

Preface

In 1958 Thomas Paulsson published his pioneering book *Scandinavian Architecture*. This was the first serious attempt to set forth a unified history of building in Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden from the Iron Age to the years following World War II. Eleven years later I began teaching Scandinavian art and architecture at the University of Oregon, an undertaking that owed much to Paulsson's comprehensive view of the Nordic building arts.

Now it seems appropriate to carry his work a few steps farther. Cities and countryside alike have been enriched with many distinguished new buildings. New investigations and publications have not only synthesized previous studies but have also provided much valuable material for ongoing scholarship. Some points of view have changed, bringing certain areas, especially prehistoric and vernacular building, which were generally left to archaeology and folklore, much more into the realm of architectural history. Now that the age of post-modernism has arrived, bringing with it the question of what terminology can be devised for its successor, a new review of the history

of architecture in the Scandinavian countries may prove useful.

According to the factors of climate, natural resources, and the ever-changing forces of history, periods of greatest vigor in Scandinavian building have varied in time and place. An introduction of the kind offered here is necessarily highly selective. Readers familiar with the Scandinavian countries may well find some of their favorite buildings or favorite architects missing. Some of the author's favorites are missing as well. The effort here has been to achieve a reasonable balance among the accomplishments within the several nations, bearing in mind that the national boundaries have not always been what they are today. Another subject that has been omitted is the activity of Scandinavian architects outside the Nordic countries. This is a very interesting story in itself that deserves much fuller treatment than is appropriate in the present work.

It will at once be evident from the notes and bibliography that some of the examples chosen have been the subjects of extensive investigation and publication, while others have as yet received little attention. I have omitted some references to materials published in local historical society journals, but they are cited by authors quoted in these pages and can be found in Scandinavian libraries. The bibliography is not intended to be all-inclusive but rather to provide guidance to the principal sources of information.

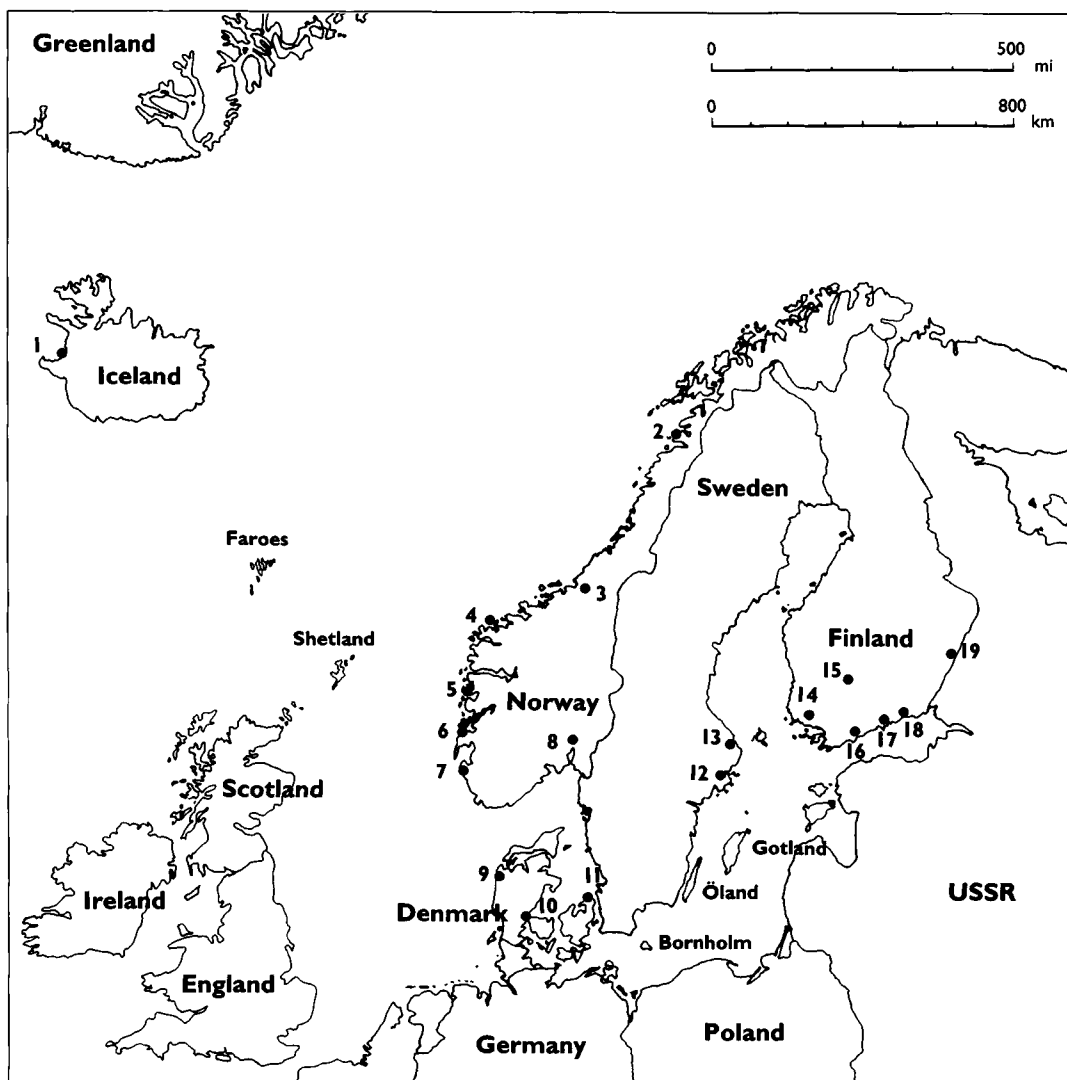
The illustrations have been assembled from a variety of sources. I have been fortunate in being able to travel from Imatra to L'Anse aux Meadows and from Hamburg/Altona to the Lofoten Islands. The skies have not always been friendly, and perhaps it is just as well that the sterner aspects of climate and weather in these countries be represented. For those sites and buildings for which a personal visit has not yet

been possible, the acknowledgments below and in the illustration captions indicate other sources of photographs. For some buildings, contemporary views have been chosen in order to increase the sense of the times in which they were constructed. The drawings that were prepared especially for this book are the work of Sally Donovan and Cheryl S. Martin.

The Graham Foundation for Advanced Study in the Fine Arts has generously provided assistance toward the costs of publication, for which I am very grateful. I also very much appreciate encouragement and good counsel from the editors of the MIT Press.

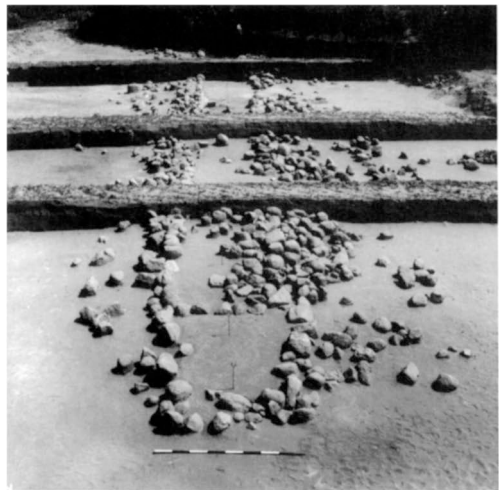
Finally, there is a debt to scholars in the Scandinavian countries that can never be adequately acknowledged. In Denmark invaluable help has come from Elisabeth Munksgaard and the staff of the National Museum, Hakon Lund and the staff in the library of the Royal Danish Academy of Art, and the staff of the Royal Library in Copenhagen. In Helsinki Kristina Nivari has helped especially with materials from the modern period, and Halldór J. Jónsson has helped with the resources of the National Museum of Iceland. Norwegian materials have been generously made available by Luce Hinsch in the State Archives and Elisabeth Seip in the Norwegian Museum of Architecture in Oslo. In Stockholm much help has come from Ragnar Jonsson in the architect's office of the Royal Palace and also from the staffs of the City Museum, the Historical Museum, and the Nordic Museum. To all of these my warm thanks for much counsel and persistent and good-natured help in finding elusive materials.

Marian C. Donnelly



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|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Reykjavik | 11 Copenhagen |
| 2 Bodo | 12 Stockholm |
| 3 Trondheim | 13 Uppsala |
| 4 Ålesund | 14 Turku |
| 5 Bergen | 15 Tampere |
| 6 Haugesund | 16 Helsinki |
| 7 Stavanger | 17 Porvoo |
| 8 Oslo | 18 Kotka |
| 9 Ribe | 19 Imatra |
| 10 Odense | |

Architecture in the Scandinavian Countries



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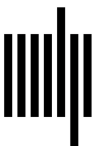
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