

Cultural Building: Klinten Fire Station

Klinten Fire Station is located on the smallest plot of the block, Östermur 26. The site was home to Klinten Square's water pump from 1855 until 1897. The pump supplied water to this part of the city. At the beginning of the 20th century, the fire station that exists on the property today was built. The location of the fire station at the top of the city was due to the fact that the fire engine and other equipment were drawn by hand, and it was an advantage to be able to roll down the hills to the fires. The fire station is constructed with an exposed cement brick frame under a partially hipped roof, covered with tar paper. In the block, there has also been a slaughterhouse, a milk shop, and a bicycle workshop. The land on which the fire station was built belonged to the city beforehand, but a small part of what would become the property was donated by the owner of the adjacent property, currently Östermur 28. The station was closed in the 1950s and was subsequently used by the fire department as a storage facility. In the 1960s, the street office took over the building and used it as a depot for sand and street maintenance. During the 1990s, the fire station was renovated internally by the rescue service and became a meeting place for employees within the rescue organization. The Gotland Fire Protection Association, which is a non-profit organization in the area of fire prevention, wrote to the Gotland Region expressing their desire to purchase the fire station on January 11, 2016. The Gotland Region decided to sell Klinten Fire Station via a broker. The Gotland Fire Protection Association won the bidding process on October 17, 2017, and became the owner of the fire station. The association took over the property on January 19, 2018. A careful interior renovation began, and today the space reflects the Fire Protection Association's 100-year history but also the development of the Gotland rescue service over the years. In the future, the fire station will host preventive fire activities, cultural events, and provide an opportunity for residents in the area to use the space. The Fire Protection Association's board discussed in 2020 how the association could best preserve the property as a natural feature of the streetscape at Klinten Square. The choice was made to propose to the annual meeting to establish a foundation called "The Klinten Fire Station Foundation." The annual meeting held on March 10, 2021, decided according to the board's proposal. The Klinten Fire Station Foundation was registered with the Stockholm County Administrative Board on March 25, 2022, with the purpose of "preserving, caring for, maintaining, and enhancing the cultural building of Klinten Fire Station for all eternity." This means that the property cannot be sold. The Gotland Fire Protection Association has gained access to its own premises for its activities and has accepted the challenge of caring for and maintaining a culturally significant building. Klinten Fire Station has returned to active service in a new form as a preventive and cultural fire station.

The Klinten Fire Station Foundation

