

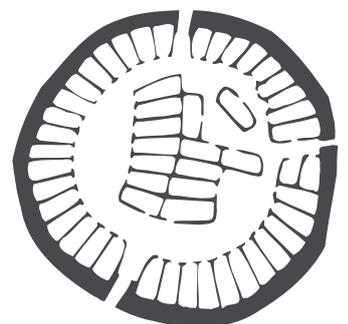


Eketorp Fortress – making history today

In the Time Travel to the Iron Age, the children walk to the holy well to sacrifice food to the gods.

Eketorp in the past

Eketorp fortress is one of the 19 ancient fort on Öland, a small island situated on the south east coast of Sweden. Just like today there were many connections between people on Öland and others around the Baltic Sea and the Continent. The very first fortress at Eketorp was built in the Iron Age, 4th Century A.D. and served as a place of shelter for the surrounding villages. It was also a place where people gathered and took part in religious ceremonies. Times were turbulent with enemies attacking the island and the people living there were soon in need of a larger fort used as a fortified farmer's village 400-650 A.D. Then, for unknown reasons, the fortress was abandoned and didn't come into use again until 1170. At that time it functioned as a medieval military garrison and probably played a role in the struggle for the Swedish Crown between two powerful families. The fort was finally abandoned around 1240.





During the high season, the visitors can take part in different events.



One of the most popular activities among all visitors is archery.



The small spotted pigs have also become a tourist attraction.



Eketorp today

Eketorp fortress was excavated 1964-1974. After the excavations, the fort was reconstructed on site. Today you can walk inside the impressive ringwalls to learn more about the people living in Eketorp in the Iron Age and the Middle Ages. Inside the fort there are reconstructed houses from both time periods. There is also a museum where you can look at some of the 26 000 finds from the excavations, including weapons, jewelry, horse equipment, tools and medieval ice-skates.

In spring and autumn, many schools visit Eketorp and take part in Time Travels to the Iron Age or the Middle Ages. In a Time Travel to the Iron Age, 425 A.D., the children meet chieftain Fråråd who rules over Eketorp fort together with his wife Gudrun. The island is under attack and the children are coming from neighboring villages, sent to the fort by their parents to seek shelter. The children take part in the daily chores inside the fort and help to prepare food. They know that there is not space enough inside the fort for everyone and the children are faced with key questions such as how are we going to live together, who is allowed to stay in the fort and who is not, is violence the only solution?

In the summer, a lot of tourists visit Eketorp fort. As visitor, you can join one of the guided tours to learn more about Eketorp and the people who once lived here. You can also participate in a number of activities such as archery, baking your own Iron Age or Medieval bread, textile handicrafts or casting your own amulets. To help re-create the ancient environment you also find domestic animals of Swedish native breeds such as pigs, sheep and chickens, roaming free inside the fortress.

Eketorp in the future

Eketorp fort is part of a large EU-project called Open Gates. Within the project, Eketorp will be able to reconstruct its medieval gate with a mortared gateway and a tower, as well as the medieval central kitchen with a small dininghall. This will give Eketorp the opportunity to develop and enrich the Time Travels and also to offer specific evening-events such as medieval feasts and weddings. In the future, Eketorp fort will hopefully continue to be a place for learning, experimental archaeology and serve as an appreciated tourist destination.

Annette Kronlund *Chief operating officer Eketorp fort*
Gabriella Johansson *Assistant Chief operating officer Eketorp fort*

www.eketorp.se

More living - Active Age, Elderly Care and Heritage, South Africa and Sweden



Hundreds of elderly, some in wheelchairs and with walkers, enjoyed the company and the performances in the historical setting at Krusenstiernska garden.

Big Cultural Event for Elderly at Krusenstiernska Garden, Kalmar, Time Travel to 1951

More than 400 elderly and staff from elderly centers invaded the flowering garden of the Krusenstiernska Manor, in the heart of Kalmar a warm and sunny day in May 2013. For a couple of hours they travelled back to 1951 when the garden was opened to the public. Many were dressed in costumes and hats from the time. There were musical entertainment and children sang songs from the 50's. There was a chocolate wheel, lotteries, different games and of course coffee and lots of cakes. This is probably the biggest cultural celebration with elderly from elderly homes and centers in Kalmar and Öland and a very important social gathering. You could see many recognizing smiles from the elderly who remembered an important time of their lives.

The event at Krusenstiernska was the highlight of a visit in Kalmar from Cape Winelands, South Africa in the common project on elderly and heritage. Kalmar County Museum hosted the guests Gail Jacobs, Anrie Uys and Basil de Wee, all working in elderly centers in the Winelands. The goal of the project is to find social and cultural activities for senior citizens in both countries in order to enrich and improve wellness for the elderly.

During the week in the Kalmar region there was also a Time Travel at Södra Bruket, an industry on southern Öland. Sixty elders from nearby service centers took part in the Time Travel to 1948, when a new family from Austria arrived. How will we greet the foreigners? Will they feel at home?

Another experience was a visit to the service center Frikadel-len in Lindsdal. Some of the elderly at the service center have been interviewed by students from the primary school next door. The students have made power point presentations of the life stories of the elderly. One of the results of that project is that the students and the elderly now greet and talk when they meet on the street or in the local shopping center.



Nice waitresses served coffee and cakes.

Bridging Ages Conference 26th-28th August 2014, Ngurunit, Kenya



BANK members.



Weaving mats is important to learn. From the Time Travel in the manyatta.

The conference will be for three full days, 26th-28th August, arriving the day before and leaving one or two days after the conference, depending on your interest. We'll help you with transport Nairobi-Ngurunit and back to Nairobi.

There will be participatory workshops on Community Building through Education and Heritage, presentations on ongoing and new projects. One day will be for a Time Travel in a manyatta and a big cultural event with the whole community and surrounding communities involved. Look out for the call for papers in December.

Many organizations are engaged in the preparing for the conference: Bridging Ages Northern Kenya, Marsabit County Government, Kenyatta University, National Museum of Kenya and others.

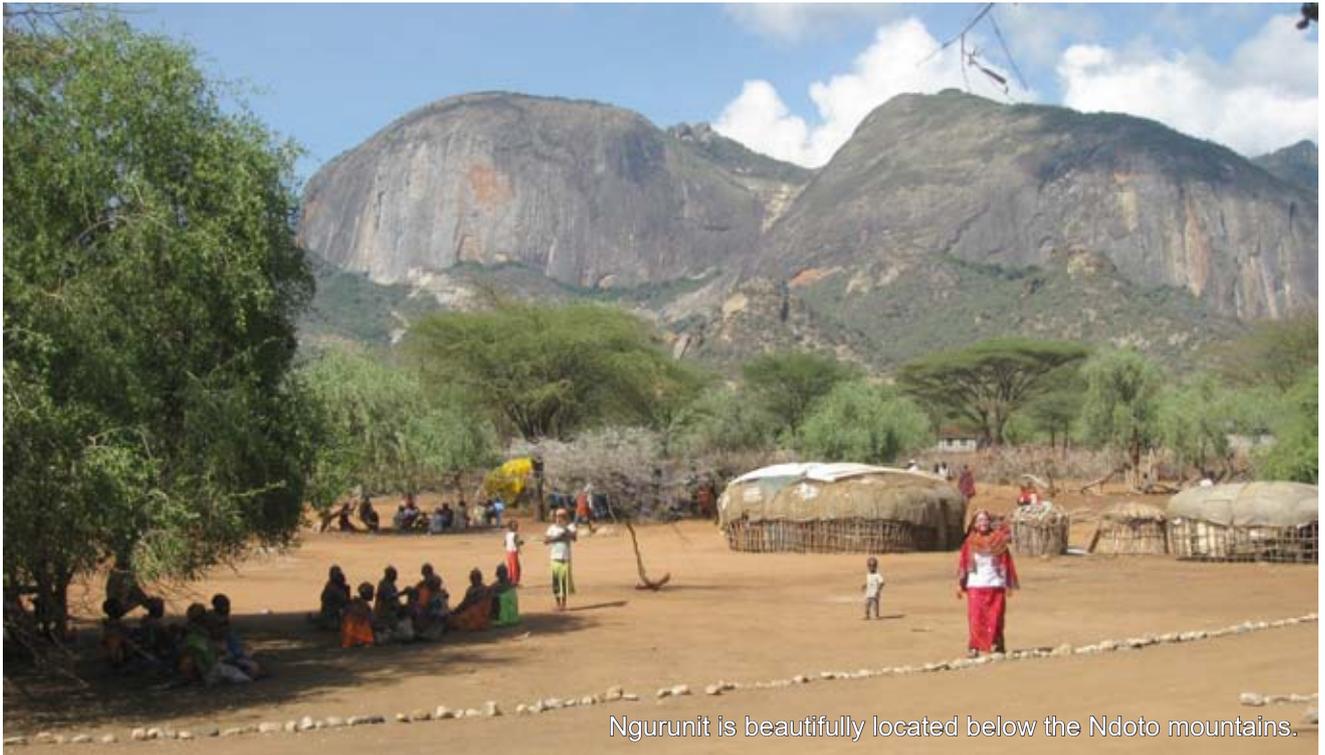
Bridging Ages Ngurunit conference 2014 will be a unique experience. Welcome!

Steven Labarakwe *Bridging Ages Northern Kenya, BANK*



A huge crowd in Ngurunit followed the performances in the cultural event by the river, June 2013.

”Education and Community Building”



Ngurunit is beautifully located below the Ndoto mountains.

Ngurunit, a unique place

Ngurunit is an exceptional place in the western part of Marsabit county, northern Kenya. It is surrounded by mountains and beautiful landscape scenery. The Samburu and Rendille live a traditional life at their manyattas (family homesteads) and in their daily activities. They bring their cattle, camels and goats to water holes and grazing land. The women build the huts, the children fetch water and firewood, the blacksmith makes knives and spear-heads for the village and in the night you will hear the morans (warriors), singing and dancing. The conference will for sure be a unique experience, one of its kind.

In the conference Time Travel, you will follow life in the manyatta and do the work of the women and men, and be prepared to take decisions for the future.

Conference rehearsal, June 2013

In June 2013, there was a three day workshop/event as a rehearsal for the conference. The program included a workshop in the project “Mathematics in the Historic Environment”. Also a Time Travel at a manyatta including cooking, milking, weaving, bow and arrow, fencing, smoking the guards, ceremonies and a lot of stories. Finally a full day cultural event with dancing, singing, competitions, performances and engaging events. The whole community was involved as well as teachers, students, BANK members, representatives from universities and museums in Kenya and Sweden. 120 persons took part in the Time Travel and almost one thousand people in the cultural event, a huge success.





Women learning Swedish through heritage making bread the traditional way...

NCK - The Nordic Centre of Heritage Learning and Creativity



NCK is a research and development centre located in Östersund, Sweden, working with learning through cultural heritage. The aim is to help cultural institutions such as museums, archives and galleries, how to use for instance artefacts, stories and documents to achieve social inclusion, lifelong learning and regional development. NCK started in 2005 as a project run by Jamtli (the regional museum), the State regional archives and the popular movements' archives.

Since January 2013 NCK is owned by cultural heritage institutions in the Nordic and Baltic countries, which makes the Nordic-Baltic perspective strong. NCK runs several Nordic projects, but is also involved in European projects.

In addition to the projects NCK also arranges a conference every year in February. In 2014 the conference will be held on the 5th and 6th of February on the theme "Take a stand!" It will be about the role of heritage institutions in their communities and as political actors – not as neutral agents delivering the "truth".

NCK also arranges courses, lectures and seminars and cooperate a lot with other actors. Together with the Association of Swedish Museums and three universities, a university course has been developed for museum staff to increase their competence when it comes to learning. The course consists of four parts and will start in the autumn of 2014. It is the result of an investigation made by NCK about learning in museums, where we found that many education officers have little formal education in the field of learning, and that there is a demand for further education at university level for them.

NCK is a small centre with large ambitions and plenty of things going on. It is a dynamic and creative centre which works with practical experiments, research and politics, with conferences, projects and learning. You will find us on www.nckultur.org or at www.facebook.com/nckultur



Anna Hansen *Managing Director*

Freedom and Identity - Time Travels in Lithuania



Writing welcome placards for the governor.

Historic surroundings next to us is the most effective teaching and learning resources and toolkits. Time Travel is not only the relation of contemporary society with the history, but it can also help to find meaning in everyday life for students, their teachers and other community members.

Vėžaičiai Manor 1888

When Historic Environment Education and Time Travels was proposed and demonstrated by Kalmar Iāns museum in Lithuania in November 2012, the Vėžaičiai Volmer mansion was the Time Travel object for the first creative workshop. Teachers from project schools together with Vėžaičiai Culture centre, Klaipeda district education centre and Gargzdai museum staff participated in a Time Travel to the year 1888. In May 2013, two groups of students from Dovilai and Vėžaičiai basic schools joined the event.

The goal was to reflect on the independence and identity of Lithuania and to increase civil courage and opposition in a peaceful way. All the participants dressed up in clothes of that time, got new names and played the appointed role of a servant, worker, foreman or the governor. They had to broom or rake the paths, make flower beds, make decorations, and prepare the complaints. Due to the Time Travel scenario it is an important day for all the people at Vėžaičiai manor because of the visit of The Governor. The workers and farm tenants were tired of all hard work and brutal regime. Today is their chance to bring the complaints to the highest authority – the Governor.

Comments from teachers, museum staff and students:

- "I've learned about teaching history in a different way.*
- "I liked the warm and collegial interaction of all participants.*
- "I have new ideas for teaching in the future and was charmed by touching to the historical events.*
- "I've realized how a museum can contribute to the education of students.*
- "I have learned much more about the historical period while "time travelling", because I lived in it myself: did the jobs, wore the clothes, sang the songs and was inside the problems of the time.*
- "This method allows children to look upon their immediate surroundings through "historical eyes".*

In the concluding meeting, where 18 teachers from 8 Klaipeda district schools participated, it was emphasized that history should be taught "from below" and it is very important to choose the historical site and significant story close to school and to formulate the key questions connecting today and the past. Though it needs a lot of preparation, the Time Travel method has great benefits, because it ensures good and new relations between teachers and students. The learners realize their responsibilities as individuals when they step into the shoes of a historical character.

Klaipeda district teachers are inspired to continue developing the Time Travel method presenting and discussing it at educational seminars for history teachers in the region. The Education Centre is engaged to make a continued project and apply for potential funding from the Nordic Council or EU fostering the method as a creative means of learning history.

Ramute Sirutiene Director Educational Centre, Klaipeda district, Lithuania



There were several complaints to the governor. Afterwards you wonder what happened to the complaints and to the tenants.

CreatLearn is a EU-project including educational and cultural institutions in Lithuania, Sweden, Germany and Denmark.

Bridging Ages

Applied History, Reflection on today's issues in the Time Travels

In what way can local history be applied in today's society? What are the benefits of local history for people and communities of today?

Those are the kind of questions that is explored in the Bridging Ages network organization. We believe that local communities could be developed using historical perspectives on current issues in society. Those issues can concern anything in the social, economic, educational or spiritual field. The key word in a Time Travel is reflection, reflection together with others, on freedom, identity, fear, differences, building a community, gender, employment, relations, power, discrimination, clashes, education or even about the right way to live in relation to others. One of the topics is chosen and the historical comparison you find at a local site and a story with similar matters. The expectation is that the reflection in the Time Travel starts a reaction today. What will we do to build communities, in the light of the historical experience? And how to do it together?



What is the proper way to live – my way – our way? Faith, love, justice, sharing...

When you do a Time Travel with school learners, any subject connected to life can be used, and that means all the school subjects.

Bridging Ages has agreed on 5 principles for Time Travels and Historic Environment Education:

1. Focus on local sites and the stories of the sites
2. Several perspectives, the general perspective is history from below
3. The use of Key Questions to connect today with the past
4. Interaction between community, schools, museums and others
5. A reflective dialogue in the Time Travels

Bridging Ages consists of people from schools, communities, museums, universities etc from more than 20 countries on four continents.

Bridging Ages National Conference in South Africa

15-17 October 2013

Port Shepstone, KwaZulu-Natal

“Time Travel and Community Building“

Host: Port Shepstone Twinning Association

Info: twinningbc@gmail.com

Welcome!

Editor: Helen Eklund (helen.eklund@kalmarlansmuseum.se) and Annina Ylikoski (annina.ylikoski@obotnia.fi)
Ebbe Westergren, Kalmar County Museum, Sweden - president of the Bridging Ages Organization.
ebbe.westergren@kalmarlansmuseum.se

Kalmar County Museum, Box 104, 391 21 Kalmar, Sweden. Tel: 00 46 480 45 13 45

Layout: Seija Nyberg, Kalmar County Museum

To be part of the mailing list, subscribe to the newsletter or send your contributions,
please e-mail ebbe.westergren@kalmarlansmuseum.se

Next newsletter December 2013

www.bridgingages.com