



Reykjanes School



Spring festival in Reykjanes in the thirties.

The Reykjanes School buildings

Aðalsteinn Eiríksson had the main say regarding the construction of the first building for the school in 1934, designed by architect Þórir Baldvinsson. In the building there was a dormitory and classrooms in addition to the principal's and teachers' apartments. Later, the primary school was housed in this building. In Reykjanes, there were initially boarding school dormitories and a swimming pavilion in a wooden house that the town Ísafjörður had built around 1930 as a boarding house for students taking swimming courses, but the house burned down on March 26, 1941. In the summer of 1941, a new building for the boarding school, Ásgarður, was built on top of the hot spring area and had underfloor heating. The canteen and rooms of Ásgarður were named after Old-Norse mythological names such as Miðgarður, Nóatún and Glæsivellir. The house was a pre-scaled wooden house, but the timber got damaged by the geothermal heat. In the early 1960s, the government invested heavily in the development of boarding school buildings for district schools in the country. Ásgarður was demolished and a new, much larger building was built on the same site between 1962 to 1965. A new building was added in 1973 and a large wing with classrooms was put into use. In the 1980s, the number of students began to dwindle and it was decided in 1991 to close the district school. However, the Reykjanes primary school continued to operate until 1996.



To the left is the boarding school house built in 1941. To the right is the primary school house, the middle part built in 1934.

The Reykjanes primary school was founded in 1934 and the district school in 1937. Aðalsteinn Eiríksson was the first principal and he took the lead in connecting the studies at the school to daily life in the district. Educational funds laid the foundation for the establishment of boarding schools and Jón H. Fjalldal, from the farm Melgraseyri, founded an educational fund for the Ísafjarðardjúp area in 1932. The town Ísafjörður bought Reykjanes in 1930 for swimming lessons, while the Reykjarfjarðarhreppur and Nauteyrarhreppur municipalities took the lead in establishing the school in Reykjanes. At that time, the combined population of these districts was just over 300 people. The promoters of education in Ísafjarðardjúp hired Aðalsteinn Eiríksson as principal in Reykjanes and he moved there with his family in 1934. In addition to Aðalsteinn Eiríksson, his wife Bjarnveig Ingimundardóttir, Eiríkur Stefánsson and Ólafur S. Ólafsson were responsible for teaching in the early years in Reykjanes.



The old boarding school house that was built in 1931.

School administrators of Reykjanes

Aðalsteinn Eiríksson, 1934-1944
Þóroddur Guðmundsson frá Sandi, 1944-1948
Aðalsteinn Eiríksson, 1948-1949
Ólafur S. Ólafsson, 1949-1950
Kjartan Hjálmarsson, 1951-1952
Páll Aðalsteinsson, 1952-1966
Kristmundur Hannesson, 1966-1982
Skarphéðinn Ólafsson, 1982-1989
Þorkell Ingimarsson, 1989-1996