

Hammer old school

Hammer old school as can be seen today, seen towards Gamleveien with the spire of Lørenskog church in the background.

The original Hammer school was started the 23. of January 1862 when the children for the first time met the teacher and church singer Torkel Johnsen. Hammer school must have been one of the first schools in Norway after a new law made schools compulsory in 1860. The school year was at that time 12 weeks as given by the new law. Thus Hammer schools has been through the complete modern school history in Norway. Prior to that time the schools in Norway normally were ambulant schools where the teacher were travelling from farm to farm.

The oldest building contained apart from the school room a "priest chamber" which was serving as a meeting room for public meetings. In addition, there was an apartment for the teacher.

The building from 1862 was decaying and was in 1902 taken down and rebuilt as the main building on the farm Vesle Stensrud, where it was in use till it burned down in 1958. In the small side building beside the school there was the outhouse and the room for woodworks.

The introduction to the textbook of 1953, which is still found in the school library the following is found:

"The written word plays an important role nowadays. As people do appreciate what they need, they appreciate highly the art of written expression, while those who are not able to write in a correct language are not considered fully educated, however how many skills he otherwise may possess"

Maybe these words could be something the today's cool and sensation hungry writes and TV reporters?

