet combined with paintings in a way that is unusual for farmers. The rooms are of different character and together form one of the best examples of Hälsingland farmers' and their painters' interior decoration ideas. Privately owned.

7, *Kristofers, Stene, Järvsö*

A three-plan farm that unusually clearly reflects the development of Hälsingland farms during the 19th century. The drawing room (*herrstugan*) and the main gateway complex (*portliderbyggnad*), both from the beginning of the 1800s, are clear examples of how the farmers started to build in two storeys. The present location also clearly shows how the flanking farm buildings were opened in order to have light, air and a view. The drawing room contains very well preserved paintings that are typical to upper Ljusnandal. The building is a key factor in research on this particular painting school. Privately owned.

8, *Karls, Bondary, Järvsö with village milieu*

One of Hälsingland's oldest farm milieus, preserved in its original setting. The farm mainly documents the 18th and early 19th century building traditions and together with the neighbouring farms illustrate what the closely-knit village environments of the past could look like. The drawing room was added during the time of building prosperity that prevailed in the middle of the 18th century and is one of few unmodified examples of what dwelling

houses from that period looked like before the onset of 19th century rebuilding and extension work. Interiors with old decoration and furnishings. A visitor venue.

9, Å village, Svensgård, Jättendal

A village environment that represents the late 19th century in north-eastern Hälsningland, with a number of lavishly built farms. The architecture is typical for Jättendal, with frontispieces of the dwelling houses that give the village a characteristic silhouette. *Svensgård* is the best preserved farm in the village, with two dwelling houses dating from the end of the 19th century and a number of utility buildings. Privately owned.

10, Ersk-Mats, Lindsjön, Hassela

An old farm, built by the descendants of the first Finnish settlers that established themselves in northern Hälsingland at the end of the 16th century. Ersk-Mats has not been subject to any large alterations since the middle of the 19th century and is an extraordinarily representative example of what an isolated farm in the forest might have looked like at that time. There are also a large number of preserved utility buildings, including a barn of a type that is characteristic of Hassela. A visitor venue.

11, Våsbo summer pastures

Well preserved transhumance milieu that represents the Hälsingland farms' summer pastures. These milieus were created through the utilisation of woodland for pasturage and for the manufacture of milk products, a necessity for the development of agriculture in a settlement with limited access to arable land. The Våsbo fields display clear and unique evidence of the different uses of a Hälsingland summer pasture.

12, Långhed and Näsbyn, Alfta, Jon-Lars and Pallars

Of all the Hälsingland villages, Långhed and Näsbyn are the two largest and most impressive farm complexes, several displaying mansion-house characteristics. They represent the tendency to build elegantly and according to one's position that was expressed among the farmers in Voxnadalen and southern Hälsingland around the mid-19th century. *Jon-Lars* is the largest of all the Hälsingland farms and built for two families. *Pallars* is another very large and well-built farm, which in a unique way also reflects 19th century everyday life. Both farms also have rich, well-preserved interiors with typical Voxnadal paintings. The farms are privately owned; the visitor venue being *Lökagården in Gundbo*.

13, Skommars and Tutabo, Grängsbo, Alfta

Two unique and well-preserved farms from the turn of the 18th/19th century, with completely preserved interiors and all personal effects. *Skommars* is dominated by an enormous utility building built onto a dwelling house: a type of building that is characteristic of Voxnadalen. Architecturally it is designed according to the late 19th century pattern books, but differs from them in that, in true Hälsingland style, a dwelling house has been integrated. *Tutabo* has a very large farmhouse of Voxnadal style with lavish furnishings from the turn of the 18th/19th century. There are also an exceptional number of preserved outhouse buildings. The farms are privately owned.

14, Vängsbo village, Ovanåker, Nygårds

Vängsbo is an extensive village environment characterised by a modernisation of many of the farms during the turn of the 18th/19th century. Some of the farmhouses were built in the villa-style of the times with "gingerbread-house trimmings" and decorative carpentry, while others had large modern barns. But even the older dwelling houses, in several cases unusually large

parstuga farmhouses, were modernised by changing the older hipped roof to a gable roof and painting the facades with pastel coloured oil-paint. In the centre of the village, a stream with a succession of water-driven mills used for threshing and flax preparation represents the Hälsingland people's earlier mechanisation of such occupations. *Nygårds* is the best preserved farm, with two preserved dwelling houses. Privately owned.

15, Asta village, Söderala, Västergården and Erik Anders

Close-knit village milieu, typical of south-eastern Hälsingland, with a number of farms with typical architecture. Two of the farms, *Erik-Anders* and *Västergården* have preserved interiors with rich and well-preserved Dalecarlian wall paintings from the mid 19th century. The paintings at *Västergården* are a unique document of the Dalarna painters' working tours, because here you can follow each individual room's original history by means of the painter's dated signatures. *Erik-Anders* is a visitor venue.