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Abstract

(Heritage management after the War – with the Swedish National Heritage Board at the centre.)

This is an historical study of how the Swedish National Heritage Board operated internally and externally under the direction of Martin Olsson and Bengt Thordeman, 1946–60. Sweden had been neutral during the War and its industrial infrastructure therefore survived intact. The country also had a highly trained workforce. Thus the first two post-WW2 decades are known there as the “record years”. The country's robust economy, along with a strong political drive towards modernisation, led to a great increase in public and private spending on various forms of land development. Heritage management, though poorly funded and staffed, had to adapt accordingly. The author came into contact with the National Heritage Board as a student in the late 40s and later worked there for decades. This study however is based mainly on archive materials.

Keywords

Heritage management, archaeology, listed buildings, Sweden, post-war, modernity, 1940s, 1950s

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