

5. Lönnemålen



It is very quiet here. There is an extensive spruce wood but in the gap where the Stora Lönnemålen farm was situated there used to be much farming activity and many trees were lopped to provide food for livestock.

In the inner part of Gränna parish you will find Stora Lönnemålen. It is a beautiful impressive opening in the spruce forest. Previously there was a farm here and today we can see some eighty old lopped ash trees. Young ash trees and other deciduous trees have also been lopped. This place is a demonstration area for lopping in the East Vättern Scarp Landscape Biosphere Reserve.

The farm was abandoned after the Second World War, and not much is left of the Stora Lönnemålen

habitation, just the foundations. North of the settlement, the gap has lopped ash trees in a heritage forest meadow. Many are old hollow trees with many insects and fungi.

The lichen and moss flora is very rich, with some twenty or so signal species and red-listed species. For example, elm gyalecta with its small brown-red propagation organs (apothecia). Dead wood on the ground provides a habitat for many insects. Damp areas with moving surface water contribute to the biotope diversity.

There are large numbers of alder and birch. Most vegetation is young, but one enormous alder tree is 250cm in circumference. On more healthy soil there are oak, maple and hazel. The northern part of the area consists of a valley in old meadow and pasture land, and here are five lopped ash trees.

Here it is damp, shaded by stands of spruce and with moving ground water. A large ash tree has a rich array of tree lungwort, which looks a little like human lung tissue and is green in



WORTH KNOWING

Lönnemålen has been restored with considerable involvement by the landowner and is a demonstration area for lopping within the Biosphere Reserve East Vättern Scarp Landscape .

HOW TO GET THERE: From Gränna, drive towards Aneby. After Örserum, turn at the Vändelstorp sign. Drive about 6 km and turn left at the Lönnemålen sign.

PARKING: There are no specific parking places.

DIFFICULTY: ● Easy



Prior to the restoration of the area

the damp area but otherwise rather grey in colour. In earlier times, people thought that this lungwort could cure lung diseases on the principle of like cures like, as the lichen looks like a lung.

South of where the buildings were, lime trees grow in an area of tumbled rocks, with a rich flora of lichens on the rocks and trunks of lime trees.



Restoration lopped ash



Elm gyalecta



Ulota crispa