



# **GOTHENBURG HISTORY**

**PRESENTATIONS 2021  
IB20A**

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## Bergslagsbanans station house in Gothenburg



Bergslagsbanans station house (also known as the “White house”) was built during 1879–1881 for the Bergslagens Railroads (BJ) in Gothenburg. Commissioned by a pair of brothers called Axel och Hjalmar Kumlien, who were some of the most commissioned architects of the time. Axel Kumlien was also commissioned to draw all of the stations for the Company. The Axel Kumlien was specially educated in Germany and then later worked in the State Railway architectural office. All these different influences can be seen in his work.



GhmD:51928

After drawings were approved builder Philip Jacob Rapp was hired and built the two story house next to the Railway. The building was inaugurated on October 1st 1881, it became the track's representative and largest building on the Bergslagsbanan. (Svensson)

The station house was split into waiting areas for 1st, 2nd and 3rd class travelers as well as a restaurant. Other areas were built same with the time such as luggage delivery, vestibule (small foyer) and a ticket office in the middle of the building. Off of the right side of the middle there are two waiting rooms and to the left there are goods and staff rooms. On the second floor there were residential areas for railway employees also containing administrative areas. In 1906 the main staircase was changed. The corridor system in the main hall which connected the vestibule to the third class waiting area also received a counterpart in 1913. During this the ticket office was moved further back in the venue.



In the middle part there is a round arc marked by a station clock. (Linn)

In 1930 passenger traffic was changed to the Gothenburg Centralstation, the only thing that stayed by the Bergslagsbanans Station house was freight traffic. Since BJ (Bergslagernas Järnvägar) was a private Railway, in 1948 it became nationalized meaning it became state property. The station house then became an office space for SJ (Statens Järnvägar). In 2000 another company moved into the building and then in 2001 a complete





Ghmd:44776

the new building. (Sahlberg)

renovation was done of the building. Approximately 30 million SEK spent on modernizing some older parts, a lot of the smaller areas, facades and old murals were made to look like the original. While the conditions of the building were kept up to date for the new tenants.

Around the end of 2016 plans for a new Region house were being made. At this point the region of Västra Götaland owns the building, they were able to build an attachment building which is 15 stories high and uses the Station house as the entrance to

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### Images in order shown (From Carlotta):

First - 2005 showing the modern day building, without the new region's house.

Second - around 1901 showing the front of the building.

Third - 1890's opening and waiting for a big visit by the public.

Fourth - 1905 train stopped on the tracks by the bergslagsbanans station house with conductor and staff.

Fifth - 1920's shown the tracks behind the station house.

## Carlanderska



Carlanderska is a semi-private hospital today located in Central Gothenburg. Its purpose is to offer first class healthcare with more care and a more homelike environment than the rest of healthcare. The hospital has a very unique concept, and it is a mix between public and private healthcare. They cooperate with many different organizations, but it is managed by a foundation consisting of municipality officials. Carlanderska is not for-profit, but it tries to have an operating profit of around 5% to make investments possible. [1]

The idea for this hospital came from Sophiahemmet in Stockholm, and Christopher and Axel Carlander were behind it. They were supplied with an area of land on what was then the countryside, which had previously been used for executions by hanging. The building of the hospital was delayed due to the poor economy and the first world war, and 11 years after Christopher and Alexander submitted their ideas to the government, the hospital was finished in 1927.

In 2017 an additional wing was added to the hospital. It is 7000 square meters and contains amongst other things new operation rooms. This new wing was built where the original plans from 1920 said another wing should be built. [2] The addition is very interesting because it is true to the old style of architecture while also mixing in modernity. It is difficult to determine which parts of the buildings are original.

The original plans for Carlanderska were very ambitious and dreamy, as they modeled the hospital after castles such as Vadstena slott. This was a very expensive dream, and it was not possible, so the plans had to be adjusted. In the new remodel of 2017 the hospital gained many modern facilities, but the outside was still based on the original concept, just as it had in the 1920s when it was built. Carlanderska prides itself on its modernity, but also on its homelike environment. [3]

Something that is very interesting is how the architecture of the buildings are very similar to other buildings made around the same time.

The buildings are built in a nationalromantic style, with a lot of red bricks. Many other buildings constructed in the same time use the same materials, such as Nordhemsskolan and the buildings in the beginning of Gibraltargatan. These buildings were all constructed in the 1910s or 20s, at the same time as Carlanderska, highlighting a clear trend. This trend comes



from national romanticism which was very popular in the 1800s and 1900s, and it is also inspired by a lot of castles, and the hospital looks a lot like a castle. [4]

It is not a coincidence that the national romanticism is inspired by castles, as it came from ideas of dreaming of and looking back to old Sweden when it was a superpower. During this time, the Swedish national anthem was written and it remembers the height of the Swedish nation. The peak of national romanticism in Sweden is Skansen and Nationalmuseum in Stockholm and the Carl Larsson and Anders Zorn paintings. [5]

Image description: An image of Nordhemsskolan, with the same material as Carlanderska, red bricks.

Footnotes:

[1] <https://carlanderska.se/om-oss/#oversikt>

[2] [https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlanderska\\_sjukhuset](https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlanderska_sjukhuset)

[3] <https://carlanderska.se/om-oss/#historia>

[4] Interview with Johan Norén 23/5-2021 19:34

[5] <https://sv.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationalromantik>

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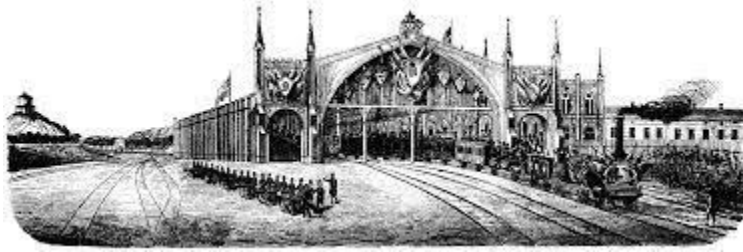
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# The Central Station



Central Station 1858

The Centralstation in Gothenburg is home to rail-bourne public transportation with over 27-million passengers passing through here. Up until the 1900s Central Station was called Järnvägstationen. Around 1830-1840 railroads were being built all over Europe. However, in Sweden they were hesitant regarding the costs. Nonetheless by 1850, the state decided to build a few pivotal railroads. Among other things, the Gothenburg-Stockholm

Between Göta Älv and the old country road, the first station building was built, only temporarily at first. In 1855 an acting station manager, a mechanical engineer, a stand in accountant, a ticket salesman and acting conductor moved here. In a house by Lilla Bommen the “Railway Bureau” was established with the manager, Colonel Nils Ericson as well as two engineers and multiple other people helped establish it. A total of 16 people were working on 3 buildings. Two tracks led into the railway yard and one led to Lilla Bommens harbor.

The central station was built on the remains of the bastion of Johannes Rex and an extension of the former city wall. Up until the 20th century the Central Station was called “Statens järnvägsstation”, so you were able to differentiate between the other three stations that existed. In 1923, the station was rebuilt and expanded. March of the same year, the Central Station was badly damaged by a fire. Which was very unfortunate being that the building had been previously renovated the same year.

In the early years the station was only used by the state-owned Västra-Stambanan. 1909 was when traffic from the just as stately Bohus line was directed there after the bridge over the Göta River was completed. Then, in 1930, passenger traffic was added for the Bergslagsbana, Boråsbanan and Väst kustbanan, which up until then had used the Bergslagsbanan station.

The station was once again expanded to accommodate new traffic between 1928 and 1920. Along with this a building was built which is known as “Yttre Hallen”, made to face the railway tracks. A design by Zettervall. The walls towards the platforms were then decorated with paintings by

Filip Månsson which illustrated railway lines that left from Gothenburg. Following this, there were many changes made including a restaurant that was expanded towards Drottningtorget. <sup>1</sup>

Previously, there was a locomotive shed at the station, this is currently not there anymore and the locomotive station is instead in Sävenäs. According to “Det Gamla Göteborg”(2017), in the 19th century, a million Swedes passed the building on their way to the port and on to America. <sup>2</sup>

Today, Central Station has 16 tracks that end at the building, this is known as a “sack station” which means that all trains that are to continue from that point must turn after they have stopped in Gothenburg.

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## Dicksonska Folkbiblioteket



Dicksonska Folkbiblioteket is the precursor to the largest library in Gothenburg, what is now known as the Gothenburg City Library. It was founded in 1861 by a dean (head of a church) named Peter Wieselgren, funded by donations from James Dickson. Dickson was a logging merchant by trade, which is how he became wealthy. However, he was a philanthropist at heart, which led to his generous donations to the library. The first location of the library was an apartment on Haga Östergata and the library began with 1138 books. The placement of the library was deliberate. Haga was known as an area that housed many working people (it was the first suburb of Gothenburg), and Dickson wanted to help those people further their education and enjoy reading for free. The original library had two sections, one which contained books to be borrowed, and the other which contained books to be read in the library. The library was an immediate success and within a few years had a collection of over 3000 books. (3)



By 1897, the library had amassed so many books that they no longer fit in the apartment on Haga Östergata. The library was therefore moved to a building on Södra Allégatan, which is the building that is known as the building that housed the library. It is a building from the early 1890's, designed by the architect Hans Hedlund. It has two floors, as well as a cellar and attic. Once they moved location, it became even more important to

the people running the library that it was accessible for all types of people, including women and children. However, when the library first moved, the reading room was still only open to men, and it had to be silent in there at all times. Also when the library first moved, the guidelines for how to look after a library book were solidified. They stated to 'Be careful with the book, it is a good friend to you, and gives you knowledge. Therefore, you must not touch a book with dirty hands, or wet your fingers when you turn the pages. You must not rub the dust

jacket against the edge of the book, write or draw in it, point at the pictures or fold the corner of the pages. You must not crack the spine, or put an object in between the book's pages'. (3,4)

Over the seventy years that the library was in the building on Södra Allégatan, modifications were made to it to keep it modern. The first major change was the reading room for women that was created in the cellar. This was to keep with the library's policy of that all people should have access to the books in the library. In the 1930's, the inside of the building was redesigned by the son of the original architect, Björner Hedlund. The attic was repurposed to become a book shop, and the apartments that had previously been in the building were turned into work/study rooms. A children's section was also added around this time. These changes allowed the library to keep adding books to their collection, as well as reach more people. (3,4)

In 1950, the library was taken over by Gothenburg City. It remained in the building on Södra Allégatan until 1967, when it became the Gothenburg City Library and moved to the current library building at Götaplatsen. The current Gothenburg City Library has around 300 000 books in it's system, as well as other types of media. The building Södra Allégatan that the library called home for 70 years is now used for cultural activities, both for adults and children, and is known as Allégården. (3,4)

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# Gustavi Domkyrka

Domkyrkan is a church situated in central Gothenburg designed by Carl Wilhelm Carlberg. The first domkyrka known as Brädekyrkan, took its place in the very same site and was inaugurated in 1633. Domkyrkan has been reconstructed three individual times, twice due to being burnt down and the first was the church mentioned above, Brädekyrkan. In 1627 an announcement was published for a new cathedral to be built on the same site as the temporary church. The king at the time, Gustavus Adolphus, created a tax to help pay for the construction requesting resources from other properties and lands owned by the Church; the request and price for more money and resources increased as time went on.<sup>1</sup>

The church burnt down for the first time in 1721 and the second church burnt down just 90 years later along with 179 other properties. The church that is currently standing was inaugurated on “Trefaldighets Dag” on the 30th of May. This day is the Trinity day. The most recent and current renovation of the cathedral was in 1802 when the Cathedral burnt down for the second time, this was when architect Carl Wilhelm Carlberg designed the current cathedral, however he passed away during the process and his pupil had to take over the design, Justus Frederick Weinberg. It is said that he never participated in the inauguration of the cathedral he helped finish. In the second fire in 1802 they managed to rescue two large angel sculptures. The first altar in Domkyrkan was donated by King Gustav Adolf II and was supposed to have come from a church in Poland. In the church itself there are six different church bells. Four bigger ones and two smaller ones. Altogether they weigh 13 tonnes (thirteen kilograms). The largest amount of church bells in an individual Church tower in all of Sweden.<sup>2</sup>

The purpose of Domkyrkan was to be a Parish Church<sup>3</sup>, the head church and gathering place for a parish and its religious activities as well as organisations, recitals, funerals and hostings. The cathedral was renovated several times to help make it more accessible and also to replace the floorings and keep the interior well maintained.

In the past years the area around the cathedral was a cemetery where local “göteborgare” would be laid to rest. At the back of the cathedral, on the wall, there is a silver plate in which is engraved:

*“DOMKYRKOPLANEN ÄR REDAN SEKLER KYRKOGÅRD. HÄR VILAR STOFTET AV TJUGO TUSEN DÖDA.”*<sup>4</sup>

In English the translation would be:

*“DOMKYRKOPLANEN HAS FOR CENTURIES BEEN A CEMETERY. HERE RESTS THE DUST OF TWENTY THOUSAND DEAD.”*

Over the years there have been several archeologists taking tests on the cathedral to help with installments such as the elevator and the staircase, in this process they have found old murals and artifacts from the past<sup>5</sup>. Nowadays Domkyrkan can be visited and has mass and concerts that are held there. It is also located around the central part of Gothenburg for shopping and is easily accessed by tourists. The entrance is also wheelchair friendly and the area around the church is well maintained. Outside of the fenced area you can see stone blocks on the

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia (Gothenburg Cathedral)

<sup>2</sup> Kyrkoguider (Gbg Stadsmuseum)

<sup>3</sup> Wikipedia (Parish Church)

<sup>4</sup> Wikipedia (Gothenburg Cathedral)

<sup>5</sup> Samlingar Göteborgs Stadsmuseum

flooring that are labeled with names of people or places, possibly the continuation of the cemetery. Domkyrkan is definitely a hotspot for tourists and visitors as well as those who are shopping and want to take a look around. The architecture adds to the charm.

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\* Both pictures were taken Tuesday 18th May 2021.

It all started in the 17th century. Like all other cities, the new fortified city of Gothenburg needed a meeting and trading place, and just like in many other cities, a square was prepared for all types of trade - Stora Torget. We also recognize this square arrangement from our neighboring towns Alingsås, Kungsbacka and Kungälv.

In Vallgraven below the German Church, fish trade was initially conducted from a fishing fleet. Fishing has always been an important part of Gothenburg's history.

When Börshuset was planned - now it had become the 19th century - the city's rulers wanted to tidy up the square and it was also thought that it was appropriate that Stora Torget should be decorated with a statue of the city's founder, Gustav II Adolf. This decision was preceded by some discussions because a beautification would also mean that trade would be forced to move from Stora Torget. There were traders in the neighborhood around the square, who financially contributed to the beautification of the square, but who then realized that commerce for their part would decrease when part of the market trade would disappear.

The general beautification was the end of much of the lively market trade. For that reason, two new squares were prepared, partly Nya Torget near the former Kungsporten, and partly Fisktorget by the Rosenlund Canal, which is today's continued main subject.

The fish trade thus took place in the bazaar building, but mainly by the squares and along the quay. There is every reason to suspect that the then possible health care board at the time had different regulations than its current colleagues.

The message was clear. Gothenburg needed a fish hall and the money could easily be taken from the so-called Renström fund. Göteborgs Fiskhall was completed on November 1, 1874. This means that Feskekörka will turn an impressive 147 years old this autumn. The building's characteristic appearance was created by the architect Victor von Gegerfelt who has also designed other famous buildings in Gothenburg, such as the Social House and the Valand Academy of the Arts. Over the years, Feskekörka has developed into Gothenburg's leading place for the sale of seafood. However, during Fiskhallen's earliest years, it was a bit difficult to rent out all the sales tables. The reason for this was that fish sales were also going on in the square and along the quay. This changed, however, when from 1 April 1885 it was forbidden to sell fish directly from the boats. This led to the construction of more tables and a bigger hall.

In connection with the rebuilding, the sign had also changed and now it was clear and distinctive Feskekörka with large copper letters above the gates. The name comes from the fact that the architecture resembles a church. With the name Feskekörka on the façade, some people probably started thinking about using the premises for a wedding and already on October 24, 1970, the first wedding took place in the hall.

In 2013, Feskekörka officially became a listed building with the slogan "Feskekörka in the heart of Gothenburg". In its decision, the County Administrative Board emphasizes on, among other things, the building's distinctive architectural expression, its important role in the cityscape by the quay and its function as an iconic symbol of the city of Gothenburg.

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## Fruntimmersföreningens flickskola



In 1818 at Chalmers gatan 7, the private Fruntimmersföreningens flickskola/The Ladies Association's Girls School, was brought from the earlier settled Pension institution for poor girls. The Pension institution for poor girls, later called the Association of Ladies, was a free-of-charge school. Its purpose was to aid girls whose families had suffered from the economic devastation after the economic prosperity of the blockade induced by Napoleon. Fruntimmersföreningen aimed to create a low-charged, free girls' school to help girls gain independence with the guidance of education. It was one of five schools in Sweden to provide academic secondary education to females. It was also the oldest girls' school in Sweden at the time. Later in 1912, a total of eight classes were under the school. The ladies Association's girls' school was now sufficient enough to follow the competence of any other school. However, in 1938, the school was disestablished by the Governor along with three other private girls schools:

- The Lyceum for girls in Gothenburg
- Mathilda Halls Girls School - where Swedish author and poet Karin Boye had studied
- and the Vasa girls school

They were brought down to create *one* single public girl's school, the Vasas public Girls School. Yet, this new school would also get disestablished in the year 1945 as the estate turned out to be lacking space and modernity. Nowadays its estate is used by Bernadottegymnasiet. And at Chalmersgatan 7 stand apartments for the citizens of Gothenburg. .

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picture taken from [Gamlagöteborg.se](http://gamlagoteborg.se)



# Gamla Fattighuset



In 1704 David Amija and Hans Cooperman built a fabric factory along Fattighusån<sup>1</sup> (then *Gullbergs Gräfte Canal*<sup>2</sup>) in Stampen, Gothenburg. The fabric factory was only active until 1726, when the owners died<sup>3</sup> and the area was sold to the city of Gothenburg. The city set the building up as a poorhouse. In the area there were several other facilities of similar use (Wallins Fattigfriskola, an orphanage and a women's prison).<sup>4</sup> The original building no longer exists as a new poorhouse was built in 1767, designed by the city architect Bengt Wilhelm Carlberg. He also designed a small church adjacent to the house.<sup>5</sup> The main house was built in Karolinian style<sup>6</sup> and is the oldest wood house in Gothenburg.<sup>7</sup> The wooden church was replaced by one of stone in 1815.<sup>8</sup>

In 1806 a new poorhouse was opened on Smedjegatan<sup>9</sup>. This led to a large part of the house's approximately 200 inhabitants to move. Those who stayed consisted largely of the newly poor, those who had been rich but lost their money.<sup>10</sup> In 1818 the official purpose of the house was changed from poorhouse to "*ett hem huvudsakligen för fattiga ur borgarklassen*" ("a home mainly for the poor of the bourgeoisie")<sup>11</sup>. The house was a poorhouse until 1892<sup>12</sup>, at this point most of its inhabitants were older<sup>13</sup> and many of them were suffering from lung disease<sup>14</sup>. It transformed seamlessly into a recovery home for the lungsick and maintained this purpose for some years during the early 1900s. In 1928 it was converted into a dispensary, a place where

<sup>1</sup> <https://gamlagoteborg.se/2017/07/17/en-guide-till-goteborgs-stadsdelar-stampen/>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www4.sprakochfolkminnen.se/NAU/bilder/\\_s2ox001/222110c1/p2/0000063a.pdf](http://www4.sprakochfolkminnen.se/NAU/bilder/_s2ox001/222110c1/p2/0000063a.pdf)

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.higab.se/fastigheter/mariagarden/>

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people who did not have access to or need for a hospital could go for medical advice and free medication.

In 1968 the house was declared a *byggnadsminne*<sup>15</sup> (“*En byggnad som har ett synnerligen högt kulturhistoriskt värde eller som ingår i ett bebyggelseområde med ett synnerligen högt kulturhistoriskt värde kan skyddas som byggnadsminne.*” = “A building that has an extremely high cultural-historical value or that is part of a built-up area with an extremely high cultural-historical value can be protected as a *byggnadsminne*”).<sup>16</sup>

The dispensary inhabited the house until 1974 when it was rented out to *domkyrkoförsamlingen* (the Gothenburg Cathedral Parish). Its name was then changed to Mariagården, the name it still bears.<sup>17</sup> Since 1991 it has been part of Higab, a company owned by the city of Gothenburg. Today it is used as a church hall<sup>18</sup> and office space.<sup>19</sup>

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# Gamla Ullevi



Have you ever walked past Ullevi, read the signs and wondered, why is there one called New Ullevi and one old ullevi? Is the old ullevi actually the original?

The stadium Gamla Ullevi was drawn by the architect Hjalmar Zetterström while the main bleachers were drawn by the architect Karl M. Bengtson. It was inaugurated the 17th of september 1916 and was demolished 9th of january 2007. This is a hint at it not being the same one we have today.

Where did the name Gamla ullevi originally come from?

At first the stadium was called “Ullervi fotbollsbanan”. This was because of the Old Norse god called Ull and the word “vi” which means holy place, place of sacrifice or place of worship, but where did the R in Ullervi come from?

The r was added so that the word would be easier to pronounce but when the professor in nordic languages, Hjalmar Lindroth started to pressure them to remove it they decided to remove the r.

It kept this Ullevi name until 1958 when the new ullevi was built and they had to change the name to Gamla Ullevi or Old Ullevi.

In 1934 the stadium had 600 seating places and an extra south part with 300 seats and 21 800 standing places. 17th of May 1934 they decided to build new bleachers that were inaugurated april 22nd 1935 and in front of the bleachers they added 4800 standing spots.

The stadium had a capacity of 15 thousand to 18 thousand people and in 1957 the attendance record was achieved when approximately 32 thousand people watched a division 2 match between ÖIS and Elfsborg.

A fun fact is that in december 1954 a man made ice rink was inaugurated behind the standing spot bleachers on the east side of the stadium. It was the second one in the whole of Sweden and because of this, in 1956 Gothenburg got its first ice hockey team for "allsvenskan" called GAIS.

After the demolition of the stadium in 2007 they decided to make a new one at the same place which opened in 2009 and also got to go by the name Gamla Ullevi.

From this we can conclude that the stadium that you can go to today named Gamla Ullevi, is not the original Ullevi. It is the newest of them all.

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# Götaplatsen

Götaplatsen is a public square at the southern end of Avenyn, the main boulevard in Gothenburg. Which is about 450 meters away from our school. The square was inaugurated when Gothenburg held a major international industrial exhibition, 1923, celebrating the city's 300th anniversary.<sup>1</sup>

Götaplatsen is Gothenburg's cultural hub, enclosed by the Gothenburg Concert Hall , the Gothenburg Museum of Art, the Gothenburg City Theatre and the City Library. This means that you'll have plenty of more things to explore once you reach Götaplatsen.

The City Library is Gothenburg's most popular cultural institution. You can borrow books, dvds, music, magazines, play video games, read newspapers there. There are hundreds of programs throughout the year as well, such as author events, poetry circles, creative writing courses, theater and film showings – all for free.<sup>2</sup>

Besides the City Library, the other three buildings surrounding the square were all built in the 20th century and have their own characteristics. The Gothenburg Museum of art, designed by Sigfrid Ericson, is perhaps most famous of the three thanks to the majestic steps leading up to the building and its monumental pillars. The view from the museum is truly something special – with Poseidon in the foreground and Avenyn stretching out in the background it has become an icon for the city.<sup>3</sup>

Gothenburg Concert Hall was built in 1935. A large number of world famous musicians, orchestras and conductors have shared their love of music in the Concert Hall over the years.<sup>4</sup>

The Gothenburg City Theatre is now closed for rebuilding and renovation. When the house reopens , there will be a new restaurant, a more accessible Lilla Scen (the smallest stage in the theatre) and a box office restored to its original appearance. The rebuilding and renovation are done carefully with great consideration for the building's cultural and historical heritage. During the renovations a few plays were presented, but in other locations in Gothenburg.<sup>5</sup>

At the centre of the square presides over the Poseidon statue by Carl Milles—the statue has become one of the symbols of the city. On the city's annual culture festival different Swedish musical artists usually perform free at the square, bands like Hardcore Superstar, Mustasch and Teddybears have all performed at this occasion.

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# Hotel Eggers



Hotel Eggers is one of Sweden's oldest hotels that is still in business today. It stands right beside *Gothenburg Central Station* and is in fact built upon the ruins of an old fortification called *Johannes Rex*. The hotel first opened in 1859 as a railway hotel then later switched name to *Hotel Christiania*. In 1883 the hotel was owned by Emil Eggers who modernized the hotel, likening it to the great, fashionable hotels in Europe, and gave the hotel its modern name. At that time it held Gothenburg's first elevator and housed many luxurious modernities such as electric lighting and telephones in every room.

Hotel Eggers has a very interesting history. In 1886, *Konstnärsförbundet*, a new organization of artists, was formed in a hotel room in Hotel Eggers as a protest against the conservative Art Academy in Stockholm. During the Russian Revolutions in 1917 many refugees sought a temporary home in the hotel. And it is said that during the Second World War Hotel Eggers was an important meeting place for agents and spies in the war.

In later years the Hotel has had to fight hard to save the building from being demolished, as its central position in Gothenburg is valuable to the city.

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# Hvitfeldtska Gymnasiet

In 1647, 26 years after Gothenburg was declared its own independent city, Gothenburg's first high school opened as Göteborgs gymnasium. The purpose behind the opening of the high school was to serve as a continuation school for the students at the Trivial school. The first building was located on Domkyrkoplan and was made entirely out of wood. Many priests were educated in Göteborgs gymnasium. Hvitfeldtska is a known school for how many different languages they teach today and that goes back to the 1600s, when they first opened. Latin was one of the most important classes taught, they were supposed to use it at all times. As the years went by they taught more and more languages, such as greek and hewbrew. The modern languages came to Hvitfeldtska in the 1700s. Other than languages theology was also a very crucial class, because of all the future priests they were trying to educate. Other classes that were taught at the time were history and some geography. <sup>1</sup>

In 1823 they relocated to Ostindiska Kompaniets hus which is today known as stadshuset. With only 4 classrooms they stayed there for 3 years while they were renovating new premises at Västra Hamngatan. 1862 they relocated again to Hvitfeldtsplatsen which is now a part of the Teachers university. In the mid-1800s, there were two different programs you could take in high school, "Reallinjen" and "Latinlinjen." The Latin program, which was the study of mainly Latin even though it wasn't as much used at the time as in the 1600s. The real program was considered the modern program at the time. In 1882, real linjen was removed from Hvitfeldtska and therefore the school got the name Göteborgs Högre Latinläroverk. The program was moved to Göteborgs Tre Klassiga Elementarläroverk which then changed name to Göteborgs högre Realläroverk, which we today know as Schillerska. <sup>2</sup>

The last relocation to be made was made in 1919 to its current location in Lorensberg. For about 300 years the school was mostly taught to males but in 1964 females were allowed to join the school. 2 years later they changed the school's name from Hvitfeldtskas Högre Allmänna läroverket to its current name Hvitfeldtska gymnasiet. The school was named Hvitfeldtska in honour of Mrs Margereta Hvitfeldt. In the late 1600s she donated her fortune to schools in Bohuslän for the education of boys after her son died. Hvitfeldtska was one of the schools that were lucky enough to get some of the donations and is the reason it has been able to develop into what it is today. In the 1970s the school system changed into something that is more similar to the one we have today. In 1989 Hvitfeldtska opened their IB program. The student union which was formed in 2008, was the last piece of the puzzle that created the modern day Hvitfeldtska as we know it today. <sup>3</sup>

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GhmB:18029

ca 1930–1945

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## **Järntorget. Gothenburg.**

One of the beautiful places with historic significance in Gothenburg is Järntorget. It is a square in Gothenburg located near the central part of the city, neighbouring other older parts of the city like Majörna and Linne. The square got the name it has now in 1867.

From Swedish Järntorget is translated as the Iron Square. Iron was one of the main Swedish exports, and Gothenburg was the harbour which was used to transport it further by merchants[2]. Järntorget was the place where the iron was brought from the neighbouring province Värmland. In the middle of the square stood a scale which was used to weigh the iron. Customers would visit this marketplace to bid on iron. Main exporters were England and Germany. [1]

Today, the scale is not there anymore, but close to where it was located, a fountain as The Five Continents ("De fem världsdelarna"). There are five bronze women statues on the corners of the fountain symbolizing five continents: Africa, Asia, America, Europe, Oceania. Each symbol has something which would relate to the continent, for example a woman symbolizing America would have a Statue of Liberty in its hand. These statues and the fountain were the work of Swedish sculptor Tore Strindberg. [2]

Järntorget also is a hub for public transport. A lot of trams and busses pass through this square. The Linnegatan boulevards start from this square, as well as 4 "Long" streets. Those streets have numerous cafes, shops and restaurants. There is also an old neighborhood Haga within walking distance with parks and cafes.

Järntorget is a place of the city's labour movement. A 'Folkets hus' or a workers association house is located on the square. It was built and updated between 1948 and 1952 and even prime minister at the time Tage Erlander officially opened it. Later on, Draken, a cinema which is currently for example in Gothenburg Cinema Festival was added at the east side of the building. [3]

Nowadays Järntorget is a place with lots of cafes and shops. People can meet each other and spend time in companies. There are several beautiful Japanese cherry trees and every Spring they blossom and make happy every person who goes through this place.

When I first came to Gothenburg I used to go past Järntorget almost every day, so I knew about it for a long time. I really like this place because it is multifunctional and very beautiful.

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# Kronhuset



Kronhuset is located in Central Gothenburg. The large, 6 story tall building was designed by the royal architect Simon de la Vallé in 1642-1654 during two stages. The first stage was directed by the Mayor's son: Hansson Swart who came from Lödöse. Originally the building was made of bricks that were imported from Holland.

In 1643 the building had only one story and the construction was unfortunately halted due to a lack of money. Then in 1648 the construction was picked up by Johan Wårnschiöldh who decided to use Swedish bricks instead of the former Dutch ones. The building itself is heavily inspired by Holland. It was originally a more complex design, but was simplified for cost reasons.

The original purpose of the house was to store military equipment such as weapons, uniforms, canons, vehicles and even grains. This was decided by the "Krigskollegiet" in Stockholm. In January of 1660 the building peaked an interest in the King at the time Karl X. He decided that the bottom floor was to be used as a parliament or "riksdag". The story was fully equipped with benches, black fabric and everything needed for a parliament building. Soon after Karl X died and his 4 year old son Karl XI was pronounced king in that same parliament. In the big fire that effected nearly the entire town, most buildings were burned down easily because of their wooden properties. Almost everything but Kronhuset was burnt. The Kronhusbodarna were unfortunately destroyed after the large fire but were later replaced with more reliable stone materials. These smaller houses were used for workshops, storage and more. After 1970 they began to be used as cafés, workshops, shops and offices.

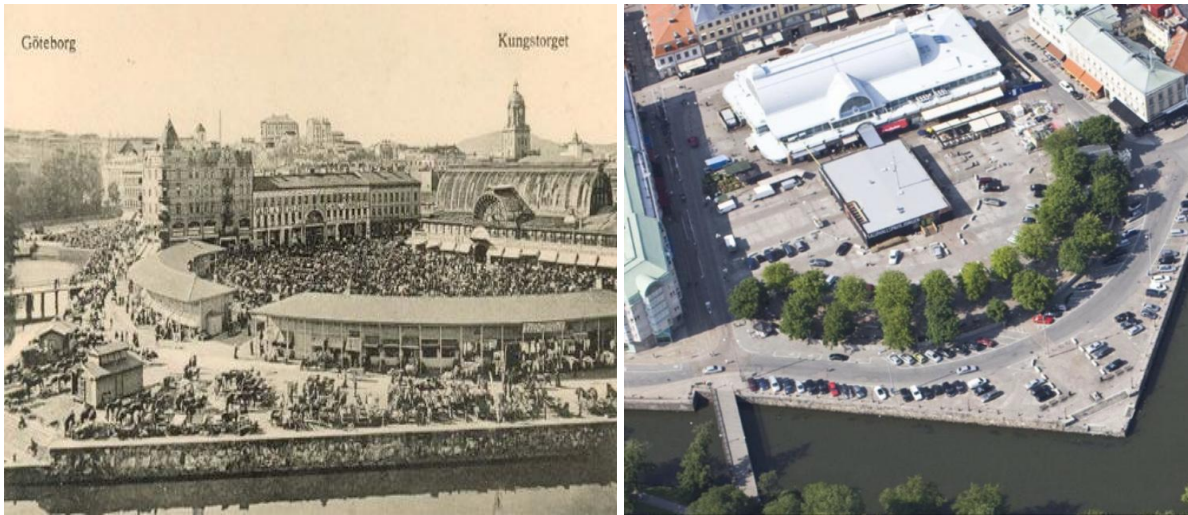
For the 300th year anniversary of King Karl X's death a temporary museum was installed in the Kronhuset. Since the 1920's the Göteborg Wind Orchestra has rented part of the building for concerts and rehearsals.

To summarize Kronhuset has been multi-functional and has benefited the people of Gothenburg in many ways. The architectural design was sturdy and durable enough for the building to survive an awful fire and be Gothenburgs oldest non-habitated building.

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## Kungstorget

Kungstorget is a square within Vallgraven in central Gothenburg . By the square is Gothenburg's largest and oldest market hall , Stora Saluhallen , inaugurated in 1889. The square has always been a market square and in 2006 there was a vegetable market every weekday.

Kungstorget, also Salutorget (1871), is not one of the original squares in Gothenburg's city plan, and was not built until 1847 after the city's fortifications were demolished. The magistrate made the name in 1852 .

When the bastion Johannes Dux and the ramparts were demolished around 1807, an area that was first used for trade in timber and timber was liberated and was then called Trädtorget. (Remains of the bastion can be seen by the way if you go to the Biopalace). This became the site of the new market square in central Gothenburg.

After the fortifications and ramparts had begun in 1807 , the square was used fairly immediately as a marketplace for timber or timber and therefore went by the name Trädtorget (1811 and 1846), Nya Torget is also an old name (1857). Thereafter, the area remained empty until the city laid out Södra Larmgatan.

A square was planned that stretched from Larmgatan down over the triangular area at Vallgraven. At the bottom towards Vallgraven, Basargatan was drawn in a semicircle, so that the large square area was separated from the street and Vallgraven with a semicircular elevation. In 1850 , semicircular bazaar lengths were built at the southern part of the square, in which there were 76. shops, which were mainly owned by weavers from Mark's district. In order to ensure a better hygienic environment from a food point of view, the Bazar Alliance was built in 1888 with its glass-covered yard. At most, the square had 650 places for trade. On November 21, 1966, the demolition of Kungstorg Basaren began.

Trädtorget, as Kungstorget was first called, became Gothenburg's new market square when the market trade was moved from Gustaf Adolfs square. The bazaar lengths were built in 1850 of wood and brick. They ran in an arc along the canal with 76 shops facing in two

directions. The bazaars were constructed as early as 1912 but were not demolished until 1966. A market was held here every Wednesday and Saturday, three times a year there were also special market days: the spring fair on 16 April, the Lars fair on 10 August and the Matts fair on 21 September.

Until the middle of the 1870s , Kungstorget was the city's only market square.

Kungstorget is also known due to the week-long occupation in November 1976 , when it was occupied by a large number of environmental activists who opposed the parking garage that was to be built under the square. Finally, the politicians agreed and stopped these plans.

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# Lilla torget.

## History:

Lilla Torget is the entrance square to Stora Hamnkanalen in the Inom Wallgraven area in the center of Gothenburg. It was first mentioned under this name in 1706 after being previously called Fisk Torgett 1621-1639. The square was part of the first quarter of Gothenburg, the exit from which was in the port of Kung Karls. The area was measured in 1900 at 1110 square meters.

The oldest fish market was at Lille Torget, and there was a larger raft called Fiskebriggan. Every year a large fish market was held here in Larsmassan. In 1671 the enterprise and the raft were moved to Stora Bommen, and about 1730 years to Stora Hamnkanalen, on the embankment near Stora Torget (now Gustav Adolf's bargaining), first on the east side, and on the outside of the river. At that time, these areas were called the fishing embankment.

Fish sales also took place directly from a boat in the Fishermen's Archipelago and from a large raft called the Flotten or Fiskeflotten. This raft consisted of four barges connected by planks (the so-called boardwalk) and served for over thirty years. In April 1811, a new raft was built.

During the big fire on November 1, 1804, wooden houses around the square, as well as beautiful trees along the canal burned down. After that, only stone houses were built.

On May 21, 1849, in connection with the transformation of Gustav Adolphus Square into a ceremonial square, the sale, and the raft were moved to the Rosenlund Canal and to a place that also became known as Fisktorget. Feskekorka was built here in 1874.

In 1877, a pedestrian path was laid across the square from Vastra Hamngatan to Veikska khus.

In the 1880s, the area was rented out to sell cars.

## Interesting facts/ rumors:

Lilla Torget was also called Möbel - och Trätorget, in honor of the trade-in special furniture from Lindom that took place here from the late 18th century until 1857, when it was moved to Yartorget. On the square, which is popularly called "Pigtorget", they agreed with this and come to the city in search of work.

In the center of Lilla Torget stands a four-meter statue of Jonas Alströmer, which was inaugurated by Governor Gustav Lagerbring on 28 December 1905. The creator of the statue is John Borieson, and Torben Groot built a pedestal of red granite. Over time, the statue was surrounded by more and more parking lots, hence the nickname "valet".

**Lilla Torget 1** is a home filled with Gothenburg history, traces of a powerful merchant family of the old days, and not least fantastic architecture.

It is actually called Wijkska huset in honor of Olof Wijk, a wholesaler who built his trading palace here in the mid-19th century after the buildings that had laid here before were burned down in the great fire in Gothenburg in 1804.

The architects were Viktor von Gegerfelt and Adolf Wilhelm Edelsward. von Gegerfelt was a city architect and also designed, among others, the Feskekorka and parts of the Salgrenska. Later, Edelsward painted many of the Swedish train station buildings and several churches. It

is clear that they both liked the magnificent New Renaissance rooms that were in use at the time. The impression will be symmetrical and representative with columns, decorations, and friezes of stone and plaster.

The two lower floors of the Weik House have been transformed into warehouses and rustic-style offices. Upstairs, the family lived on two front floors. One for social life, one for family life. Servants lived upstairs. The Weik House also has a spectacular domed corner tower. In the 19th century, Lilla Torget was a bustling trading place for everything from fish and vegetables to timber and vehicles, and Wijk probably wanted to cement his position in Gothenburg's trade with a house that stood out from the cityscape.

In the late 1920s, the house was sold and converted into an office and a restaurant. Most of the old interior has been torn out. The Wake family's large room has been transformed into a smaller office, another floor has been added to the house, and the corner tower with a dome has become round and flat. But the interior still has many details, such as parquet floors and stucco moldings. Details that have now re-emerged when a house is once again a perfect place for communication and family life, just like in the days of Wijk.



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# Liseberg

Why is Liseberg considered important when discussing Gothenburg history?

Liseberg is one of Gothenburg's and Sweden's most interesting places to visit. It has been the biggest amusement park in Scandinavia since 1923 and is still rapidly growing in both size and popularity, having 3 million people visiting each year. <sup>1</sup>

Before Liseberg was owned by Liseberg AB it was Johan Anders Lamberg's property. The name Liseberg actually comes from him. Johan's wife was Elizabeth but he called her Lisa. He named the hill on the property Lisa's berg, which later turned into Liseberg. Before 1923 on the 8th of May the park had never been opened to the public. It was opened to celebrate Sweden becoming 300 years old, however due to the park's success it stayed open to the public. In 1924 the Gothenburg city council decided to buy the property from Johan. Later in 1925 the park was handed over to Liseberg AB and they made Herman Lindholm the manager of the park. Herman was manager from 1925- 1942 and was responsible for Liseberg's success in the 30s. He introduced Veckans revy which was very popular and it wasn't cancelled until 1982. <sup>2</sup>

From the 1940-1960 a lot had been added to the park such as Rondo the dance palace, Liseberg hotel and Liseberg theatre. However, it took a while before they started adding many attractions. There was a 40 year gap between the construction of the first and second rollercoaster. In the 1970s, however, Liseberg started adding more rides. This was mostly due to Liseberg celebrating 50 years since opening. Flume ride was added and became the most popular attraction with 732 000 people going on it. Later in 1980 Lisebergbanan and Rainbow were added, however, Rainbow had to be taken away due to an accident it had in 2008. During the 1990s the park added 5 new attractions: Drakbåtarna, Kållerado, Hangover, Uppskjutet and Lisebergstornet which was later made into Atmosphere one of the most well liked attractions still to this day. Even though a lot of attractions were added in the 1990s it was nothing compared to the amount that was added from 2000-2015. 31 attractions were added, however the park's most popular attractions have been added in the last 7 years for example Helix, Valkyria, Spin rock and Loke. In 2020 and in 2021 Liseberg was forced to close due to the Corona pandemic, it was the first time in 97 years that the amusement park was closed for an entire season. This has affected the park immensely economically and they are happy to be opening up again on June 3rd. <sup>3</sup>

Even though Liseberg is very popular and considered safe, there have been plenty of mistakes and a few accidents during the years. The worst accident was in 1957, the worker controlling the brakes on the ride Bergbanan simply forgot to turn on the brakes on one of the carts. The two brothers on the ride died and the worker was sentenced to prison. There have been a few more deaths at the park however none of them were caused by malfunctioning rides they

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<sup>1</sup> Liseberg.se, Liseberg.com

<sup>2</sup> Herman Lindholm wikipedia, Liseberg wikipedia

<sup>3</sup> Liseberg wikipedia

were simply due to clumsiness. There hasn't been a death at the park since 1957 but there have been plenty of injuries the latest one being in 2008. I myself have actually been on one malfunctioning ride. The ride's name is *Mechanica*. On this particular ride you get spun around 360 degrees 30m up in the air. When I was on the ride the brakes stopped working which led to the ride having to just slowly stop spinning and swinging. After about 20 minutes it finally came to a full stop. No one was injured but a few people did experience motion sickness.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Gp.se, Liseberg Wikipedia



# MASTHUGGSTORGET

Masthuggstorget, a square located in the district of Masthugget, and 300 meters south of Göta älv. named in 1769.

The area was a center for Timber Sales in the early 17th century, and especially the manufacturing of Ship Masts, it is where the name “Masthugget” comes from. Although the name Sänkverkstorget was also mentioned for a little while, it refers to a shipyard, which was later moved in the late 19th century, the street Sänkverksgatan still exists.

The designer of the Square was Carl Wilhelm Carlberg, a Swedish architect, and Gothenburg’s first city architect.



Masthuggstorget in 1777.

Masthuggstorget became a market square in late 1877. It is estimated to have cost over 20,000 SEK, and began after the trade of food products began rising

In 1926, the Strömmanska building, a building used as an office for Strömman & Larsson, one of the major carpentry factories located at the edge of Masthuggstorget, which was founded in the late 19th century, had to be demolished to widen the square.

In 1971, a Norwegian-Swedish sculptor, Erling Torkelson, Sculpted the “Masterna”. It is a Wooden sculpture, representing the history of the area. The sculpture is six wooden masts made of tarred pine, 13.7 meters tall, and it is placed in the middle of Masthuggstorget.

Many of the old houses were demolished during the late 70s, to make way for new ones,



Masthuggstorget, circa 1920.

Many of the old houses were demolished during the late 70s, to make way for new ones,

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## Sahlgrenska Huset



On Norra Hamngatan 14, next door to Gothenburg City Museum, is the Sahlgrenska House, a good example of a merchant's residence from the 18th century.

Before 1669, there was probably a stone house on the current plot Norra Hamngatan 14, when a larger Baroque-style building with high stairwells is found in a pencil drawing from around 1650, "Gothenburg in Sweden." Around 1674, councilor Heinrich Eilking the Younger had a stone house built on the site, which had been burnt down since 1669. In the same year, he had received 900 dollars in state subsidies for the construction. At the time, Eilking owned a number of plots in the city, among other things to benefit from state subsidies. The governor, who was then stationed at Bohus, rented the house as a residence in the 1690s, when he visited the city. Here were the best plots in the city, admittedly narrow, but they went all the way up to Köpmansgatan and were built with densely located houses. Gardens, stables and caravan sheds lay at the back.

According to the estate register, the house was valued at 10,000 riksdaler (Swedish coin). Jacob Sahlgren took over the house. His widow Birgitta Sahlgren inherited the house in 1736 and the following year it is mentioned as one of the most important in the city in the magistrate's registry. In 1746, the building was destroyed in the great fire that ravaged Gothenburg.

In 1753, the widow Birgitta Sahlgren had a new house built. City engineer BW Carlberg was probably responsible for the drawings. It became a stately brick house with a steep, broken tile roof and decorated attic. The house has three floors, of which one mezzanine floor. Towards Norra Hamngatan there is a basement and free stairs. Two wings were later built by his son Olof Sahlgren. Walls from the previous building are probably included in the current foundation.

The vaulted basement with a gate to Norra Hamngatan was used as a warehouse. On the first floor there was an office. The second floor, the main floor, was the main one and on the third floor there were bedrooms. Courtyard and wing buildings included kitchens, storage, stables and caravan sheds, as well as housing for the employees.

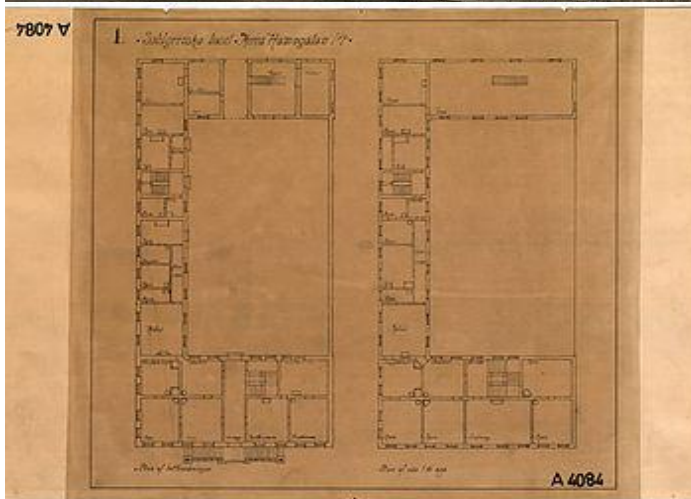
Birgitta Saehlgren did not immediately move into her house, but lived with her son Niclas in Kyrkogatan for the time being. When Olof Sahlgren returned to Sweden, he is said to have lived in the house in 1755. After his death in 1758, Birgitta Sahlgren chose to move into the house.

The grandson Gustav Sparre inherited the house after Birgitta Sahlgren's death in 1771. However, Sparre mostly stayed at [Kulla Gunnarstorp](#) in Skåne, where his famous painting gallery was also transferred after his death in 1794. After Tessin, Count Sparre had Sweden's second most important private art collection, with paintings by Rafael, Rubens, Correggio, Rembrandt and more. In 1969, the "Sparreska parade floor" was restored and renovated to its original condition. The three salons, called red, blue and yellow atria are in Rococo and Gustavian style. Until 1846 the house was owned by the Sparre family and until then only minor changes were made. Various wholesalers were then owners - first of these was Fredrik Hammaren (1846) and then the wine merchant Carl Emil Billquist (1817-1895) who took over in 1856 and immediately had the house



expanded and rebuilt according to drawings by Adolf Edelsvärd . The main building got a new roof and the facade was decorated. An extension to the south was added at the same time.

During the period 1873-1905, the trading company Johansson & Carlander - partners Johannes Johansson and Johan Christopher Carlander - were the owners. They set up offices and homes in the house, which was decorated with, among other things, rich stucco decor and paintings by Reinhold Callmänder . The initials CC and JJ were inserted above the front door, and the entrance portal received a new decoration in 1892, signed by Eugen Thorburn .



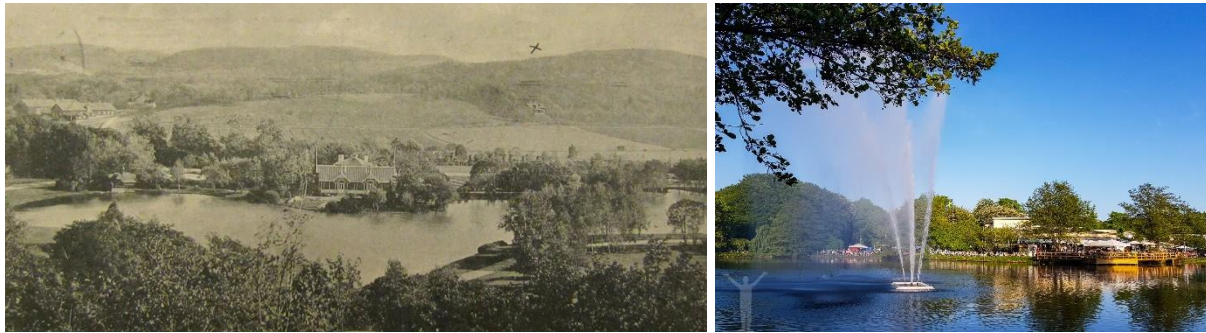
Since 1905, the City of Gothenburg has been the owner of the Sahlgrenska House. Between 1969 and 1974, the 18th-century interior was restored in the three parade rooms on the second floor. In connection with this, the third floor received new small windows in 18th century style. In 1989, the sandstone portal towards Norra Hamngatan was restored.

The Sahlgrenska house shows how the most wealthy merchants lived in the 18th century. The room interiors on the second floor are the only ones of their kind in Gothenburg.

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# Slottskogen



Slottskogen, which, directly translated from Swedish means ‘the castle forest’, is a 137-hectare park located in the center of Gothenburg, Sweden. The park opened around 150 years ago, in 1874 and is still one of Gothenburg’s largest, oldest, and most popular parks. Slottskogen is a mix between a planned park as well as natural forest, which creates a fantastic environment for a large variety of outdoor activities.

Much of the park is given over to natural parkland with native trees such as linden, beech, maple, and various species of oak. Even some exotic plants can be found in the park, such as Serbian spruce and Dawn Redwood. In the more populated parts of the park, Slottskogen now even offers a wide range of facilities such as a zoo where penguins, seals, and many other animals can be spotted.

When the city was founded in the 17th century, Slottskogen was a forest belonging to a park named Sundzhagen, which was part of Älvsborg Fortress at the time. The park was back then long fenced and was filled with stray deer. At the time, the park was twice the size than it is now - 300-hectare. On solemn occasions, the park received large numbers of visitors to hunt these deer. The forest rangers always guarded the park and were very strict. Whoever was caught cutting down a tree was ordered to plant ten new ones and guard them until they were big enough to support themselves.

In 1624 the city council requested to dispose of the area for its growing population. The request was approved and the land was handed over by Gustav II Adolf to the city’s residents. At that time, Gothenburg was very limited in space and was largely limited to the area within Vallgraven. It was crowded and not as orderly as it is today. Bad air and coal smoke filled the air and canals full of sewage were very common. A trip to Slottskogen was a way to get far out of Gothenburg and to enjoy the fresh air and all the green nature. The community started building inns in the park to attract more visitors. Most people would walk there from the city, but the wealthier took the cab.

Later on in the 1880s, merchant August Kobb took the initiative to transform the forest into a city park. He was largely inspired by the characteristics of an English garden with lawn and trees.

The 'castle forest' was very popular among Gothenburgers long before it became the landscaped park we know today. Many people would take long hikes through the forest, enjoying the panoramic views. The forest was used for recreation - long before that concept was known - by the city's workers and citizens. The lawns that are handled quite carelessly today were forbidden land to walk on, the hay harvest was part of the governor's salary. Fines were given out when children jumped in the haystacks.

Eventually, Slottskogen got a bad reputation, it became a place that people did not like to visit after dark. The girls in the bourgeois families were not allowed to go there at all. The surveillance was still at times impressive; there is information about dozens of police officers scattered in every part of Slottskogen and yet it was complained that more police officers were needed. Today you rarely see a policeman in Slottskogen, this can be interpreted as us living in a much calmer time.

Nowadays, Slottskogen is a common place for people to simply take a stroll or have a nice picnic by the pond. This park, which has aged with Gothenburg over the last 400 years, is a bit part of Gothenburg's history and identity.

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## Stenpiren

This beautiful pier was built during the years of 1844-1845. This was previously a smaller dock that some ships would dock at. It got its name in 1883. In 1893 it was decided to add a red light to light the pier up for ships passing to be warned of the shallow waters. The pier became too narrow to handle the activity, a sister pier was added, Ångsluvspiren in 1922. This was torn down 3 decades later due to lack of use. The pier became a hotspot for steamboats during the 20th century. Tours of the archipelago became immensely popular and tourists flocked to the pier to catch a steamboat and see the beautiful surroundings of the city. The Delaware monument that stands in Christina Parken was copied and placed on the pier. It was initiated by two individuals Albin Johansson and Axel Gjöres. The pier length today is 215 meters with a water depth of 3-6 meters. Since 2015 the pier has become a major travel point in the city being one of the stops connecting most of the city together and having its own travel center. Today the pier is mostly a travel point and has a couple of cafés and restaurants but the activity with ships has lessened throughout the years.

## Skeppsbron

Stenpirens sister dock was built around the same time in Göta älv. It was built on the muddy ground of the city and first made out of wood, getting the name Träpiren. It too became a place of gathering and culture as a bath house was built by Alexander Keiller in 1830. In the mid 19th century a plan came forward to remove the buildings along Göta älv leading to the bath house closing but more than half of the buildings remained as the plan fell through. In 1914 Göteborgs Handelsbank was built there making it very important for trade during the 20th century. In 2015 a tramtrack was built connecting it to Stenpiren.

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## Televerkets Hus

Background: Before it was built the artillery regiment of Gothenburg had its headquarters there. It was called Hästbacken and then later Ekelundstorget, whereupon the building we see today was eventually built in 1909. It was built by Hans Hedlund in so-called Jugend style, considered to be the best preserved building of its kind, and still stands proud today at Telegrafan. Nowadays, though, it is mostly used as a gym and the building also leases its old rooms as offices for various companies. It could also be mentioned that it was renovated and expanded in both 1946 and 1955.

There have been many important things that have been caused by the building in question and the company that resided in it. For example they are, in part, responsible for building the Swedish telecommunication network. This was also something that my grandpa actually participated in and led the operations of. He was rewarded with the Swedish nordstjärneorden, which is a medal the king personally gives out to people who have done important deeds for the country. In the entire building, there used to sit about 1000 telephone operators - 24 hours a day - 7 days a week. There are two larger rooms, in which, the different jobs a telecommunication company was supposed to do back then, ie - keeping track of mail, different expeditionary departments and people who kept track of sending calls to where they

were desired, were done. These were split into "The large hall" and "The small hall" - otherwise referred to as "The relay hall".

The building was also often referred to as K11 by the people who worked there, this is just an abbreviation of its address - Kaserntorget 11. The company itself was up and running in the building itself for a whole 78 years. After this they moved their headquarters to Järntorget and rebranded themselves as "Telia", a company you all might be familiar with today.

During the middle of the 19:th century most people in gothenburg could call people without a telecommunications operator sending their call to where it was supposed to go. Even though this was the case, the company kept staffed and went to other businesses such as "Fröken Ur" (Ms. Clock), "Fröken Väder" (Ms. Weather) and phone number information (you could ask for people's or companies phone numbers).

With all this said, anyone can, at any time, go visit the building. It is a marvel of Gothenburgian architecture and if you wanna have some ideas for where to go have a work out next this could be a good choice as the gym is actually very nice. Thanks for listening!

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# Trädgårdsföreningen



Trädgårdsföreningen, the direct translation in English being the Garden Society of Gothenburg, is one of the most well-preserved parks in Europe from the 1800-hundreds. The park is located in central Gothenburg, across a bridge from Central Station. It was founded in 1842 by Carl XIV Johan, King of both Sweden and Norway. Nowadays, this city park is one of Gothenburg's biggest tourist attractions, housing one of Sweden's top nurseries for a wide variety of plants from all around the world, as well as a rosarium with over 2500 roses with a 3 star rating in the Michelin Green Guide. Trädgårdsföreningen also has historical buildings, cafés, restaurants, exhibitions and concerts for you to visit and experience.

During the 1840s, the interest for botanics grew amongst Europe, and the amount of garden societies increased. In 1840 Henric Elof von Norman, a captain of the Göta Artillery Regiment, travelled to Germany to visit many of their botanical gardens in Greifswald and Berlin. Feeling inspired, he returned to Gothenburg, initiating the construction of the city's own botanical garden and garden society. Along with many other men, such as Dr. A. G. Franck and Pehr C. Westring, a consultant at Sahlgrenska Hospital, Henric Elof von Norman eventually got Carl XIV Johan to establish the Gothenburg Garden Society on September 24th 1842. This horticultural garden was initially under the care of gardener Georg Löwegren, and started a vast seed and plant trade for income. Nevertheless, the Gothenburg municipality took

over the park in 1975 due to the decrease of the seed trade.

The construction of Trädgårdsföreningen took much inspiration from Britain, all from the concept of The Royal Horticultural Society (founded in 1804), to architectural designs. In the center of the park, a giant greenhouse is situated, known as Palmhuset. It has a height of 41m tall and has an estimated area of 1000km<sup>2</sup>, and has been a popular sight since its installation in 1878. It was gravely inspired by the well-known Crystal Palace in London. The greenhouse was ordered in Scotland, and had an overall price of 165 000kr. Palmhuset, or The Palm House, is divided into 4 sections, each with their own climate and plant species. The 4 sections are the Tropical House, the Water House including types of water lilies, the Mediterranean House, and lastly the Kamilia House filled with plants from Asia.

Palmhuset isn't the only greenhouse in the park. 27 other smaller greenhouses were built in 1907, however only 1 of them remains.

Many sculptures are also placed around Trädgårdsföreningen. The earliest one dates back to 1850, named "Amason i strid med panter", a copy of August Kiss' original statue. There is no documentation on who paid for the sculpture, or how it got its place in front of Palmhuset.

On the 5th of January 1976, Palmhuset became a historically listed building according to Kulturmiljölagen, implying that the building is protected and will be preserved for all eternity. Consequently, on the 2nd of June 1992, Trädgårdsföreningen was the first ever park in Sweden to also be a historically listed building for its cultural heritage. The garden is an incredibly well-sustained environment and an incredibly important part of Gothenburg history.

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## Christinae Kyrkan ("Tyska Kyrkan")



The German church was first built in 1623 and is the oldest church of Gothenburg. It was built to give the Germans and the Dutch a congregation. It was named after Gustav II Adolf's daughter Kristina. The church was used as a fireguard post for a very long time due to the simple reason that the church was the highest building in Gothenburg during its time which gave the firefighters an easy way of seeing where a fire had broken out. The church however has had a very rough history with many ups and downs.

The first church that was built there was a wooden one that had been used in Lödöse before. The financial administrator at that time, called Gilius van Eijck, bought the wooden church in 1624 for 300 silver pennies which is about 80 000 sek in today's value. The wooden church did however not hold very long and had to be replaced. Therefore the foundation for a new, stone church was laid in 1634. It was being decorated for many years and was finally consecrated on the 12 of November 1648. The first stone church held for quite some while until it on the 10 of may 1669 burnt down to the ground. The damage was enormous and it took until 1670 until they could start rebuilding the church. During that time they had Sunday church in Kronhuset, which is the oldest building in Gothenburg. The new church was being financed by many, very generous, donations and it was finally finished in 1699 with the copper coating. The price of the new church had a cost of 33 000 riksdaler which is about 360 million sek today according to historical statistics. Sadly however, the church did not stand for very long due to a second fire on the 14 of January 1746, that burnt down everything to the ground except for the walls. They again started to rebuild the church, this time with the help of a german carpenter director called Johan Anders Reuss. Together with many other important architects and engineers they managed to rebuild the church until the autumn of 1783. When it was finished it counted as one of the most impressive building in Gothenburg.

The Church has something special in it. The grave of a nobleman who lived during the mid 17th century is in the church behind the podium, but also the crest of him, his wife and his 25

children. This man was called Rutger von Ascheberg, and was a highly ranked officer in the Swedish army. He fought in many important wars including the thirty-year war where the catholics fought against the evangelicals. He was also the Governor of Dalarna, Bohuslän and Gothenburg. His fighting and politics made him very rich, he was in fact one of the richest people of Bohuslän besides Margareta Hvitfeldt and Dorothea Bielke.

Nowadays the church is part of Svenska Kyrkan and it is no longer a duch-german congregation. The church has been renovated a few times since the last church was built, and the organ has been replaced once and renovated twice, the last time in 1970. Since 2019 there is also a claviorganum which is almost one of its kind. A claviorganum is a combination of a cembalo and an organ and was barely ever used by anyone except for example G.F Händel.

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# Vasaplatsen

— is an important triangular public square in Gothenburg. Since Tram lines number 2, number 3, number 7, and number 10 cross here, there are four combined tram and bus stops on the square close by each other that all go under the name Vasaplatsen.

Vasaplatsen, before named Stora Allégatan. 1867-1882 called Stora Allégatan; the city engineer had proposed Stora, Norra and Södra Allégatan. The main street in the district Vasastaden and like this is named after the Vasa family and the name is typical of the time; Vasaparken and Gustav Vasakyrkan. Vasaplatsen is close to Vasagatan and Vasaparken, which are all named after King Gustav Vasa.

On March 31, 1955, the Torgny Segerstedt monument in the northern part of Vasaplatsen was inaugurated by Governor Malte Jacobsson. The monument is a ten-meter-high, triangular granite monolith from Hunnebostrand. And the artist is Ivar Johnsson. The text is on the base means:

- *The free birds plow their way through space. Many of them may not reach their distant goal. Big deal in that. They die free.*



In 1992, a driverless tram came down the hill from Kapellplatsen and collided with another tram at Vasaplatsen. That causes 13 people lost their lives and around 30 people were injured.

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