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Gotland and the Genealogist: 
What is Common and What is Different? 

Kerstin Jonmyren* 

Gotland is Scandinavia’s largest island. Its location was once very strategic, but with time the island became more and more isolated and ended up on the fringes of Sweden so to speak.

This change naturally affected the people who lived on the island. From the big income potential during the Viking era from trading journeys, Viking raids, and mainly the excellent location for commerce to an era in the modern age when people knew that, with water surrounding them on all sides, they had to survive on what was available on the island.

As a researcher, one sees a strictly stereotyped world, with its own traditions with regard to names and families, and a farming society with mostly family farms. Church records are available from the 1600s and 1700s on Gotland, just as in other parts of Sweden. Since I have worked with Gotland’s church records for a long time and also researched old manners and customs on the island, some new genealogists researching Gotland sometimes ask me about other conditions on the island.

The main purpose for this article is to initiate a discussion about old traditions encountered by researchers in different parts of our country. Gotland has been special in its own way; other parts of the country have had their own characteristics.

A Quick Tour Through History

The 1600s were a very difficult time for Gotland. Strict and arbitrary county governors or the equivalent, first from Denmark and after 1645 from Sweden, squeezed as many taxes as they could from the people. The capital cities were far away, too far to travel to and complain. Besides, the plague ravaged in the middle of the century and the island, as well as the rest of Scandinavia, suffered a devastating famine during the last few years of the century due to failed crops.

The 1700s began with big difficulties and many farms, mainly in the coastal parishes, were deserted. It was not until the peacetime following the long wars during Karl XII’s reign that the population began to increase and the deserted farms were occupied again. The island saw a big growth in population, bigger than in the rest of Sweden. The farms soon had to be partitioned in order to

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support more families and in the beginning of the 1800s almost all farms had been divided into as many parts as was possible and still be economically sound.

**The One-child System**

Compared to Sweden as a whole, with its accelerating population increase, the quick increase in population was actually slowed on Gotland during the 1800s. This was especially true for the farming population, and they were in the majority. They realized that only one child could inherit the home farm; other siblings would be without. Therefore, the one-child system became common in the 1800s. Everything was put on one card so to speak. With luck it worked out perfectly (no future supply problems); but, when the child died young, which of course happened, everything was lost. On my own family farm in Oja Parish, only one child was born in each of the three generations during the 1800s—and they were fortunate.

This slowed the population increase to some degree, but the numbers still increased. Toward the end of the 1800s, numerous bogs were drained, providing more tillable land, which helped some. Also, during this time the emigration from the island to America began, mainly from the coastal parishes where the soil was poor.

**Working Men**

Still, there was not enough land. Typical for Gotland was the development of the occupational group called working men (*arbetskarlar*). A younger son on a farm, who neither inherited the farm nor acquired one through marriage, received a small piece of land on which to build a house and a small barn. Then he could marry and support himself by working for the farmers in the area. Each group of farms had one or several working men.

The social standing of these workers was not as poor as it may seem, at least not for the first generations, which had their farm origin in the background. Their economic standing on the other hand was poor. Also, a son or daughter of a working man seldom married up again into a farm.

I wrote area, not villages, because the usual assembly of villages common in most parts of the mainland did not exist on Gotland. This often confuses new researchers on Gotland. The farms were scattered here and there. In the beginning they were single farms, from the 1700s several together as partners, and after the land partitioning in the late 1800s they were again scattered to some degree.

Villages existed, but they usually composed bigger parts of a parish and seldom appeared as official names in the church records. The parish concept on the other hand was and still is very much alive.

It is important to point out that, for a long time, Gotland was mainly a farming island with farms of almost equal size. Big estate-like farms, with large numbers of hired hands or *statare*, did not develop until around the turn of the century in connection with the drainage of bogs in the middle of the island.
Marriage Customs

It was mainly the parents' duty to decide whom their children were to marry. The marriage could be characterized as a financial agreement between equally strong families. Only a widow or widower could choose freely. This meant that truly "new blood" from a parish five to six miles away rarely was introduced on a farm. The parents would naturally first look for a suitable spouse in the area where they had connections and knew the people.

A son or daughter who would take over the farm married a carefully selected person of about the same age from a farm of equal size. The typical age for marriage was about twenty-five, if the farm was not too poor. If a widow or widower who owned a farm remarried, she or he often found a partner ten to fifteen years younger. This was also true for a widow who remarried, regardless of whether she already had a number of children or not. If one finds a couple with this big a difference in age, one can be fairly certain this is a second marriage. Youth was, therefore, always marketable. It seems that the young person marrying into a family would have been from a poor family, taking the chance to become a member of a farm, but this was not very common. Usually, it was just a younger child from a farm of equal size. It seems there was always a surplus of willing candidates for marriage into farms.

One rarely finds a bride in the farming population who was pregnant and this has a very simple explanation. Sometimes the couple had hardly even met before marriage was decided upon; and, if they already knew each other, it was usually only as brief acquaintances. The young, farmers' daughters were surely also very well guarded.

Sibling Exchanges and Those Provided For

So called sibling exchanges—when two siblings married two siblings—were common. Exchanging the children of two farms was economically advantageous. Farmers also assisted each other in finding spouses for their children. I have found several examples of mothers who married widowers and whose daughters shortly thereafter married the sons and vice versa. It also happened that two brothers married into a farm family, the older brother married a widow and the younger one shortly thereafter married the widow's daughter. Second marriages were common. The average life expectancy was short in the old days, but I have never found more than three marriages for the same farmer. It appears that those who lost their spouses three times were worn out.

On the other hand, it is very clear that children were married off when finances allowed it. I have seen several examples of this. If, let us say, the oldest married daughter dies relatively young, the next daughter on the farm is married off to start a family. If she also dies, a middle-aged remaining daughter is married off. Willing candidates for marriage were always available when a farm was involved.

Many generations of family farms are common; sales of farms are rare. It was best to hold on to what one had. It is when the genealogist first reaches the
1600s that succession may become unclear. During this time, farms changed owners more frequently. Farms were deserted and disappeared and some farmers simply switched farms with each other, probably for variation in their lives, not very unusual actually.

Encountering ancestral loss while researching old generations on Gotland is not as common as one may think. The farmers tried to avoid marriages between closely related relatives.

It surely must have been a big sorrow on a farm if no children were born or if those who were born died young, but the farm had to continue on. The farm owners had to be taken care of by a younger generation, as they grew old. The solution was to "take someone in" as it was called. The person taken in was often a child from a poor family, and sometimes from a related family with many children. As a rule, the person was taken in as a child, but sometimes also as an adult. He or she then married and took over the farm as compensation for taking care of the previous owners until they died.

The Constrained Naming Custom

Naming the first child on a farm did not present a big problem. A son was given his father's father's or mother's father's name, nothing else; the next son was given the other ancestor's name. The third son generally was given the father's name, i.e., Olof Olofsson or Lars Larsson. With the fourth son, the parents had more of a choice. However, he was most often named after someone of yet another generation back. Exactly the same system was practiced for the daughters. I have not found this constrained naming system to be followed as strictly anywhere on the mainland as on Gotland. It was followed almost 100 percent, if not 100 percent, of the time.

A new child often inherited an older deceased sibling's name. For example, sometimes three Jacobs or Marias were born in the same generation, but I have never seen more than three siblings with the same name. On Gotland, the most common names for boys were Jacob, Olof, and Lars; for girls, Anna, Maria, and Catharina. Other common names specific for Gotland were Thomas, Rasmus, and Båtel (from Botulf) as well as Gertrud, Barbara, and Bauti (from Botvida).

The Farm Names

I have received a few questions regarding names and have noticed some confusion among the genealogists.

Each child was given a first name (after about 1800, often two names). Everybody also had a patronymic name, but this was not used in daily communication. Individuals in the farming population were identified by farm names, which were added directly after the first name as, for example, Anna Strands or Jacob Smissarve. A common way to address a person or to talk about that person was to say, for example, "father Smissarve" or "young mother Botreifs" or just Botraivar or Strandsen. The person was one with the farm, so to speak. This naming custom still lives on in some parishes. Since the clergy
sometimes called the parishioners according to the area’s naming custom also in
the church records, this can cause confusion. Less experienced researchers
sometimes assume that the farm names are the same as the traditional surnames.

Also, when adding a child’s name in the baptismal records, the clergy
generally used an official name, which later was used only in special
circumstances, documents, and the like. The pastor wrote Magdalena in the
baptismal record, but the family might have called the girl Lena, Lenen, Malena,
or Lona. The pastor wrote Barthold, Bertil, or Botulf, but he was never called
anything other than Båtel. On the other hand, these informal names were often
used in the household examination rolls.

Surnames

Surnames like Bergström and Lindberg were adopted by carpenters and
working men but, as a rule, not by farmers. On the contrary, if someone from
the carpenters’ class managed to marry into a farm, he often took back his
patronymic name. When the military recruitment began on Gotland in the early
1800s and the farmers’ sons were enlisted as officers, they were expected to take
a specific surname of that type. Their names obviously carried status because
they were kept and inherited even after the officers returned home and became
farmers. Visby’s middle class had their own inherited surnames all along, many
dating far back and many of German origin.

The 1850s—a Breaking Point

In the mid-1800s, the old naming custom was broken up quickly and
completely. The people of Gotland seem to have started to compete in finding
‘the most unusual names for their children, from Vardagsella and Maximiliana to
Thorinius, Randolf, and Ernfrid. Family surnames began to take hold. People
emigrated. Farms were bought and sold more frequently. Along with railroads
and swamp drainage systems, people arrived from the mainland, especially from
Småland and Blekinge. It was not unusual that these newly-arrived people
married into the old family farms. The number of illegitimate children increased.
The old parental power apparently weakened in all areas.

Summary

In the 1600s: hard times, plague, famine, and deserted farms. In the 1700s:
big families, division of farms, and traditional farming. In the 1800s: somewhat
smaller families, working men, overpopulation, swamp drainage systems,
emigration, the constrained naming system disappears, and farms are purchased
and sold more often.

Every corner of the country surely has its own special characteristics. I look
forward to receiving descriptions of the specifics in other parts of Sweden!
George A. Akerlof: Nobel Prize Winner with Roots in Dalarna!

Stenåke Petersson et al. and Elisabeth Thorsell*

The Bank of Sweden prize in economic sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel 2001 was shared by three American researchers. One of them, George A. Akerlof, is a descendent from Husby in Dalarna on his father’s mother’s side. His roots have been traced by Släktforskarnas Hus (The House of Genealogy) in Leksand. As is evident from the genealogical table [see page 184], the roots are deeply buried in Husby’s fertile soil.

The proband is Vilhelmina Gustafsdotter, who was born 18 December 1865 at the Baltzar farm in Koberga, Husby. Vilhelmina moved to Stockholm in 1887. She is listed as living in Johannes Parish in 1894. This is also where she was married, that same year, to the office janitor Karl Georg Alfred Åkerlöf of Adolf Fredrik Parish.

The newlyweds moved to Västmannagatan in Adolf Fredrik Parish. Georg advanced to become an office clerk for the state railroad system. Aside from his daily work, he was very interested in art. He created drawings and paintings and was also very good at copying.

Georg and Vilhelmina’s children included two daughters, Constance Margareta Isab (b. Stockholm/Adolf Fredrik, 2 September 1895) and Siri, and one son, Gösta (b. June 11 1897).

Constance remained unmarried. She built a big house in Husby, which, after her death on 5 May 1975, went to the senior citizen’s association in Husby. The house later became the start of an association. Siri married and made her home in Karlstad. Gösta traveled to the U.S. the first time in 1924. On his second trip, his title was “doctor.”

The name Åkerlöf became Akerlof in the U.S. In 1940, a son George was born. Today, he is the [Goldman] Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, and it is he who will travel to Stockholm in December to accept his prize. Presumably, he will bring his wife Janet L. Yellen, also a professor of economics, as well as their twenty-year-old son Robert, a student at Yale University.

Släktforskarnas Hus sent a letter to the recipient of the prize congratulating him and inviting him to visit and personally accept the genealogical table. If he does not have the time to come here in person we will send it to him with greetings from Dalarna!

· Stenåke Peterssson and colleagues

* This article first appeared in Släktshistoriskt Forum, 5/01, pp. 18-19, under the title “Georg Akerlof: Nobelpristagare med rotträd i Dalarna!” and is used here with permission of the authors and Sveriges Släktförförening. Ingrid A. Lang, 13415 10th Ave. S.E., Milaca, MN 56353, translated the original Swedish text. E-mail: <ingrid @maxmin.com>.
As I am a curious person—the best (or worst?) characteristic of a genealogist—I wanted to know if it was possible to easily glean more information about the Åkerlöf family in Stockholm.

I did not find anything on [the CD] Söder-skivan but was successful using Klara-skivan.¹ Here I found Georg Åkerlöf, his parents, and siblings. The father, Karl Reinhold Åkerlöf, born 24 July 1842 in Yttergrann (Uppsala län), worked as a gas lighter and carpentry journeyman. His wife’s name was Wilhelmina Sandberg. She was born 2 December 1837 in Orkesta (Stockholm län), and died 4 May 1904 in Klara. On 6 March 1907, Karl Reinhold remarried the divorced wife of a brush maker, Emma Kristina Dahlgren, born 20 February 1860 in Källa (Kalmar län). The Åkerlöfs moved to Brännkyrka in 1911.

Two of Karl Reinhold’s children—a daughter, Maria Georgina Wilhelmina (b. 2 July 1875), and a son, Carl Wilhelm Gustaf (b. 30 April 1882)—emigrated to the United States on 15 April 1902, with New York as their destination. Unfortunately, they could not be found in the Ellis Island database.

But Gösta Åkerlöf’s journey in 1924 was included and it is evident that he arrived in New York on 6 September, with plans to continue to a friend in Philadelphia. He is reported to be a chemist, Ph.D., and the recipient of a DuPont award. The father, Georg, is listed as living on Fleminggatan 37 in Stockholm.

Finally, we found Gösta Akerlof in the Social Security Data Index, listed as deceased in May 1966 in Princeton, New Jersey. We also found that on 5 March 1991, a woman by the name of Rosalie C. Akerlof of New Jersey and possibly Gösta’s widow had passed away.

- Elisabeth Thorsell

¹ The CD Söder-skivan (the actual title is Söder i våra hjärtan) was published in 1998 by the Stockholm City Archives et al. The Stockholm City Archives published the CD Klara-skivan (Klara. En databas med personuppgifter) in 2000. Söder-skivan contains information on everyone living on Söder (parishes of Maria, Katarina, Högalid, and Sofia) for the years 1878-1926. The information is found in Rotemanna-databasen, which was a special system for keeping track of the people of Stockholm during a period when so many moved into the city that the church system could not handle them in a proper way. There was a roteman in every block who noted when people moved in (with dates of birth, etc.) and when they left and also if they had special needs (as, for example, for shoes or clothes). Söder-skivan also has maps of the area, hundreds of pictures of houses and businesses, hundreds of articles, and much more. Klara-skivan has only Rotemanna-databasen for 1878-1926 and a map, but that is what we basically need. — Elisabeth Thorsell, e-mail to editor, 14 November 2002.
Fig. 1. Pedigree chart for Vilhelmina Gustafsdotter prepared by The House of Genealogy in Leksand.
Who Was Mathias Bernard Pederson?

Elisabeth Thorsell*

Last spring Ambassador Eva Kettis of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested assistance from the Genealogy Society in finding the roots of a woman in Anchorage, Alaska. The woman in question, Teresa J. Pederson-Szafran, was contacted by e-mail and we eventually gathered the following information regarding her father’s father.

Mathias Bernard Pederson, as he was called in America, was born 24 February 1878 in Värmland. He lost his parents when he was about nine years old and moved with his only brother to South Dakota, where they lived close to a Sioux reservation. Here, Mathias learned to speak the Sioux language.

Mathias eventually enlisted in the Army and served in the Spanish-American War in 1898. When the war ended in August 1898, he returned to the U.S., spent a few months in Minneapolis, and later left for California. He worked as a lumberjack in the redwood forests and also survived the big earthquake in 1906 before continuing to Alaska.

In Alaska he lived in Flat, Iditarod, and Ruby, and supported himself by providing wood to the steamboats on the Yukon River. But the gold intrigued him and he continued on to Nome, where he began to pan for gold. He settled in Council, another well-known mining area, where he met his future wife, married, and had a family.

His wife, Emily Pockpahlook, was from an Eskimo family. Mathias and Emily had three children, all born in Council: Steve (b. 13 July 1918), Emma (b. 14 June 1921), and Betsy (b. 18 December 1923). Mathias died in Seattle, Washington, in 1958 and was buried in Washelli Military Cemetery in Seattle.

In the mid-1900s, gold prices decreased and people left Council and Nome in large numbers. Steve Pederson stayed and married Kitty Jackson of the Eskimo family Inupiat, from Kiana, Alaska. Today, their son Mathias B. Pederson manages the family’s gold mining business.

Steve’s daughter Teresa has studied at the University of Washington and at the United Nation’s Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and has worked with nuclear disarmament in the Arctic. Teresa lives in Anchorage with her husband Edward Szafran and daughters Quenna and Chandre.

Teresa would appreciate it very much if someone could give tips regarding her father’s father’s birthplace and whether she has any relatives in Sweden. She does not know the name of the brother in South Dakota, but believes Mathias’s mother’s name was Emma.

If you have a tip, contact Släkthistoriskt Forum.

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Fig. 1. Photograph of Mathias Bernard Pederson with his family in Alaska as it appeared on the cover of Släkthistoriskt Forum, 4/99.
Family fables. Colorful tales of bright shining stars among one’s ancestors. Assertions of royal ancestry and expectations of enormous inheritances. The watchful genealogist should listen to claims like these with a good amount of skepticism. Often they are nothing more than loosely spun cotton candy and nothing to pay attention to. However, there may be a small seed of truth and, therefore, the same dedicated genealogist should always compare the stories to his sources’ cold facts.

A letter arrived from America. Mrs. Monica Blanco in Minnesota wondered if I could help her find a mythical ancestor, a Russian prisoner of war by the name of Zacharoff. One of Mrs. Blanco’s maternal ancestors, Mathilda Pettersdotter (1836-1916), was born in Göteborg/Domkyrko Parish as an illegitimate daughter of Britta Petersdotter. No information regarding the child’s father was available in the birth register or the baptismal records and there were no other leads such as godparents, notes in the household examination rolls, etc. Not even Mathilda’s patronymic name was helpful. Perhaps her biological father’s first name was Peter/Petter, or did she simply “inherit” her last name from her mother? Family tradition, however, suggested that the father might have been a Russian prisoner of war by the name of Zacharoff. Were there still really Russian prisoners of war in Göteborg in the 1830s? Hardly. But since the name is so unusual, it ought to be possible to check this out with the help of the many excellent personal registers in Göteborg’s Regional Archives (Landsarkivet i Göteborg).

I was successful almost immediately. Where would one search for a soldier if not in the Göteborg/Garnison Parish? The soldier Ivan Zacharoff and the maid Ulrika Sjöberg were married there 15 February 1795. I found five children of this couple in the birth and death registers in the same parish:

Maria (née Zacharoff) Strömbom *4 June 1795; †1834
Abraham Zacharoff *20 December 1798; †9 March 1799
Anna Christina Zacharoff *21 July 1800; †7 October 1800
Fredrika Zacharoff *7 October 1803; †15 December 1803
Johannes Zacharoff *12 April 1805; †14 June 1805

I could also confirm that Ulrika Sjöberg had a son, born before her marriage, who also eventually was given the name Zacharoff:

Johan Peter (Sjöberg) Zacharoff *18 October 1792 in Göteborg/Domkyrko Parish; †27 March 1844 in Göteborg/Kristine Parish.

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Fig. 1. Document containing information regarding the forthcoming marriage of Iwan Zacharoff and Ulrica Sjöberg. See text for details.
It is not known whether this person also was the son of the soldier Zacharoff. However, one may speculate that the soldier Zacharoff came to Sweden in connection with the war of 1790 and, therefore, it is likely that this is the case.

The information in the Göteborg/Garnison marriage book is very short, but a volume containing documents regarding forthcoming marriages is preserved. In it is a document with the following text (see figure 1):

Banns were announced for the third time regarding the Christian marriage that has been decided upon between the soldier of the Royal Steding Regiment and Mr. Captain Insenstjerna’s Company Ivan Zacharoff and Miss Ulrica Sjöberg.

Utus 8 Feb:1795
Wed 15 Feb:1795 by J. Norlander

On the back, written diagonally, is the following note:

He, a bachelor twenty-eight years old, born in Moscow, Russia, has through lawful Witnesses proven to the Court of Actuary (Kännärsträtten) his lack of impediments to marriage. She, twenty-seven years old, had authorization from the Domkyrko Parish. Banns were announced for the first time 25 Jan:1795 J. Norlander

I moved quickly to the archives of the Court of Actuary (Kännärsträtten, the lowest court in the cities, below the Rådstugurätten), where I located the matter under the month of January 1795:

After serving notice, the Sergeant of this Garrison’s Steding Regiment Paul And: Julius appeared and presented to the honorable Cathedral Chapter here a Decision through the extract of the Protocol of the 21st of this month, where the Cathedral Chapter in accordance with the Royal Majesty’s Gracious letter of 13 November 1787 and the regulation of 14 March 1791 referring the Soldier of the above-mentioned Regiment and Mr. Captain Insenstjerna’s Company Ivan Sacharoff, born in Russia, to the Court of Actuary to certify, in lack of other proof, that no impediments for marriage exist. The above-mentioned Sergeant requested that the Court of Actuary would allow two witnesses, Soldiers of the same Regiment and Company, Ivan Kusnesoff and Garassin Zilatoff, whose good reputation was certified by the above-mentioned Sergeant, and as there were no objections against these witnesses, they were called and sworn in and warned against committing perjury:

1. Ivan Kusnesoff: that he grew up with Zacharoff in Moscow, Russia, and they served as soldiers with the Resoff Regiment and were captured at the same time in 1790 during the war in Nysloff and thereafter
traveled here together, so the witness is certain that Zacharoff, who never has been married, is free of impediments to marriage.

2. Garassin Zilatoff: reported the same information as the previous witness.

On Zacharoff's request, the Court of Actuary decided to share with him the now executed hearing of witnesses in the form of an extract from the record.

I was also able to find more information about Ulrika Sjöberg. She was born 23 December 1764 in Göteborg/Dömkyrko Parish, the daughter of lumberjack Kristoffer Sjöberg (ca. 1723-1783) and his wife Anna Christina (ca. 1745-1791). In addition to the above-mentioned children, Ulrika also had another illegitimate son, Johan Fredrik, who was born and died in 1787. Ulrika passed away a widow on 8 May 1828 in Göteborg/Garnison Parish. As for the soldier Ivan Zacharoff, there is no information about when or where he died, except that it must have happened before 1828, as his wife was mentioned as a widow at that time.

This also means that Ivan Zacharoff could not have fathered Mathilda Pettersdotter, who was born in 1836. On the other hand, he was probably the father of Johan Peter Zacharoff (1792-1844), who could very well have fathered Mathilda. He had been a widower for eight years at the time Mathilda was born. If he went by his middle name Peter, and not Johan, this would also correspond with Mathilda's patronymic name—Pettersdotter.

Now it was time to start studying the rolls. "The Royal Steding Regiment," which eventually was incorporated into Göta Artillery Regiment, and the Captain Insenstjerna's Company list the soldier and later artillery soldier Ivan Sacaroff (Zacharof, Zacharoff, and other variations) as number 19 from the early 1790s until 1808. At this time, things got rough. The war against the sworn enemy to the East broke out and the number of rolls increased. The information is more vague and there are many changes. The general enlistment rolls do not include Ivan Zacharoff's fate, but the War Archives have other types of rolls to search.

In the Payment Rolls (Avlöningsrulla) for Göta Artillery Regiment 1808, the month of June, we read the following:

No. 19 / Artillery Soldier Ivan Sacaroff / Appointed to Capt. Ehrenström's Battery
No. 22 / Ivan Kunisoff / Appointed to Carlsten

From the same source, the month of July:

No. 19 / Iwan Sacaroff / In the field
No. 22 / Iwan Kusnesoff / Carlsten

Kusnesoff, a name we remember from the witness' testimony above, is mentioned in August, again staying at [Fort] Carlsten and in October, which
constitutes the last Payment Roll. Zacharoff is again listed as being “in the field.”

What happened after this is uncertain. Was Zacharoff sent to the war in Finland? Was he killed there? Had he suffered from a field disease and died in some hospital in Finland or on his way back?

After the war, a new roll was created, based on the remaining men. On 12 November 1809, Insenstjerna’s Company lists the following:

No. 19 / Vacant
No. 22 / Johan Kusnesoff 47 1/2 years old, served 19 10/12 years / Appointed to Carlsten

Zacharoff is gone, probably deceased. But why is this not noted anywhere? Are there more rolls to consult? Yes, actually, there are. “Bröd Munstrings Rulla” for Göta Artillery Regiment and Captain Insenstjerna’s Company, created 10 September 1809, tells the following (see figure 2):

No. 19 / Artillery soldier Iwan Zacharoff / Ill at the hospital here

“Here” refers to Göteborg and the soldier Zacharoff probably died there between 10 September and 12 November 1809. But why does he not show up in a register of deaths? Are there possibly other sources to investigate? Irritated, I turned the pages of the archive lists and my attention fell on a volume called “Report Journal, 1809-1812.” Could this be a hit?

Fig. 2. From “Bröd Munstrings Rulla” for Göta Artillery Regiment and Captain Insenstjerna’s Company created 10 September 1809. See text for details.
The Report Journal turned out to be a type of log book, where the officer of the guard noted more or less important events each day, e.g., farmer’s permission, fights, drunkenness, etc. The notes start 13 October and are rather difficult to read. The following entry from 30 October (see figure 3) was deciphered:

According to a received notification from the army hospital, the following artillery soldiers have died during the month of September in Göteborg in the 2nd Major’s Company: No. 73 Lindström the 28th; Capt. Insenstjerna’s No. 19 Sakaroff the 29th; Capt. Blomcreutz Company, No. 70 Olgren the 24th; and at Brinkeberg Place, Capt. Bäckman’s Company, No. 75 Hansson the 5th of the last September.

Bingo! It obviously pays to glance a little in other directions, and to try the more uncommon sources. Perhaps this is where the answers are, rather than in the large series of church books and estate inventories, where practically all genealogists search due to tradition.

Ivan Zacharoff survived one war, became a prisoner of war, and later came to serve the country he previously fought against. Was he a deserter or merely a poor, simple soldier who had to grab any chance for survival? And he was not the only one. Apparently there were quite a few Russian Soldiers in Sweden after the war of 1809. It would be interesting to find out what happened to all of them and even more fascinating to locate their records in the Russian War Archives.
Fig. 3. Report Journal, 1809-1812. See text for a translation of the entry for 30 October 1809.
Governor Ramsey's Swedish Servant Identified

James E. Erickson

On 28 June 1860 the household of Minnesota Governor Alexander Ramsey was enumerated in the federal census by Jno. M. Lamb. Since the original document is very dark and quite difficult to read, it is transliterated (in part) below.

Seven years ago I discussed Governor Ramsey's two Swedish servants—Matilda Hoffstine [sic] and Cecelia Blonquist [sic]—in the context of the Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal Church.1 At that time, I was unable to positively identify either one of these women in the Swedish records. Last year, with the help of EMIBAS, the searchable database located at the Swedish Emigrant Institute in Växjö, Sweden, I was able to uncover Cecilia's parentage.

Simultaneously searching just two data fields in EMIBAS—the birth date (4 January 1828) and the surname (Blomqvist)—produced the printout shown in figure 1. It implies that the maid (piga) Cecilia Endora Blomqvist was born in and emigrated from Västra Skrukeby (Östg.).

A comparison of the data in figure 1 with her actual birth record,2 which is rather difficult to read, revealed some interesting differences. It spells her name as Cecilia Eudora (not Endora!), lists her father as Pappersm[akare] Gesiillen (the journeyman papermaker) Israel Bolmqvist (not Blomqvist!), and notes that her mother (Anna Ed?) lived at Skrukeby Lillegard but was officially recorded in Norrköping. The moving out record for Västra Skrukeby (see figure 2) corroborates that her name was Cecilia Eudora Bolmqvist.3

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2 Födelse- och Dödsäng, Västra Skrukeby, C:3A (1827-1873), p. 3., 4 January 1828.
3 Uförbrytningsäng, Västra Skrukeby, 15 May 1858, No. 2.
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**Fig. 1.** Printout from EMIBAS, the searchable database at the Swedish Emigrant Institute (Svenskaemigrantinstitutet) in Växjö, Sweden. This result appeared after searching just two data fields—the birth date (4 January 1828) and the surname (Blomqvist).

**Fig. 2.** Moving out record (Utflyttningständ) for Västra Skrukeby (Östg.) 1858. Emigrant number 2, *Pigan* Cecilia Eudora Bolmqvist, left Hulje Östergård for North America on 15 May 1858.
Finding Anna-Kerstin

George Bernard Hanson*

It was my pleasure in 1979 to meet the Vice Consul for Sweden, Mr. Martin Lakocinski, in Houston, Texas. He explained to me that his family had emigrated from Poland to Lund.

I became serious about genealogy in 1980 and about that time certain articles, including six old photographs from Västerås, Sweden, as well as a more recent picture of a Lucia, were sent to me by my family in Pennsylvania. I remember seeing these items in my home in the 1940s but paid little attention to them. Unfortunately, none of the photographs was labeled.

Eventually I learned that they were sent to my mother, Hildur Berglind, who came to America in 1902 and married my father John Hanson. The people in the photos were related to my mother. On the back of the Lucia picture in my mother's hand was written "Ida's girl." (It was actually Ida Forsberg Eriksson's granddaughter!)

I decided to send these pictures to a newspaper in Sweden, but knew not where. The Vice Consul came to mind as a source for the name and address of a paper in Västerås. I thought they could publish them as a matter of public service and hoped that a positive response from the editor and someone who might recognize them would result.

I sent the following letter to the Vice Consul:

5900 Wurzbach, #106
San Antonio, Texas 78238

Mr. Martin Lakocinski, Vice Consul
Consulate General of Sweden
Houston, Texas

Dear M. Lakocinski

Would you be so kind as to supply me the name of the main newspaper of Västerås, Sweden? I would also need their address.

I have just recently come into possession of 6 photographs taken at several studios in Västerås from about 1895 to 1915 or 1920 of a family and their children (3 generations) whom I believe to be relatives of my mother, who was born in Stockholm in 1881.

*George Bernard Hanson resides at 4243 Blackheath Rd., Dallas, TX 75227. E-mail: <gbh@airmail.net>. Irma Pearson of Irving, Texas, translated the two articles from Västmanlands Länstidning.
I would like to send these photos to the newspaper in Västerås to see if they might publish them, possibly as a public service, to see if any interest were shown in an effort to identify them.

Thank you very much

Respectfully yours,

George Hanson

The Vice Consul’s reply was short and to the point:

Houston, Texas
July 30, 1980

Dear Mr. Hanson:

I would suggest that you write to the following newspaper:

Västmanlands Läns Tidning
Box 3
S-721 03 VÄSTERÅS
Sweden

Wishing you the best of luck in your continued endeavors, I am,

Sincerely yours

Martin Lakocinski

The letter that I subsequently sent to Västmanlands Läns Tidning paid great dividends. The newspaper published the following two articles

Västmanlands Läns Tidning, 2 October 1980

A Letter from America:

Does Anyone Know These People from Västerås?

The other day we received a letter from San Antonio, Texas. It was signed by George Hanson, which sounds as Swedish as it can be.

And sure it was a Swedish connection, not to say a Västerås connection. Let us tell.

With this letter came several photographs which were taken in Västerås during the years 1895-1920. The photos were taken by Elsie Hirsch (formerly O. Wicklund), Nanna Lundberg, Ernst Tholff, and J. Fredriksson.

These pictures were sent to George’s mother, Hildur Berglind, who had married John Hanson in America. Hildur corresponded with Malvina

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1 Originally published in Västmanlands Läns Tidning, ”Ett brev från Amerika: Känner västeråsarna igen?” Thursday, 2 October 1980.
Forsberg (apparently a cousin) and Ida Eriksson, both from Västerås, a contact that lasted for many years.

Now George Hanson, along with us, wonders who these people are. He also sent along a more recent picture from the late 1930s or early 1940s. The girl in the picture was Lucia in Västerås and on the back of the picture was written "Ida's girl."

"These are pictures of three generations," George writes and he finds them fascinating and of high quality.

So now he is wondering if we at Västmanlands Läns Tidning will publish the pictures and hope that some will read this and call us. Naturally, we will publish the photos. Hopefully our readers will let us know.

Västmanlands Läns Tidning, 3 October 1980
Västerås-Lucia "Unveiled" / Said & Done's Whole Family Revealed?

Well, it sure went fast, tremendously fast. The ink had hardly dried before Sagt & Gjort-sidan got a phone call from a person who knew about everyone in the photographs we received from George Hanson in San Antonio, Texas.

Now, both George and our good readers shall get an answer. Lo and behold it was “Ida’s girl” herself who called.

And “Ida’s girl,” who is pictured as Lucia [see figure 2, photograph #6], lived in Västerås during that time (1940s). Presently she is a homemaker in Fagersta and her name is Anna-Kerstin Ljungqvist, born Bengtsson.

"Hello," says Anna-Kerstin on the phone. "How much fun with these old photographs. It is I who am Lucia. I think it was around 1942 or 1943 when I was honored to be Lucia by The Odd Fellows Ladies Club in Västerås. "Fantastic," we say to Anna-Kerstin, "perhaps you know something about the other, somewhat older photographs?"

"Certainly, I recognize all of them." We were so stunned and surprised here at S & G that we almost dropped the telephone, but soon our hand stopped shaking. "You mean you know all of them? How can you do that?"

"Because we are relatives," says Anna-Kerstin without hesitation. Now she tells us about all these people who are in the photos. We take them in order as they appeared in the Thursday paper.

About 1895 [see figure 1, photograph #3]: The older couple is Per Eric Forsberg and his wife, Lovisa, born Bjorkman. The young girls are their daughters Malvina (on the left) and Ida. Ida married Gustav Eriksson and she became Anna-Kerstin’s grandmother.

About 1898 [see figure 1, photograph #2]: Anna-Kerstin’s grandmother, Ida, and grandfather, with their oldest daughter, Antonia, who died in 1900 and is buried in the East Church Cemetery in Västerås with her parents.

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Finding Anna-Kerstin

About 1903 [see figure 1, photograph #1]: Anna-Kerstin’s mother, Anna-Lena, with her sister Märta, who turned 75 last year.

About 1905 [see figure 2, photograph #5]: The sisters again.

The year 1909 [see figure 2, photograph #7]: Anna-Kerstin’s mother’s parents, Ida and Gustav Eriksson, with daughter, Anna-Lena (Anna Kerstin’s mother), who married Bengtsson and Märta, who married Högberg.

Unknown year [see figure 1, photograph #4]: Grandmother Ida Eriksson, born Forsberg.

We are now going to respond to George in Texas and send him copies of the paper and enclose greetings to him from Anna-Kerstin in Fagersta.

It is fantastic that everything is so easy when we work together!

As a result of the publication and the response, I have corresponded with Anna-Kerstin Bengtsson Ljungqvist for twenty-one years and visited her several times in Västerås.

She has researched the family and I began research via Family History Library microfilms from Salt Lake City. She recognized early on that the 5th generation grandmothers were different. Eric Jansson Björkman had two families; the first wife had died.

He first married Anna Ersdotter and had Anders Gustaf Björkman Berglind (he changed his name as a young man) and when Anna died, he married Anna Christina Lundin and had Anna Lovisa Björkman. So Anna-Kerstin and I have the same fifth-generation grandfather but different grandmothers (see simplified pedigree chart below).

Note that George and Anna-Kerstin are third cousins.

George Bernard Hanson
Hildur Berglind Hanson
Gustaf Theodor Berglind
Anders Gustaf Björkman Berglind
Erik Jansson Björkman and Anna Ersdotter

Anna-Kerstin Bengtsson Ljungqvist
Anna-L. Eriksson Bengtsson
Ida Forsberg Eriksson
Lovisa Björkman Forsberg
Eric Jansson Björkman and Anna C. Lundin
Fig. 1. Photographs 1 through 4 (clockwise from upper left). See text for details.
Fig. 2. Photographs 5 through 7 (clockwise from top). See text for details.
Ahnentafel XLVIII.
Robert Max Swanson

Robert Max Swanson

I.
1. Robert Max SWANSON: b. 19 APR 1927 in Minden, Kearney, NE.

II.
2. Swan Albert SWANSON: b. 18 NOV 1889 in Axtell, Kearney, NE; m. 18 NOV 1918 in Bethany Lutheran Church, Axtell, Kearney, NE; d. 5 JUN 1980 in Humboldt, Richardson, NE.
3. Kristine Johanna SANDAHL: b. 2 JUL 1896 in Minden, Kearney, NE; d. 2 JUN 1979 in Humboldt, Richardson, NE.

III.
4. Eric SWANSON: b. 23 NOV 1851 in Ulfvaboda, Jämsborg (now Kyrkhult), Blekinge, Swed.; m. 3 SEP 1884 in Bethany Lutheran Church, Axtell, Kearney, NE; d. 11 SEP 1928 in Axtell, Kearney, NE.
5. Hanna HAWKINSON: b. 13 NOV 1864 in Farabol, Kyrkhult, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 20 FEB 1920 in Axtell, Kearney, NE.
6. Mads SANDAHL: b. 12 JUN 1866 in Kolby, Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.; m. 15 MAR 1893 in Norman, Kearney, NE; d. 20 JUN 1937 in Minden, Kearney, NE.
7. Inger Jensine SORENSEN: b. 20 SEP 1869 in Helligsø, Revs, Thisted, Den.; d. 5 MAR 1936 in Minden, Kearney, NE.

IV.
8. Swan [Sven] ERICKSON: b. 8 SEP 1823 in Gränum, Jämsborg, Blekinge, Swed.; m. 7 JUL 1848 in Gränum, Jämsborg, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 16 DEC 1902 in Woodhull, Henry, IL.
9. Sissa [Silja] OLSDOTTER [OLSON]: b. 23 FEB 1823 in

1 Robert M. Swanson resides at 612 Avenue G, Boulder City, NV 89005-2724. E-mail: <mjswanson2@juno.com>. 
Tomakulla, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 5 JAN 1911 in Woodhull, Henry, IL.

10. Swan HAWKINSON: b. 23 APR 1836 in No. 62, Södra Sternö, Asarum, Blekinge, Swed.; m. 20 AUG 1857 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 18 MAY 1916 in Axtell, Kearney, NE.

11. Hanna PEHRSDOTTER: b. 27 FEB 1835 in Björkefall, Jämshög (now Kyrkhult), Blekinge, Swed.; d. 27 DEC 1918 in Axtell, Kearney, NE.


16. Eric SVENSON: b. 30 JUN 1799 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 28 SEP 1881 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.


20. Håkan [Hocom] PERSSON [PETERSON]: b. 11 JUN 1793 in Ljungryda, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. 27 DEC 1824 in Södra Sternö, Asarum, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 21 APR 1864 in Center Point, Knox, IL.


24. **Mads CHRISTENSEN [SANDAHL]**: b. 1807 in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*; m. 9 OCT 1831.

25. **Johanne CHRISTENSDATTER**: b. 29 OCT 1801 in Opstrup, Stadil, Ringkøbing, *Den.*


27. **Ane Marie JENSDATTER [BJERG]**: b. 18 SEP 1817 in Stadil, Ringkøbing, *Den.*; d. 21 APR 1899 in Torsted, Ringkøbing, *Den.*

28. **Soren CHRISTENSEN**: b. 1763 in Norhedegaard, Visby, Thisted, *Den.*; m. 9 JUL 1820 in Helligsø, Revs, Thisted, *Den.*; d. 4 SEP 1840 in Heltberg, Revs, Thisted, *Den.*

29. **Dorthe Marie SVENNINGSEN**: b. 27 MAR 1791 in Ydbye, Revs, Thisted, *Den.*; d. 16 SEP 1862 in Heltberg, Revs, Thisted, *Den.*

30. **Peder MADSEN [MÖELLER]**: b. 1 FEB 1783 in Gammelsby, Grurup, Thisted, *Den.*; m. 30 JUL 1815 in Ydbye, Revs, Thisted, *Den.*; d. 30 NOV 1863 in Ydbye, Revs, Thisted, *Den.*


**VI.**

32. **Sven TRULSSON**: b. 14 SEP 1769 in Grännum, Jämshög, Blekinge, *Swed.*; m. ca. 1791 in Jämshög, Blekinge, *Swed.*; d. before 1810.

33. **Karna PERSDOTTER**: b. 27 JAN 1771 in Håkantorp, Jämshög, Blekinge, *Swed.*; d. after 1810 in Grännum, Jämshög, Blekinge, *Swed.*

35. Elna NILSDOTTER: b. JUL 1761 in Gåragöl, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

36. Lars ÅKESSON: b. 12 AUG 1759 in Harasjömåla, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Tomakulla, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 17 FEB 1790 in Tomakulla, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

37. Karna OLSDOTTER: b. 7 JUN 1756 in Tomakulla, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

38. Per NILSSON: b. 17 FEB 1763 in Ramnamåla, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 24 DEC 1827 in Ljungryda, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.


40. Per NILSSON: Same as person number 38.

41. Inger LARSDOTTER: Same as person number 39.

42. Matts PEHRSSON: b. 4 MAY 1762 in Asarum, Blekinge, Swed.; m. 8 JUL 1791 in Vettekulla, Hällaryd, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 26 APR 1844 in Hällaryd, Blekinge, Swed.


44. Pehr BJÖRNSON: b. 1762 in Skellshult, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Skellshult, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 21 FEB 1841 in Skellshult, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.


46. Pehr HARALDSSON: b. 24 NOV 1776 in Falsehult, Jämshög (now Kyrkhult), Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Västra Rönäs, Kyrkhult, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 20 MAY 1854 in Västra Rönäs, Kyrkhult, Blekinge, Swed.

47. Elna HÅKANSDOTTER: b. 31 JAN 1783 in Björkefall, Jämshög (now Kyrkhult), Blekinge, Swed.; d. 27 FEB 1845 in Västra Rönäs, Kyrkhult, Blekinge, Swed.

48. Christen NIELSEN [SANDAHL]: b. 1772 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.; m. 17 MAR 1802 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.; d. 29 MAR 1851.
49. Inger Catrine MADSDATTER: b. 23 AUG 1779 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.; d. 8 SEP 1859 in Lybæk, Hee, Den.

50. Christen JEPSEN: b. 13 MAR 1753 in Opstrup, Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.; m. 1 MAR 1794; d. 27 JUN 1830 in Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.


52. Jens CHRISTENSEN: b. ca. 1765 in Tim, Ringkøbing, Den.; m. in Tim, Ringkøbing, Den.; d. 12 MAY 1830 in Tim, Ringkøbing, Den.


55. Ane CHRISTENSDATTER: b. 1774 in Mejlby, Den.; d. 30 OCT 1843 in Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.

56. Christen SIMONSEN: b. ca. 1738 in Thisted, Den.; m. in Thisted, Den.

57. Maren PEDERSEN: born about 1732 in Thisted, Den.

58. Svenning GUDIKSEN: b. 4 SEP 1758 in Norhedegaard, Visby, Thisted, Den.; m. in Ydbye, Revs, Thisted, Den.

59. Kirsten Marie CHRISTENSEN: b. in Thisted, Den.

60. Mads MADSEN [MÖELLER]: b. 17 JAN 1744 in Gammelsby, Grurup, Thisted, Den.; m. 12 OCT 1771 in Gammelsby, Grurup, Thisted, Den.; d. 13 MAR 1818 in Gammelsby, Grurup, Thisted, Den.

61. Dorthe ANDERSDATTER: b. ca. 1747.


63. Kristen JONSDATTER: b. 1759 in Den.

VII.

64. Truls ERIKSSON: b. 1739 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. ca. 1768 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 3 APR 1795.
65. **Elna JEPPESDOTTER**: b. 4 DEC 1744 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

66. **Per PERSSON**: b. 1739 in Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Häkantorp, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

67. **Kjersta BENGTSDOTTER**: b. 1742 in Häkantorp, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

68. **Thore GUMMESSON**: b. ca. 1715 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. 1740, d. 1763 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

69. **Giertrud JOHANSDOTTER**: born before 1726 in Nybygden, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 7 JUN 1804 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

70. **Nils ERIKSSON**: b. 1730 in Gåragöl, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. 7 JUL 1754.

71. **Hanna JONSDOTTER**: b. 1733 in Skjutsmåla, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

72. **Åke LARSSON**: m. 1758

73. **Kjerstin LARSDOTTER**: b. 1740 in Harasjömlå, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

74. **Olof SVENSSON**: b. in Sonarp, Näsnum, Kristianstad, Swed.; m. 17 NOV 1751

75. **Karin NILSDOTTER**: b. ca. 1729 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 9 NOV 1778 in Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

76. **Nils SVENSSON**: b. in Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

77. **Karin PERSDOTTER**: b. in Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

78. **Per MATTSSON**: m. in Hällaryd, Blekinge, Swed.

80. **Elin ERICKSDOTTER**.

81. **Jons MATTSSON**: b. ca. 1726 in Kölla, Hällaryd, Blekinge, Swed.; m. in Kölla, Hällaryd, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 21 JUN 1772 in Kölla, Hällaryd, Blekinge, Swed.

84. **Sissa ---?**: b. 14 JUN 1752 in Kölla, Hällaryd, Blekinge, Swed.


98. Mads SIMONSEN: b. 27 DEC 1747 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.; m. 26 AUG 1777 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.


100. Jeppe KNUDSEN [GRAVERSGAARD]: b. 28 JAN 1731; m. 1752 in Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.; d. 27 JAN 1768.


117. Dorthe Nielsen HJORTSVANG.

120. Mads MÖELLER: m. in Den.; d. before 1770 in Den.

121. Anne PEDERSDATTER: b. ca. 1717 in Den.; d. 14 DEC 1770 in Gammelsby, Grurup, Thisted, Den.

VIII.

128. Erik TRULSSON: m. 1734 in Håkantorp, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; d. 1781 in Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

129. Truen TRULSDOTTER.

130. Jeppe NILSSON: b. in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.; m. 1743 in Jämshög, Blekinge; d. 1782 in Gränum, Jämshög, Blekinge, Swed.

134. **Bengt OLSSON.**

136. **Gumme THORESSON**: b. ca. 1690 in Grännum, Jämdö, Blekinge, *Swed.*; married.

137. Bengta: b. ca. 1680.

140. **Erik NILSSON**: b. ca. 1677 in Gåragöl, Jämdö, Blekinge, *Swed.*; d. 1753 in Gåragöl, Jämdö, Blekinge, *Swed.*

142. **Jon FROSTENSON.**

146. **Lars FROSTENSON**: married.

192. **Jeppe CHRISTENSEN**: b. ca. 1690 in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*; m. before 1735.

193. **Maren JENSDATTER**: born ca. 1710 in N. Halby, Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*

194. **Jens CHRISTENSEN**: b. ca. 1712 in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*; m. ca. 1741 in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*

195. **Ane PEDERSEN [SANDAL]**: b. ca. 1705 in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*

196. **Simon MADSEN**: b. 15 SEP 1715 in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*; m. in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*

197. **Karen CHRISTENSDATTER**: born ca. 1720 in Hee, Ringkøbing, *Den.*


202. **Christen ANDERSEN.**
IX.
392. **Mads SIMONSEN**: b. ca. 1685 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.; m. 20 JUL 1714 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.

393. **Anne MICHELSDATTER**: b. ca. 1688 in Hee, Ringkøbing, Den.

400. **Jeppe KNUDSEN**: b. 1656 in Graversgaard, Stadil, Den.; m. 14 FEB 1686; d. 24 MAR 1715 in Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.

401. **Maren CHRISTENSDATTER**.

402. **Mats NIELSEN**: b. 12 JUL 1668 in Alrum, Den.; m. 13 NOV 1692 in Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.

403. **Inger CHRISTENDATTER**.

X.
804. **Niels MATSON**: b. ca. 1640 in Stadil, Ringkøbing, Den.
Swede Hollow Residents, 1873-1885 (continued)

The following list includes single individuals identified only by name, age, and place of birth in either the 1880 or 1885 census records:

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1 This research project was supported, in part, by a stipend from the Swedish Emigrant Institute (Svenska Emigrantinstitutet), which enabled me to do research at SEI in Växjö, Sweden, in May and June of 2000.
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<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person, Nels</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person, W.</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, August</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, Marten</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, Nels</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, P. O.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, Peter</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renton, Peter</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runden, Nels</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanberg, Andrew</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandberg, Gust A.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soderberg, Alfred</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soderquist, August</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stenberg, O. P.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stenberg, E. P.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stensrud, O. A.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Norw</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strom, Nels</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swanson, Andrew</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swanson, Clara</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swanson, Gustav</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swanson, N. G.</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swanstrom, Carl</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swartz, Anders</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swenson, John</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdaska, Mary</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Pol</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waliak, Lizzie</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Germ</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waliak, Mary</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Germ</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welin, E. A.</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westman, Chas.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilhelm, A.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Swed</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Occupations of Swede Hollow Residents**

The stereotype of Swedes that emerged during their tenure of residency in Swede Hollow is that of destitute and unskilled individuals who, through hard work and perseverance, were able to pull themselves up by their bootstraps, move out of the hollow, and become full-fledged members of Swedish society on St. Paul’s east side. Occupational data gathered from both Swedish and American sources certainly corroborate the notion that these residents were unskilled.
The data from Swedish sources, which are summarized in table 1, present a picture of an immigrant population with a preponderance of unskilled individuals (e.g., laborers, workers, farm hands, apprentices, and maids) and/or economically disadvantaged individuals (e.g., tenant farmers/crofters and their sons, retired farmers and soldiers, and widows). The lone, female teacher (lärarinna) is an exception to this picture.

Table 1. Occupations of Swede Hollow residents, 1873-1885, based on data taken from Swedish records, i.e., the database EMIBAS and/or the CD-EMIGRANTEN. Since the occupations of many immigrants were not identified in these records, the sample size (N = 58) is rather small.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swedish term</th>
<th>English translation</th>
<th>Number of Individuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>arbetare</td>
<td>laborer, worker</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arbetekarl</td>
<td>workman</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arrendator</td>
<td>farmer, tenant farmer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>backstugusittare</td>
<td>crofter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bergslagsarbetare</td>
<td>mining district laborer/worker</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brukare</td>
<td>tenant (farmer), lease holder</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dräng</td>
<td>farm hand</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eldare</td>
<td>stoker, fireman</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>husman</td>
<td>crofter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inhyses</td>
<td>tenant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inhyseson</td>
<td>tenant’s son</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lärarinna</td>
<td>(female) teacher</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>muraregesäll</td>
<td>bricklayer’s apprentice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>murarearbetare</td>
<td>bricklayer’s laborer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>målare</td>
<td>painter</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>piga</td>
<td>maid, servant</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>skomakaregesäll</td>
<td>shoemaker’s apprentice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>skräddare</td>
<td>tailor</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>skräddaregesäll</td>
<td>tailor’s apprentice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smedlärting</td>
<td>(black) smith’s apprentice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>soldat</td>
<td>soldier</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stenhuggare</td>
<td>stonemason</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sågare</td>
<td>sawyer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tjänstflicka</td>
<td>maid, servant (girl)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>torpare</td>
<td>crofter</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.d. torpare</td>
<td>the former crofter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>undantagsägare</td>
<td>retired farmer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>åbo</td>
<td>farm tenant with fixity of tenure</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>åboson</td>
<td>son of åbo</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ägare</td>
<td>owner, proprietor</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>änka</td>
<td>widow</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data regarding occupations taken from a single American source (St. Paul City Directories), which are summarized in table 2, are consistent with the data from Swedish sources presented in table 1. Although many of the occupations listed in table 2 are clearly skilled, albeit still blue-collar (e.g. blacksmith, bricklayer, carpenter, and plumber), 75% (107/143) of the individuals are simply considered "laborers."

Table 2. Occupations of Swede Hollow residents, 1873-1880, based on data taken from St. Paul City Directories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>blacksmith</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bricklayer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>car cleaner/reparer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>car driver</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carpenter</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clerk</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cutter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>draughtsman</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fireman</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>helper</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laborer</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>milkman</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>painter</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plasterer/lather</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plumber/painter/machinist</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>porter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>printer</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shoemaker</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stonemason</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tailor</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>teamster</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>woodworker</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ethnicity of Swede Hollow Residents

It is evident from the data summarized in table 3 that Swede Hollow was appropriately named. Of the 800 Swede Hollow residents identified in this study,² fully 75% (602/800) were born in Sweden. If you add all of the children born in North America to parents who were both Swedes, the percentage of Swede Hollow residents with Swedish ancestry increases to 87% (692/800).³ And if you add all of the children born in the United States to couples in which at least one parent was a Swede, the percentage changes to 88% (704/800).⁴ Combining Swedes, Norwegians, Danes, and their offspring together results in a number of 735/800 or 92% of Swede Hollow residents claiming Scandinavian ancestry during the thirteen-year period from 1873-1885.

² The total of 800 comes from the two lists—those individuals and/or families positively identified in EMIBAS, EMIGRANTEN, and/or American census records (see pp. 152-176) and single individuals known only by name, age and place of birth (pp. 211-214)—published in parts 1 and 2 of this article.
³ The total number of such children is 90 (88 were born in Minnesota; 1 in Canada; and 1 in New York.
⁴ The total number of such children is 12 (8 had one Swedish and one Norwegian parent; 2 had one Swedish and one Danish parent; and 2 had one Swedish parent and one parent from New York.
Swede Hollow Residents, 1873-1885. Part 2

Table 3. Country or state of origin of Swede Hollow residents, 1873-1885, arranged in order from highest to lowest percent of total population (N = 800).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country or State of Origin</th>
<th>Number of Individuals</th>
<th>Percent of Total Population (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>75.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demography of Swede Hollow

One final goal of this study was to delineate some population characteristics for the community living in Swede Hollow during the study period 1873-1885. While recognizing the inherent problems/weaknesses associated with the following analysis (e.g., strength of methodology, reasonableness of assumptions, accuracy of data, etc.), I felt that it was important to summarize the demographic information that I had accumulated. What follows, therefore, is my first attempt to establish a basic estimate of population size for Swede Hollow. Remember that my definition of Swede Hollow includes the area from East 6th Street north to the intersection of Minnehaha Avenue and Payne Avenue on the north.\(^3\)

To begin with, data from St. Paul City Directories were compiled to produce a basic growth curve for this population over the thirteen-year period 1873-1885 (see the gray area of the bars on figure 5). The classic "J-shaped" growth curve implied in figure 5 suggests that population growth in Swede Hollow during this time period was exponential. It must be kept in mind, however, that these data only include heads of households (including widows), working adult children living at home, and adult boarders. Wives, young children, and retirees are not included. Thus, the gray area of the bars on figure 5

reflects the size of the working adult population, not the total population, in Swede Hollow during the study period.

The most obvious and reliable source of information on the total number of individuals in a particular location would, of course, be a federal or state census. Unfortunately, federal and state census enumerators generally did not list Swede Hollow as an address on their forms. As such, accurately and unambiguously locating specific Swede Hollow residents in such records has proved difficult and the goal of establishing total population size directly from census records has proved elusive. Therefore, I decided to make two different indirect estimates.

One way to estimate total population size is to calculate the average number of individuals per dwelling and multiply that value times the total number of dwellings. An analysis of a subset of data from the 1880 U.S. Census—a portion of Enumeration District 19 in whose accuracy I have great confidence)—provided the first piece of information. I determined that a total of 186 individuals (husbands, wives, children, and boarders) lived in 28 dwellings. This yields an average of approximately 6.6 individuals per dwelling in 1880.

The second piece of information—the total number of dwellings (shanties) in Swede Hollow—was gleaned from two different insurance maps (see figures 3 and 4 in part 1 of this article). Unfortunately, both maps were drawn at the turn of the century and, therefore, they represent Swede Hollow fifteen years after the end of my study period (i.e., 1885) and two decades after the enumeration of the 1880 census, from which I took data to estimate the average number of individuals per dwelling. In spite of the obvious problems associated with making incorrect assumptions and mixing data from different decades, the maps still provided the best available information.

The Rascher Insurance Map (1891; revised 1901) illustrates 69 dwellings on the east side of Phalen Creek north of East 7th Street, 36 dwellings on the west side of Phalen Creek north of East 7th Street; and 17 dwellings on the east side of Phalen Creek between East 6th Street and East 7th Street, for a total of 122 dwellings in Swede Hollow in 1901.

The Sanborn Fire Insurance map (1903) illustrates 55 dwellings on the east side of Phalen Creek north of East 7th Street, 36 dwellings on the west side of Phalen Creek north of East 7th Street; and 18 dwellings on the east side of Phalen Creek between East 6th Street and East 7th Street, for a total of 109 dwellings in Swede Hollow in 1903.

Combining the estimate on the average number of individuals per dwelling in 1880 (i.e., 6.64) with the total number of dwellings in 1901 and 1903 (i.e., 122 and 109, respectively) results in a preliminary, albeit rough, estimate of 724 to 810 individuals living in Swede Hollow at the turn of the century.

A second way to estimate total population size (and also to “check” the reasonableness of my first estimate) is to estimate the number of women and children living in one dwelling as a percent of the total number of individuals in the dwelling. Using the same subset of data from the 1880 U.S. Census noted above, I calculated that women and children (i.e., those individuals who are not listed in the St. Paul city directories) comprised roughly 52% of all individuals living in one dwelling in 1880. By multiplying that percentage times the
number of Swede Hollow working adults (i.e., heads of households, working adult children, and boarders) listed in any given city directory, I arrived at annual estimates for the number of women and children in Swede Hollow. Figure 5, which combines the actual number of working adults (gray portion of bars) with the estimated number of women and children (white portion of bars), provides a graphic representation of annual total Swede Hollow population size for the time period 1873-1885. The highest total population size estimate derived by this method, i.e., 992 in 1884-85, is 22.5% higher than the value of 810 for 1900 obtained by the first method.

Figure 5. Swede Hollow population size 1873-1885. Gray indicates the actual number of working adults listed in St. Paul city directories; white indicates the estimated number of women and children. See text for details.
Parish Catalogs from SVAR

Jill Seaholm

SVAR (Svensk Arkivinformation) has been busily indexing Swedish parish records to make it faster to find information within them. In doing so, they have made indexes that they call Parish Catalogs. Parish Catalogs are available for most of the parishes in most of the Swedish län or counties.

The Parish Catalogs contain names of farms and villages within parishes, showing you the page number(s) in the record book where you will find the farm or village you need (or if you are using SVAR microfiche, it also tells you which fiche your farm/village is on within a volume as well as the row and column on that fiche). It also serves as a handy list of place names within a parish, which will help you when trying to decipher names of farms/villages in the records.

For details about which parishes have catalogs available and their prices, call or write to the Swenson Center or check our web page at <http://www.augustana.edu/administration/swenson/svarcats.html>. Please note that the Parish catalogs do not contain actual records. They are listings of record availability for parishes. The parish catalogs alone will not be useful to you. They are to be used with the parish records or in deciding which records to order.

Example of parish catalogs' usefulness. Let's say that your ancestor lived in the village of Björnabo in Gårdsby Parish in Kronoberg län, and you want to find that village in the household records that cover the years 1820-1828 (volume AI:5). Farms/villages are not in the records alphabetically, but are grouped geographically. The Gårdsby Parish Catalog says that records for Björnabo are on pages 486-496 in volume AI:5, and that they are on the fifth fiche out of six. Knowing that saves you from having to buy all six fiche.

The parish catalog prices range from $10.00 to $30.00, including sales tax, postage, and handling. Price is determined by the number of pages in the catalog.

The Swenson Center does not have all of the Swedish parish records or catalogs on the premises. We order them for you from Sweden. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by phone at 309-794-7204 or by e-mail at <sag@augustana.edu>. You may also write to the following address:

SVAR Microfiche
Swenson Center
Augustana College
639 38th St.
Rock Island, IL 61201-2296

Please feel free to visit our web site at <http://www.augustana.edu/administration/swenson/>.

* Jill Seaholm is Head of Genealogical Services at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana College, 639 38th St, Rock Island IL, 61201-2296.
Genealogical Queries

Genealogical queries from subscribers to *Swedish American Genealogist* will be listed here free of charge on a "space available" basis. The editor reserves the right to edit these queries to conform to a general format. The inquirer is responsible for the contents of the query.

**Miller/Möller**

Carl Herman Miller was the son of Magnus Miller/Möller and his second wife, Christina Rurg, Swedish immigrants. He was born in Cokato, MN, between January and April 1875. He is recorded in the state and federal census records of his family in 1875, 1880, and 1895. He was a Spanish-American War veteran and served in the Philippines at the turn of the century. Herman was single.

Did he enlist in Minnesota or Michigan, where he later resided? What happened to him following his service? Family memories indicate that he died in the late 1930s or prior to 1942 at a veterans' home or hospital. His belongings were sent from Battle Creek, MI, to a brother, Fred Edward Miller, in Portland, OR. When did he come to Michigan? Percy Jones Veterans' Hospital is now closed. Where are the records of soldier deaths and burials? Multiple searches have been made in usual resources with no result. Help would be appreciated.

Joyce M. Scott  
8 Applewood Lane  
London, ON, Canada N6J 3P8

**Bergman**

Adolf Bergman was b. 4 Sept. 1830 and d. 28 Sept. 1896. On 2 Aug. 1860 he m. Leontine Bellander, who was b. 17 June 1840 and d. 29 Aug. 1913. They had the following eleven children and I am trying to find out what happened to the first child, Arvid Sven (possibly Sven Arvid) Bergman,

Children:
1. Arvid Sven: b. 27 Dec. 1861; m. Grace Axten in America
2. Gustaf Carl: b. 8 May 1863; in America
3. Edvard Emil: b. 24 Jan. 1865; d. 25 Nov. 1886
4. Adolf Viktor: b. 9 Nov. 1866; d. 31 or 13 Jan. 1868
5. Anni Kristina: b. 25 Sep. 1868; d. 6 Jan. 1953; housemother at Lundbergs School
6. Adolf Viktor: b. 6 Aug. 1870; d. 15 May 1871; not found in Sunne C:1
7. Janne (John): b. 31 Mar. 1872; d. 23 Feb. 1934; m. Selma Nylen 27 Feb. 1904
8. Adolf Rickard: b. 23 Apr. 1874; d. 27 June 1875
9. Elin Johanna: b. 2 Sep. 1877; d. 18 Dec. 1956; m. to Carl Dillström 9 May 1903
11. Viktor: b. 7 Nov. 1883; d. 15 Sep. 1963; m. Edith Nylen 24 June 1916

According to Göteborg passenger lists, A. Bergman (age eighteen) left the port of Göteborg aboard the *Rollo* on 10 Sept. 1880, which went as far as Hull, England. His last residence was Sunne Parish in Värmeland län. His destination was “Water Valley.” I have found Water Valleys in Alabama (Choctaw Co.), Arkansas (Randolph Co.), Illinois (Union Co.), Kentucky (Graves Co.), Mississippi (Yalobusha Co.), New Mexico (now a ghost town, in Roosevelt Co.), New York (Erie Co.), Tennessee (Maury Co.), Texas (Tom Green Co.), and Alberta, Canada (northwest of Calgary). Which one is it? There are only about five people leaving Swedish ports who have destinations of Water Valley, and none specifies a state or province. A group of ca. fifteen Norwegians living in Sweden left Oslo in 1873 with a destination of “Water Valley, Min.” but I cannot find a Water Valley in Minnesota. Two other people from Sunne left Göteborg port the same day as Arvid. Their destinations were Worcester and New York. Not much help.

In a family record from the 1930s it says that Arvid Sven Bergman was married to a Grace Axten, and living in America. It also says that when his mother Leontine died in 1913, Arvid Sven Bergman wrote back to Sweden to ask about any inheritance. When the sister Anni Bergman died in 1953, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs searched for any children of her siblings in the U.S., without success.

When descendants of child #11 (Viktor) visited Ribenäs in Sunne in the summer of 2001, the current owners said that in the summer of 2000 an American and his wife visited the farm because an ancestor had been born there, but names were never exchanged with the American couple. Who could they have been?

In the 1880 Census I found one Grace Axton (age three) living in Vermillion Co., IN, and one (age one) living in Washington Co., PA. They're probably too young to be Arvid's wife, but can't be ruled out. Thank you for any information or ideas.

Jill Seaholm
Swenson Center
Augustana College
Rock Island IL 61201-2296
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Svensson, Svenson, Swensen

I am interested in locating living family members of my wife's mother's cousins from Vetlanda, Sweden.

Uncle Sven Petersson was b. in Peterslund Cottage, Vetlanda Lillegård, Vetlanda (Smål) on 25 Sept. 1843, the son of Peter Andersson (b. 1 May 1801) and Lisa Katrina Jonsdotter (b. 16 Sept. 1805). Sven had the following four children who immigrated to America:

- Ida Matilda Amanda Svensdotter, b. in Bäckseda (Smål) in 1869; emigr. 16 Aug. 1887; used the surname Petersson on the passenger list.
- Gustav Alfred Svensson, b. in Bäckseda (Smål) in 1872; emigr. 5 March 1889.
- Arvid Svensson, b. in Vetlanda in 1876; emigr. 18 March 1890.
- Anna Emilia Svensson, b. in Vetlanda in 1877; emigr. with her brother Arvid on 18 March 1890.

Sven Petersson also had a brother, Anders Gustave Petersson, who immigrated to Chicago in 1870 and married Ida Carlsson. They had six children and lived in Chicago. I believe that all of the Svensson cousins moved to the same part of America. That may have been Chicago but could also have been a different location. Unfortunately, do not know the married names of the women.

I will appreciate any information about the Svensson families.

Burton R. Lundquist
6960 E. Morning Vista Lane
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
E-mail: <Burtonrlundquist@AOL.COM>

Sandberg

My maternal grandmother Selma had a sister, Maria Carolina Holmgren, who was b. in Viksta (Uppl.) on 10 Nov. 1867. On 12 June 1887, Maria married the painter/decorator Johannes (Jon/Jan) Sandberg, who was b. in Vendel (Uppl.) on 5 Sept. 1860. They had the following four children: Johan Sten, b. Vendel, 12 Dec. 1887; Ester Maria Kristina, b. Gävle (Gäst.), 17 Aug. 1889; Signe Judit Elisabeth, b. Gävle, 26 Feb. 1892; and Nils Einar, b. Gävle, 18 Dec. 1894.

Jon/Jan Sandberg and his family emigr. from Göteborg (contract number 59:365:945) on 21 April 1897, listing Philadelphia, PA, as their destination. I have located the son Nils (SSN 161-10-3271), who died in November 1984. His last residence was Willingboro, Burlington County, NJ 08046.

Does anyone know if he got married and if he had children? What happened to Nils's parents and siblings? I am interested in locating their children and grandchildren.

Kristina Thomsson
E-mail: <kristina.thomsson@sot.stockholm.se>
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• For Swedish place names, the provinces (landskap) are abbreviated as follows:

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Table 1. Abbreviations for Swedish provinces (landskap) used by *Swedish American Genealogist* (as of March 2000) and Sveriges Släktforskarförening (the Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies, Stockholm).

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<th>Landskap (Province)</th>
<th>SAG &amp; SS Abbr.</th>
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Table 2. Abbreviations and codes for Swedish counties (län) formerly used by *Swedish American Genealogist* (1981-1999) and currently used by Statistiska centralbyrån (SCB) (the Central Bureau of Statistics, Stockholm).

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</table>

1 Formerly Kopparberg (Kopp.; W) län.
2 Includes the former counties (län) of Malmöhus (Malm.; M) and Kristianstad (Krist.; L).
3 Includes the former counties (län) of Göteborg and Bohus (Göt.; O), Skaraborg (Skar.; R), and Alvsborg (Alvs.; P).