

TRIP TO ODALEN AND STANGE THE 4TH OF APRIL 2025

Anne Berit happened to see a picture of a stone with a blue sign on. It said: "You know a little girl".
This is an old folk song or lied.



The lied was written by [Georg Robert Schirmer](#) who was from Berger in Sør-Odal.

He wrote the famous lied "You know a beautiful girl" as an 18-year-old after he met a milkmaid in Vatningsætra at Sætersjøen in Nord-Odal.

The original was written on Odal dialect, and in 1871 it was translated into [Nynorsk](#) and included in the "Norwegian students' songbook".

There the lied is dated to 1863. The tune is an old folk melody. The Nynorsk version entered the collection "Norwegian folk dances" and became famous as a lied.



The first [blue signs](#) were set up in Oslo in August 1990. The purpose is to tell cultural history in short form where it actually happened. Now there are blue signs in all regions.

We decided to go for a drive to Vatningsætra.
We drove via Skarnes and Sand.



The map shows where the [shieling](#) is located at Lake Sætersjøen.

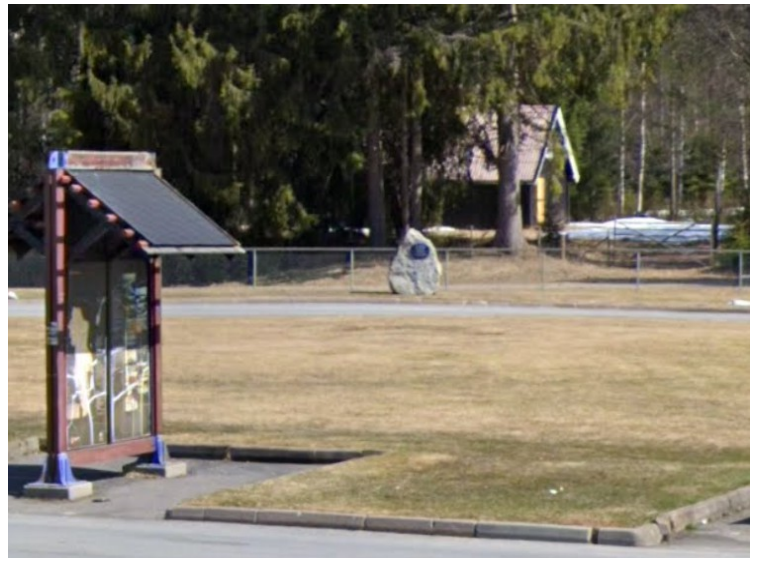


There were three houses on the shieling.

We thought the stone with the blue sign was going to stand at near the shieling, but we didn't find it.



Looking down to Sæterssjøen.



Later we found that the stone is at the picnic area and the bus stop at the lake.

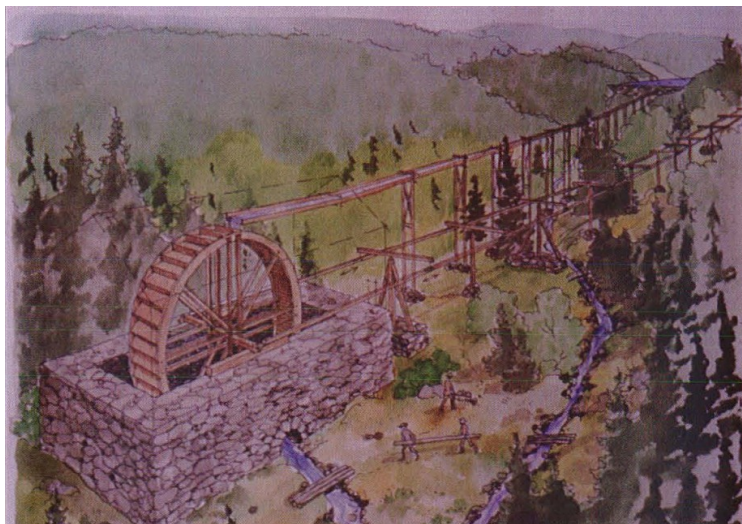


Here is a picture from the unveiling of the stone.
Various links: [Odalsportalen](#) [Kulturminnelaget](#) [Sør-Odal kommune](#)

After the having been at the shielding, we drove back to Bruvoll and on from there towards Strandlykkja at Mjøsa. We drove past the road that goes up to Trautgruva which was the largest mine in the area.



The mine is 100 meters long and 10-20 meters wide. There was a lot of water flowing into the mine, so it had to be pumped out.



The water wheel, which was 8 meters in diameter and some of the rod mechanism that transferred the power from the wheel to the pumps in the mine. The rod mechanism was 800 meters long. It is one of the longest known in Norway.

In order to get the ore out of the mine, firing was first used and later also powder. When firing, wood was set against the wall where ore was to be broken. When the wood burned, the mountain became warm and cracked, so the ore could be broken and hoisted out of the mine. The ore was transported by horse and sled during winter time to Odals Verk. The route went on the ice over the lakes [Råsen](#) and Storsjøen, a two-day trip. A ore load weighed about 600 kilograms.

Linker: [Wikipedia](#) [Tronbøl – Underthun](#) [Kulturav](#) [Kulturminnelaget](#)



We made a short stop in [Trautskogen](#). This is the Trautskogen chapel which is a timber church from 1931.

The road continues through the northern and southern Spitalen. Spitalen originated as mountain pastures for farms in Stange. In 1648, a letter was issued from the bailiff that a Finn was given the king's permission to cultivate a piece of forest lying adjacent to Oslo Hospitals' farms. Both [Eidsvoll Ironworks](#) and the king's bailiff protected the [Finns](#) from the rural people, who did not like the Finns' [slash-and-burn](#) agriculture and their hunting in the forests that they themselves considered their [common land](#). There were also violent conflicts around the Finns. In 1699, rural people from Romedal burned down two Finn places approximately a mile northeast of Spitalen, and Erik Finn was shot and killed. In Spitalen there lived Finns well into the 18th century.

Travel along Mjøsa from Minnesund and north towards Espa was considered impossible due to steep mountain cliffs along Mjøsa. Therefore, the traffic must have gone onto the hills where it was easier to walk. The pilgrimage was therefore laid through Spitalen.

Links: [Facebook](#) [Pilgrimsleden 1](#) [Pilgrimsleden 2](#)

There are several cabin fields, many small lakes and mountain lakes with good fishing opportunities at Trautskogen.

It was not until 1904 that the work on the road from the Trautskogen to Trauten in Bruvoll was started. People had been waiting for many years, but the case was constantly postponed. The people then started with woodpeckers and shovels to make the road. It was completed in 1906, and was at 13 kilometers. Today the road is called Fylkesveg 228 and is 18 kilometers. The road has a permanent cover from the Trauten in Bruvoll to Stange's municipal boundary at Spitalen and gravel cover further.

This according to [Wikipedia](#).



Foto Marita Karlsen

A nice picture of souther Spitalen closest and the northern Spitalen.

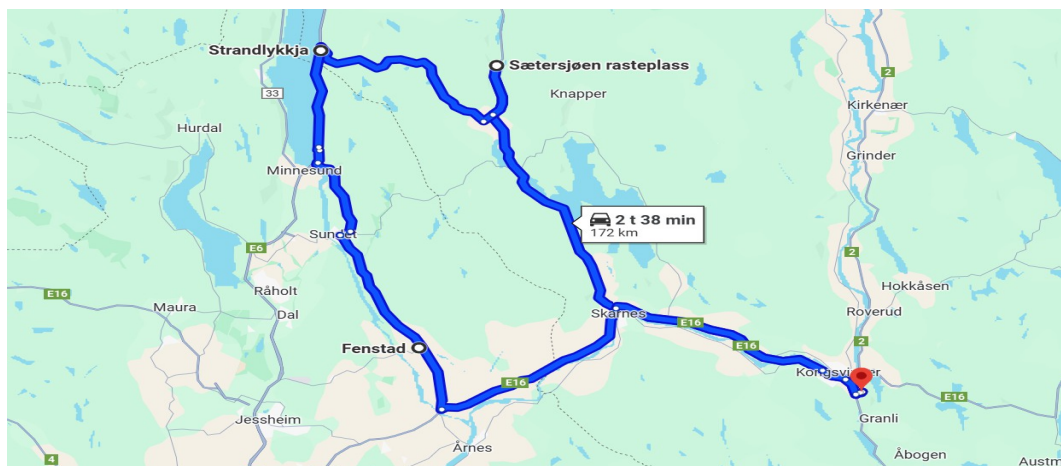


Mostue school. Anne Berit had practice lessons here in 1967 during the teacher education at Hamar.

[Mostu school](#) at Strandlykkja was a small school south of [Stange municipality](#). Today it serves as a assembly house for the village. Together with [Ingeborg Refling Hagen](#), [Thomas Bjørge](#) collected money for the school's decoration, and the students at Mostu school for many years sold ice and soft drinks on Wergeland' Day at Tangen, and all income went to the decoration of the school.

The artists behind the decoration in the school room are [Per Teigen](#), who painted the large image and the catheter in one of the classrooms, and [Birgit Abrahamsen](#) who has decorated the walls. Towards the library in the hallway, [Olav Bjørgum](#) has painted a frieze with motifs from Ingeborg Refling Hagen's poem cycle on [Ellisiv](#) and [Harald Hardråde](#).

[Grethe Schei](#) has decorated the walls into the classrooms. In the hallway also hang a couple of paintings by [Olav Starheim](#).



This was the tour that we did that day.