

UNESCO World Heritage Site

Mining area of the Great Copper Mountain in Falun



Pål Anders
Stensson
City Architect
Falun Region



The urbanization Falun developed around the copper mine from the 8th C.

It is the oldest industrial corporation in the world (from 1347).

In the 17th C, the revenue provided the national income of Sweden.

The mine delivered 70% of the copper in the world.



The giant mine pit with the city in the background.
The Creutz mine shaft complex are Sweden's best-preserved mining buildings.

Falun became regional capital in the Middle ages but it was only a village with a royal governor. Now it has 100 000 inhabitants



The urban buildings are built of brick, slag stone, stone and plaster (and concrete)

Workers housing areas are spread out in-between the city and the mine.



Original log walls, patinated by sulphur fumes. Foundations by copper slag stone.



Timber walls, since the 18C painted with "Falu red", typical for Sweden.

The UNESCO Periodic reporting 2013 -

- wanted improvements concerning the **citizens appreciation** of the world heritage site's status. Furthermore, the **municipal administration** had to be more aware of the cultural historic values in its day-to-day work.



The **local community** saw the mine as a dirty back yard, it did not have enough historic knowledge and had relied too much on the national government.

The stakeholders of the World Heritage site initiated improvements.



Signage
and
guided
tours



Restorations of landscape and context



Improved access
e.g. bicycle paths

Citizens have been subject to:

- A “Friends of the WH site”- association has been formed.
- City walks at regular intervals.
- Lectures for property owners and residents.
- Information pamphlets and guidebooks, mainly new citizens.
- Involvement of senior citizens gathering of their knowledge.
- Renovation of a farm and manor, showing the agricultural aspects.

Municipal administration has participated in:

- Seminars
- Exchange with other WH sites.
- Workshop on a Fire Protection Strategy.
- Emphasis on sustainable tourism.
- Development of protection plan for wooden city areas.



A World Heritage Centre building with exhibitions, information and shop, was recently built in the typical timber and Falu Red Paint style



- including a restaurant

A focus on childrens activities



Brainstorming



Model studies



Digital access



Real life studies

Now, let's hope the upcoming Periodic Reporting will find our efforts satisfying!

