## THE PATH OF MEMORIES



## 21 Presbytery Hill



Here at 'Prästgårdsbacken' there used to be both a priest and a school.

The first house on Norrby Gärdesväg is **the Komministerbostället (Commissioner's Residence).** which has belonged to the Church of Sweden since 1680. The farm was hit by a devastating fire in 1854. It was rebuilt in 1857 in its current form - a semidetached house with two apartments.

The commissary is a priest and assistant to the vicar who lives in the large rectory at Häverö church. Many priests have lived here over the years – the last being Jacob Arnold Sundell,

who served between 1900 and 1909. The farm is now private, but the place still bears memories of its long church history.

The Prayer House was built in 1875 next to the Komministerbostället to function as a school. As early as 1777 there was an itinerant schoolmaster active in Norrby, but the Prayer House is the first the permanent school building. In 1882 the number of students amounted to 53 children. During this time, classes were held only every other day. In 1908, the school moved to the newly built Bergby School (see sign no. 1). The Evangeliska Fosterlandsstiftelsen (EFS) then took over the building, which was converted into a house of prayer.

This is where the congregation holds its prayer meetings, Sunday schools and other gatherings. Many villagers who grew up in the 1940s and 50s have strong memories of the prayer house. Going to Sunday school is a matter of course – "there's just no other way!"

The prayer house was demolished in 1983 and a new building was built on the site. Today, only memories of teaching and spiritual gatherings remain at the site.

**NOTE:** Respect the privacy of the home – do not enter the plots!



The Old School (Prayer House) 1906

(Västerkulla).