12-1-2007

A new Stockholm resource

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In Stockholm in the later 1800s the church's age-old system of book-keeping of the population broke down, as the influx of people became too great. The city government then instituted a civil system for book-keeping. In each city block there was a city servant, the *rotemannen*, whose job it was to keep track of everyone and record all movements, births, mariages, divorces, and deaths and also often social problems, like children needing a pair of shoes.

The city was divided into a number of *rotar* (wards) in the various parishes, and in each *rote* (singular) the *rotemannen* kept his ledgers for many years. The system worked from 1878 to 1926, and thousands of ledgers were filled.
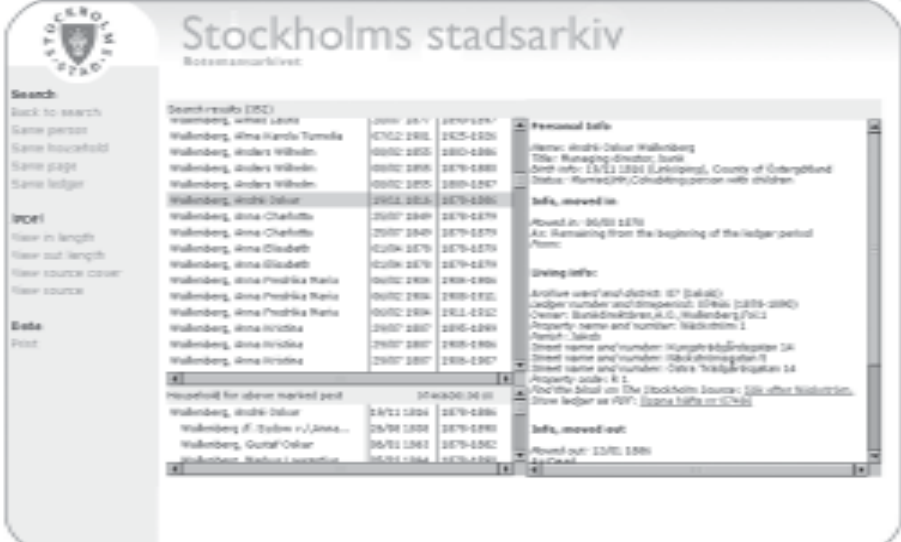
This is a marvelous source for anyone with people in Stockholm during this period, but very difficult to use. It was decided that all those ledgers should be entered into a database, which would make the information accessible. This work has been going on since the 1970s, and has so far resulted in the four Stockholm CD:s that are familiar to many.

Lately the Stockholm City Archives (*Stadsarkivet*) decided to put the database online to the delight of the researchers. The database as it is now covers the parishes of *Maria Magdalena, Katarina, Gamla Stan, Klara, Kungsholmen,* and parts of *Jakob och Johannes*, and you can search all of it at once. At the moment the database has 3,460,476 posts. Several parishes are still missing, but as the project continues, more *rotar* will be added to the database.

The search window is shown at the top of the page. Just click on the British flag and you will get the lead-

The search window. The example shows the founder of the famous Wallenberg family.

At the bottom of the result screen you will see the household of Mr. Wallenberg, and on the righthand side detailed information on Mr. Wallenberg.

words in English.

One thing to remember is the date format. You *must* enter dates as year-month (in numbers)-day, that is like 18850718. Then on the result screen you will see the date as 18/07 1885, which is a bit confusing.

The second column on the lefthand side is the years covered by the various ledgers.

Due to the Swedish Privacy Law (PUL), people born after 1908 are not identified in the database, unless they are found to be deceased in the ledgers, that is before 1927.

http://www3.ssa.stockholm.se/Rotemansarkivet/Search.aspx