

<http://maisons-de-poupees.e-monsite.com/categorie.maisons-lundby.3292466.html>

Text by Valérie Braun

English translation by Julie Plovnick

Lundby Dollhouses

Lundby of Sweden is a well-known Swedish brand that still exists today. The first Lundby dollhouses were manufactured starting in 1947 in the Lundby section of Hising Island, Sweden, where the company was located (thus its name). Millions of the highly popular "Gothenburg" house (named for the city Hising Island was a part of) have been sold. This famous house whose roof slopes gently to the right has five rooms.

The year 1974 was a turning point for the Gothenburg, whose surface area was expanded with two extension floors—a garage and a basement—that were sold separately. Lundby also released the very first Lundby car ([see article in my blog](#)) and the very first dolls. The following year a selection of cute little accessories were released for the Gothenburg: a green yard, fences, a removable balcony, and outdoor furniture (an "in-ground" pool and a kiddie pool, a swing, a greenhouse, and more).



1970s Brown-Frame Gothenburg

By the late 1970s, the frame was white. Jennifer McKendry's website discusses the evolution of the Gothenburg: <http://www.mckendry.net/LUNDBY%20DOLLHOUSE/LUNDBY.htm>

Wishing to revitalize the brand, in 1975 the designers created a much larger trapezoid-shaped house called the "Stockholm Deluxe." This house has six rooms and a built-in balcony. An immense extension serving as a garage, stable, and laundry room was released in 1979.



Earliest Stockholm House and Extension with Front Panels for Both Sections

There are three different versions of this house, making it possible to date them accurately: the earliest version from 1975, an intermediate version from 1984, and a final version from 1986. [All the information you need to date your Stockholm dollhouse can be found in my blog, along with tons of detailed photos. Feel free to check it out!](#)

In 1981 Lundby's "Manor House" appeared. This dollhouse was sold unassembled for the owner to put together. The British firm Barton offered the same system with its famous "Caroline's Home" dollhouse, which was sold either assembled or in pieces for home assembly (at different prices, of course). Did Lundby take inspiration from Barton? Lundby's Manor House was not very successful, and it was soon taken off the market. This model is consequently not always well constructed (it has to be said), is fairly difficult to find, and is therefore rather expensive when you do come across one!



Also in 1981 Lundby released a country chalet made entirely of wood with two floors and a sloped roof and small terrace. This rustic-style home is very basic—no doors or windows (just openings), no staircase, no interior decoration like wallpaper or carpet.



At the same time as this chalet, the 1981-1982 Lundby catalogue shows a sort of long shed, also of wood and also with no decoration to speak of. It has three parts: a stable with two stalls, a garage section, and a pergola on the right (photo to come). Once again, it is clearly rustic in style. Was it intended to be taken on vacation? [Lundby also created "junior homes" for very young children. I will discuss these in more detail and provide photos in a future entry in my blog.](#)

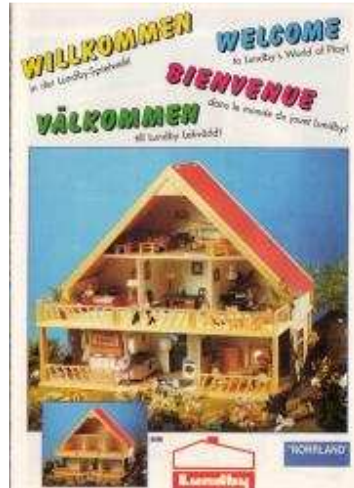
In 1987 Lundby began selling its "Tudor House." Once again, it could be purchased as a kit or fully assembled. Barton released one too, to keep up with the competition! This house is rather rare, and I have never found one.



Lundby flourished in the 1980s, notably buying out Lisa of Denmark. But the 1990s brought harder times for the Swedish brand, as little girls turned away from dollhouses and toward more popular toys of the time. It should also be noted that the high cost of these houses was not a point in Lundby's favor.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Lundby updated and slightly improved its wooden chalet. This new model with a pointed roof had a large ground floor surrounded by a balustrade

dividing it into two parts, a second floor with three rooms and a terrace, and a third floor consisting of one room. As a whole, it is much more sophisticated than the earlier model.



In 1997 Swedish company Micki Leksaker AB took over the Lundby line. In the 2000s the new "Småland" collection was introduced in an attempt to attract a new generation of little girls to the enchanting world of miniatures. A highly modern new Stockholm was even created.



It is currently rather difficult to find Lundby in stores. Not that the brand is declining; toy sellers simply prefer to fill their shelves with items reflecting today's hottest trends.

If you're looking for modern or vintage Lundby, let the Internet be your guide. For modern Lundby, type "Lundby" in the Google search bar. Plenty of vintage Lundby can be found on online auction sites (beware—the prices are sometimes quite high). Be sure to rummage through boxes at secondhand shops and garage sales too. You can sometimes find real treasures!

Happy hunting! 😊