

# The Great Fire of Ålesund 1904

The Great Fire started in Nedre Strandgate in Ålesund 23 January 1904. Here was a margarine factory. It was about 20'clock at night and a strong hurricane blew up.

Recklessness in handling fire was probably the cause of how it started, but this has never been proved. Nobody has been sentenced for having started the fire.



Bybrannen startet i Nedre Strandgate i Ålesund 23.januar 1904.På denne tomten var det en margarin fabrikk. Klokka var omtrent 2 om natta, og det blåste opp til kraftig orkan. En tror brannårsaken var uforsiktig omgang med ild, men dette har aldri blitt bevist. Ingen er blitt dømt for å ha startet brannen.

In spite of great efforts to put the fire out, it turned out to be impossible because of the strong wind.After a while the fire had spread to the entire city and most of the houses burnt down. Many houses had curved tiles on their roofs, and those served to scatter the sparks. That fact put house after house on fire.

Around 850 houses burnt down, and about 10 000 persons were homeless.

Til tross for stor innsats for å slukke brannen, viste det seg at dette var umulig i den sterke vinden. Etter en stund hadde brannen spredt seg over hele byen, og mesteparten av byens trehus brant ned. Mange av husa hadde buete teglstein på taket, og de virket som gnistspredere. Dette gjorde at det ene huset etter det andre tok fyr.

Ca .850 hus brant ned, og ca.10 000 personer ble hjemløse.

## Anders Nord

was a very religious man.

He prayed to God that his house would not turn into ashes. His prayer was heard. All the houses around burnt down to ashes, while this house was left standing.

It is still there and is a heritage listed building.



*The house of Anders Nord*

## Anders Nord

var en veldig religiøs mann. Han bad til Gud om at huset hans ikke skulle bli til aske. Bønnen ble hørt. Alle husene rundt brant ned til aske, mens dette huset stod igjen. Det står der fortsatt og er fredet.

## Ane Heen

She was the only person who died in the fire. She went into her burning house to fetch her money, and she never came out again.

## Ane Heen

Hun var den eneste personen som døde i brannen. Hun gikk inn i det brennende huset sitt for å hente pengene sine og kom aldri ut igjen.