Krupperup

Krupperup is one of Sweden’s oldest estates with origins from the 1200s. The ownership line of that period is unknown, but the Krognos family is named as early owners. From the mid-1300s, ownership can with certainty be linked to the knight, Stig Pedersen, who belonged to a branch of the Krognos family. The estate was then inherited within this family for many generations until Oluf Mouridsen, who died in 1573.

Through marriage, Krupperup passed in the 1540s to Mourids Clausen Podebusk, a member of another well-known Danish noble family that originated from the Putbus family of Rügen. He built the present main building in 1570.

The second-generation owner from the Podebusk family was so rich that he is said to have owned 1,800 farms located in Denmark, Scania and on Rügen. After Claus Podebusk’s death in 1616, Krupperup was inherited by the son-in-laws Henry Gyldestrierne of Svaneholm and Frederick Rantzau, son of the general, Johan Rantzau, from the days of the Danish Counts’ Feud. It was during Henry Gyldestrierne’s short period at Krupperup, around 1620, that the remarkable stars in limestone were built into the west facade. He was followed by Henry Rantzau, and his son Frederick Rantzau became the last Danish owner before the takeover by Sweden. He sold the estate eight years after the Treaty of Roskilde to Marie Sofie De la Gardie and thus this ancient Danish estate came into the Swedish nobility’s hands. She was a very enterprising woman who owned several estates and got involved in businesses such as charcoal extraction north of Helsingborg. She restored and extended Krupperup and transformed the Renaissance castle into a baroque castle. However, Sofie De la Gardie went into insolvency due to Charles XI’s restitution of alienated estates and the many wars in Scania. The restoration was never completed and she died in poverty in 1694.

In 1702, the heirs sold Krupperup to Henry Jacob Hildebrand. He in turn sold the estate in 1734 to the captain, Peter Gotthard von Kochen, who had previously served in Charles XII’s army. Von Kochen made the estate an entailed estate to the advantage of his nephew Christopher von Kochen. During Peter Gotthard von Kochen’s time, great attention was given to the care of the estate. His successor, Christopher von Kochen, gave the castle its current appearance in the restoration of 1764-1809. The surrounding park was revamped to give the castle a beautiful setting. Through the marriage of the daughter, Antoinette von Kochen, to Carl Christopher Gyllenstierna, Krupperup returned to the Gyllenstierna’s ownership until 1967. The last holder of the entailed estate, Gustav Gyllenstierna, then created the Gyllenstierna Krupperup Foundation to care for the great cultural heritage that is associated with the estate.

The Gyllenstierna Krupperup Foundation currently owns and manages Krupperup.

The surroundings
Krupperup is beautifully located on the peninsula, Kullahalvön, 7 km north of Höganäs. The castle is surrounded by an extensive, well-tended park.

The Kullen Lighthouse
During the 1890s, the idea was hatched to build a new modern lighthouse on Kullen, furthest out on the inaccessible tip of the peninsula with the same name. An architectural competition was therefore launched in 1897, with instructions to ”present a sketch for a lighthouse on Kullen’s lighthouse site”.

News of the competition reached the architect firm, Ferdinand Boberg, in Stockholm, where a young architect called Magnus Dahlander had been newly employed. He immediately got to work on the competition and on 1 January 1898 he sent in a sketch of a 15-metre-high lighthouse. The proposal was well-received and he was awarded first prize and thereby the commission to provide
detailed plans for the lighthouse, with construction scheduled to start in June 1899.
Magnus Dahlander, creator of the Kullen Lighthouse, was born in Säter, Dalarna, in 1862. His
father was a pharmacist with an intense and restless disposition. The mother, on the other hand, was
more introvert and religiously active. In 1868, the family moved from Säter to Lindesberg and the
then six-year-old Magnus built his first house, a playhouse. It would only be used for a year as large
parts of Lindesberg burned down in 1869. This included the Dahlander’s property, playhouse and
all.
He had, despite the disaster with the playhouse, got a feeling for architecture and he never wavered
from the conviction he gained as a child. The family continued to lead an unsettled life and moved
several times during the rest of his childhood. In 1883, he took his high school certificate in Örebro
and then went to the Stockholm Institute of Technology. During his training, he stayed for a while in
Copenhagen, where he met the famous architect, Martin Nyrop. Later, Dahlander said: ”it was to be
a Dane who taught me to appreciate our cultural heritage...” This was after Nyrop had refused
several of the proposals Dahlander had submitted when he got an assignment to design a Swedish
building!
After graduating from the Institute of Technology in 1888 he went to the USA, where he soon
established himself as a sought-after architect. He built many houses and churches, but returned to
Sweden in 1896 and a position with the Boberg architect firm.
Kullen Lighthouse was built between 1899-1900. The materials were granite from Kullaberg and
wrought iron from Dalarna. The large lens, a Fresnel design, was bought in Paris and transported
with great difficulty to the Kullen Lighthouse site.
Magnus Dahlander lived a long and rich life as an architect and died in 1951 at the age of 89 in the
town of his birth, Säter,