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Vill du skriva en rad eller två? Hör av dig!
Kom ihåg att meddela oss ev adressändring!



Sabelskjöldarn

2012

A Family Riddle

Question: Did the Sabelskjölds own the farm Häckelsta in Dunker parish in Södermanland?

Peter Eriksson, Eskilstuna

Answer: Yes, Karl Jönsson Sabelskjöld was indeed part owner of Häckelsta farm at one time. A land registration certificate for the farm was issued to his father, Jöns Mårtensson, in 1598. It is not entirely clear whether Jöns actually owned Häckelsta or rather held it in fealty, but the existence of the certificate suggests ownership.

In Heiding-Bankeström's book, "Om ätten Sabelskjöld och livdragonen Karl Sabelskjöld's avkomlingar" a lawsuit between Karl Jönsson Sabelskjöld and his brother Michael is cited, where Michael argues that Jöns left Häckelsta by will to him and his nephew in compensation for fines that Jöns had to pay on Karl's behalf. It seems that Karl had been found guilty of manslaughter, and his father had paid the fines. Karl argued, however, that the will was no longer valid.

On May 16, 1626 Jöns received confirmation from the King that previous commitments given by the late Queen should stand, such as Jöns' salary and ownership of the "Crown land" of Häckelsta. In other words, the King, Gustavus Adolphus, declared that the arrangements made by his mother with respect to Jöns would also apply in future. However, it is strange that the farm was referred to as "Crown land" in 1626, since Jöns had held a land registration certificate since 1598. The farm should have been his private property.

Karl was the first, and probably the only, Sabelskjöld who owned the farm. As far as we know, no one in the family owned Häckelsta after Karl and Michael.

Weronicha Svaläng / Birger Bring



Foto Anna-Lena Karlsson/Nyheterna

Warfare in Kvillefors

The so-called Kalmar War between Sweden and Denmark lasted from 1611 to 1613. Major battles were fought in Småland. Carl Jonsson, later knighted Sabelskjöld, participated as second lieutenant in the cavalierly unit Smålands Husarer commanded by Knut Drake. Sabelskjöld participated in the campaign on Öland and later in southern Småland. An important battle took place at Kungsbron (King's Bridge) near Kvillefors. It is likely that Carl participated there.

The Association Kungsbrons Vänner¹ along with several other organizations will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the battle on August 25, 2012. Kamratföreningen Smålands Husarer² will perform. So, why don't you make a summer excursion to Kvillefors where you can experience the action when Smålands Husarer launches a cavalry attack.

Birger Bring

¹ Kungsbrons Vänner is an association preserving and maintaining the old King's Bridge in Kvillefors.

² Kamratföreningen Smålands Husarer is an association that reenacts battles fought by the old cavalry regiment Smålands Husarer.



A word from our president

It's time for the member magazine for 2012. Receiving it is a indication that you have paid the membership fee. Please keep us updated if you change your address. Otherwise there is a risk that you miss information on our annual meetings and other activities!

Similarly, we call on all members to spread the information about our wonderful family association. We gladly accept new members!

The editor of this magazine is always happy to receive contributions and ideas for articles from our members. We believe that there are many family stories to be told. Please let us know!

In this edition, for example, Robert Soderberg from Gnesta shared his wonderful story about the farm that came back to the family after 130 years. A complete version of his story will be added to our website. The web address can be found on the last page.

Siv Gronwald has been our co-writer before and this time she has done an impressive job with her article about Raoul Wallenberg - one of our cousins. There is always a need to be reminded of his actions during the war.

There is a new stylish table ensign available which you can use to show your family background. Please, take the opportunity to buy it at our annual meeting on September 1st this year, or order it from our web site! More information on both ensign and the annual meeting is available in this magazine.

*Rolf Svensson
President*

Welcome to Vadstena on September 1st.

Please reserve Saturday, September 1st for our family association meeting.

This time we have booked Vadstena Folkhögskola, located just outside the town of Vadstena overlooking the lake Vättern. Close by are Vadstena castle and Vadstena old monastery, well worth a visit.

We will return with a separate mail with the details.

The meeting will begin with morning coffee and the formal meeting procedure. Lunch will be served and there will be chances to chat with your relatives during the lunch break.

The price for this full day is 325 SEK for members and SEK 375 for non-members.

Please visit www.vadstena.fhsk.se to read more about the site for our meeting.

If you have an issue to be addressed at the meeting, the board needs it in writing before August 1st.

The Board



The Änghult farm owned by the family after almost 130 years

Sometimes things happen as where the circumstances almost "as if it was intended." Here is a story about a family farm that was sold outside the family and returned to the same family almost 130 years later. It's about Robert and Bo Söderberg, two brothers, one enthusiastic genealogist from Gnesta and the other living in Waxholm, just outside Stockholm.

After retirement Bo Söderberg decided to move to Småland, where children and grandchildren had settled. He bought the farm Änghult (Enghult in old spelling) in Lenhovda parish and moved there. Bo asked his brother Robert to do some genealogy research on their grandfather Robert Algot Holmqvist, who was born in the Lenhovda district. Grandpa Robert was 10th generation from Carl Sabelskjöld on his father's side.

Bo began studying what had happened on the farm Änghult in the past by studying old maps and other historical material. Robert soon discovered that his family previously had lived on the farm. Grandfather Robert Algot Holmqvist was the 8th generation in a direct line from the crofter Nils Persson and his wife Gertrud Persdotter who lived and worked in Enghult in the 1700s. The brothers know today that the farm was owned by their family from about 1710 to 1850, thus 140 years. The last relative, Johannes Svensson, who stayed on the farm also after it had been sold out of the family, died in 1876, 93 years old. At that time the family lived and worked in Enghult for 166 years.

"Isn't that unbelievable that my brother Bo without knowing it, bought a farm where our family lived and worked for generations," says Robert Soderberg.

Thina Rydell



The family picture came back from US after 58 years

When my brother Jimmy was baptized in 1950 we visited a local photographer, studio Sabel in Kristdala, to take a family picture - all of us being well dressed and properly combed. My father then sent the lovely picture to his cousin Sture in the U.S. - a way for him to proudly show off his family. Sture was born in the village Branäs in Kristdala and left Sweden for USA 1922. I remember that my mother was somewhat annoyed that dad sent the only copy we had from the event, but the father reassured her: "We just have to buy another copy from the studio."

However, shortly after the studio burned and the entire photo archive was destroyed. What a pity, we all said, that the only picture of our family was in the U.S. In spite of numerous enquiries the picture could not be found or restored so it seemed that it was gone forever.

My second cousin Gwen, Sture's daughter, planned a trip to Sweden with children and grandchildren in July 2008. For Gwen, 77 years old, it was her first visit to Sweden. They came to our house in Nyköping on the very 4th of July, Independence Day. After dinner we had coffee on a hot summer patio and then Gwen took out a bunch of black and white pictures which she had brought with her from United States. She asked me to explain who was in the pictures. She took out a photograph with a rustling paper protecting the picture and I then began to understand that here comes a surprise - the picture that my dad sent to his cousin Sture in 1950 was back in Sweden after 58 years in the U.S.! The picture that I so well remember, but only saw once before being sent away, was again in our family's hands.



Just before Gwen went to Sweden, her 99-year-old step-mother Ruth, gave her a box full of old photos which she asked Gwen to take care of. My American cousin, who was unaware of the history around the picture, had never imagined that it would bring so much emotion and be of such importance to our family.

On Saturday morning we went on a trip to Småland. In our cottage in Branäs we met my brother and his family. Of course it was a big surprise for him to see the picture, taken at his baptism, an image he had never seen, but had heard so much about.

Rolf Svensson

President of the Sabelskjöld Family Society (the neatly combed the boy

Manslaughter in Humleryd, Bråbo

When I was a little boy my grandfather talked about a man who had been killed not far from our old water well. In the mid-1990s, I started researching this, and had a lot of help from Stig-Ove Wisberg who found a document from proceedings in Göta Hovrätt (Court of Appeal for southern Sweden). The document was dated October 8, 1818.

The man who was killed was farmer and church warden Sven Johannesson at Humleryd. Those accused for the killing were Jon Svensson, his wife Ingeborg Persdotter and their daughter Brita Lisa Jonsdotter in Applekulla village, neighboring village to Humleryd. Jon belonged to the Sabelskjöld family. Apparently there was a tense situation between the two families.

This is what happened on June 29, 1818

The daughter Brita was at the well washing clothes. Sven Johannesson also came to the well and accused Brita of contaminating the water. Soon a lot of noise was heard. Brita's parents ran down to the site, and attacked Sven brutally. Jon beat Sven with a cudgel and Brita used her paddle. Sven fell to the ground but could crawl up a hill about 20 meters from the well. What happened there, could not be clarified, there were no witnesses. Today there is a small stone at the site where Sven was found. I believe that the stone marks the place where he died.

The neighbors had heard the noise down at the water hole, and ran down and saw Sven's lifeless body laying on the hill, but at this time there were no other people in the area. A witness had heard Ingeborg screaming and had also seen what happened from her house in Applekulla. Sheriff Anders Craelius and reverend Per Meurling were called to the site.

The case began July 22, 1818 in Ishult's Courthouse. The three accused denied that they had killed Sven Johannesson, but they ended up in Kalmar prison. The case was on trial several times during the fall and witnesses were heard. However, no one had seen who delivered the final stroke that killed Sven, so all three were sentenced to death being beheaded and their bodies were to be buried under the gallows. In order to be legal the verdict had to be confirmed by the Court of Appeal. There new investigations were done and new witnesses were heard. This was going on for almost a year. The acquittal came 18



September 1819. The Court of Appeal finally concluded that the evidence against the three accused were not enough to find them guilty. The three accused had then spent about 14 months in prison. Jon and Ingeborg moved to the cottage Mörbo (Myrbo, Myrtorpet) on Kalerum farm in Kristdala. Jon died there in 1826 and Ingeborg moved around to different places until she died in the poor-house in Kristdala in 1864. The daughter Brita married Karl Persson, Perstorpet. The couple had had six children.

Sven Johannesson's son John Svensson took over farming at Humleryd and married Maria Svensdotter from Malghult Kristdala. Also she was a member of the Sabelskjöld family. John and Maria sold Humleryd farm in 1837 and emigrated to America. It was at the auction in 1837 that my family came to Humleryd.

More about the tragic events in Humleryd can be found in Veine Sjöö's book "History of Bråbygden"

Peder Nilsson / Humleryd

Information to members

Our membership file needs to be constantly updated to be current. If you move or if your membership details change for any other reason, please contact the Society.

Now each member has his own membership number even if entered as a family member. Do not forget to include your name and membership number on the payment slip when paying the annual fee.

Please also remember that those seeking membership must be able to state their connection to the Sabelskjöld family. Usually it is enough to trace your family back to the mid 1800's. The Sabelskjöld family-CD can in most cases be used to trace the earlier generations.

Also persons not belonging to the Sabelskjöld family can apply for membership, but in those cases the Board decides whether the application should be granted.

Birger Bring / Peder Nilsson



Table banner stands for sale

New tables banner stands with the Sabelskjöld coat of arms can be purchased through the Society. The stands consist of a metal stand and a banner. These can be purchased separately. Stand 75 SEK and banner 175 SEK. Shipping to be added.

The Raoul Wallenberg Year 2012

Raoul Wallenberg was descendant of Carl Sabelskjöld and Magdalena Strang and their eldest daughter Elizabeth Sabelskjöld, who married Magnus Stråle af Ekna. The year, 2012, some four hundred years later, the Sabelskjöld Family Society, as well as the rest of the world, celebrates Raoul Wallenberg and the centenary year of our cousin and the diplomat Raoul Wallenberg.

He was one of the Swedes, who in the last years of World War II, 1944-45, worked in the Hungarian capital Budapest and saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from deportation and extermination. Raoul Wallenberg along with two other Swedish diplomats, Valdemar Langert and Carl Ivan Danielsson, came to play an important role preventing the full implementation of the Holocaust in the final months of World War II.

Wallenberg was captured, 44 years old, by the Russians on the 14th or 17th of January 1945, and was escorted out of Budapest by military from the Red Army, and then transferred to the Ljubjanka prison in Moskav. After that he was never heard of again. His fate is up to this day unclear. According to a Russian report, he was reported to have died already in 1947. Other information says that he was found dead in his cell in the Ljubjanka prison ten years later, in 1957. There are also reports that he would have been seen alive sometime in the 1980s in the city of Vladimir. But the information is vague and unclear. The Swedish government has for years demanded - and still does - a statement from Moscow about what happened to him. But no one, except perhaps in the diplomatic circles, knows why he was captured or what happened to him thereafter.

This year we celebrate the hundredth anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg's birth. It is nearly seventy years since he was captured and taken away. In order to honor the memory of Wallenberg - one of the greatest Swedes - according Olle Wästberg, who is the official coordinator of the Raoul Wallenberg Year, a ceremony was held in the Swedish Parliament on 17 January 2012. Their Majesties the King and Queen attended a ceremony in the Stockholm synagogue and former UN General Secretary Kofi Annan spoke at the Raoul Wallenberg Square on January 26.

A memory stamp has been issued during the year and exhibitions have been organized in Sweden and abroad. Raoul Wallenberg is the single Swede who has got most places, streets, squares and parks named after him. There are over thirty monuments around the world in honor of him.

Background

Who was the man who during some months in 1944-45 helped saved more than 10 000 Jews from deportation and was declared a hero by the entire world?

Raoul Wallenberg was born a century ago on August 4, 1912, at Kappsta, the family summer place on the island of Lidingö just outside Stockholm, surrounded by some 20 acres of mixed terrain with plenty of birds and rare plants. Raoul's father, lieutenant and artist Raoul Oscar Wallenberg had died from cancer a few months earlier, on May 12 that year. Raoul's Mother was Maria Sophia Wising. In 1818 she married Frederick Elias Dardel. The couple had two daughters.

Kappsta meant a lot to Raoul when he was a child, since he spent all his summers there. The property Kappsta had been bought as a summer house in 1882 by Maria Sophia Wising's

father, professor Per Johan Wising. Their youngest daughter, Maria Sophia Wising (called May), married Raoul Oscar Wallenberg in 1911, but was widowed less than a year later and a single mother with her baby boy. Kappsta stayed in the family until the end of the 1920s. Today the property is owned by the City of Lidingö and is classified as a nature reserve.



The summer house where Raoul was born burned in August 1933. Only the stone foundation reminds us today of the time when he stayed there. Next to the stairs, there is a paved slab made of paving stones from Budapest. On this slab there is a memorial in the form of a portfolio made of bronze, similar to the one Raoul used, designed by the artists Ulla and Gustav Kraiz, rigidly attached to the house foundation.

It became the grandfather Raoul Gustav Wallenberg, who together with mother Maria Sophia outlined Raoul's future. His grandfather gave him a broad international education with trips to different parts of the world and solid language skills.

The goal was to lay the foundation for a management position in the banking business. But Raoul graduated from high school with mediocre grades and instead chose to train as an architect, a profession he never came to exercise.

His grandfather sent his grandson to South Africa where he became a salesman, for among other things, household items. He was then sent on to Haifa, where he became a trainee in a bank, led by one of his grandfather's friends. In Haifa, Raoul for the first time came in contact with German Jews who fled persecution in Nazi Germany. It was also the first time that he became aware of the Nazi pogroms regarding the Jews.

Both mother and grandfather urged Raoul to continue his career in Stockholms Enskilda Bank, a business owned by the family. But working at a bank didn't appeal to Raoul, and he had difficulties finding suitable work in Stockholm.

Marcus and Jacob Wallenberg, Raoul's uncles, instead tried to help him to do business abroad. The result was that Raoul for some time at the beginning of the 1940s became involved in export and import of food between Sweden and Hungary for Central European Trading Company. It is unclear whether Raoul Wallenberg during that time came to play any political role in the relations between Sweden and Hungary.

German army had begun deportation of Hungarian Jews.

Between May 15 and July 8, 1944 as many as 434 351 Jews were deported from the eastern parts of the country, and in Budapest Jews were ordered to move to houses marked with the yellow star, and their right to travel was restricted. The U.S. government's War Refugee Board in Scandinavia wanted in that situation to have a person sent from neutral Sweden to organize a rescue operation in the Hungarian capital.

At the same time, the Swedish legation in Budapest, in early summer of 1944, asked for reinforcement to be able to cope with the stream of persecuted Jews from eastern Hungary who took refuge in the city. The Legation was at that time understaffed. It was headed by Minister Ivan Danielsson, while the legation secretary Per Anger was responsible for the protection of Jews. Cultural Attaché Valdemar Langert had been appointed delegate of the Swedish Red Cross to operate parallel to the rescue project in close collaboration with the Legation.

It was in this situation that the Swedish government chose Raoul Wallenberg, a man with no diplomatic background, to perform the mission. He was sent to Budapest on a two-month mission. The orders he received from the Swedish Foreign Office were originally to follow development in the country and report home to Sweden. His arrival in Budapest led to a quick increase in the number of local staff at the legation. He organized a humanitarian body at the legation, where so-called protective passports were issued and arranged protected living in order to save as many Jews as possible. However, local authorities put a limit of maximum 4500 passports.



In parallel the Swiss legation, being a representative of the UK, was given the task of distributing up to 8000 so-called Palestine Certificates, which gave the holders and their families the right to emigrate to Palestine. In early December 1944 the situation for the Swedish diplomats in Budapest worsened and hundreds of protégés were executed in January 1945.

It was getting dangerous to stay in Budapest for the Swedish diplomats. During his last days in Budapest Raoul Wallenberg therefor moved between different places. On January 7, he spent the night in the Spanish delegation's building. There, he and his driver planned a trip to Debrecen. They were travelling



in a car carrying gold, jewels and possibly cash.

On January 11 he requested permission to stay at the International Red Cross office for a few days. The next day he met Palestinian leader Mikó Krausz. Krausz handed over some documents and a substantial amount of money to Wallenberg.

The idea was that Wallenberg in Debrecen would try to convince the Russian commander Marshal Rodion Malinovsky to take the Jewish ghetto as quickly as possible, putting a stop to the deportations. It is not known how many days Raoul Wallenberg remained in Budapest before he was captured. It may have been on the 14th or 17th of January that Raoul was seen leaving Budapest in his car with his driver, escorted by personnel from the Red Army.

According to one report, Wallenberg met with the personnel from the Red Army in the Red Cross premises, but did not feel any threat. He should instead have sent a telegram to the Russians, to be forwarded to Stockholm, a telegram that the Russians never sent. What is known for sure is that the Deputy Defence Minister Nikolai Bulgarin, head of the second Ukrainian Front, on January 17 ordered Rodion Malinovsky to arrest Wallenberg and bring him to Moscow.

Thereafter nobody knows what happened to Wallenberg. One theory is that the Russian may have suspected that Wallenberg was engaged in espionage activities for the Germans or Americans. Another theory says that there was an anti-Russian attitude in the Swedish Legation, and that the Russians suspected that not only Jews but also fascists were protected.

It is unclear whether it was Raoul Wallenberg's previous business relations with Hungary and the knowledge of the Hungarian language that made the Swedish government select him to strengthen the Swedish group of diplomats in Hungary. 2012- The Wallenberg year - will it bring new information about what happened to our relative Raoul Wallenberg, and what was behind his disappearance?.

Siv Grönwald

Noblemen, pirates and the Sabelskjöld wedding crown

In the previous issue of Sabelskjöldar'n we told the story about Gustav Adolf Skytte and Gustav Drake, who in the mid-1600s, committed piracy in the Baltic Sea. They hijacked a Dutch ship, killed the crew and captured the ship and cargo. Shortly after the events in the Baltic Sea Skytte hosted a stormy party at Strömserum's castle, where he accidentally shot Samuel Printz, who was privy councilor Carl Mauritz Leijonhufvud's butler.

On the run

Skytte had now got himself into deep trouble. So far he had managed to keep the act of piracy secret, but to open fire at a privy councilor killing his butler before the very eyes of a big party could, not be kept secret. Skytte fled to Lybeck.

Drake, who was not present at the party at Strömserum, had returned to his manor Hagelsrum. The planned marriage between him and Skytte's oldest sister, Gunilla, was put off. The prospective bride simply turned him down, but there were more girls in the Skytte family. In February 1662, Drake married Anna Skytte.

Gradually, rumors began to spread in Ålem parish and in the neighborhood around Hagelsrum. Where did the Dutch items which appeared in the farmhouses and cottages come from? Bodices and embroidery of foreign origin were found in peasant's huts and good tobacco was up for sale.

Drake's statement that no one would search for a lost ship in the Baltic Sea turned to be naive. The owners of the ship in Holland wondered, of course, what had happened to their vessel, and the murdered Dutch sailors had families in Amsterdam who wanted to know what had happened to their fathers and sons. The merchant in Norrköping was still waiting for his salt. The circumstances were so worrying that the Dutch shipping company appointed an investigator in Kalmar to make inquiries.

The truth starts to emerge

The following winter the first concrete proof of what happened when the ship Vergölte Leyon (Golden Lion) wrecked previous summer started to show. Large quantities of rigging were for sale on Öland and in Döderhultsvik. Information about this reached the Dutch representative in Kalmar and soon several men were put to trial in Högsby. They were fishermen from Öland who in August previous year found large amounts of rope tucked away on the island Blå Jungfrun. Before the court they also admitted that they saw a ship lying at anchor off the island for a week and then suddenly disappeared.

The names of those who had been on board the pirate ship began to seep out. Soon, all fifteen pirates were known by name. The Swedish justice was however remarkably unwilling to act. The Dutch representative in Kalmar was, on the other hand, very active. He gathered up what he knew and presented the case to the Dutch envoy in Stockholm. Thus the case was given a diplomatic twist. Sweden wanted to maintain its good relations with the sea power Holland, so the government ordered that the suspects must be arrested.

Skytte was still in Lybeck and was not aware of development in the pirate case. He was given a royal safe-conduct so he could return to Sweden, where he was supposed to prepare his defense in the court proceedings for having shot Prinz. On



board his yacht, he returned to Sweden in the summer of 1662. Legal entanglements followed. Could Skytte be arrested for piracy? His safe-conduct applied only for the case against Prinz. Learned men at Uppsala University were consulted and the answer was that Skytte could be arrested. This was done in Kalmar September 10, 1662 despite the royal safe-conduct letter.

Drake escapes, Skytte is sentenced to death

Of course Drake had better opportunities to keep up with the development in the piracy case. Now it was his turn to escape abroad, to Danzig.

The nobility had their privileges even in the administration of justice. A nobleman could not be tried by a lower court, but must be tried by a Court of Appeal where the jury consisted of noblemen. Skytte was therefore transferred to Göta Hovrätt in Jönköping (Court of Appeal for southern Sweden) where he eventually was sentenced to death for piracy.

When Skytte realized that the game was over he admitted yet another act of piracy. A few years earlier, he and some other officers hired a Dutch ship to sail them home to Sweden from military service in Poland. All officers left the ship as contracted in Norrköping except for Skytte. Under the pretense that he wanted to buy the ship, he got the Dutch captain to set course for Kalmar. At Kräkelund between Västerвик and Döderhultsvik the crew was murdered and Skytte took over the ship, which he later used as his private pirate ship.

Ten of the fifteen pirates faced court.

- ❖ Gustav Adolf Skytte executed.
- ❖ Gustav Drake sentenced in absentia to become an outlaw.
- ❖ Two pirates decapitated and put to stegel 1).
- ❖ Two pirates decapitated
- ❖ Two pirates sentenced to three gauntlet
- ❖ One pirate acquitted
- ❖ One pirate questioned on safe-conduct, not sentenced
- ❖ Five pirates were never apprehended.

What happened to Drake?

He took advantage of the same opportunity as Skytte and asked the Royal Majesty of safe conduct, and with that in his pocket, he returned to Sweden to defend his case in court. A risky decision, it seemed, because he was the one who was depicted as the leader of the pirates. Drake, however, blamed Skytte for everything. Skytte had performed killings along with the others while he was sleeping below deck, he told the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal fell for Drake's arguments and sentenced him to moderate fines. The verdict was astounding. A few months earlier the same Court of Appeal ruled Drake as an outlaw, and now he got away with a fine! Bribes, many suspect. There are however no indications of bribery in the protocols but on the other hand, this was of course nothing that could be said publicly. Also the government reacted. In a sharp letter the Court of Appeal was asked for an explanation. The court made a lame attempt to explanation but most of the members were later dismissed. However, the verdict against Drake stood. He paid the fine and was then a free man. He died at Hagelsrum several years later, 50 years old.

The Sabelskjöld Bridal Crown

Well, what about the Sabelskjöld bridal crown? Could it have been pirate's plunder? In principle yes, but heavy arguments go against. The museum Nordiska Museet has examined our crown and held it to be made in Vimmerby by a known silversmith sometime between 1662 and 1700th If we accept this other theories can be left aside.

As we remember Karl Jönsson Sabelskjöld had a dispute

Use our bridal crown



The Sabelskjöld Family Society has a bridal crown known as "the Sabelskjöld bridal crown." It was made available to the Society's in 1970 by members of the Sabelskjöld family with the intent that it should be used at weddings within the family.

Thus, the Society does not own the Crown but manages it. Nordiska Museet (the Nordic Museum in Stockholm) has examined the crown and dated it to the period 1662 - 1700, being made in Vimmerby by goldsmith Hans Persson Bergman.

with Magnus Drake of Hagelsrum on the legacy of Brita Rosenstråle. Brita was the sister of Karl Jönsson Sabelskjöld's second wife Ingeborg Rosenstråle. Objects from the captured Dutch ship could not have been part of that legacy. Brita died several years before the piracy took place and the pirate at Hagelsrum was only remotely related to the Magnus Drake and not at all related to Brita Rosenstråle. In addition, the Dutch shipping company would certainly have reported the loss of such a valuable piece of jewelry. The Dutch demanded - and later received compensation for the lost ship and its cargo.

There is also a legend about a treasure chest in the lake Il-lern. The chest was supposed to have come from Hagelsrum. According to one version, several attempts to bring it to the surface failed and the treasure would thus still be on the bottom of the lake. According to another version some fishermen managed to get the chest out of the water and took it to the nearby farm Sörebo. This would then explain why the crown was first mentioned in a probate in Sörebo in the mid-1700s.

Pirates, treasure chests, noblemen, bridal crowns - it's easy to make up romantic stories around these things. Everyone may have his own theory about the origin of the Sabelskjöld crown. There will probably be no absolute clarity ever.

1) Stegel was originally a medieval torture instrument where the prisoner was tied to a wheel and crushed under it. In the 1600s a milder version was used where the prisoner was first decapitated and the body was then mutilated and finally tied to a big wheel on display to the public.

Despite the name, "the Sabelskjöld bridal crown" the connection to the Sabelskjöld family cannot be verified.

Never the less, the crown has stayed in Sabelskjöld family for generations, and hence has been considered a family gem even if written evidence of the Crown's earliest history is lacking. We in the Sabelskjöld family feel that we have good reasons to regard the crown as part of our history, and would like to see it used at weddings in the family for many generations to come.

Birger Bring

New items for sale



BRUDKRONAN

En film om brudkronor i allmänhet och om den Sabelskjöldska i synnerhet. Filmen är bland annat inspelad i Småland och Sörmland.

Tal, foto, intervjuer och manus: Ingela Högersand
Research och intervjuer: Magnus Ekstrand
Foto och redigering: Sien Alkland

The film about the Sabelskjöld bridal crown, which we wrote about in the last issue of Sabelskjöldar'n, is now ready. The story is about the use of bridal crowns in general and about the Sabelskjöld crown in particular. The 16 minutes film is available on DVD. Members of the Society can buy the film for 125 SEK. Cost for shipping to be added.