Jönköpings läns museums skriftserie

Stadens förnyelse och kontinuitet
Bebyggelse i Jönköping 1612-1870
Från den nygrundade staden 1612 till 1870 vid industrialismens genombrott

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ABSTRACT

What forces stood for innovation and what forces ensured continuity? This study of the built environment of Jönköping, Sweden, is chronologically delimited. It begins in 1612, when the medieval town burned down. The relocation to Sanden began as soon as the first town plan was drafted, and it was completed during a period of just over a decade after that. This led to a renewal of the town’s built environment. The study ends with 1870. This date was chosen because development had begun to be governed by new rule systems and Jönköping had evolved into an important industrial center, which had left a mark on its townscape.

Chapter One of this dissertation provides an introduction and a review of research. Chapter Two is a background sketch of the town’s activities, population and topographic conditions. Chapter Three, the main chapter, describes the town’s architectural patterns. Its first section presents the preconditions that formed the town. Building legislation and ordinances established rules on how its built environment could be shaped. Of great importance to these developments were fire protection and the fires that devastated large parts of Jönköping’s buildings on various occasions. The first town planning effort and its later revisions laid the groundwork for the internal transportation system and design of building lots. The outlying lands belonging to the town, known as “Town Fields,” were an important source of livelihood for the inhabitants, who were largely also active as cattle breeders and farmers. The chapter briefly describes the internal and external transportation system and how it affected the design of buildings. It also presents public buildings and environments that comprised a fundamental element of the town’s architectural patterns. Urban residential lots had different potential depending on their location. Those that bordered a lake could often be expanded with landfill. Types of properties in the town center and its vicinity are the topic of one of the main sections of the chapter, which closes with a description of the building plans for these properties.

Keywords: Continuity and urban renewal, built environment, town planning, public environments, urban residential lots, public buildings, buildings, architects and master builders, building styles, construction techniques.

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