

9-1-2014

A Västergötland research example

Elisabeth Thorsell

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag>



Part of the [Genealogy Commons](#), and the [Scandinavian Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Thorsell, Elisabeth (2014) "A Västergötland research example," *Swedish American Genealogist*: Vol. 34 : No. 3 , Article 7.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag/vol34/iss3/7>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Augustana Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Swedish American Genealogist by an authorized editor of Augustana Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@augustana.edu.

A Västergötland research example

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

A researcher wanted to find the parents and grandparents of a girl named Christina Andersdotter, supposedly born on 20 Nov. 1845 in Varola parish of Skaraborg county of Västergötland. But not being too familiar with Swedish records she was stumped.

When doing research in the many tiny parishes of Västergötland it is always a good idea to check which parishes belonged together in a *pastorat*, where one was the mother parish (*moderförsamling*), and the others called annexes. The records for the various parishes are often kept together in one book, and sometimes in different books. In the latter case one often gets a feeling that the pastor used whichever book that was on the top of the pile. So if a notice is not found in the parish that is mentioned later in the person's life, try the other ones in the *pastorat*.

However, Christina Andersdotter was found in the Varola records.

Varola Birth Records 20 Nov. (Varola C:5, img. 53).

Christina, daughter of Anders Svensson and his wife Maja Lisa Andersdotter. The father was the tenant farmer (*brukare*) at Quarnegården (now Kvarngården).

Varola AI:7, p. 19.

Quarnegården (right-hand page) shows the family like this:

Anders Svensson, born 9 Oct. 1816 in Skövde.

w. Maja Lisa born 21 Oct. 1815 (parish not mentioned).

Anders came here in 1841 from page 13, also Kvarngården.

Maja Lisa came here in 1843 from Björkelund.

They moved in 1847 to Varola Snickaregård.

Varola AI:7, p. 81.

Varola Snickaregård.

d. Maja Lovisa, b. 29 Sep. 1848.

Varola AI:8, p. 113.

Varola Snickaregård.

Anders and family moved in 1851 to Fröjered parish.

Wife Maja Lisa recorded as being born in Acklinga parish.

d. Johanna born 27 July 1851, probably died small.

Fröjered B:2: img. 75.

Anders and family moved to *Stockagården* as moving in #68, in 1851.

Johanna is not listed.

Stockagården was not found in Fröjered, but was located in the annex parish *Fridene*.

Fridene AI:6, p. 106.

Fridene Stockagård.

Anders and family stayed in this place until 1854, when they moved to Årby Skattegård, also in Fridene.

Son Anders Gustaf born 28 Oct. 1854.

Fridene AI:6, p. 166.

Årby Skattegård.

Anders is now an *arrendator*, a step up from being a *brukare*.

Fridene AI:7, p. 100.

Årby Skattegård.

Anders and family moved in 1870 back to Varola, but not found there.

Luckily there is the database *Sve- riges Befolkning 1880* (Population of Sweden 1880). In this, Widow (*Ånka*) Maja Lisa Andersdotter and daughter Maja Lovisa were found as living at Ormebacken in Vårsås parish.

Tracing backwards

Vårsås AI:11, p. 38 Ormebacken.

Maja Lisa is now called Maja Lena.

She and daughter Maja Lovisa came in 1879 from Svänaskogen, and moved in 1882 to Skattegården, also in Vårsås.

Vårsås AI:11, p. 86.

Skattegården.

Maja Lena (Lisa) died there on 22 Apr. 1884. The Vårsås death records (Vårsås F:1, img. 6 /p. 1) shows this to be correct, but no cause of death listed.

Daughter Maja Lovisa was married in 1883 and moved to Kyrkefalla parish.

Vårsås AI:11, p. 25.

Svänaskogen.

Maja Lena and her daughter came there in 1877 from Perstorp in Varola.

Varola AI:10, p. 10.

Perstorp.

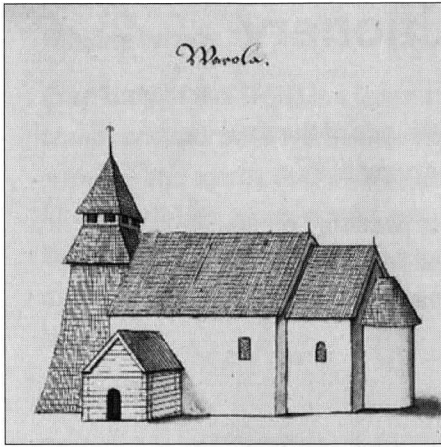
Anders and his family came here in 1872 from Svänaskogen.

Anders died here in 14 Dec. 1875, which is confirmed in the Varola Death records (C:6 (1853-1875) img. 162 / p. 56.) No cause of death recorded.

Son Anders Gustaf is a volunteer.

20	21	Christina	Anders Svensson 29	20	Maja Lisa Andersdotter 20	brukare i Quarnef.
----	----	-----------	--------------------	----	---------------------------	--------------------

Birth of Christina Andersdotter. (Varola C:5 [1824-1853] img 53 [Arkiv Digital]).



Varola old church, built during the 1100s, and torn down in the middle 1800s.



Varola new church, built in 1864, and still standing. (Pictures from The Swedish National Heritage Board [Riksantikvarieämbetet]).

Värsås AI:9, p. 25.

Svänaskogen.

Anders and family came here in 1870 from Fröjered.

Värsås AI:10, p. 27.

Svänaskogen.

Anders and family moved in 1872 to Perstorp in Varola.

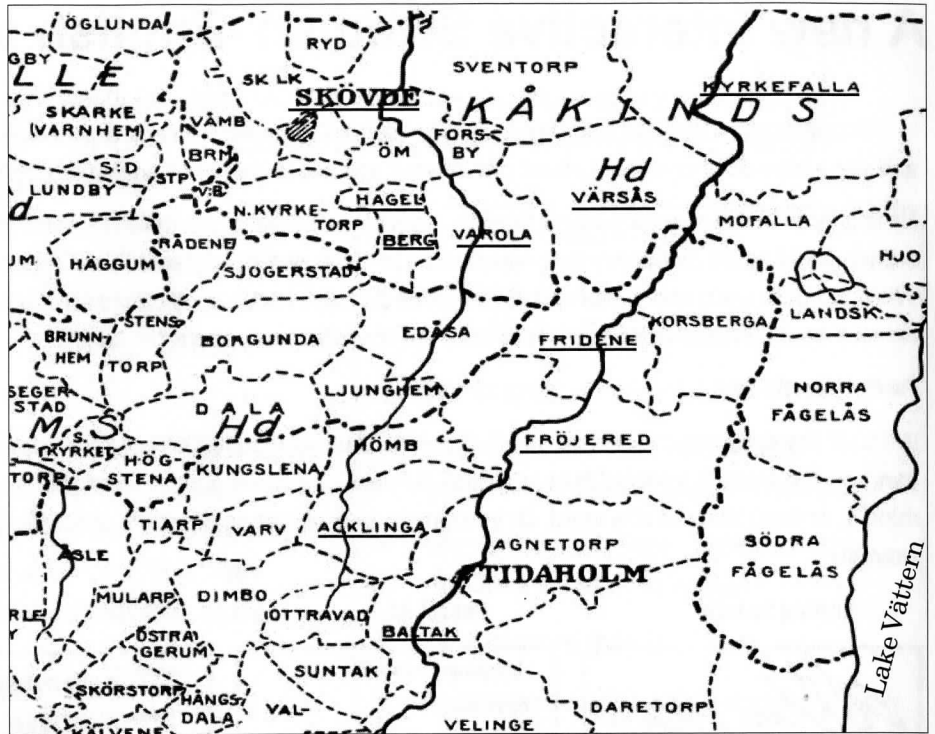
Daughter Christina moved on 17 May 1872 to Horn parish, and married Olof Andersson of Liung(?) in Horn.

Anders Gustaf is a volunteer in the Älvsborg company of the Västgöta Regiment.

The place Svänaskogen was earlier spelled Svernaskogen.

The parents:

Anders born 9 October 1816 in Ullstorp in Skövde landsförsamling C:1 (1811-1827) img. 57 / p. 105 Hagelberg parish), son of the tenant farm-



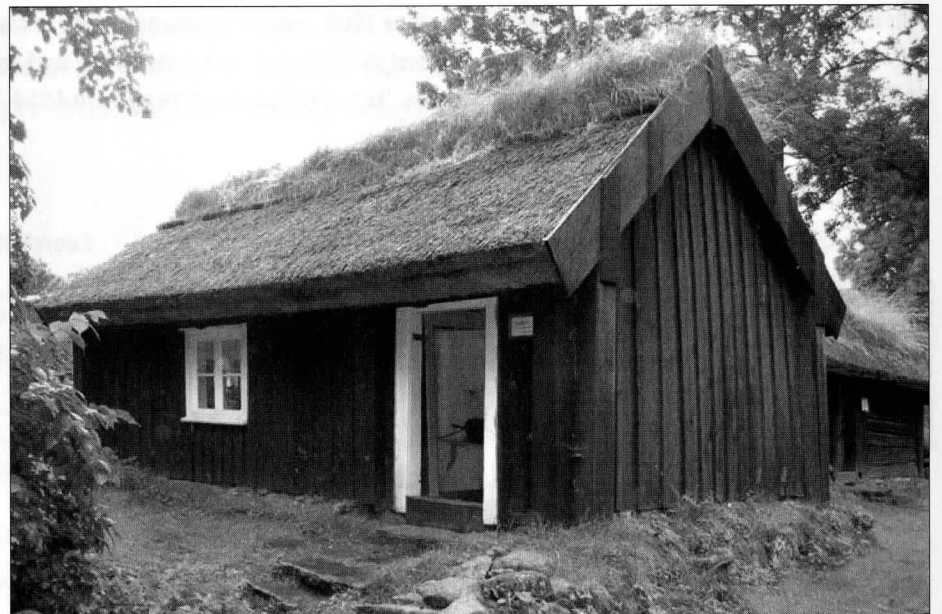
Map of parishes in northeastern Västergötland. Parishes mentioned in the article are underlined. (Map from Skaraborg Länsmuseum). (Horn parish is north of Skövde).

er Sven Svensson and his wife Maja Svendsdotter. According to the clerical survey Sven was born 19 Dec. 1784 in Varola, and his wife Maja 9 Apr. 1788 in "Amentorp" (place not yet identified.)

Maja Lisa might be identical with the girl Maja Lisa, born 1815, probably 27 Oct. in Baltak parish, same

pastorat as Acklinga (Acklinga C:3, img. 30 / p. 50). Her parents are listed as Anders Andersson and Maja Andersdotter, torpare on Backgården lands in Baltak. More detailed research is needed on both parents.

All references are from *Arkiv Digital*.



Perhaps Anders Svensson and family lived in a house like this? A stuga at Åsle Tå (a village for poor people) in Åsle parish, near Falköping in Västergötland. (Photo by E. Thorsell).