

The county museum of Västerbotten – Short History

The museum has its origins in the Westerbotten County Antiquities Association, formed in 1882. The museum was early situated in a building in the middle of Umeå which was unfortunately destroyed in the city fire in Umeå in 1888 (fig. 1).



Fig. 1

In 1901, the museum moved into the newly built educational institution in the Mimer district in the city center (fig. 1), but due to the growing size of the collection, the museum moved in 1911 to a warehouse building at the city harbor.



Fig. 2

When the local heritage association in Umeå started in 1919, they worked to develop the Gammlia area, and from 1921 onwards, various older buildings from Västerbotten County have been moved to Gammlia. Such as Sävargården, who played a role in the war of 1808-1809 and several farmhouses (fig. 3-4).



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

In 1943, the current main building was built - **Västerbottens museum**.



Fig. 5

Since then, the museum has been expanded in stages; In 1963, the *Swedish Ski Museum* in Umeå was created, which is today housed in Västerbottens Museum. In 1976, the *Fisheries and Maritime Museum*, was built in connection with the farm group in the area. In 1981, the *Picture Museum* was established, which were incorporated into Västerbottens Museum in 2012 and formed into a new center for documentary photography – *Sune Jonssons center för dokumentärfotografi*.