

LIVING IN KAUSALA - THE LOCATION OF SETTLEMENTS

A case study of small town **Kausala** in countryside area in southeaster Finland



Kausala is active commercial centre between towns Lahti and Kouvola.

Settlements

The main tasks of this study are describe the site and situation of rural and urban settlements. Recognise the function of settlements and services it offer. Know about urban land use and zones within settlements.



A typical composite landscape in northern Iitti, Kymi River, forests, fields and farms.



Iitti has about 7500 residents. The town Kausala is the administrative centre of municipality Iitti. The settlements are involved in industry, commerce and administration. Rural area with forests, lakes and fields surrounds the town Kausala. Site of Kausala is in border of southern Finland coastal plain and eastern Finland lake area where River Kymi met First Salpausselkä glaciofluvial ice-age marginal formation. The Salpausselkä has aroused first of Baltic sea, and it has been a natural migration route for plants, animals and later first living site for ancient people about 8000 years ago.



Kausala is old railway station village since late 1800s

Railway and first industrialisation wave

Late 1800 - century there has been build Railway from Helsinki to St. Petersburg and several small railway station was born. One of these was Kausala. Rural area with fields and forests offer raw materials for dairy and saw industry. River Kymi was the transport way to timber from forests and railway was transport way for industry goods to Kotka Harbour. Workers come from surrounding countryside and later from northern and eastern Finland. Kausala was busy marketplace and especially famous of horses.

Highway and second industrialisation wave

After World War II there had been situated evacuated people from Karjala and later migration from rural area to urban area grew. Economy grew and living standard became higher after War. Number of industrial jobs increased and people had more money to spend and they had more leisure. Young people build their own house, they can get a car and summer cottage.

Industry, traffic and transport increased. Kausala was famous of transport vehicle and bus industry (nowadays Carrus and Kauppi). Later Halton Oy grew up important air condition manufacturer and market spread all over the world.

Centralisation and future, new thinking

After great depression 1990 in Finland migration from rural area and small towns has been increased and population has been concentrated in cities Helsinki and Tampere. In Kausala this development has been recognised really, because young peoples go studying to Helsinki and seldom they come back to homeside.

There are some signs that in future best employees are small high technology factories, those are flexible and offer their markets

rapidly and surely. Kausala's location and its excellent communications have attracted many business from larger multinational companies to small private firms. There are diverse of companies as air-conditioning, wood-processing, plastics, blacksmithing, electronics, agricultural produce and export consultancy.

Other segment is perhaps travelling and leisure time operators. There are many good examples in Iitti. Beautiful and fresh nature, good traffic connection and pleasant people are the reasons, that make future. Country produce is available all year round from the Farm Shop and in the summer especially from the summer market. New golf course is situated in beautiful area between Lake Urajärvi and Kymi River.



Iitti Golf course at The Niskaportti was opened June 2004.