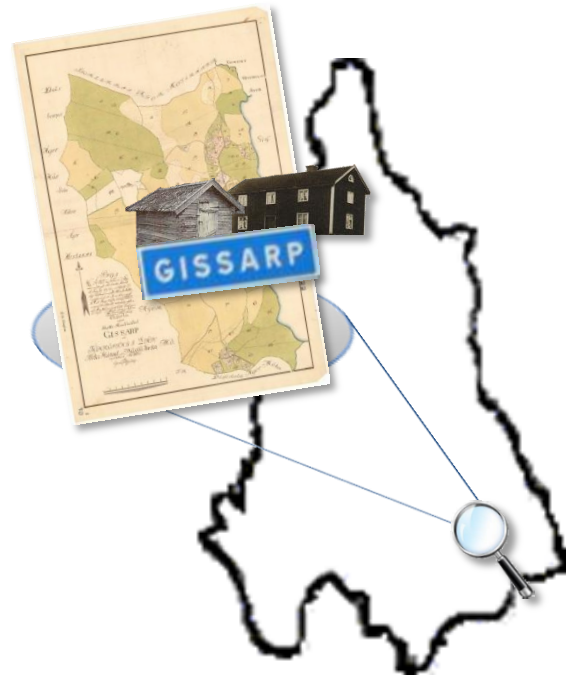


Gissarp

A couple of kilometres southeast of the city of Nässjö is Gissarp (Gées-arp), a farm where four generations of the High family's ancestors lived. Olof Jonsson, Sven Hög's great-great-grandfather, bought the farm in 1706. Olof lived at Gissarp with three of his sons, Jon, Daniel, and Måns, in the first part of the 18th Century. By 1724, Olof's sons each owned a third of Gissarp and raised their families at the farm. Måns Olofsson, Olof's youngest son, was Sven Hög's great-grandfather. All three of Måns's children, Olof, Kerstin, and Anna were born at Gissarp. Over the course of the 18th Century, the ownership of land passed down to the descendants of Jon, Daniel, and Måns Olofsson. Måns's son, Olof Månsson Löfberg, inherited his father's portion of Gissarp in the early 1750s and owned it until his death in 1795. From 1790 to 1796, Maria Svensdotter, Sven Hög's mother, worked for her uncle Olof at Gissarp.



Gissarp (Gées-arp)
Parish: Nässjö
Significance to High Family: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where Olof Jonsson lived from 1706 until his death sometime in the early 18th Century. • Where Måns Olofsson lived from 1706 until his death in 1775. • Where Anna Månsdotter was born in 1734 and lived until 1759. • Where Maria Svensdotter was a maid from 1790 to 1796.
Coordinates: 57°37'00"N14°46'00"E



Sign at Gissarp

The meaning of the name "Gissarp"

The name "Gissarp" most likely means "Gise's cottage." "Giss" derives from the name "Gise," the man that Gissarp was probably named after, while the word "arp," was an old term for "torp," or cottage.

Timeline of Gissarp: 1543-1708

1543	The first taxed homestead at Gissarp is built by Jon, a farmer. The same year, Gissarp is acquired by Beata Nilsdotter Grip of Björkvik, the widow of Privy Councilor Holger Carlsson.
1547	Beata Nilsdotter Grip dies and her son, Privy Councilor Baron Carl Holgersson Gera inherits Gissarp.
1566	After the death of Privy Councilor Baron Carl Holgersson Gera, his brother, Göran Holgersson, inherits Gissarp. The farm is later passed down to his daughter, Beata Gera, the wife of Privy Councilor Christian Gabrielsson Oxenstierna. Catharina Oxenstierna, the daughter of Christian Gabrielsson and Beata Gera, later inherits Gissarp. Catharina Oxenstierna was the wife of Privy Councilor and Governor of Jönköping, Baron Johan de la Gardie.
1610	Ownership of Gissarp passes to Count Frederik Capricorn, the last aristocratic owner of the farm.
1645	Count Frederik Capricorn sells his ownership of Gissarp to the Crown. By this time, Gissarp has five acres of land which can feed eighteen cattle. Gissarp is now a rusthåll, a farm which was responsible for providing for a cavalry rider and his horse. Michel Larsson, a cavalryman, lives at Gissarp during this time.
c. 1650	The Crown sells Gissarp to Commissioner Marten Johansson. By the late 17 th Century, half of Gissarp is owned by his daughter, Elsa Martensdotter, a quarter of the land is owned by goldsmith Louis Barck of Jönköping, and the other quarter is owned by farmer Sven Borjesson.
1680	Louis Barck and Sven Borjesson sell their shares of Gissarp to commissioner Israel Barck, Elsa Martensdotter's husband, and son of John Ludovici, the vicar from Barkeryd Church.
1706	Israel Barck sells Gissarp to Olof Jonsson for 280 riksdaler in silver coins.
1708	Olof Jonsson receives the deed to Gissarp.

Source: *Äldre tiders Näsjö* p. 132-134



Gissarp



Pasture at Gissarp

Johan Fovelin's Description of Gissarp

"Gissarp, which is 1 full krono-hemman [a farm owned by the Crown], and a rusthåll, is fairly well situated. It has good arable land for 33 barrels of seed for sowing. It has excellent meadows and grazing, good leaf-fodder, good fishing, no flower-mill, and one good croft. The tithes, 1 barrel and 4 bushels, are paid to the Principal Jun.

It is a fairly good farmstead which is well built-over, better than usual farmsteads, and is the residence of three copyholders. Below the farm is an oblong lake, where four districts and five parishes meet. In the mid of it is a sand-bank, on which it is possible to cross the lake by foot or on a horse back.

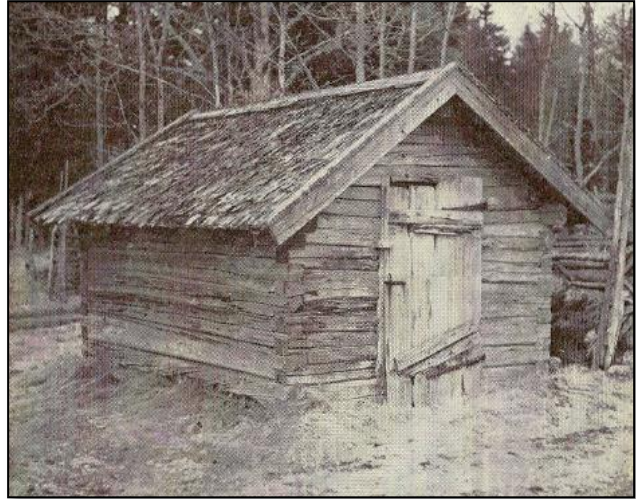
It is said that this farmstead also should contain a full "frälse hemman" (nobility homestead), but I can't tell if it's true or not."

The Legal Dispute between Israel Barck and Elsa Martensdotter

In the mid-1680s, a legal dispute over Gissarp broke out between husband and wife, Israel Barck and Elsa Martensdotter. County records from this time show that Elsa had problems fulfilling her obligations towards the cavalymen who she was supposed to provide for. Around this time, many of the buildings at Gissarp had fallen into disrepair, much to the discontentment of her husband. In 1684, Israel Barck attempted to take full ownership of Gissarp. On September 23, 1684, Bark appeared before the council of North Vedbo District, and delivered his proposals for Gissarp, including plans to rebuild the old houses on Elsa's section of the farm. The following day, Barck purchased one quarter mantal of the farm homestead for 85 riksdaler in copper coins. A few years later, Barck bought the rest of Gissarp from his wife and became the sole proprietor of the farm.

Source: *Äldre tiders Näsjö* p. 133

In 1706, Israel Barck sold Gissarp to Olof Jonsson for 280 riksdaler in silver coins. Olof Jonsson received the title of ownership of Gissarp in February, 1708. Throughout the 18th Century, Gissarp was owned by the family of Olof Jonsson. Olof received the papers of ownership to Gissarp in February of 1708. Olof lived at Gissarp with three of his sons, Jon, Daniel, and Måns. Olof's wife, Ingjård Håkansdotter, may have also lived at Gissarp.¹



Old shed at Gissarp



Garden at Gissarp

In 1712, surveyor Peter Burshie conducted a thorough survey of Gissarp. Burshie's map of Gissarp indicates that it had 16 acres of arable land, $5\frac{1}{8}$ acres of meadow, and an annual production of 11 barrels and $1\frac{3}{8}$ of bushels of grain. During this time, two thirds of the fields at Gissarp were cultivated, while the remaining third was left to lie fallow. The meadow at Gissarp was estimated to yield 50 loads of hay.

What were the buildings at Gissarp like in the 18th Century?

There's a good chance that the main house at Gissarp was around 45 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 15 feet tall. It was probably two floors and may have had three rooms, a kitchen, and hallway on the ground floor and two rooms on the upper floor. There was also a barn that was probably between 70–80 feet long at Gissarp, a stable, and several sheds. Records from 1862 also indicate that there was a brewery in this area, but it's unknown if that brewery was there in the 18th Century. There were also some buildings in the far southern section of Gissarp.

Information from the list of existing houses in Gissarp from the 1862 Laga Skifte records

By 1714, Jon Olofsson, Olof's eldest son, owned part of Gissarp.² Jon Oloffson lived in a cottage at Gissarp with his wife, Anna Bengstdotter, and children: Margareta, Karin, Anders, Marit, Helana, Jonas, and Olof.

¹ It's unknown if Ingjård Håkansdotter was still alive when Olof Jonsson purchased Gissarp in 1706.

² Småland Hussaregiment Livcompany No. 66 Record from Gissarp - 1714

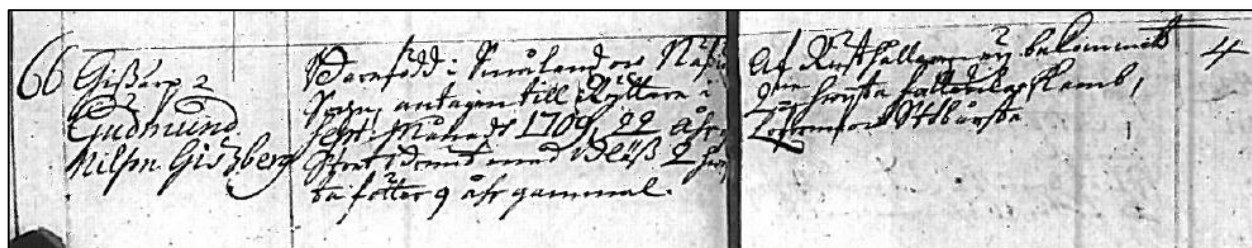
In the 18th Century, Gissarp was a *rusthåll*, a farm which was responsible for providing for a cavalry rider and his horse. On military records, Gissarp was identified as Rote 66. In September of 1709, Gudmund Nilsson Gissberg, a twenty year old cavalry rider, was recruited to live at Gissarp.³

Floen

Floen, a *ryttaretorp*, or equestrian cottage where a cavalryman lived, was located in western Gissarp. In 1712, Floen had 27^{7/8} acres of land. In times of peace, this land was farmed by the cavalryman who resided at Gissarp. During times of war when the cavalryman was away, this land was cared for by the farmers of Gissarp.



Floen on the 1800 map of Gissarp



The Royal Småland Cavalry Regiment, the Staff Guard Company, the 2nd platoon, No. 66
Extract from the General's Inspection's Roll - 1710

Transcription:

66 Gissarp 2,	Barnfödd i Småland och Nässjö	Af Rusthållaren ny bekommit	4
Gudmund	socken, antagen till Ryttare i	2ne hwijta hallsdugar, Remb.	
Nilsson Gissberg	Sept månad 1709, 22 åhr.	Lifrem och stöbårste	
	Stort Brunt med bläss 2 swarta		
	fötter, 9 åhr gammal.		

Translation:

Rusthåll Number: 66

Name of rusthåll and horseman: *Gissarp 2, Gudmund Nilsson Gissberg*

Notes on horseman and horse:

Born and bred in Småland in Nässjö Parish, accepted as a horseman in September 1709, 22 years old. Big brown mare with blaze and 2 black feet aged 9.

Defectors discharge of farmer:

Have received new: 2 white scarves, thong, belt and a brush

Inspection Notes:

4 (Meaning that the horseman and horse are in fine condition.)

³ Småland Hussaregiment Livcompany No. 66 Record from Gissarp – 1710

Cavalry Horsemen Who Lived at Gissarp: 1675-1777 ⁴		
Years	Horseman	Notes
1675-1706	Anders Thorsson	Anders Thorsson was the first horseman to live at Gissarp. He enlisted in 1675 and spent 31 years in service. Thorsson was married to Kerstin Persdotter and had five children: Nils (b. 1680), Kerstin (b. 1682), Anna (b. 1686), Margit (b. 1689), and Annika (d. 1696). Thorsson was dismissed from the service in 1706, after being deemed too old and weak to serve any longer.
1709-1742	Gudmund Nilsson Gissberg	Gudmund Nilsson Gissberg was born at Granshult, Nässjö on March 31, 1689. He was recruited in September of 1709 and served in the Great Northern War. On May 31, 1713, Gissberg married Britta Månsdotter (b. 1684 in Disselda, Norra Sändsjö). The two had seven children: Nils (b. 1714), Kerstin (b. 1714), Lena (b. 1720), Britta (b. 1723), Jonas (1726-1726), Annika (b. 1733), and Jon (b. 1737). Gissberg also served in Hat's Russian War, and was killed in battle in Finland on September 13, 1742.
1743-1758	Nils Gudmundsson Gissberg	Nils Gudmundsson Gissberg was the son of Gudmund Gissberg. He was recruited to take over his father's position on June 10, 1743. He had a wife named Stina (b. 1719) and three daughters: Regina (b. 1746), Maria (b. 1749), and Helena (b. 1758). In the late 1750's, Nils Gissberg served in the Pomeranian War and was taken prisoner. He died in captivity on September 25, 1758.
1758-1759	Daniel Gissberg	Little is known of Daniel Gissberg, who only served for a brief time. Like Nils Gudmundsson, Daniel fought in the Pomeranian War and was taken prisoner in 1759. He died in confinement on November 23, 1759.
1762-1763	Adolf Frederik Schmej	Adolf Frederik Schmej enrolled in the service 1762. Schmej only served until January 26, 1763. After Schmej's dismissal, the horseman's croft at Gissarp was vacant for five years.
1768-1770	Gustaf Adolf Kylander	Gustaf Adolf Kylander volunteered for enrollment on June 10, 1768. Kylander only served for a little over two years, and left the service on November 24, 1770.
1771-1777	Carl Axel Stiernspetz	Second Corporal Carl Axel Stiernspetz arrived at Gissarp on November 18, 1771. Stiernspetz was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant on December 17, 1777, and left Gissarp shortly afterwards.

⁴ "Husarer nr 66 Gissarp" by Sven Bengtsson

By 1724, Jon Olofsson, Daniel Olofsson, and Måns Olofsson each owned a third of the Gissarp.⁵ Each son had his own cottage at Gissarp, where he lived with his family. Daniel Olofsson resided with his wife, Sara Persdotter, and children: Ingrid, Olof, Maria, Peter, and Sven. Måns Olofsson may have inherited his father's home, and lived at Gissarp with his three wives: Anna Pehrsson, Maria Engdahl, and Brita Arvidsdotter, and his three children: Olof, Kerstin, and Anna. In 1739, Daniel Olofsson died and his lands were taken over by his widow, Sara Persdotter. Peter Danielsson, Daniel's son, later inherited Daniel's portion of Gissarp. Jon Oloffson died in 1741, and Anna Bengtsson, his widow, inherited his lands.

Births at Gissarp from 1707 to 1727⁶ (Dates from the Julian Calendar)			
Date of Birth	Name	Father	Mother
April 24, 1707	Jon Torstensson	Torsten Jonsson	Unknown
June 14, 1707	Margareta Jonsdotter	Jon Olofsson	Anna Bengtsson
December 26, 1708	Sven Johansson	Johan Danielsson	Unknown
March 7, 1709	Unknown	Jon Olofsson	Anna Bengtsson
May 12, 1711	Anders Jonsson	Jon Olofsson	Anna Bengtsson
December 12, 1711	Unknown	Johan Danielsson	Unknown
March 21, 1713	Marit Jonsdotter	Jon Olofsson	Anna Bengtsson
June 14, 1713	Unknown	Sven	Unknown
November 2, 1713	Stillborn child	Sven	Unknown
December 12, 1714	Nils Gudmundsson	Gudmund Gissberg	Britta Månsdotter
September 17, 1716	Helena Jonsdotter	Jon Olofsson	Anna Bengtsson
March 14, 1717	Ingrid Danielsdotter	Daniel Olofsson	Sara Persdotter
August 6, 1717	Kerstin Gudmundsdotter	Gudmund Gissberg	Britta Månsdotter
October 17, 1719	Olof Danielsson	Daniel Olofsson	Sara Persdotter
December 16, 1720	Lena Gudmundsdotter	Gudmund Gissberg	Britta Månsdotter
January 1, 1721	Jonas Jonsson	Jon Olofsson	Anna Bengtsson
September 27, 1722	Maria Danielsdotter	Daniel Olofsson	Sara Persdotter
June 15, 1723	Olof Månsso	Måns Olofsson	Anna Pehrsson
July 6, 1723	Britta Gudmundsdotter	Gudmund Gissberg	Britta Månsdotter
February 10, 1725	Kerstin Månsdotter	Måns Olofsson	Anna Pehrsson
February 6, 1726	Jonas Gudmundsson	Gudmund Gissberg	Britta Månsdotter
March 2, 1727	Karin Gudmundsdotter	Gudmund Gissberg	Britta Månsdotter

⁵ Småland Hussaregiment Livcompany No. 66 Record from Gissarp - 1724

⁶ Nässjö Births, Vol. CI:1 (1680-1727)



Old cottage at Gissarp – 19th Century

Throughout the 18th Century, there were five households and around thirty people living at Gissarp. Sometime in the early 1750s, Måns Olofsson's son, Olof Månsson Löfberg, inherited Måns's lands from his father.

Olof was married to Anna Maria Löving, and the two had three children: Peter, Beata Sofia, and Jonas. By the late 18th Century, Gissarp was owned by Olof Månsson Löfberg, Peter Danielsson, and Johannes Jonasson, a grandson of Jon Olofsson. After Olof's death in 1795, his son, Jonas Löfberg inherited his father's portion of Gissarp.

The Fire at Gissarp in 1791

In 1791, there was a fire at the farm, in which Johannes Jonasson's house was destroyed. Jonasson was compensated by the other farmers of Nässjö parish, and received 15 riksdalers, 39 shillings, and 11 farthings for his loss*. After the fire, gold and silver was found on the property, and melted down into plates. These gold and silver plates can still be found at the house at Gissarp today.

* *Äldre tiders Näsjö* p. 98

In 1800, the land at Gissarp was surveyed and redistributed through the Storskifte Act. Gustav Esping surveyed the land, and the ownership of Gissarp was split among the owners, who now each only owned one third mantal of the farm. The homestead portion of Gissarp was estimated to have seven acres of fields and 146 stacks of hay. Jonas Löfberg's ownership of Gissarp was reduced to only $\frac{2}{9}$ mantal of a third of the homestead. Meanwhile, the cottage of Gissebäck was estimated to contain four acres of arable land, 27 acres of meadow, and 26 acres of pasture.

Today, only 6-7 people live at Gissarp. As of 2012, one of Olof Jonsson's descendants, Gunnel Köllerström, was still living at Gissarp. One of her sons now owns the farm.



1800 Storskifte Map of Gissarp