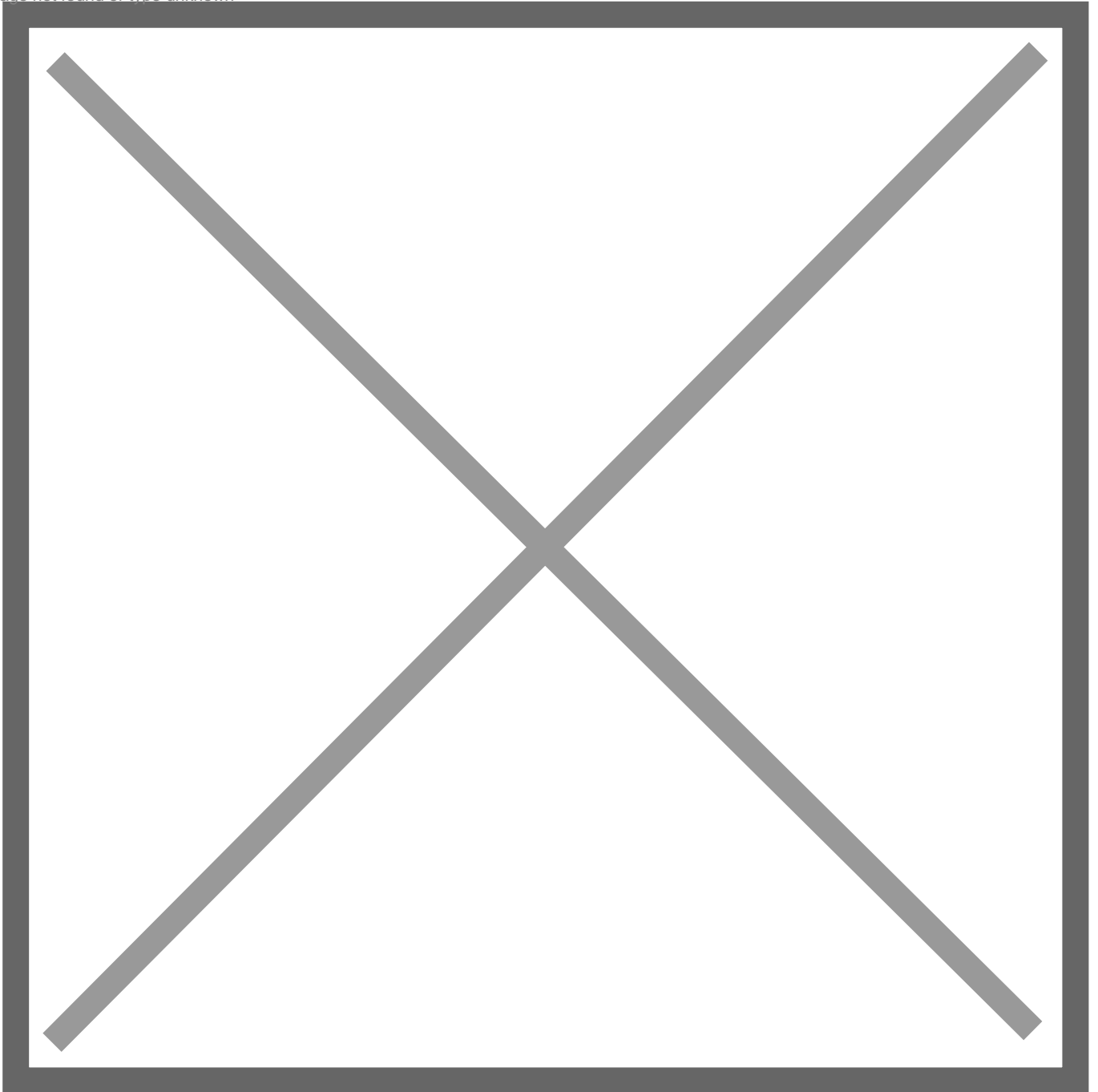


Image not found or type unknown



**Vikingskibshallen på Vikingskibsmuseet  
[Viking Hall at the Viking Ship Museum]**

## Denmark

Vindeboder 12  
Sjælland [Zealand] (Region) 4000 Roskilde Fjord

## Commission

1967

## Completion

1969

---

## Original use

Culture/leisure/tourism/museum

## Current use

Culture/leisure/tourism/museum

---

## Architects

Erik Christian Sørensen

---

## Concrete by reinforcement

Reinforced concrete

## Construction method

Cast-in-place concrete, in-situ concrete

## Architectural concrete

Architectural concrete

## Structural types

One-dimensional/concrete frame

---

## Description

This museum dedicated to naval archeology celebrates an important chapter in Viking history: the intentional sinking of five Viking ships, built in different countries including Norway and Ireland, to block the sea access to Denmark's former capital, the town of Roskilde. These five ships were discovered in 1957, and their exhibition motivated the construction of the museum. The construction to expand the museum in the 1990s uncovered nine more large vessels from the same period, which were incorporated into the museum's collection, cementing the institution's importance.

The building is the result of a competition held in 1963. The winner was Erik Christian Sørensen, with a proposal that ties in the naval artifacts with the landscape: the structure sits directly on the water, while a huge picture window frames the fjord. Thus, the ships inside are related both to the sea and to the sky, and their profiles, as seen from the water, seem to float in the fjord.

Undoubtedly, the most remarkable aspect of the architectural design is the care with which the imposing structure of exposed concrete is adapted to the needs of the ships, while also clearly expressing its structural principles through the superposition of beams and joists. The architect's sketches reveal the delicate development of the design, in which the structure determines the building's appearance while adapting, with the support of a conscientious exhibition design, to the shape and position of the ships. The drawings also show how the visitor routes help interpret the value of the ships, putting them into relation with the landscape. "V"-shaped skylights bring light into the building from overhead, enhancing the overall ambience.

The building is under threat to be demolished

---

## Links

[ICOMOS Heritage Alert: The Viking Ship Hall  
Arkitekturtegninger](#)