

21. Bull barn, approx. 1852

One of the oldest buildings in the village, this was originally the manor's bull barn. It once included a wagon barn, which was subsequently demolished. The bull barn was converted to living quarters for agricultural workers at the turn of the 20th century.

22. Kronkelkulla, late 1800s

Judging by its colour, this building is likely to have been used by foremen. The colour of the workers' living quarters was generally red ochre, while senior employees and foremen lived in yellow buildings. It is thought that the western corner of the building housed the post office until it moved to the Postpoffi building in 1953. There was a slag brick henhouse and pig house as well as other outbuildings on the southern side.

23. Bakery, approx. 1852

This bakery, which was in shared use by the villagers, was constructed in the early 1850s and originally housed two bake houses and a small one-room flat. The bakery was an important building for the villagers. It is one of the few remaining slag brick buildings in the village.

24. Shared barn, approx. 1852

This building, made of natural stones, slag bricks and ashlar in the 1850s, was a barn for the workers' animals. In addition to patches of farmland, each worker had pigs and cattle, which created the need for a shared barn.

25. Matilta, 1918

This house with a mansard roof is one of three such buildings constructed in the same year to house workers' living quarters. There were four flats in the house, two two-room flats downstairs and two one-room flats upstairs. Due to the shortage of flats, several inhabitants often shared one room.

26. Hostelry, 1839

It is likely that this building was transported to the village from elsewhere in Perniö. It housed an inn that was used by travellers as late as the early 1900s. The building was subsequently used as workers' living quarters, with occasional inn operations as well.

27. Hevoshaka I & II, 1839

The red ochre buildings at the shore side end of Hevoshaantie were used as workers' living quarters. Hevoshaka I had ten one-room flats downstairs and one one-room flat at each end of the attic. Hevoshaka II had flats on both floors. Adjacent to the building, also known as Karhunpesä (Bear's Nest), there is an old stone wall and a path that leads down to the shore.

28. Underground cellars, late 1800s

The old underground cellars were built by volunteers for workers using any materials available. Each worker had a small patch of land, a potato field and a cellar. Hens were also housed under the roof of the cellar at times. The community at the ironworks was largely self-sufficient.

29. Factory master's house, 1907

This building has been home to foremen and, since the 1930s, public officers. There was once a path from the yard to a well and the gates at the southern corner of the factory.

30. Drying barn, 1859

Originally used as a drying barn, this building was converted into workers' living quarters in 1918 due to a shortage of flats.

31. Community hall, 1912–13

Established in 1899, Mathildedal's workers' association is the oldest in Perniö. The community hall was built by volunteers according to designs drawn up by Sikstus Rönberg, Perniö's leading master builder. Rönberg himself oversaw the construction. The plot of land for the community hall was purchased for a price of 400 Finnish markkas.

32. School, 1921

The common school was relocated from the Onnela building to a new municipally administered school building in 1921. The factory transferred the plot of land to the municipality free of charge. The school was closed down in autumn 1967.

Sources:

National Board of Antiquities, *Building Inventory, 1991 & 1992*

Ketola Eero, *From Fredrikspoff to Mököistenmäki, unpublished, 2011*



RUUKKIPOLKU
A WALK THROUGH THE
OLD MATHILDEDAL IRONWORKS



The story of the old ironworks in Mathildedal began in 1686, when Lord Lorenz Creutz of Teijo was granted the right to establish an iron forgery in Hummeldal, which is now known as Mathildedal. In 1825, Robert Bremer discovered iron ore in the area, which led to a boom period for the Hummeldal ironworks and the surrounding area. The ironworks was more than just a workplace. It offered workers accommodation, a livelihood and all the services they needed. The workers and their families rarely left the vicinity of the ironworks. As you walk on Ruukkipolku through the old ironworks, you will come across several old buildings that were part of the lives of the people who lived in this village centuries ago.

Nearly all of the buildings along Ruukkipolku are currently in private use. Visitors are requested to respect the privacy of residents.

1. Transformer, 1880s

The transformer was constructed in the 1880s when a dam and a wheel were built downstream. The wheel was used to power the machines in a wood smith's workshop. This facility provided electricity for the entire village, all the way out to the building known as Matilda's customs. The building was originally a single storey construction. After the war, when electricity for the village was supplied externally, the building was converted into a transformer and raised to its current height.

2. Hardening building, 1850

The oldest part can be traced back to the 1850s, when the building was used as storage space for cast iron. The building was subsequently expanded, with some of the old parts demolished in the 1960s. In the early 1900s, the building housed a machine tooling room and a machine shop. There were washrooms for workers upstairs.

3. Puddling and rolling shop, 1852

The first and most important facility in the ironworks was approved on 7 April 1852, with work on the puddling shop beginning immediately. The building was designed by engineer Knut Theodor Pipping. The plans for the rolling shop were approved in 1857 and the facility was attached to the puddling shop. The building was damaged in a fire in 1865 but was immediately repaired. The puddling and rolling shop closed down in 1904 due to cutbacks in production. Following that decision, the ironworks was used as a manufacturing facility for threshers, locomotives and explosion engines.

4. Carpentry shop, 1920s / Assembly room, 1928

The wooden part of the building may date back to the beginning of the 20th century. In 1928, it was expanded with the addition of a two-storey cement brick building for the assembly of carpentry products. The carpentry machines were located in the older wooden part of the building. The newer part was also used as a paint-

ing shop and a turnery. The upstairs housed a painting shop until 1955, after which it was used for assembly work until 1965. Agricultural engines were assembled downstairs until the 1950s. Thereafter, the space was used for tooling gears. The wooden part of the building was a carpentry shop with Alvar Merikanto as the foreman. The carpentry operations were subsequently relocated to Teijo, and the building was converted into a machine shop.

5. Iron rod storeroom, 1850

One of the oldest ironworks buildings still standing. The primary products of the ironworks were iron rods and coarser iron used for shipbuilding. The building was also used as a boiler workshop, and in more recent times it housed an administrative office.

6. Coal storage / Firewood drying furnace, 1850s

There were a total of five firewood-drying furnaces at the ironworks. This is the only one that is still standing. The building was later used to dry planks by steam seasoning. The building has a peculiar design: the shape of the lower boards at the top part of the ends of the building reflect the structure of the two separate arched spaces.

7. Fire equipment shed, 1900s

The fire equipment shed was possibly built before the wars. It was used to store fire-fighting equipment, which was then used at least during the foundry fire of 1957. Near the fire equipment shed there was the ironworks security booth that employees passed on their way to work. The fence that surrounded the area was located close to the shed.

8. Onnela, 1891

In its early years, this building functioned as a common school, a church and a sauna used by both commoners and nobility. The building once had a high tower, the upper part of which was the sacristy and the lower part a shed for storing firewood. The lower floor housed a sauna and the school's carpentry shop. The upstairs classroom

was used by the school as well as the knitting group and it also functioned as a church hall complete with a pulpit. The school that operated in the building until 1921 was bilingual until 1901. Later in the 20th century, the building also housed living quarters for employees of the ironworks and temporary accommodation for evacuees from Karelia.

9. Teacher's croft, 1870

The teacher's living quarters were originally located in this building. Teachers were rotated from one school to another. In 1891, the school was relocated to the nearby Onnela building. The yard was once surrounded by a sinter brick wall.

10. Prayer room, 1906

Mathildedal ironworks had this building constructed as a prayer room for all faiths. The prayer room was designed by architect Asp. In the early years of the 20th century, the Mathildedal ironworks superintendent convinced the management that religious folks were the best workers. Subsequently, the ironworks sought to promote religious practice in the village. The prayer room was named Fredrikspoff after engineer fitter Fredrik Haggström, who found God in 1899 and became known for actively spreading the gospel in Mathildedal.

11. Anttipoffi, 1852

This building, constructed as living quarters for workers, was completed soon after the ironworks were established. It is one of the oldest living quarters in Mathildedal. In peak years there were 100 people living in this building of 16 one-room flats. The building also housed Matilda's athletics club.

12. Punamulta, 1840 & Mankeli, 1840 & Kaarna, 1840

These buildings served as workers' living quarters. It is said that they were transported over ice from Dalsbruk in the winter. The building known as Mankeli (laundry mangle) housed two workers' flats and the shared laundry mangle used by village residents. The southwestern end of the building featured a storage space, where workers assembled in the mornings to receive their tasks for the day. It is likely that the building was also used as a glazier's workshop.

13. Plattapoffi, 1852

This building was constructed around the time when the ironworks was first established. One of the two wings of the manor, Plattapoffi was used by office staff and foremen.

14. Postpoffi, 1860

This building, known as the old post office, was first built to house workers' living quarters. There were originally three flats in the building. It is likely that the building was constructed in several phases, with the oldest part dating back to 1860. The history of the building also includes serving as a private shop in the early 20th century, then a post office and, in the 1930s, a medical clinic.

15. Raasepori, 1840

A two-storey building of workers' living quarters. One of the oldest buildings in the village. Story has it that one of the inhabitants was the captain of the ironworks' steam tugboat Alli. Tugboat Alli was used at the ironworks until the late 1950s.

16. Clinic, 1848

This building has housed both a shop and an outpatient clinic. There are old stone posts at the western side of the clinic. They once supported a beam that was used for tying up horses.

17. Terho co-operative, 1929

Mathildedal's co-operative store was established in 1906. The shop originally operated in the building known as the Clinic. In 1929, the co-operative fund was used to construct a new building for the shop, with the shop name "Terho co-operative r.l." on the wall.

18. Ruukinkartano manor, 1852

Ruukinkartano manor was constructed when Viktor Zebor Bremer first established the ironworks. The manor was the home of the factory owners, managers and, later, engineers. According to stories passed on through the generations, the manor had an exceptionally beautiful garden tended by two gardeners.

19. House of Fouri, approx. 1852

This building was one of the outbuildings adjacent to the manor, named after Bailiff Fouri who lived at one end of the building. The building was originally constructed for use as a barn, but it was converted to workers' living quarters early on. In the 1900s, the building served as the milk distribution point for the village.

20. Granary, approx. 1852

The granary was constructed around the same time as the manor and its outbuildings. Downstairs, the building is divided into two rooms and upstairs there is a single room with grain stalls.

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