The Old Kauttua
- near water power

The Old Kauttua was born during a period of over 320 years around the refinement of iron and paper. However, Kauttua was a notable residential area already a thousand years ago, evidenced by e.g. Luistari, the largest examined Viking cemetery in the Nordic countries. In the 16th century, before iron manufacturing began, the rapids of Eurajoki River that flows through Kauttua powered grain mills.

The owner of milling rights and rapids, Baron Lorenz Creutz, had familiarised himself with iron manufacturing in Central Europe. Creutz was the Governor of the Turku and Pori provinces as well as the Mining Counsellor of Finland. As there was plenty of wood available in the nearby forests for the burning of coal and peasants could be hired to work alongside smiths, all prerequisites to manufacture iron were fulfilled.

In 1689, the Mining and Metallurgy Superintendent’s Office granted Creutz the privilege to establish ironworks. A blast furnace was never built in Kauttua but iron was first delivered from Teijo and later from Sweden as pig iron.
From iron to paper and packaging

Later, iron was obtained from Leineperi in Kulla for forging in Kauttua. After Creutz, ironworks activities were continued under the leaderships of the Timm and Falck families. Production was at its largest in the middle of the 19th century, when Kauttua was the leading manufacturer of wrought iron. A trip hammer, built next to the wrought hammer, assisted in the making of thin bars and nails. Other products were for example crowbars, chains and horse shoes. Antti Ahlström, a business man from Satakunta, bought the Kauttua ironworks in 1873. At the end of the century when the manufacturing technology of iron became outdated in Kauttua and the markets became tougher, ironwork activities deteriorated. His own agricultural production started to generate more income than iron manufacturing. Woodworking industry was developed alongside iron manufacturing in the beginning of the 20th century, first sawing activities and then various forms of paper refinement.
The long history of the ironworks

1689 Ironworks were established along the Kauttua rapids. Sawing, initiated after the ironworks, did not take off.

1907 A paper factory was established and, after being expanded several times, it is still the largest employer. (Currently Jujo Thermal Oy and Ahlstrom Tampere Oy).

1937 Package manufacturing began right next to the paper factory. This unit was referred to as the refinery, and Euran Paperi, as it was then called, was soon moved to its current location.

1989 Industrial activities had been practised for 300 years. The old ironworks village opened more and more to the people who came from outside the ironworks area. Cooperation between the municipality of Eura, the industry and other quarters developed the environment and tourism. Pyhäjärvi Institute was founded in the area.

In the 1990s, incorporation of the industry was carried out. A new unit, Finnish-Japanese manufacturer of thermal paper (Jujo Thermal Oy) was established in 1992.

The packaging factory was turned under new management in the turn of the millennium. (Amcor Flexibles Finland Oy and A&R Carton Oy).

There has been phased implementation of Kauttua’s environment and tourism plans.
The village road of Sepäntie

Sepäntie, a road already known in the late Middle Ages, has been significant in the shaping of the Kauttua milieu. Rows of old red ochre houses frame the road. The houses, still in residential use, date from the 19th century and some structures date even from the 18th century.

Fire Brigade’s House

In 1916, building engineer Arthur Fagerholm created the blueprints for the WPK house, or the Fire Brigade’s House, located in Mikolanmäki. The house was the focal point of the factory community’s social life. It currently functions as an event venue.

Mikolanmäki

Mikolanmäki houses labourers’ dwellings, completed in 1920. Compared to the dwellings on Sepäntie, these buildings are more spacious and they are surrounded by a yard.

The old sawmill

The sawmill, built on the shore of the river in the turn of the 20th century, has been used as an exhibition area for events in the recent years. A wooden water chute lines the side of this well-preserved building.

Cultural history coloured by red ochre
Chapters of history can be seen in the environment

The development of manufacturing in Kauttua is evidenced by buildings and structures in the environment. Only vaults remain from the initial stages of the ironworks and they are located inside the granaries of the so-called central building. Of the manufacturing buildings only the coal storage dating from 1876 is still standing. On the contrary, smiths’ dwellings along Sepäntie, the road dating from the Middle Ages, have been preserved well.

In the times of the ironwork manor house

The first main building of the ironworks was completed in the 1780s. Parts of its cellar probably form the foundation of the next main building, completed in 1802. The yellow ironworks manor house, the current Kauttua Club, is located between Sepäntie and dismantled wrought hammer workshops. Gable wings were added to this neo-classical building in the 1820s. The nearby clock tower also dates from the same period.
Agriculture replaced hammering

Kauttua Club

The ironworks manor house that initially functioned as the owner’s residence was the area’s most significant building in the times of iron production. Now, there is a presentable restaurant and a unique hotel. The Club’s beautiful banquet halls and decoration that respects the olden times create an extraordinary framework for various parties and events. Even the stories about the Privy Councillor’s and the White Maiden’s ghosts walking around the manor cannot tar the idyllic atmosphere.

The clock tower in the Club’s park area is unique in Finland. The bottom part of the building functioned as the manor’s firewood shed and the clock only had the hour hand. Nowadays, the building’s exhibition space is open sporadically during the summer.

In the agricultural times

The agricultural buildings from the early 20th century are located opposite Kauttua Club, on the other side of Sepäntie: residential buildings Pehtoori and Renkipirtti, agricultural labourers’ residential building Kyöpeli, the stable, wheel hut, granary and the milk hut.

In the beginning of the 20th century, Kyöpeli offered accommodation for rural people. Since then, the building has housed for example a baking room and a post office. Currently, Kyöpeli is a summer café. Nowadays, some of the buildings are in private use.
1. Kuntosali
eurankunnonkoti.fi
“Home of well being”. Wellness Center and Gym.

2. Palokunnantalo
Former Fire Brigade House. Private use.

3. Jokisauna ja DesingPesula
jokisauna.fi
Designed by Alvar Aalto. Cafe, sauna and design shop.

4. Alinen koski
Old ruins of mills next to the old stone bridge, Myllysilta.

5. Terassitalo
ahlstrominruukit.fi
The terraced house is designed by Alvar Aalto.

6. Taiteiljakoti Tuiska
annettejuusela.fi
Annette Juusela’s home atelier. Open upon request.

7. Ompelupalvelu Pirjo Aro
ompelupirjoaro.com
Sewing services.

8. Villa Aalto
ahlstrominruukit.fi
Designed by Alvar Aalto.

9. Tallinmäki
An event Square lined by the stable and old agricultural buildings.

10. Kyöpeli
Summer cafe and tourist info.

11. Hallitalo
ahlstrominruukit.fi
Merchants’ hall from 1920’s.

12. Vanha Saha
An old sawmill and a bridge.

13. Kauttuan Klubi
ahlstrominruukit.fi
14. **Villa Ahlström, Pyhäjärvi-instituutti**
   *pyhajarvi-instituutti.fi*
   Villa Ahlström, former home of the factory director. Nowadays functions as Pyhäjärvi-Institute.

15. **Rantasauna**
   *ahlstrominruukit.fi*
   Traditional log-house sauna by Lake Pyhäjärvi can be reserved for groups.

16. **Pyhäjärvi-teatteri**
   *pyhajarviteatteri.fi*
   Covered summer theatre.

17. **Tehdasmuseo**
   *eura.fi/kulttuuri*
   The fascinating history of Kauttua’s factories is revealed to visitors in a fun way.

18. **Linnavuori**
   *eura.fi/kulttuuri*
   A hill fort. Back in the iron ages the villagers used it as a refuge.

19. **Makeistamo**
   *makeistamo.fi*
   Locally produced sweets for sale in an old refurnished barn designed by J. S. Sirén.

20. **Hotel Kauttua**
    *hotelmahuutua.fi*
    A small apartment hotel in the unique industrial environment.

21. **Kirpputori Pehtoori**
    *Flea market.*

22. **Maitokoppi**
    Exhibitions during summer.

23. **Pehtoori**
    Private house and beauty salon.
Ahlström Corporation decided in 1905 to establish a wood grinding workshop and a paper mill in Kauttua. The building and its machinery were ready in the turn of the years 1907-1908. Energy for the paper machines was derived from a steam power plant that brought the town a chimney stack. The factory was expanded in stages.

The factory brought wood-intensive building, bricks and concrete to the community.

Compared to the times of the ironworks, the number of inhabitants in Kauttua increased. Especially women were hired for new specialised jobs.

A big change was also the introduction of the railway in Kauttua in 1912. In addition to freight, the trains transported passengers.

Kauttua Factory Museum has items from several centuries on display.

Kauttua is a unique place in Finland, as there have been continuous industrial activities over 300 years.

Together with Eura, Kauttua is even today the most industrial growth area in Finland.
Villa Ahlström
The new paper factory brought Kauttua a new local leader who received a newly built representational house near the shore of Lake Pyhäjärvi. Villa Ahlström, named after its owner, was completed in 1911 according to architect Jarl Eklund’s blueprints. Initially, the forest separated the main building from the lake but famous designers Svante and Paul Olsson created blueprints for a garden and a park in 1916. However, the original plan was not implemented. The stone-built main building that combines characteristics of late art nouveau and classicism is currently used by the Pyhäjärvi Institute.

Nature as well as well-maintained parks and gardens have been a part of the manor milieu. New plans created in the spirit of history are implemented in stages. In 2007, the pine woods next to the Pyhäjärvi Institute saw the establishment of the Rhododendron Garden, where all the Finnish rhododendron varieties (17 different ones) can be found.

The task of the Pyhäjärvi Institute that operates in Kauttua’s Ruukinpuisto is to promote and develop education on the food industry and the environment, research and other development activities. Its areas of expertise are the food industry as well as the condition of waterways, water protection and restoration. Its objective is to sustainably secure the competitiveness of food production in Satakunta, improve the condition of waterways as well as increase and apply knowledge in waterway restoration.

Lake Pyhäjärvi
Almost all the whole Lake Pyhäjärvi is continuous open water. Indeed, it is one of the largest continuous open waters in Finland. The lake is known for its fishiness. This has enabled the continuation of fishing as a livelihood.
Alvar Aalto and the director of the Ahlström Corporation, Harry Gullichsen, started cooperation on the planning of the Sunila pulp factory and its residential area in 1935. Artek Oy, a retailer of furnishings designed by Alvar Aalto, was founded in the same year and its central engine was Maire Gullichsen, the daughter of Walter Ahlström, who was the son of Antti Ahlström. The close cooperation and friendship between Aalto and Gullichsen led to construction activities that spanned 10 years and served the growth needs of several of the Ahlström Corporation’s industrial municipalities. In the Gullichsens, Aalto had wealthy and open-minded sponsors and in turn, they had at their disposal the leading figure of the modern architecture to help them redevelop the company.

The strong economic boom at the end of the 1930s also increased production in Kauttua. A refinery started operations in conjunction with the paper factory in 1937. This gave a push towards a large redevelopment entity, located on the slope opposite the factory. The Winter War interrupted the plans and only one building was completed in 1938, the so-called Terraced House. The refinery was relocated to a new factory building in 1942 and its expansion led to a large redevelopment program. It mainly consisted of wooden, prefabricated single-family houses, made in the corporation’s house factory in Varkaus. Aalto devised the original blueprints for the houses. He also created a master plan for Kauttua in 1943. The design of buildings in this strong period of growth was highly influenced by Aalto and two more buildings should be mentioned: female officials’ dormitory Tipula from 1942 and labourers’ sauna and laundry building on the shore of the river, completed in 1946. This concluded Aalto’s and the Ahlström Corporation’s cooperation in the municipality.
The sauna has now been renovated and houses a café, a small gallery and a design shop in addition to the sauna.

Jokisauna
The timber sauna is located on a pedestal formed by the laundry room, the roof of which also serves as a cooling terrace for the sauna.

Terraced House
A stepped apartment building going down the slope. Each apartment has its own path leading to the front door. All the roofs in this building, completed in 1938, are terraces for the apartments higher up. Aalto aimed at connecting the apartments as closely as possible to the surrounding pine forest.

Villa Aalto
Female officials’ dormitory, Tipula, was completed in 1942. The building is now used for accommodation.

Type houses
In 1937, Alvar Aalto designed a wooden, skeletal-structured single-family house that he called a standard house. These were the first houses in Finland that were built from prefabricated units without any help from construction professionals. The houses located in Varkaudenmäki are in private use.
Jokisauna and Café Nemo
The premises of Jokisauna, designed by Alvar Aalto, can be rented for all kinds of company and family events throughout the year. We organise catering or other suitable food services on request. You can enjoy hot coffee in the lovely atmosphere of Café Nemo.

www.jokisauna.com

DesignPesula
DesignPesula, operating in the premises below Jokisauna, sells Finnish and foreign quality design products year round. Mankeliigalleria is the location for artists’ rotating exhibitions.

www.jokisauna.com

Manor restaurant Kauttua Club
Kauttua Club attracts visitors with its homely hotel and sauna services. Enjoy the exquisite and historic atmosphere in the form of dining, celebrating or accommodation. The chef’s delicacies ensure enjoyment at lunch and dinner on week days. Weekends on request.

www.vierastoiminta.a-ahlstrom.fi

Kyöpeli
Café Kyöpeli is located in the beautiful old building from the early 20th century. You can enjoy atmospheric coffee and snacks during the summer time.

www.eura-eurajoki.4h.fi/eura

Makeistamo
Hundreds of years of handicraft traditions of the Kauttua Ironworks are combined with tasty experiences at Makeistamo. Handcrafted sweets, made with the best ingredients, are readily available at Makeistamo’s outlet store on Tehtaantie. On the other side of the building there is also Flea Market Pehtoori.

www.makeistamo.fi
Kauttua Factory Museum
The museum displays 320 years of Kauttua’s industrial history. In addition to technology and manufacturing, the exhibition helps you familiarise yourself with the people behind technology. Open in the summer time, other times on request.

www.eura.fi/kulttuuri

Pyhäjärvi Theatre
Pyhäjärvi Theatre has been offering theatrical enjoyment since 1982. The program has included Finnish theatre from local stories to classics known to every Finn, such as “Tukkijoella”, “Kaunis Veera” and many more.

www.pyhajarviteatteri.fi

Events in Ruukinpuisto
The beautiful surroundings of Ruukinpuisto function as the stage for many events in the summer as well as the winter. In the summer, there is for example Wanhan ajan leikkipäivät (olden times play days) and the Antiques and Collectibles Fair. Artisans’ sales event and the Christmas event take place in the winter time.

www.eura.fi/fi/tapahtumakalenteri

Saunas in Ruukinpuisto
Jokisauna offers a chance to take a sauna in the wonderful sauna and laundry building designed by Alvar Aalto. Kauttua Club has two rental saunas nearby, available on request. One is an atmospheric sauna with a peat roof on the shore of Lake Pyhäjärvi and the other is a hospitality sauna located downstairs in the Pyhäjärvi Institute.

Alasatakunta Guides
Come, see and experience Ruukinpuisto and its fascinating environment with trained guides. Reservations:
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