

SMEDTORPET 8. SEPTEMBER 2022

We were there on 7 September as well, but then we couldn't find the pitch. We relied too much on Google Maps which had put it in the wrong place. We studied the map of Norway and found the exact location. Section of the map.



Smedtorpet is a former croft and homestead north of Fensjøen on [Brandval Finnskog](#) in former [Brandval municipality](#). It is mentioned in written sources as early as the middle of the 17th century. It was a large place and was counted as a farm in the 1801 census. It was then called Fensjøen and had its own householders at [Brenna](#) and [Svenstorpet](#). The crofter in 1801 was 34-year-old Lars Larsen. Lars died in 1825 and Smedtorpet was then divided into three. Since the original place became [Nedre \(Lower\) Smedtorpet](#), it can also be said that [Øvre \(Upper\) Smedtorpet](#) and [Nordre \(Northern\) Smedtorpet](#) became new places.



When we approached the croft, we saw this sign pointing to the sight Smedtorp school. This was probably not where the school was located, because according to the local history wiki, the school was much further north.



Smedtorpet and Smedtorp school on a map from 1887.

The Smedtorpet district had scattered settlements and no natural center for a school building. At first there was teaching in rented premises at Nedre Smedtorpet. In 1884, a school building was erected at Fisketjerna further north.

In 1900, the school building was moved 1 km further south and rebuilt on the new Fensjøvegen at the exit to Smedtorpet. The school building was in use until centralization in the 1950s. The building is now gone.

[Finnskogen](#) is a large continuous forest area that stretches along both sides of the national border with Sweden. The area is named after the [Finnish](#) immigrants, so-called [forest Finns](#), who traveled from Finland to Sweden mainly in the period 1575–1660. The first Finns came to Norway in the 1640s. The immigration came predominantly from the area of [Savonia](#) in Finland. The core area for the Norwegian 'Finn culture' is in [Grue](#) and [Åsnes](#). [Svullrya](#) in Grue municipality forms a kind of unofficial center for the Norwegian part of the Finnskogen.



The entrance to lower and upper Smedtorpet.



Further up.



Some pictures as we go up.





The barn.



The main house.



Remains of the flagpole.



The main house.



The main house.



Then we come to upper Smedtorpet.



Some of the buildings are falling into disrepair.



Lily of the valley berries.



This appears to be in use as a holiday home.





Then we go down again.



Toboggan or sled?



Soon down again.



Window on the main house on lower Smedtorpet.



This is the main house in northern Smedtorpet.



Then we go back to the car.



A fly agaric.



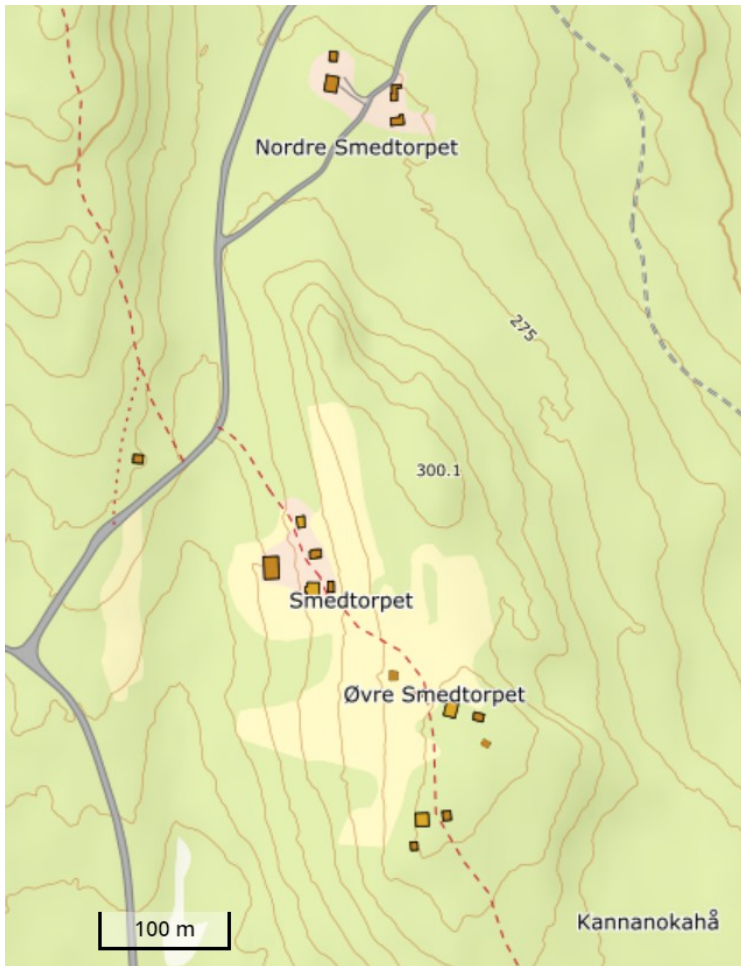
A stone fence along the road towards northern Smedtorpet.



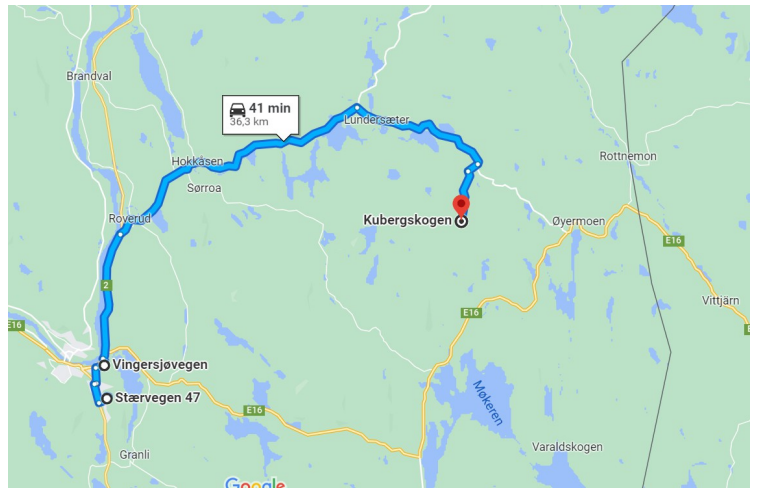
Autumn colors on the trees.



Little water in Glomma. Lots of sand on the right.



This is how the buildings at Smedtorpet are located.



This was our driving route.