

WORLD HERITAGE LIST SITES IN FINLAND

- Finland joined the UNESCO Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1987.
- Finland was a member of the World Heritage Committee in 1997-2003.

Six Finnish cultural heritage sites and one natural heritage area are currently included in the World Heritage List

Fortress of Suomenlinna

Old Rauma

Petäjävesi Old Church

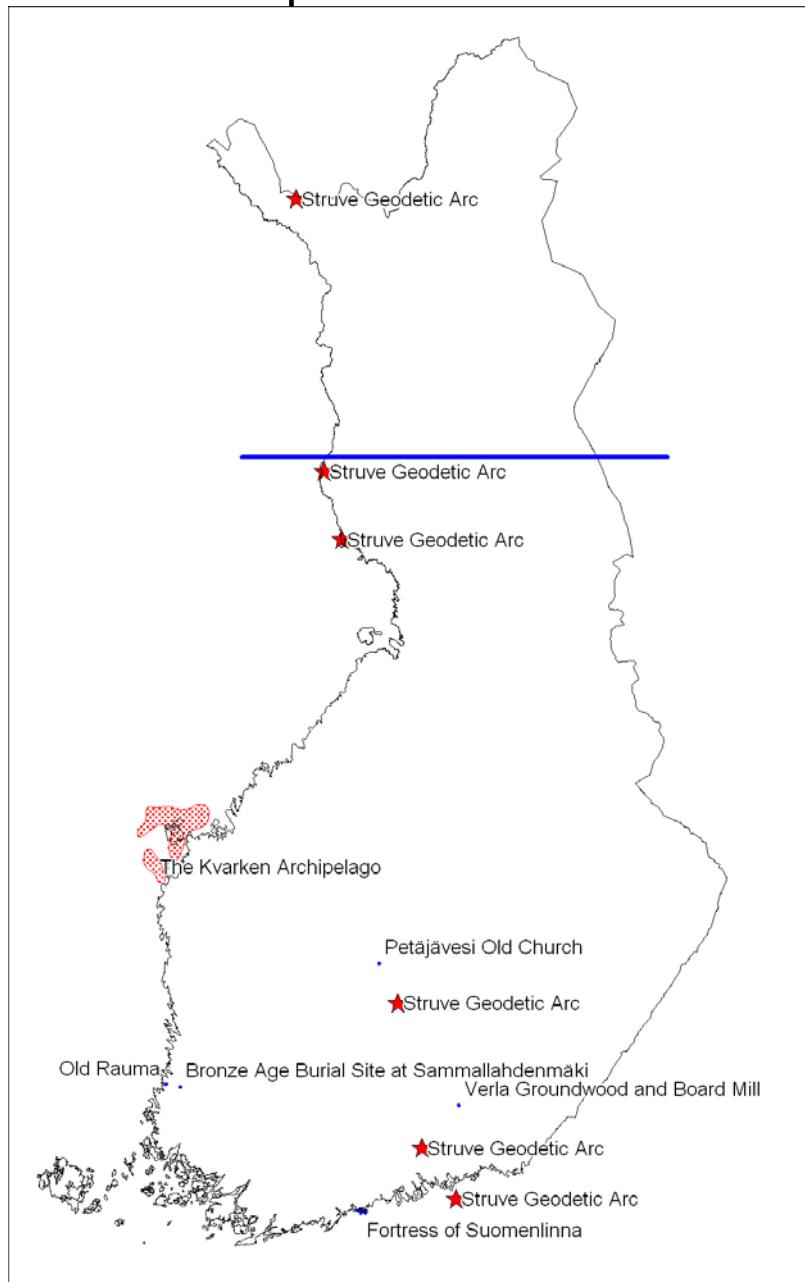
Verla Groundwood and Board Mill

Bronze Age Burial Site at Sammallahdenmäki

Struve Geodetic Arc

the Kvarken Archipelago

Map of the sites



Struve Geodetic Arc - A tour de force in land surveying before the satellite era

- The Struve Geodetic Arc was approved in the World Heritage List in July 2005. Criteria ii, iv and vi. The Arc is a scientific and technological landmark.
- The Struve Geodetic Arc was laid out and measured in 1816-1855 under the direction of F. G. W. Struve, a German astronomer, with the aim of determining the size and shape of the Earth.
- The Struve Geodetic Arc comprises station points in ten countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova).
- These countries have been cooperating since 1993 to ensure protection of the chain and to restore its station points. The Struve Geodetic Arc is in fact the first World Heritage Site to go through such a large number of countries.
- A total of 34 station points have been selected for protection.
- In Finland, the Struve Geodetic Arc is also known as the Russo-Scandinavian meridian arc

Struve Geodetic Arc, A tour de force in land surveying before the satellite era



Four station points of the Struve arc W H S are located in Norway. They are all in the Arctic region. Four points are located as well in Sweden. Three of them are in the Arctic region. The northernmost point is located in Norway near Hammerfest. Another point lies in Alta at the top Lille Raipas.



Six station points of the Struve arc World Heritage site are located in Finland.

Three of these are in northern Finland.

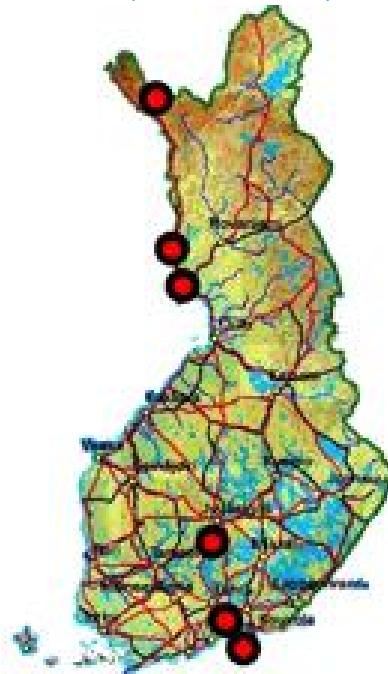
One datum point lies in Enontekiö in the arctic region while the Aavasaksa datum is on the border of the arctic region if the Arctic is considered to begin at the Arctic Circle (66 degrees 33 minutes North).

The third datum in northern Finland is located in Alatornio.

The point at the top of Stuorrahanoaivi (originally Stuor-oivi) in Enontekiö was measured in 1850-1852.

The Aavasaksa (Avasaksa) point was measured in 1845. The cross is carved in stone and now located under an observation tower built in 1969.

The point located in the church tower of Alatornio (Torneå) was measured in 1842.



The point at the top of Stuorrahanoaivi



The Aavasaksa (Avasaksa) point



The point located in the church tower of Alatornio



Protection and maintenance of the Struve arc in Finland

Three of the stations are located in state nature preserves so they are protected by the Nature Conservation Act.

Two stations located on private property are protected by the Antiquities Act.

One station is covered by the Church Act.

The Management plan (A common maintenance and use plan) covers all ten countries with Struve arc stations.

All stations are marked with similar site signs and roadside signs.

Practical maintenance (upkeep of the sites, parking, paths) is the responsibility of the local boroughs.

