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How to find documents on SVAR. Part 1

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

SVAR, which stands for *Svensk Arkivinformation i Ramsele*, is the website of the Swedish *Riksarkivet* (National Archives), and it has a great deal of very interesting documents. Most things are only available if you have a subscription. (See ad on p. 6)

The first article in a series will tell you how to find one of these interesting items. The web site has an English version, which you can find in the upper right corner of the first page. But often the English version does not go more than one level deep, and you end up with having to read a Swedish text to go further.

To find the Göteborg Passenger lists from 1869-1950

First find your emigrant in the database *Emihamn* (on the CD *Emigranten Populär* or at *Ancestry.com*) and make a note of the *Källkod* (source code). Next login at SVAR, and write *Utvandrare* in the search window on the upper right corner. This will take you to a link like this: 1. *Utvandrare*. Click on that and you will see a lot of text in Swedish and a picture of a steamer.

At the bottom of this page is another link that just says *Till materialet* (to the documents). Following this link will take you to the yearly collections of passenger lists.

For some obscure reason the catalog starts with the volume for 1914, but if you use the back-button on top of the catalog, you will go back to the first volume from 1869. Now find the year you want and click on *Bild* (picture), the volume opens and now you can go page by page, and look for the date of departure and the number in the left hand margin.

Look at the number at the left of the list for the first person in the picture, and you will see that it is the



The first page of the SVAR website.

Förteckning

öfver utvandrare, som af undertecknad befordras med Angfartyget *Orlando*, som den 13 Januari härifrån afgår till *Hull*.

Känsligt No. 5/8	Utvandrens yrke och namn.	Födelseort till län och socken.	Ålder	Med.	Öfverlev.	Antal	Bestämningsort.
24.301	Axel Lidström.	Svedve, Westman.	47 1/2	1	1	1	Paxton.
02.	P. H. Hultgren.	Norrköping	25 1/2	1	1	1	Chicago
03.	Axel Lidström.		32 1/2	1	1	1	
04.	Ch. Bergqvist.	Edersvik, Westman.	28 1/2	1	1	1	Red Wing
05.	Joh. Alf. Larsson	Serbyck, Örebro.	25 1/2	1	1	1	Chicago
06.	P. G. Hultström	Halsberg	27 1/2	1	1	1	New York
07.	Syster Anna		16	1	1	1	
08.	Johan Jansson.	Kumla, Örebro.	21 1/2	1	1	1	Chicago
09.	P. J. Johansson.	Hällestad, Österg.	27 1/2	1	1	1	New York
10.	Carl Fredr. Högl.	Byggn	23 1/2	1	1	1	San Francisco
11.	C. J. Olsson	Åkerselva	24 1/2	1	1	1	New York
						10 1/4	

same as the last part of the *källkod* for Axel Lidström in the *Emihamn*, just the volume number is lacking.

The information on this list corresponds with the information from *Emihamn*, but also shows the name of the ship that took these passengers to Hull in England. Swedish records do not show the name of the ship from England to America.

These lists are the foundation for the *Emihamn* database.

Efternamn: LIDSTRÖM
Förnamn: AXEL
Ålder: 47 Kön: M
Född: 1834/1835
Församling: SVEDVE Län: U
Titel/Anm:
Utresehamn: GÖTEBORG
Utvandrdag: 1882 01 13
Destination: PAXTON
Medåkande: NEJ
Källkod: 19:21:24201

Information from *Emihamn*.