

HISTORIEN GENTAGER SIG HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

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Historien gentager sig selv

I 1680'erne lå mange gårde øde hen rundt omkring i Danmark. I det lille østhimmerlandske sogn Komdrup lå der ifølge kong Christian den Femtes matrikel ni gårde. Men de tre af gårdene lå øde hen. Det betød, at gårdene måske havde en bruger, men at den var ude af drift, eller ingen bruger, men jorden drevet af andre bønder. Nogle ødegårde var helt forladte og såvel bygninger som jord opgivet.

Der var generelt vanskelige levevilkår i Danmark i det 17. århundrede. Landbruget var det totalt dominerende erhverv, og en ensidig erhvervsstruktur skaber altid sårbarhed for et lands økonomi og befolkningens velfærd.

Befolkningen oplevede klimatisk kolde perioder og hermed forbundet misvækst. Samtidigt havde epidemiske sygdomme som pest givet betydelig tilbagegang i folketallet. Hertil kom de udmarvende krige mod Sverige i perioden 1657-1660. De epidemiske sygdomme og krigene resulterede i mangel på arbejdskraft i landbruget, og det betød igen, at der lå gårde overalt, der forfaldt og ikke blev drevet.

Dengang var der tale om et erhverv uden anvendelse af de bærende teknologiske hjælpemidler, som eksisterer i dag. Det betød, at landbrugene økonomisk hvilede i sig selv, og lige netop kunne brødføde bøndernes eget forbrug.

I dag gentager historien sig. Mange huse og gårde og andre produktionsbygninger på landet ligger øde hen. Den førhen så travle gårdsplads er tilgroet, taget er hullet, knuste ruder overalt. Nogle bygninger kan karakteriseres som ruiner. Andre bygninger overlever som tarvelige boliger for gæstearbejdere eller omdannes til almindelige familieboliger.

Mange landbrugsarealer tages ud af drift, fordi nye strukturpolitiske mål for miljø og klima nødvendigvis gør det. Dag for dag nedlægges landbrug, som det var tilfældet for fire hundrede år siden. I løbet af perioden 2010 til 2021 forsvandt hver femte landbrugsbedrift i Danmark.

På en cykeltur i det østhimmerlandske landskab møder man resultatet af de voldsomme strukturforandringer overalt. Det skaber blandede følelser af vemod og nysgerrighed. Naturen tager lige så stille over, og en dag vil der kun være få spor tilbage af det, der engang var en families hverdag og drøm for virke og fremtid.

Det føles vigtigt at kende og forstå vores fortid. Historien gentager sig. De, der ikke anerkender vigtigheden af kendskabet til vores fortid, er ignoranter, der med stor sandsynlighed vil begå fejl, som vores forfædre allerede har måttet bøde for.

History repeats itself

In the 1680s, many farms were deserted in Denmark. According to King Christian V's land register, there were nine farms in the small East Himmerland parish of Komdrup. But the three of the farms were deserted. This meant that the farms might have a user, but that it was out of production, or no one uses, but the land run by other farmers. Some derelict farms were completely abandoned and both buildings and land abandoned.

Generally, the living conditions in Denmark in the 17th century were difficult. Agriculture was the totally dominant industry, and a one-sided economic structure always creates vulnerability for a country's economy and the welfare of its people.

Climatically, the population experienced cold periods and associated degrowth. At the same time, epidemic diseases such as plague had caused a significant decline in the population. Added to this were the exhausting wars against Sweden in the period 1657-1660. The epidemic diseases and the wars resulted in a shortage of labour in agriculture, and again this meant that there were farms everywhere that fell into disrepair and were not run.

At that time, it was an industry without the use of the supporting technological aids that exist today. This meant that the farms were economically self-sustaining and only could feed the farmers' own consumption.

Today history is repeating itself. Many houses and farms and other rural production buildings are deserted. The once busy courtyard is overgrown, the roof is full of holes, broken windows everywhere. Some buildings can be characterized as ruins. Other buildings survive as shoddy homes for guest workers, or they are converted into ordinary family homes.

Many agricultural areas are being taken out of use because new structural policy objectives for the environment and climate so require. Day by day, agriculture is being abandoned, as was the case four hundred years ago. During the period 2010 to 2021, one in five agricultural holdings disappeared in Denmark.

On a bike ride in the East Himmerland landscape, everywhere you will meet the results of the dramatic structural changes. It creates mixed feelings of sadness and curiosity. Nature is slowly taking over, and one day there will be few traces left of what once was a family's everyday life and dream for work and future.

It feels important to know and understand our past. The history repeats itself. Those who do not recognize the importance of knowledge of our past are ignorant and are very likely to make mistakes for which our ancestors already had suffered for.



Vest for Øster Hurup, maj 2018

West of the village, Øster Hurup, May 2018



Nørre Kongerslev Kær, maj 2018

The wet meadow, Nørre Kongerslev Kær, May 2018



Nord for Storvorde, maj 2018

North of the village, Storvorde, May 2018



Nord for Storvorde, september 2018

North of the village, Storvorde, September 2018



Nørre Kongerslev Kær, marts 2021

The wet meadow, Nørre Kongerslev Kær, March 2021



Nørre Kongerslev Kær, januar 2020

The wet meadow, Nørre Kongerslev Kær, January 2020



Nørre Kongerslev Kær, januar 2020

The wet meadow, Nørre Kongerslev Kær, January 2020



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The wet meadow, Nørre Kongerslev Kær, January 2020



Nørre Kongerslev Kær, januar 2020

The wet meadow, Nørre Kongerslev Kær, January 2020



Nørre Kongerslev Kær, november 2021

The wet meadow, Nørre Kongerslev Kær, November 2021



Rold Skov, december 2014

The forest, Rold Skov, December 2014



Rold Skov, juli 2017

The forest, Rold Skov, July 2017



Rold Skov, juli 2017

The forest, Rold Skov, July 2017



Rold Skov, december 2014

The forest, Rold Skov, December 2014

KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: Historien gentager sig
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: History repeats itself
By Keld Jensen*

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