

A copy of the Nordenskjöld hut on Snow Hill Island

In autumn 1901 Otto Nordenskjöld set off for Antarctic as a leader of the first Swedish Antarctic Expedition. Things did not turn out the way as planned but they survived and finally came back home with good scientific results.

Reminiscent of the expedition are the ruins of stone huts at Hope bay and on Paulet Island. Still standing, though, is the wooden hut on Snow Hill Island. It was erected in February 1902 as a “winter station” and has survived thanks to Argentine authorities.

As a part of Grenna Museum – Polarcenter’s ongoing temporary exhibition COURAGEOUS MEN – The Swedish South Pole Expedition 1901-1903, we have built a copy of this winter station outside the museum. The exhibition as well as the winter station was opened by representatives of the Norwegian and Argentine Embassies in Sweden and Mrs Helena Ödmark (Swedish representative on ATCM).

Our copy of Nordenskjölds winter station is based upon drawings and information on site and in literature. It is open daily and actually for rent during the night! It is our ambition to prolong the building-permission for another season, meaning we will keep it until September-October 2013.

The reason for building our copy is not only the spectacular part. It is primarily to emphasize the existence of a unique Swedish polar heritage in the Antarctic. And a consequence of that is hopefully to find a safe haven in some Swedish authority for its future existence.

Håkan Jorikson
Director
Grenna Museum - Polarcenter



1902 (Credit: Gothenburg University Library)



Credit: Grenna Museum – Polarcenter (2012)



Credit: Grenna Museum – Polarcenter (2012)



Credit: Grenna Museum – Polarcenter (2012)



Credit: Grenna Museum – Polarcenter (2012)