

HIMMELSTORP

På den här stigen har människor och djur vandrat i hundratals år. Gården var en av två i byn Himmelstorp som omnämns första gången på 1400-talet. Men människor har levt och brukat marken här sedan ännu längre tillbaka.

Vill du veta mer om den här platsen, dess hissnande långa historia och människorna som bott här? Ta dig en titt på skyltarna!

Du kan också ladda ner dem i din telefon genom att skanna QR-koden här nedanför eller besöka vår hemsida.

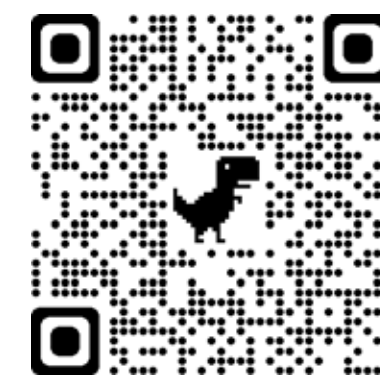


www.hembygd.se/kullen/himmelstorp

On this path, humans and animals have wandered for hundreds of years. The farm was one of two in the village Himmelstorp which is first mentioned in the 15th century. But people have lived and farmed the land here since even further back.

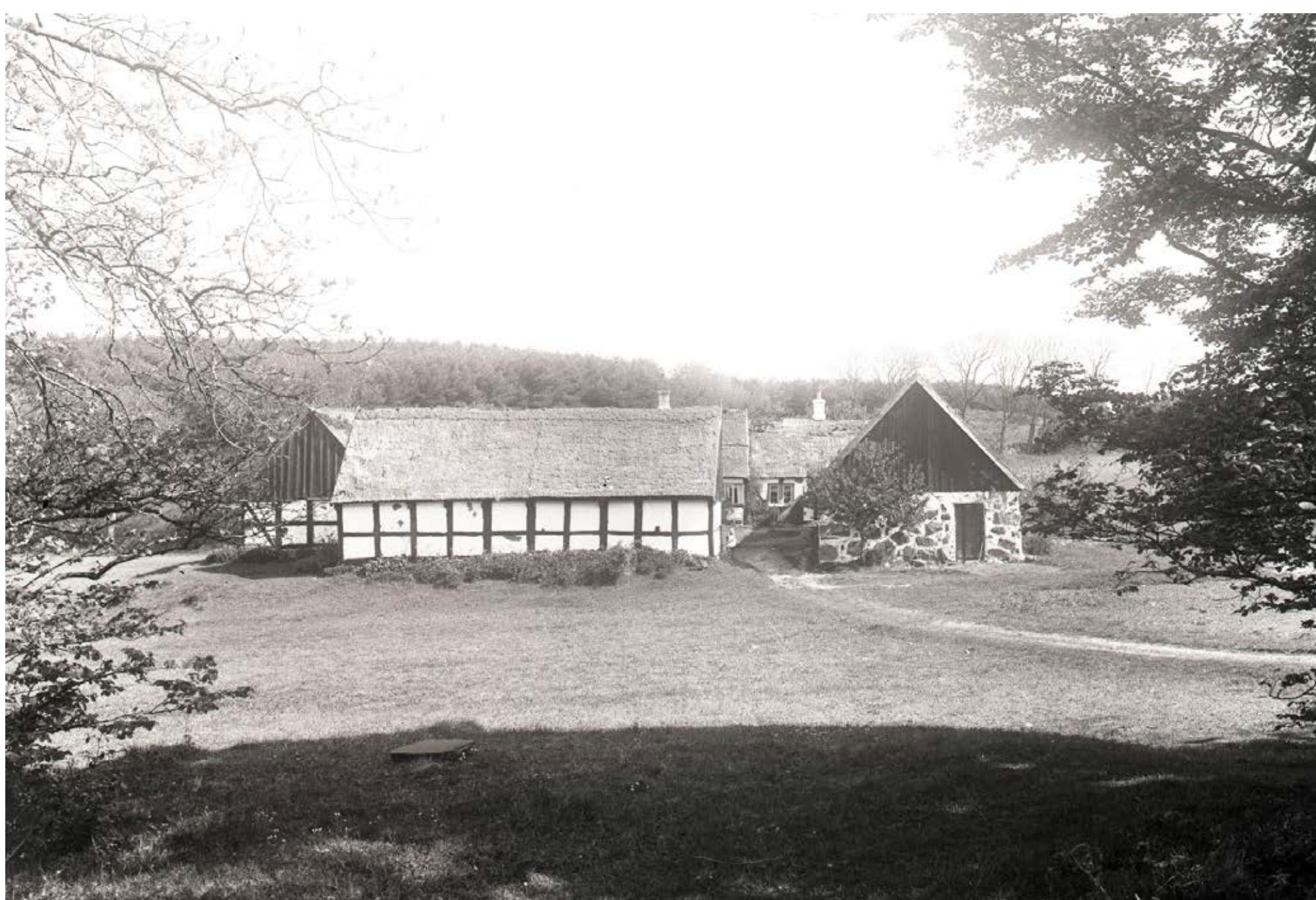
Do you want to know more about this place, its breathtakingly long history and the people who lived here?

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A LITTLE VILLAGE ON-KULLABERG



Himmelstorp was originally called Hemels croft, a name that dates from Viking times. Photo: Peter P. Lundh taken in the 1920:s, Höganäs Museum

The name Himmelstorp can be traced back to Viking times. We know that there has been a farm here, under the estate of Krapperup, for at least as far back as the late 15th century.

A second farm, Himmelstorp 2, now lies a few hundred metres to the south-west. Only the dwelling-house remains there. It was moved from the western hollow in the beginning of the 19th century. There were also a few smaller crofts in the village.

North of the village and its fields were the outlying grazing lands. They were stony and at places dangerously steep.

A LANDSCAPE FULL OF TRACES

People have lived and worked on this land for thousands of years. We see this in the nearby stone circle to the south. It is a grave from the early Iron Age. There are also distinct traces of agricultural activity from at least as early as the 11th or 12th centuries. The landscape was then more open and full of long, narrow fields, now visible as terraces in the woods.

When the plague struck in the 14th century many farms and crofts were layed to waste. The woods took over and later fields were not always reestablished – trees were a valuable resource. The beech wood south of Himmelstorp farm has been intact and protected since the beginning of the 18th century.

Himmelstorp farm is in the middle of the map. North of the buildings is the kitchen garden, marked in yellow. The cows were taken out to pasture along the narrow passage to the right of the farm – where you stand now.

Map drawn by Anton Ciöpingar in 1718
Krapperup estate archives



LIFE ON HIMMELSTORP FARM

Generations of farmers have come and gone. Many took over after their parents.



Himmelstorp farm as it looked in 1935.

Photo by Mårten Sjöbeck, The Folklife Archives



The last farmer on Himmelstorp farm, August Johansson, 1945.

**Photo by Harald Olsson,
The Regional Museum Skåne**

TENANTS SINCE 1656

Women were not named in the contracts, unless they were widows.

1656 – 1671 Svend Nielsen

1671 – 1680 Nils Giödmansson

1680-1696 Nils Hansson

1726-1755 Hans Nilsson (född på gården)

1755 - 1776 Mauritz Hanson

1776-1781 Bereta Johansdotter
Widow after Mauritz Hansson

1782 - 1806 Torkel Pålsson

1807 - 1840 Bengt Ohlsson (svärson, Krapparps by)

1841 - 1875 Anders Bengtsson (född på gården)

1876 - 1894 Johannes Nilsson (Tåssjö, Ängelholm)

1895 - 1953 August Johansson (Hishult, Halland)

THE LAST FAMILY

1895 - 1953

August Johansson from Hishult in the province of Halland was a farm-hand at Himmelstorp 2 before he took over Himmelstorp 1. He married the fisherman's daughter Ida Göransson from nearby Haga on the 2 April, 1897. A year later their daughter Ebba was born.

During the following five years Ida gives birth to three more children, all sons. None of them survived their second birthday.

Only Ebba lives on and when she is 23 she becomes pregnant. She goes to Denmark and Erna is born there. Ebba marries the Danish riding instructor Hans Sörensen and has a son, Erik Hans August who later moves to Canada. Ebba stays in Denmark all her life.

Erna grows up in Denmark but spends her summers at Himmelstorp. A while after the death of her grandmother Ida, she moves to Himmelstorp in order to help her grandfather August. She stays until he dies, 84 years old, in 1953. It is then that the local folklore society takes responsibility for the farm.



The last tenant was August Johansson and Ida from Haga. They had four children but only one, Ebba, survived the age of two. Here they stand, in their best clothes, before the photographer in 1899.



Ebba left the farm when she was 23. She was then pregnant with Erna whom we here see at her grandparents home in the 1920:s.

Photo by Peter P. Lundh, Höganäs Museum

A FARM OWNED BY KRAPPERUP ESTATE

A Krapperup tenant farmer's life was much harder then that of independent farmers on the fertile plains.



Krapperup castle, 1935.
Photo by Mårten Sjöbäck, The Folklife Archives

The land and the farms on eastern Kullaberg were owned by Krapperup estate, as they still mostly are. The people who cultivated and lived on them payed rent with money as well as work. In 1882 the tenants and crofters of Krapperup did 2100 days work for the estate.

Himmelstorp farm included buildings, 24710 acres of land, a small kitchen garden and the right to use out-lying pasture land on the mountain and in the woods to the south. Some of the farmers also had the use of a fishing boat kept in Arild's harbour. The estate provided timber for building and repairs.

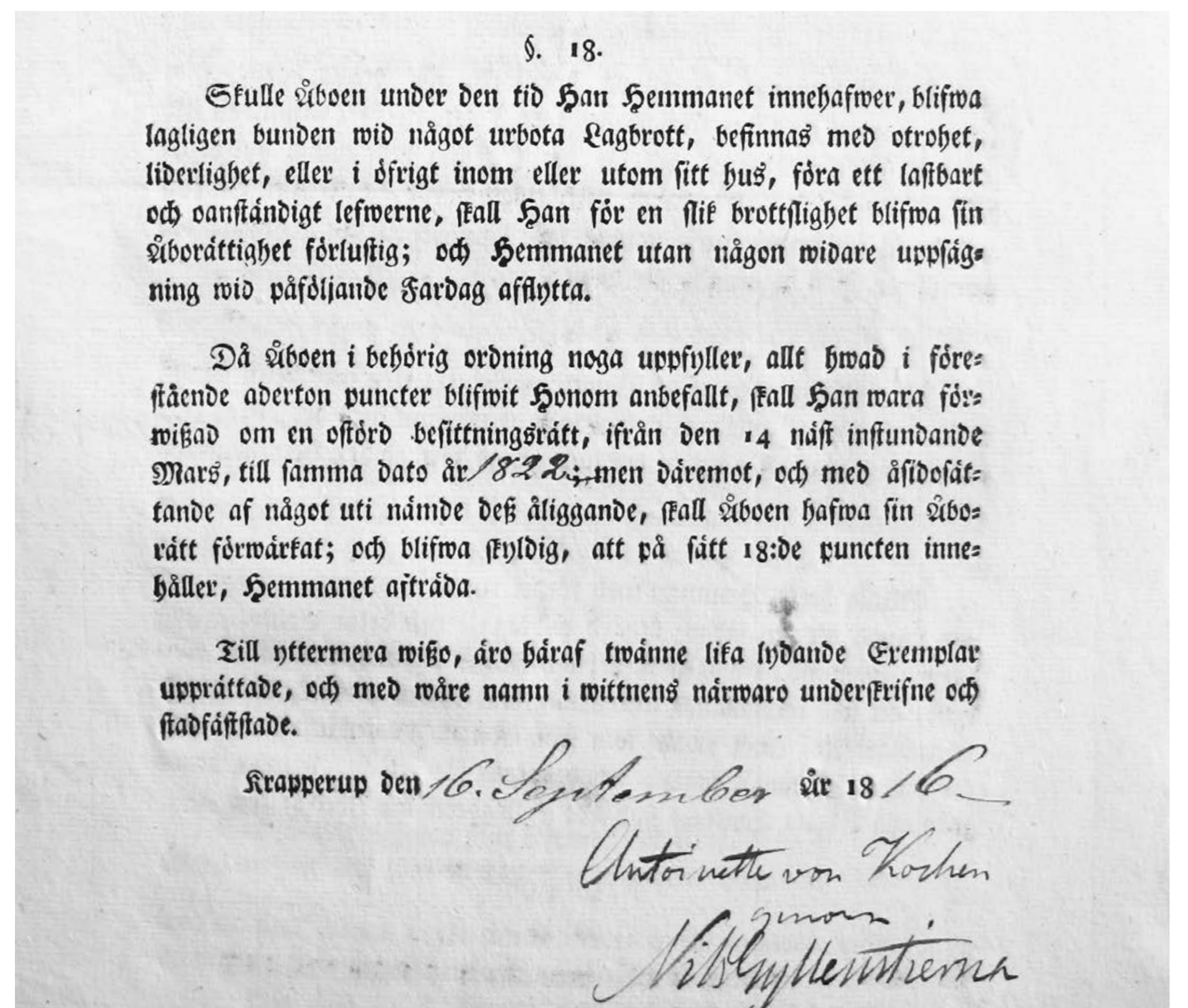


The map, drawn in 1796-1797 by Carl Egerström, showing the allocation of lands. See the blue spot in the middle? It's a dam, now replaced with a well. The farm is right to the left of it. Map from the Historical Map Archive of the National Land Survey



Erna and August repairing the roof, 1940:s.

The tenant agreement stipulates the tenant's obligations and it was regularly prolonged if he fulfilled them. Besides managing the farm well and keeping it in good repair he might also be called upon to do other jobs for the owner and to supply some of his produce to the castle household. Also, a strict eye was kept on the tenants' morals!



Part of Bengt Olssons tenant contract from 1816, signed by the squire Nils Gyllenstierna.
Krapperrup estate archives



The small, lower extension to the right housed the older generation when the younger one took over.
Photo by Peter P. Lundh, 1920:s. Höganäs Museum

WORK ON THE FARM

Farming at Himmelstorp is age old. Traces of it are found from as far back as the 9th and 10th centuries, at least. But the land did not yield very well and the work was hard.

During opening hours, you can see the old tools and machines in the farm outhouses.



August plowing a field with his beloved horses.

THE FIELD

In the fields, rye, barley and oats were grown. Yields were meager, about thrice the amount sown. Flax was grown for the making of textiles. This was a complicated process. In the 19th century there was probably a drying house for this harvest on the road down to the parking area.

Long ago a simple, horse drawn wooden plow was used to till the soil. The crop was harvested with scythes, the straw was tied in bundles and collected in sheafs - important work that neighbours helped each other with.

The autumn months were given to hand threshing with flails. The horse drawn mechanism you see in the farm court, installed in the 1920:s, was used to power a threshing-mill and other machines.

To keep them fertile, fields were periodically layed fallow. Because of a shortage of pasture land, the amount of manure was limited and could only be used, with added seaweed, every third year. And at times some fields lay barren due to drought.



**The grassy field before the the farm buildings was once tilled and growing corn stood on either side of the road.
Photo Mårten Sjöbeck, 1926, Helsingborgs museer**

THE MEADOW

The animals' winter feedstuff grew in the meadow. It was cut at midsummer and in the autumn. After drying in stacks the hay was brought into the barn and stored for the winter. Leafy tree branches were collected for the same purpose.

THE ANIMALS

The animals were important. They were used in work, gave food, manure and material for tools and textiles.



**Ida, on the right, and her friend feeding the chickens by the stable in 1910.
Ida is 32 years old.**



The family, in the courtyard during the 1908 hay harvest. Ebba is holding a kitten. The hay was put into the loft through the hole in the roof. To the left, the fenced bee yard.

There were fairly many animals on the farm during the 19th century. When August died in 1953, 84 years old, there was only 1 cow, 2 calves, ½ goat, 20 hens and 2 cocks. Since the land yielded poorly, many farmers in the area used it only as pasture and meadow.

The sheep, goats and cows gave milk, wool, a little meat and other products. The amount of manure had an impact on how big a crop one could get.

The horses worked the fields and pulled the wagons. They were housed in the east outhouse where there was, after rebuilding around 1900, room for three horses, three cows and two calves.

Chickens and ducks were a necessity on all farms. They roamed freely around the farm.

A few pigs were kept in an enclosure between the gables of the south and west building. See here their little door to the cow-house!

Bee keeping was essential. Honey was the only sweetener available until the 19th century when sugar production based on sugar-beets started. Beeswax was also a useful product. The hives were placed in the warmest spot in the courtyard and round them was a fence to keep other animals from disturbing them or eating the flowers planted around the hives.