



Minnenas stig

THE PATH OF MEMORIES

28 Boatman's Cottage

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A **boatswain** was a military man in the Swedish divisional system created in 1680 to provide the armed forces with soldiers and sailors. Our villages are required to maintain three boatswains - two in Norrby and one in Bergby. The boatswain who are enrolled belong to Norra Roslag's 2nd boatswain company. Norrby's rote is assigned numbers 22 and 23 with the boatswain names *Nord* and *Stark*. Bergby gets number 24 with the name *Blomma*. The names are followed when new boatswain take office. The boatswain are assigned a croft and some land for cultivation and grazing. A contract is drawn up between the boatswain and the roten, that is, the farmers who own the croft and are responsible for the boatswain's livelihood. In 1901, the General Conscription Act is introduced, and thus the divisional system and the system of boatswain cease after over 200 years of operation.

The **boatman's cottage** has been located in several places over the years. Some The boatman's cottage was located along this road to Bergboö. The cottage is still there but has been heavily rebuilt. Bergby's boatman's cottage is located opposite Bergby Gård on the border with Malmberga and is in more original condition. The last boatman on Norrby route 22 is Johan Nord. He was hired in 1840 and remained in service until 1891.

The last boatswain on Norrby route 23 is Erik Gustav Stark Lund. He was first a farmhand at Bergby Gård. In 1871 he was given the job of boatswain and married Karolina Jansdotter, the daughter of the Judge at Bergby. He left his job in 1896.

The boatmen are long dead but the names Nord, Stark and Blomma live on. There are 12 people with the surname Blomma (2025) in Sweden. Some boatsman's cottages still exist preserved and reminiscent of over two hundred years of military history.

NOTE: Respect the peace and quiet of the home – do not enter the property!



Bergby Båtmanstorp, rote 24, 2007. Boatmen 1830s

This sign is part of **the Trail of Memories**, a cultural trail through the villages of Norrby, Bergby and Västerkulla built in 2025 by Bergby School Village Association yAddress: Bergby Byaväg 3, 763 94 Hallstavik y e-mail: info@bergbyskola.se y web: www.bergbyskola.se