

# Chapter One

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## Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter



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**The Patriarch and Matriarch of the High Family  
1801-1861**

# Chapter One Contents

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# Discovering Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

By Jeffrey High - February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter – Founders of the High Family

What does it mean to be a High? The surname isn't that uncommon; tens of thousands of people in the United States carry this last name, which is of English origins. I'm referring to a much more specific branch of High's however, a family that is of Swedish origin, has roots in Nicollet County, Minnesota, and has had family reunions over the past 50 years at various parks in southern Minnesota, such as Sibley Park and Seven Mile Creek. What links this family, which now spans seven generations and has thousands of members, is that they all descend from Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter.



On August 3, 2008, over 100 members of the High family gathered together at Seven Mile Creek, Minnesota to commemorate the 150 year anniversary of Gustaf Adolf High's family arriving in America

## What High Family History Stated about Sven and Anna Stina



The cover of the 1972 High Family book

Just who were Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter? For generations, very little was known about the two. According to the 1972 High Family book, Sven served in the Swedish Army, which is how he received the surname "Hög." Sven and Anna Stina's four children, Margaret, Gustaf Adolf, Sven Johannes, and Johanna Sofia, all immigrated to the United States in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and settled in Nicollet County, Minnesota.



For years, the 1972 High Family book was the only information the High family knew about their patriarch and matriarch. The book contained just a half a page of information on the two, much of which was later discovered to be erroneous. For example, in this chronicle of family history, Sven was mistakenly referred to as “Sven John Hög II,” while Anna Stina Johansdotter was miscalled “Anna Kilstenia.”

Sven John Hög II (the “o” sounded as long “a”) was born in Sweden in 1799. He, his brothers Gripp and Borg, and sister Sophia Johanna were born in Kapla, Kusgard, Sweden.

Sophia Johanna Hög married a Mr. Gustafson. Their daughter Johanna Sophia Gustafson married Sven John High III in July 1868.

The three brothers all served in the Swedish Army. In the service the given names were used as surnames by Gripp and Borg.

Sven was a shoemaker by trade. He served in the Swedish Army 21 years and died in the service in 1846 at the age of 47 years. On October 3, 1828, he married Anna Kilstenia of Angare, Sweden. The minister was Rev. Andrew Hargert. Sven and Anna Hög had four children. Sven and Anna both died in Sweden.

Their children: Margaret, Gustaf, Sophia, Sven John Hög III.

“Hög” translated to English is “High”. The four children made this change when they came to America.

Information on Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter from the 1972 High Family book

Much of what was written in the 1972 High Family book originated from a short biography on Gustaf Adolf High, Sven and Anna Stina’s eldest son, which was published in *The History of LeSueur and Nicollet Counties* in 1916.

Gustaf A. High was born in Sweden, March 25, 1832, a son of Sven and Anna (Kilstenia) High, who were both natives of Sweden and both died there. The father was a shoemaker by trade, but he spent twenty-one years of his life as a soldier in the army of his native country, and he died in that service; he held the rank of corporal. He had four children: Margaret, who married Jonas Mann; Gustaf, the subject of this sketch; Sven John, who was a soldier in the Civil War and died in 1893; Sophia, who died in America in 1885.

Information on Sven and Anna Stina from *The History of LeSueur and Nicollet Counties* - 1916



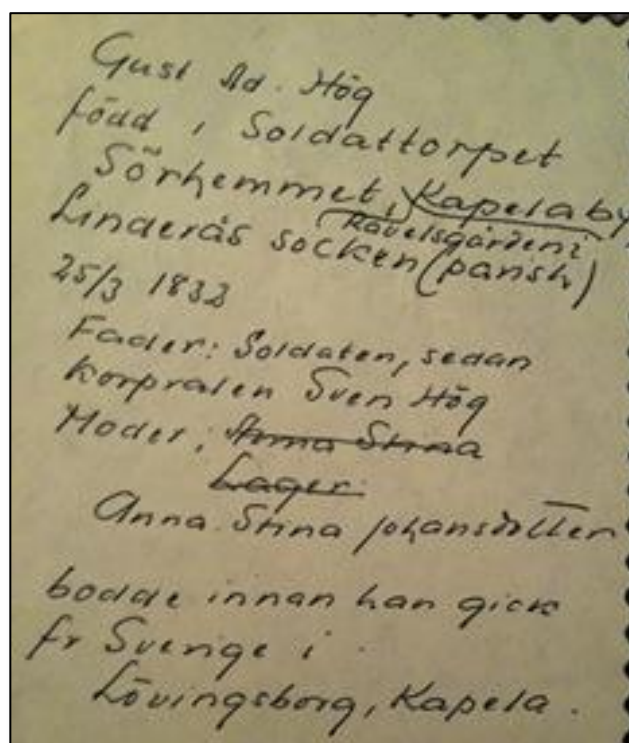
## The Search for Information on Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter



Left to right: Emma Pehling High, George High, Helen Hedin High, and Chester High during their trip to Sweden in 1972

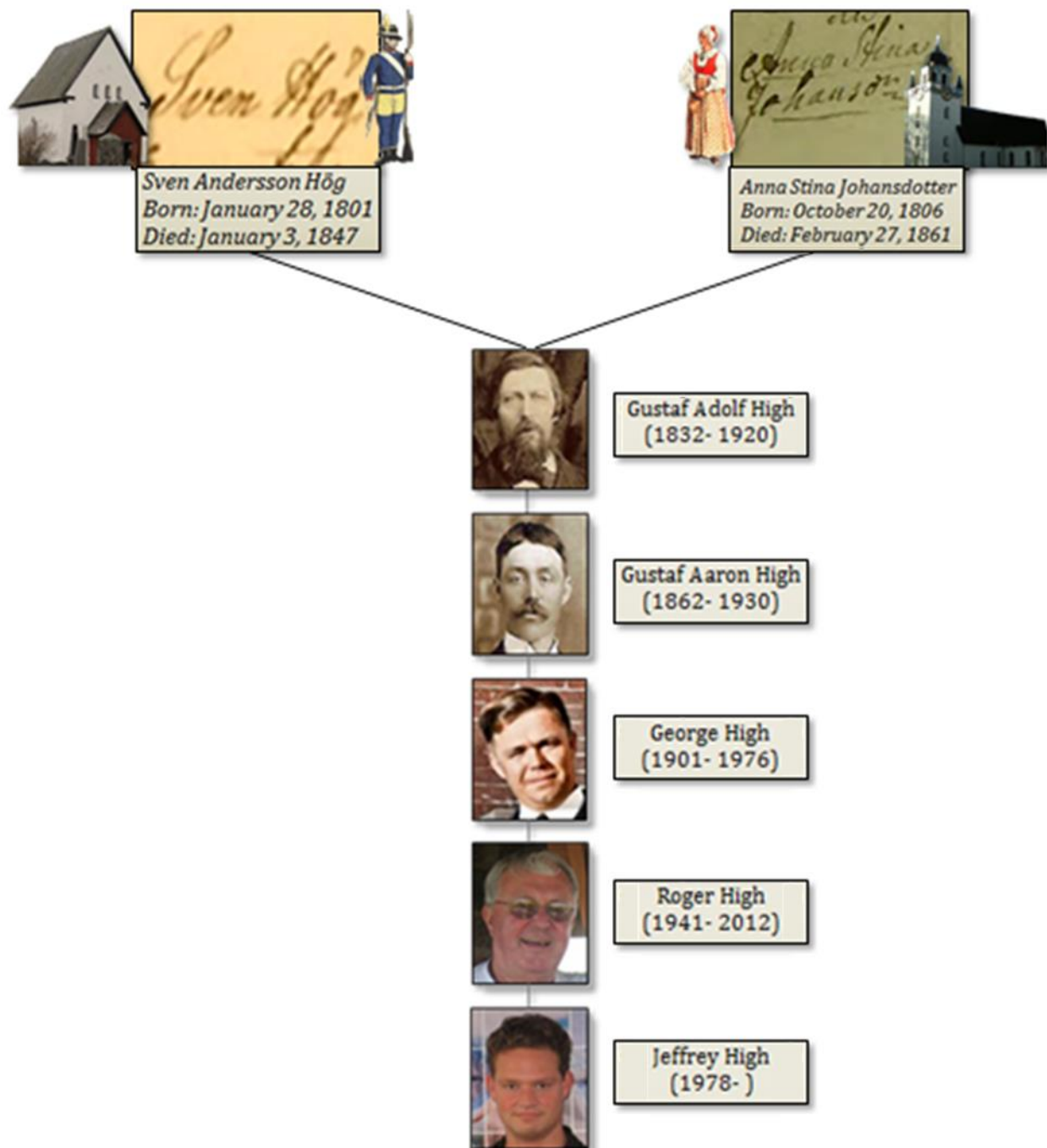
For decades, the descendants of Sven and Anna Stina sought to find more information about the High family's founders. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, Anna Zuber High (1895-1993), the wife of Warner High (1899-1990), a great-grandson of Sven and Anna Stina, diligently gathered information on all of the descendants of Sven and Anna Stina, which culminated in the 1972 High Family book. Anna dedicated the book to the ancestors of Sven Hög, showing her burning curiosity to learn more about Sven, Anna Stina, and the High family's Swedish ancestry.

The great-grandchildren of Sven and Anna Stina were particularly interested in learning more about the High family's Swedish ancestry. In the 1970s, several of Sven and Anna Stina's great-grandchildren, such as George High (1901-1976) Chester High (1907-1990), and Anna Lundholm Holm (1910-1989) traveled to Sweden to learn more about their Swedish heritage. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, members of the High family wrote to the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, Minnesota to enquire about their Swedish ancestors. The American Swedish Institute responded by providing some information on Sven and Anna Stina, but none of this information was ever published.



These notes from Lilly High Carlson (1912-1992), a great-granddaughter of Sven and Anna Stina, contained the most accurate information on Sven and Anna Stina prior to 2006

Although the great-grandchildren of Sven and Anna Stina have all passed away, their deep desire to know more about their Swedish ancestry lived on in some of their descendants. I first took an interest in my High family ancestry in 1991 when I discovered the 1972 High Family book lying upon one of the shelves in my family's storage room. I was so intrigued to read about my third-great-grandfather that when I was given an assignment in my 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English class a week later to write about a historical figure that I would like to meet, I chose Sven Hög. While the assignment was only a page long, it deepened my curiosity about Sven.

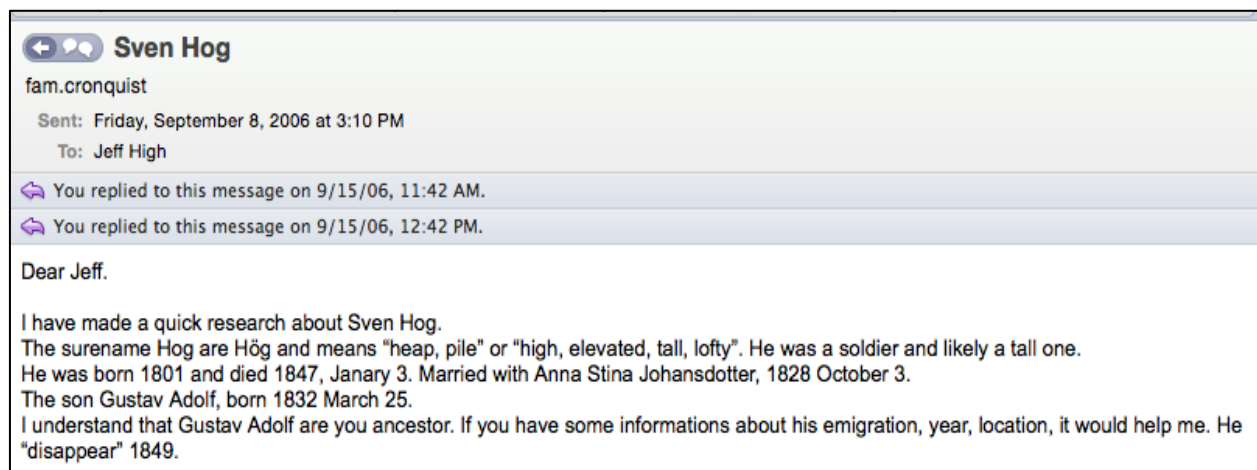


This diagram shows my relation to Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

## Discovering Information on Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

It wasn't until 2006, however, that I actually took up the quest of looking for information on Sven Hög and the High family's Swedish ancestors. In August of that year, I joined Ancestry.com and entered all of the information from the 1972 High Family book. Although Ancestry.com would later prove to be very helpful in learning more about the descendants of Sven Hög, it told me nothing about the patriarch of the High family. Thus, I decided to look into another source. After typing "Swedish genealogy" in Google, I found a company which offered services in Swedish genealogy which I proceeded to email.

Within a day after my email, I received the following response to my enquiry:



Email from Christer Cronquist in which he informed me that he found Swedish records for Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter– September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006

I immediately noticed that some of the information this researcher found conflicted with what was in the High Family book. For example, while the High Family book listed that Sven was born in 1799, this researcher found that he was born in 1801. Likewise, the name of Sven's wife wasn't listed as "Anna Kilstenia" but as "Anna Stina Johansdotter." There was enough information, however, that matched (such as Sven's death year, his occupation as a soldier, and the exact same date for Sven and Anna Stina's marriage) to convince me that this Sven Hög was indeed my third-great-grandfather. Thus, I happily authorized research to be conducted on my Swedish ancestors.

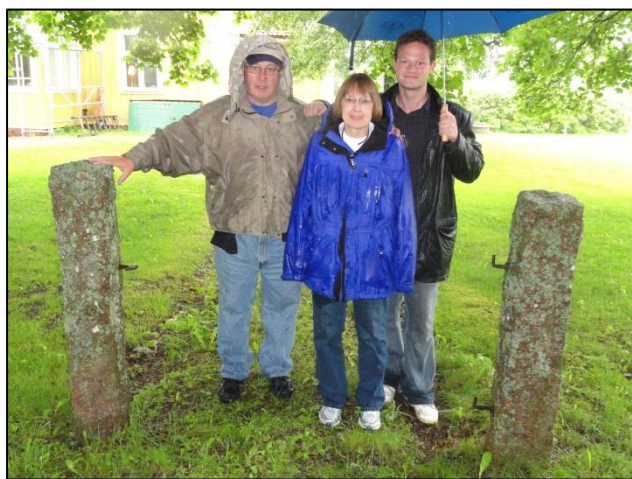
About a month later, I received one of the most exciting emails that has ever appeared in my Inbox – the results of my research! Not only was I given a brief summary of Sven and Anna Stina's lives, but I also learned who their parents and grandparents were!! It was a bit surreal to read over information that my grandfather's generation had spent decades trying to find.



Looking over the information I received, I learned several interesting new facts about Sven Hög and Anna Stina. While some of this data matched what was written in the High Family book, there were several discrepancies. Some of the things I learned included:

- Sven was originally born as Sven Andersson in 1801. His parents were Anders Andersson and Maria Svensdotter.
- Before Sven joined the military in 1826, he worked as a farmhand at several different farms.
- Sven's wife was named Anna Stina Johansdotter, not Anna Kilstenia.
- Sven and Anna Stina lived at Sörhemmet, a soldier's cottage at the farm Kapela Ravelsgård in Linderås Parish, where they raised their family.
- In addition to their four children who immigrated to America, Sven and Anna Stina had four other children who died in infancy.
- After Sven's death, Anna Stina and her three youngest children lived in a *backstuga*, a cottage for poor people, for eight years.
- Eight years after Sven's death, Anna Stina was remarried to Anders Thor, a widowed soldier who had been a friend of Sven Hög's.

Upon learning all of this new information about Sven and Anna Stina, I was very excited to share these findings with my High family relatives. Over the course of 2006-2007, I wrote an updated chronicle of High family history, which included the information I had discovered on Sven and Anna Stina, their parents, and their grandparents.



Roger High (my father), Yvonne Compart (his wife), and myself in front the place where Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter's family used to live on June 19, 2011. Although the cottage the family lived at has been torn down, two rock posts which marked its entrance still stand.

In 2011, I began my ambitious project of finding out more information about my Swedish ancestors. In June of that year, I traveled to Sweden with my father and his wife to visit the different known places my Swedish ancestors lived. Over the course of July 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, local Swedish historians took me to the majority of the places that Sven and Anna Stina lived. During the next few years, I continued to gather more information about the two, working with a number of different Swedish genealogists and historians to uncover more data about my 3<sup>rd</sup>-great-grandparents.

## Timeline of Research on Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 1916               | <i>The History of LeSueur and Nicollet Counties</i> was published. In its biography on Gustaf Adolf High, Sven and Anna Stina are listed as his parents.  |
| 1972               | The High Family (1799-1972) is released.  |
| September 8, 2006  | After inquiring to Christer Cronquist, a Swedish researcher, about Sven and Anna Stina, I receive a reply notifying me that he has found records on them.   |
| October 6, 2006    | I receive a packet on Sven and Anna Stina, containing information on their dates of birth, death, and marriage, who their parents were, all of the places they lived, and when all of their children were born. |
| December 23, 2006  | The High Family (1726-2006) is completed.   |
| December 22, 2007  | The High Family (1726-2007) is completed.   |
| May, 2011          | I acquire images of all of the baptism, marriage, burial, and household examination records associated with Sven and Anna Stina.  |
| June 16, 2011      | While in Eksjö, Sweden, I come across Sven Hög's military record, which lists his height as 5'9, confirms that he was a cobbler, and lists all of his military assignments.                                     |
| June 17-19, 2011   | I visit most of the places where Sven and Anna Stina lived in Sweden.   |
| July 21, 2011      | The Military Archives in Stockholm emails me the images of the croft inspections for Sörhemmet, the soldier's cottage Sven Hög's family lived, for the years they lived there.                                  |
| September 14, 2014 | I acquire images of all the military records associated with Sven Hög.  |
| January 11, 2015   | I acquire images of Sven and Anna Stina's estate records.   |

## Understanding the Times that Sven and Anna Stina Lived In

In order to obtain a clear idea of what Sven and Anna Stina's lives were like, it is crucial to understand the times they lived in and how the political and social forces of their time shaped their lives and ultimately led to their union. After all, if just one of these factors were different, Sven and Anna Stina may have never met, and their thousands of descendants would have never existed. When one contemplates the impact that all of the High family descendants have made upon the others in their lives, it becomes a bit mind-boggling to realize just how different the world would be if Sven and Anna Stina never met! Thus, the political and social factors of Swedish life in the 19<sup>th</sup> century have an indirect influence on not only the lives of thousands of Sven and Anna Stina's descendants, but the lives of those that they have influenced in their own lives.

The central factor that brought Sven and Anna Stina together was Sven's involvement in the military. Since Sven grew up in poverty, enlisting in the military was really the only option he had to improve his life. Through Sweden's Allotment System, Sven was assigned to live at Kapela Ravelsgård in Linderås Parish, the farm just north of Ängarp, where Anna Stina was living at the time. Sven's involvement in the military influenced almost every factor in his life.



The Swedish Military influenced almost every major factor in Sven Hög's life, such as his family living in a soldier's cottage

Another important historical factor that brought Sven and Anna Stina together was the decline of land ownership and the rise of tenant farming in 19<sup>th</sup> century Sweden. For most of his adult life, Johannes Johansson, Anna Stina's father, didn't own any land of his own and was a tenant farmer. Because of this, Anna Stina's family lived at several different farms, and ultimately came to Ängarp, the farm Anna Stina was living when she met Sven.

Sweden's communal peasant culture also played a profound force in Sven and Anna Stina's lives, and the affairs of their parish had had a strong impact on them. Understanding 19<sup>th</sup> century parish life is a key factor in learning what Sven and Anna Stina's lives were like. During this time, parishioners were deeply interdependent upon the others in their parish. The parish church also had a tremendous influence in the lives of Swedish parishioners, who were mandated to regularly attend church services and possess an adequate knowledge of the Bible and Lutheran Catechism. Thus, many Swedes of this time were deeply religious and their lives were shaped by Christian values. These values were important factors in Sven and Anna Stina's lives, and were passed down to their descendants.



### Timeline of Swedish History: 1800-1860

|      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| 1805 | Sweden joins the Third Coalition against Napoleon.   |    |
| 1808 | Start of the Finnish War.  |   |
| 1809 | Karl XIII becomes the King of Sweden.  |   |
| 1809 | Sweden establishes a constitutional monarchy.  |    |
| 1810 | End of the Finnish War.  |   |
| 1814 | Denmark cedes Norway to Sweden.  |    |
| 1818 | Karl XIV Johan becomes the King of Sweden.   |   |
| 1832 | The Göta Canal, a canal which enables sea-going ships to cross the entire Swedish peninsula, is completed.                         |   |
| 1833 | Alfred Bernhard Nobel, the founder of the prestigious Nobel prizes, is born.   |  |
| 1844 | Oscar I becomes the King of Sweden.  |   |
| 1846 | The start of a major immigration of Swedes to the United States. Over the next 60 years, 1.2 million. Swedes immigrate to America. |  |
| 1852 | Anti-Jewish riots break out in Stockholm.  |  |
| 1859 | Karl XV becomes the King of Sweden.  |  |

## Writing About Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

Chapter One Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

**Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter**

| Name       | Sven Andersson Hög  | Name       | Anna Stina Johansdotter |
|------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Born       | January 28, 1801    | Born       | October 20, 1806        |
| Place      | Norra Solberga      | Place      | Säby                    |
| Died       | January 28, 1847    | Died       | February 27, 1861       |
| Place      | Linderås            | Place      | Linderås                |
| Occupation | Soldier and cobbler | Occupation | Maid and housewife      |

**Children**

| Name            | Born               | Parish   | Died              | Parish/State   |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------|
| Carl Johan      | May 17, 1822       | Linderås | May 17, 1822      | Linderås       |
| Maja Grete      | April 8, 1820      | Linderås | May 23, 1916      | Minnesota, USA |
| Gustaf Adolf    | March 25, 1822     | Linderås | March 18, 1920    | Minnesota, USA |
| Johan Fredrik   | September 18, 1824 | Linderås | May 8, 1826       | Linderås       |
| Sven Johan      | February 16, 1827  | Linderås | March 23, 1893    | Minnesota, USA |
| Johanna Nardida | March 4, 1840      | Linderås | August 9, 1941    | Linderås       |
| Johanna Sofia   | July 14, 1842      | Linderås | February 25, 1885 | Minnesota, USA |
| Carl Anton      | May 16, 1846       | Linderås | January 16, 1846  | Linderås       |

**Sven Hög's Youth (1801-1821)**

Sven Hög, the patriarch of the High family, was born as Sven Andersson on January 28, 1801. Sven was born at Sjötorp, acroft at the farm Haverik in northern Norra Solberga Parish. Sven's parents were Anders Andersson and Maria Svensdotter.

**Sven Andersson Hög's Birthday**

While Sven is marked as being born on January 28<sup>th</sup> in Norra Solberga's baptism records, all other records of him report that he was born on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

**In 1801...**

- The world's population was a little under a billion people.
- The King of Sweden was Gustaf IV, the President of the United States was Thomas Jefferson, and the King of England was George III.
- In the world of classical music, Joseph Haydn completed his oratorio *The Seasons* while Ludwig van Beethoven composed *Moonlight Sonata*.
- American Mormon leader Brigham Young and Louisa Åberg, the first woman doctor and surgeon in Sweden, were born.

The first page in the file on Sven and Anna Stina

Since the High family's Swedish ancestry revolves around Sven and Anna Stina, the file I wrote on them is the by far largest and most impressive one in this chronicle of family history. After all, I can't expect people to take an interest in the content of this book until they first learn about the patriarch and matriarch of the High family and acquire an interest for them. The file I wrote on Sven and Anna Stina spans 95 pages and gives a detailed overview of the major events of their lives, an analysis of how their lives were shaped by the times they lived in, and a clear picture of what their lives were like. Throughout this chapter, I strived to bring Sven and Anna's legacies to life by including images of every known record associated with them, pictures of almost every place they lived, and numerous insightful writing blocks that provide a variety of information related to Sven and Anna Stina.

One of the main reasons why the file I wrote on Sven and Anna Stina is so massive is because it includes images of almost all of the known church and military records that are associated with them. There are plenty of these records, including:


- Sven's birth and baptism record.
- The record which shows when Sven moved to Linderås Parish in 1826.
- The marriage record of Sven and Anna Stina.
- 22 household examinations related to Sven and Anna Stina's family.
- Birth and baptism records for Sven and Anna Stina's eight children.
- Death and burial records for Sven and Anna Stina's four children that died in infancy.
- Sven's military record and all seven of the General Muster Roll records associated with him.
- Information on the fates of Sven and Anna Stina's four adult children, including images of emigration records, records of them at St. Peter's Swedish Lutheran Church, and their obituaries.
- The death and burial records for Sven and Anna Stina.

This file contains pictures of almost all of the places that Sven and Anna Stina lived in their lifetimes. Most of these pictures were taken by myself when I visited Sweden in 2011. In addition to containing photos that show how the places Sven and Anna Stina lived looked today, this file also contains a few old sketches that actually show how some of the places actually looked while they were alive in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, including a sketch of Linderås Village from 1842.

This file also contains a wide assortment of writing blocks that supplement the primary information on Sven Hög with related tidbits of interesting data, such as:

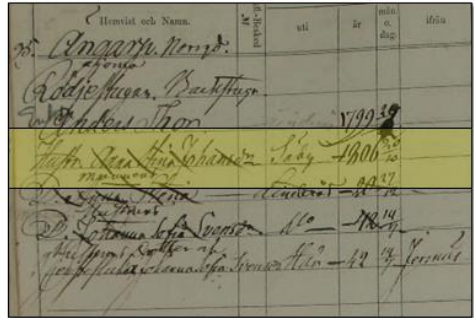
- 30 contextual blocks which provide related contextual information. In particular, the contextual blocks in this file focus on what it was like to be a soldier in the Swedish Military in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Five creative blocks in which four different authors envision what some of the key events in Sven and Anna Stina's lives were like.
- A variety of other writing blocks, such as research blocks that describe different types of Swedish records.

The following pages are a true treasure chest of information on Sven and Anna Stina, presenting readers with a vivid picture of what their lives were like. In fact, I believe there is enough information here to write a novel of historical fiction on their lives! I just wish that I could share this with the High family members who are no longer with us, such as my grandfather George High, Chester High, Anna Holm, and Anna Zuber High, and as well as my 13-year-old self who was so curious to find out more information about his third-great-grandparents. As you read through the following pages, I hope that in learning about the lives of Sven and Anna Stina, you will gain an understanding of their legacy and what it means to be a High.



1.1. Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

f and m



Household Examination showing Anna Stina Johansdotter at Rödjestugan, Angarp Norrgård, Linderås Parish: 1856-1861

**Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter – The Inspiring Lives of the Patriarch and Matriarch of the High Family**

Examining the lives of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter suggests that they were strong people who persevered through dire poverty and numerous heartbreaks. As the son of crofters, Sven Hög was born into poverty and had few opportunities to socially advance himself. Yet he was determined to lead a different life from his parents. By joining the Swedish Military, Sven was able to improve his circumstances and experience new opportunities that would not have otherwise been available to him. Sven must have been an exemplary farmhand, as he ended up working at the lavish manors of Skärjö and Degla. Sven was probably an inspiration to his two younger brothers, Johannes and Anders, as they followed in his footsteps and also enlisted in the military. As a soldier, Sven gained valuable skills and was greatly respected in his community. Anna Stina must have also possessed a lot of inner strength, as she had to look after her young children and tend to the chores around the home by herself whenever Sven was away for training, as well as after his death. Although Sven and Anna Stina endured the heartbreaking loss of four of their infants, they carried on and remained deep rooted in their strong faith and values. They were likely an inspiration to their four children who bravely sailed across the Atlantic to live better lives in America.

This page discusses the inspiring legacies that Sven and Anna Stina left behind



### Acknowledgements

I want to thank a number of people for assisting me in discovering information about Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter:

- **Anita and Yngve Anarp**, historians of Norra Solberga Parish, for taking me around Norra Solberga, the parish that Sven Hög grew up, and showing me the places he lived as a youth.
- **The Archives at Gustavus Adolphus College** for allowing me to view Gustaf Adolf High's Vasa Bible and scrapbook collection.
- **Arkiv Digital** for providing me with the images for all of the records associated with Sven and Anna.
- **Åsa Grip Nilsson**, a Swedish genealogy enthusiast I met on Facebook that provided me with a translated excerpt from Vilhelm Moberg's novel *Raskens*.
- **Bob Sandeen** of Nicollet County Historical Society for providing me with the images of the St. Peter Swedish Lutheran Church's records for Sven and Anna Stina's children.
- **Brad Moe**, my second-cousin, for providing me with the photos of the graves of Sven and Anna Stina's four children.
- **Christer Cronquist**, a Swedish genealogist, for sending me information on Sven and Anna Stina back in 2006.
- **Christina Tuveßson Lindaryd**, a Swedish genealogist, for writing the short story "The Baptism of Sven Hög."
- **Elizabeth Leek**, a historian of Lommaryd Parish and former curator of the Soldier's Museum in Eksjö, Sweden, for showing me Sven Hög's military record, and taking me to Degla, the mansion where Sven was a farmhand in 1825.
- **Gerd and Lasse Karlsson, Irene Nordell, and Weimer Sjösteat**, historians of Linderås and Säby parishes, for taking me to several of the places in Linderås and Säby parishes that Sven and Anna Stina lived.
- **Kenneth High**, my uncle, for providing me with various High family documents related to Sven and Anna, as well as the funeral program for Gustaf Adolf High.
- **Magnus Tonquist**, a Swedish historian and genealogist, for providing me with extensive knowledge Sven Hög's military career, translating Sven and Anna Stina's estate records, and writing "Sven Receives the Surname 'Hög.'"
- **The Military Archives in Stockholm** for providing me with images of the croft inspections for Sörhemmet, the soldier's cottage that Sven and Anna Stina lived.
- **Peggy Hughes**, a distant relative of mine, for providing me with the four generation photograph of Gustaf Adolf High's family.
- **Rhonda Serafini**, a Swedish genealogist, for transcribing and translating several records associated with Sven and Anna Stina, as well as writing "Christmas at Sörhemmet, 1846."

## Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

|                   |                            |                   |                                |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>       | <b>Sven Andersson Hög</b>  | <b>Name</b>       | <b>Anna Stina Johansdotter</b> |
| <b>Born</b>       | <b>January 28, 1801</b>    | <b>Born</b>       | <b>October 20, 1806</b>        |
| <b>Place</b>      | <b>Norra Solberga</b>      | <b>Place</b>      | <b>Säby</b>                    |
| <b>Died</b>       | <b>January 28, 1847</b>    | <b>Died</b>       | <b>February 27, 1861</b>       |
| <b>Place</b>      | <b>Linderås</b>            | <b>Place</b>      | <b>Linderås</b>                |
| <b>Occupation</b> | <b>Soldier and cobbler</b> | <b>Occupation</b> | <b>Maid and housewife</b>      |

## Children

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>Born</b>        | <b>Parish</b> | <b>Died</b>       | <b>Parish/State</b> |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Carl Johan       | May 17, 1829       | Linderås      | May 17, 1829      | Linderås            |
| Maja Greta       | April 8, 1830      | Linderås      | May 23, 1916      | Minnesota, USA      |
| Gustaf Adolf     | March 25, 1832     | Linderås      | March 18, 1920    | Minnesota, USA      |
| Johan Fredric    | September 18, 1834 | Linderås      | May 8, 1836       | Linderås            |
| Sven Johan       | February 16, 1837  | Linderås      | March 23, 1893    | Minnesota, USA      |
| Johanna Mathilda | March 4, 1840      | Linderås      | August 8, 1841    | Linderås            |
| Johanna Sofia    | July 14, 1842      | Linderås      | February 25, 1885 | Minnesota, USA      |
| Carl Aron        | May 16, 1845       | Linderås      | January 15, 1846  | Linderås            |

## Sven Hög's Youth (1801-1821)

Sven Hög, the patriarch of the High family, was born as Sven Andersson on January 28, 1801. Sven was born at Sjöstorp, a croft or cottage, at the farm Havsvik in northern Norra Solberga Parish, Jönköping County, Sweden. His parents were Anders Andersson and Maria Svensdotter.

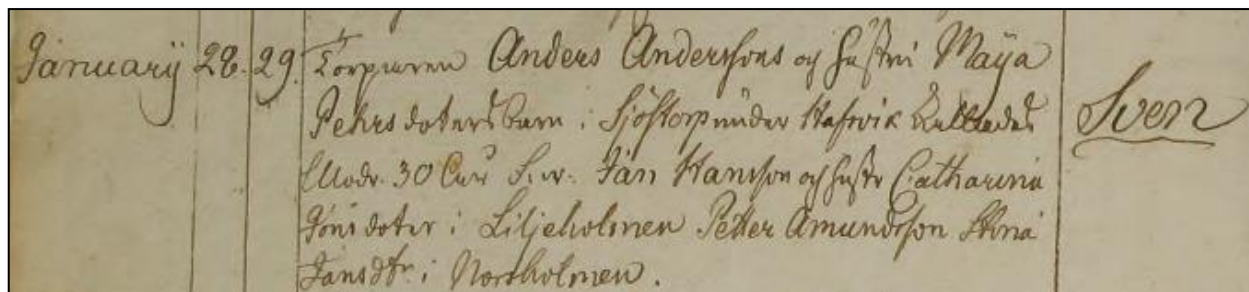
### Sven Andersson Hög's Birthday

Although Norra Solberga's baptism records show that Sven was being born on January 28<sup>th</sup>, all of the other records of him falsely state that he was born on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

### In 1801...

- The world's population was a little under a billion people.
- The King of Sweden was Gustaf IV, the President of the United States was Thomas Jefferson, and the King of England was George III.
- In the world of classical music, Joseph Haydn completed his oratio *The Seasons*, while Ludwig van Beethoven composed *Moonlight Sonata*.
- American Mormon leader Brigham Young and Louisva Årberg, the first woman doctor and surgeon in Sweden, were born.

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, Sven was baptized. The witnesses at the baptism were Jan Hansson and his wife Catharina Jönsdotter in Liljeholmen, a croft north of Havsvik, and Peter Amundson and Stina Jansdotter of Norsholmen, a croft at Havsvik just south of Sjöstorp.<sup>1</sup>



Birth and baptism record of Sven Andersson Hög –January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1801

#### Transcription:

January 28/29 Torparen Anders Andersson och hustru Maja  
Pehrsson's barn i Sjöstorp under Havsvik kallade Sven  
Modr 30 år. F. Jan Hansson och hustru Catharina  
Jönsdotter i Liljeholmen, Peter Amundsson, Stina  
Jansdotter i Norrholmen.

#### Translation:

January (born) 28<sup>th</sup> (baptized) 29<sup>th</sup> the crofter Anders Andersson and wife Maja  
Pehrsson's child in Sjöstorp under Havsvik called Sven  
Mother is 30 years old. Baptismal witnesses - Jan Hansson and wife Catharina  
Jönsdotter in Liljeholmen, Peter Amundson, Stina  
Jansdotter in Norrholmen.

### **An Error on Sven Andersson Hög's Baptism Record**

The name of Sven's mother, Maria (Maja) Svensdotter, is erroneously listed as "Maja Pehrsson" on Sven's birth and baptism record.

### **The Significance of Sven's Name**

In all likelihood, Sven was named after his maternal grandfather, Sven Nilsson. For whatever reason, the 1972 High Family book misinterpreted his name as "Sven Johan Hög II." The patronymic surname "Andersson" that Sven was born with stemmed from the name of his father, Anders Andersson. Sven didn't receive the surname "Hög" until he enlisted in the military in 1826.

<sup>1</sup> Norra Solberga Births, Vol. C:3 (1801-1860), page 4



### The Patronymic Naming Convention

Prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the patronymic naming convention was practiced in Sweden, where a person's surname derived from their father's first name. For example, if a man's father was named Sven Nilsson, then he was the son of a man named Nils. Likewise, if a woman was named Maria Svensdotter, then she was the daughter of a man named Sven. In 1901, the Names Adoption Act was passed in Sweden, abolishing the patronymic practice. Thereafter, everyone had to have a family name that was consistently passed down through the next generation.

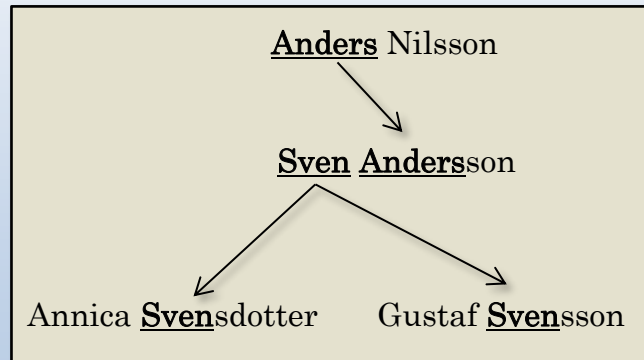


Diagram of how the patronymic naming convention works

### The Baptism of Sven Andersson Hög\*

Sven was born on a snowy Saturday in January of 1801. The next day was a Sunday and Per Johan Öhrling, the chaplain of Norra Solberga, wanted the little baby boy to be baptized on that day. Maria, Sven's mother, was in bed, weak after the child birth, but she found strength to oppose! She said it could kill the baby if he was taken out in the cold January weather, and that she preferred him to be baptized at home. The chaplain was worried about the growing habit to baptize children at home, especially in winter when the church was cold. However, he agreed - this was a very cold winter! - so he promised to come to Sjöstorp after the church service. Anders had called for his neighbours Jan and Catharina, crofters in Liljeholmen, and Peter and Stina, crofters in Norsholmen, to be witnesses. They arrived on the next day, bringing some nice gifts for the baby. The two women arranged a small table for the ceremony, with a table cloth with laces, a nice bowl and a candle. Later, other neighbours and relatives joined them, and it was quite crowded in the cottage when the chaplain arrived. Being the oldest woman, Catharina was the one who held the baby while the chaplain poured water on the baby's head. After the ceremony, the baby was returned to his mother, who was in bed in the small chamber nearby. All the others had a good meal and something nice to drink - the birth of a baby required a traditional "barnsöl."

\*By Christina Tuveßon Lindaryd

Sven's father Anders Andersson was a crofter, a type of tenant farmer who was employed by a farmer that provided his tenants with a small cottage, food, and a meager assortment of supplies to support himself and his family. Sven's mother Maria Svensdotter was a housewife. As crofters, Sven's family was quite poor and was afforded few privileges in life. Sven was the second eldest of five children. He had two brothers, Anders and Johannes, and two sisters, Anna and Maja Lena. Anna, Sven's older sister, was three years old than him.

### Swedish Words for Relatives

| <u>Swedish</u> | <u>English</u>             |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| barn           | child                      |
| barnbarn       | grandchild                 |
| bror           | brother                    |
| brorson        | nephew (brother's son)     |
| brorsdotter    | niece (brother's daughter) |
| dotter         | daughter                   |
| dotterdotter   | daughter's daughter        |
| far            | father                     |
| farbror        | uncle (father's brother)   |
| farfar         | paternal grandfather       |
| faster         | aunt (father's sister)     |
| kusin          | cousin                     |
| mor            | mother                     |
| morbror        | uncle (mother's brother)   |
| morfar         | maternal grandfather       |
| mormor         | maternal grandmother       |
| moster         | aunt (mother's sister)     |
| son            | son                        |
| sondotter      | son's daughter             |
| sonson         | son's son                  |
| syskon         | siblings                   |
| syster         | sister                     |
| systerdotter   | niece (sister's daughter)  |
| systerson      | nephew (sister's son)      |

Sven only knew one of his grandparents, since the other three passed away before he was born. Sven's paternal grandfather Anders Isaacson moved to Havsvik, the farm that Sven lived at as a child, in 1806. For the next two years, Sven probably saw his grandfather nearly every day. On October 4, 1808, when Sven was just seven years old, Anders Isaacson passed away.

Sven had three uncles (one through blood and the other two through marriage) and three aunts (two through blood and one through marriage) on his father's side. All of his relatives on his father's side lived in the parish of Norra Solberga, the same parish as Sven, so he probably saw them quite often.

Although Sven had several cousins on his father's side, he was probably only close to the sons of his uncle Isaac Andersson, Johan (b. 1800) and Anders (b. 1804). All six of his aunt Maja Andersdotter's children died in infancy and his aunt Stina Andersdotter's daughter Anna Stina was born when Sven was 21 years old.

Sven also had three uncles (two through blood and one through marriage), three aunts (one through blood and two through marriage), and twelve cousins on his mother's side. Since all of his relatives on his mother's side lived Barkeryd Parish, two parishes to the west of Norra Solberga, Sven probably didn't see them as often as he saw his paternal relatives.

For the first eight years of his life, Sven's family lived at Sjöstorp. Sjöstorp was a small cottage which had a single room where Sven's entire family ate, cooked, slept, and sat by the warm fireplace on cold nights. For the first few years of his life, Sven was probably closely attended to by his mother Maria, while his father Anders was out working in the fields of Havsvik.

### **Some of Sven Hög's earliest memories may have included...**

- ❖ The marriage of his aunt Maja Andersdotter to Anders Jaensson in 1804 (Sven was 3 years old).
- ❖ The birth of his younger brother Johannes in 1805 (Sven was 4).
- ❖ The birth of his younger brother Anders in 1808 (Sven was 7).
- ❖ The death of his paternal grandfather Anders Isaacson in 1808. (Sven was 7).
- ❖ The Reign of King Gustaf IV (1792-1809). Gustaf IV was the King of Sweden during the first eight years of Sven's life.

Just east of Havsvik is a lake called Lake Flisbysjön. As a young child, Sven may have swum in the lake during the summers. During the winter, Lake Flisbysjön was a popular place for local parishioners to go ice skating. For most of the time that he lived at Havsvik, Sven was too young to go ice skating, so he probably sat and watched the older children skate on the frozen lake.



Location of Sjöstorp, Norra Solberga – The croft where Sven Hög lived his first eight years

While Sven's family lived at Havsvik, around 30 to 40 people lived there. At this time, Havsvik was owned by Hans Ryberg. Ryberg lived at Havsvik with his wife Ingeborg Nilsson and nine children. One of their sons, Sven, was just a year younger than Sven Andersson Hög, and was probably one of his first friends. A crofter named Jonas Pehrsson lived close to Hans Ryberg's family with his wife Lena Pehrsson and their four children. An unmarried maid named Stina Larsson also lived nearby with her two daughters, Ingrid and Anna Lena.<sup>2</sup>



During his early childhood, Sven's family lived next to Lake Flisbysjön

<sup>2</sup> Norra Solberga Household Examinations, Vol. AI:2 (1807-13), page 96



Every Sunday morning, Sven's family attended church services at Norra Solberga Church, located just a short distance south of Havsvik. Church services probably began around 8 or 9 in the morning. Since all 800 of Norra Solberga's inhabitants attended services, it was extremely crowded in the church on Sunday mornings. The service probably lasted around two hours. The parishioners sat in assigned seating in the church, with the wealthier members sitting in front of the church, and the poorer peasants sitting in the back. Sven's family sat in the *fattigstugukyrkan*, or the back of the church reserved for the poor and dis-privileged. During the winter, the church was unheated so people had to wear multiple layers of clothing to stay warm.



Interior of Old Norra Solberga Church - 1902

During Sven's youth, the chaplain of Norra Solberga Church was Per Johan Öhrling, while the vicar of Flisby and Norra Solberga parishes was Claes Magnus Livin. Per Johan Öhrling regularly performed the pastoral duties for the church. Once in a while, Claes Magnus Livin would visit Norra Solberga Church and perform the pastoral duties, especially on special occasions.

### **The Church's Influence on the Parish in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Sweden**

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Swedish Lutheran State Church had a tremendous amount of authority over the parish and its inhabitants. Not only was the parish church the place of worship for the parishioners, it was also the parish's local administrative center where various laws were legislated and enforced. In addition to paying taxes to the Crown, the parish's farmers had to pay a tax to support the local church as well. The church had regular parish meetings, led by the parish priest, in which various parish matters were discussed. Minutes were kept of these meetings and stored in the parish church books.

The parish priest represented the government on the local level and was responsible for keeping records on the parish's population. In the Church Law of 1686, it was mandated that every parish priest keep records of all of the baptisms, marriages, and burials in the parish, records of people moving in and out of the parish, and household examinations that provided a detailed census of the parishioners and their knowledge of the Bible and the Catechism. These church records are the main source of Swedish genealogical information.



Although Sven probably had no formal education, he became literate through Norra Solberga Church. As a boy, Sven learned to read the Bible and the Lutheran Catechism. Starting in 1809, household examinations were held in Norra Solberga. Claes Magnus Livin annually travelled around the parish of Norra Solberga and visited each household, testing the inhabitants' knowledge of the Bible and the Catechism. Records show that Sven could read by the age of eight.<sup>3</sup>

| Hemmanets Namn.     | Född uti          | Hithom ifrån | Bj. N. | Köpar | Figl. | Särskilda anmärkningar. | N    |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|-------|-------|-------------------------|------|
| Havsvik, Ågor       |                   |              |        |       |       |                         |      |
| Sjöstorp            |                   |              |        |       |       |                         |      |
| Anders Olof         | Solberga 1744     |              |        | h     | 1744  |                         | 16/2 |
| J. Maja Svensdotter | Barkby 1776 2/2   |              |        | h     | 1776  |                         |      |
| S. Anna             | 1792 2/2          |              |        | h     | 1792  |                         | 16/3 |
| S. Sven             | 1801 2/2          |              |        | h     | 1801  |                         | 16/2 |
| S. Johannes         | Solberga 1805 6/2 |              |        |       |       |                         |      |
| S. Anders           | Solberga 1808 2/1 |              |        |       |       |                         |      |

Household Examination showing Sven Andersson Hög at Sjöstorp, Havsvik, Norra Solberga Parish - 1809

## Husförhören - Household Examinations

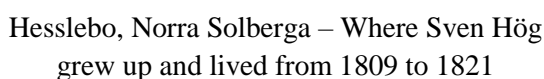
Household examinations are the main register of the Swedish Church, and provide information similar to a census. Each household examination book lists everyone in the parish, categorized by farms and households. Household examinations list the name of every person in a household, their date of birth, which parish they were born in, what parish they moved from, and what their knowledge of the Catechism was. If a person had left the parish, household examinations also recorded when they left and where they moved to.

The primary function of household examinations was to test the parishioners' knowledge of the Catechism. Examinations were conducted by the parish priest and held inside family homes. During the examinations, the priest would ask each person to read or recite passages from the Bible and the Catechism. In the columns on the right side of the household examinations, the priest often wrote grades and notes on the person's knowledge.

Household examinations began to be recorded in some parishes as early as the mid -18<sup>th</sup> century. These early censuses contain little information. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, every parish had recorded household examinations, and included much more detailed information. The Swedish Church was responsible for keeping track of the country's population until 1991.

By 1809, there were six people living in Sjöstorp, and it must have been crowded in the tiny croft. In October of that year, Sven's family left Havsvik and moved to Stumperyd, a farm in western Norra Solberga.

<sup>3</sup> Norra Solberga Household Examinations, Vol. AI:2 (1807-1813), page 218



When he was eight, Sven's family moved to the Hesslebo, a small red cottage just south of Stumperyd.<sup>4</sup> At this time, Stumperyd was still owned by Per Ribbing, a captain in the cavalry, although he didn't live there. While Sven's family lived at Hesslebo, there was another croft there called Spånshult that was inhabited by Sven Carlson, his wife Brita Månsdotter, and children Carl and Catharina. Carl and Catharina were just a few years older than Sven, and may have been his friends. There were also servants' quarters at Stumperyd where several farmhands and maids lived. The family of Johannes Andersson and his wife Judith Isaacsdotter lived in these quarters and they were friends with Sven's family.<sup>5</sup>

Household Examination showing Sven Hög at Hesslebo, Stumperyd, Norra Solberga Parish - 1811

Shortly after his family moved to Hesslebo, Sven probably started working in the fields of Stumperyd with his father Anders. Every morning, Sven was probably awoken by Anders and the two made their way to the main farmhouse at Stumperyd where they met up with the other crofters and farmhands who lived at the farm. The workday began with a prayer, followed by bread and water for breakfast. Sven's brothers, Johannes and Anders, were still too young to work in the fields at this point, and probably didn't accompany them until Sven was a teenager. In 1812, when Sven was eleven years old, his youngest sister Maja Lena was born.

<sup>5</sup> Norra Solberga Household Examinations, Vol. AI:3 (1814-1818), pages 166-168

According to Sven's military record, he was involved in Sweden's military campaigns in Germany and Norway in 1813-1814. This seems peculiar, as Sven was only twelve to thirteen years old at this time, and much too young to be a soldier. However, numerous young boys were involved in these campaigns as drummer boys or personal servants of military officers. Since no listing of Sven can be found in the Jönköping Regiment's roll of drummer boys, it's more likely he was as a personal servant to an officer.

## Military Officers' Personal Servants

Some senior officers in the Swedish military had personal servants to attend them. These servants could be young boys or grown men. Their main duties included assisting the officer when dressing in his uniform and undressing from it, keeping the officer's quarters clean, and being their errand boy.



This map shows Sweden's military campaigns from 1813-1814

If Sven was indeed a personal servant to a military officer, he may have likely been in the service of an officer from his parish of Norra Solberga. Since Per Ribbing was the owner of Stumperyd, the farm that Sven's family was living at during this time, perhaps Sven was a servant to him or someone he knew. In 1813, Sven would have travelled to Germany with the Swedish military in the campaign against Napoleon. The following year, he would have been sent to Norway, where Sweden's military engaged in a few battles against the Norwegians.

## The Napoleonic War of the Sixth Coalition

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, most of Europe was involved within a series of wars in response to the military conquests of French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. The Napoleonic War of the Sixth Coalition was a series of military campaigns fought during 1812-1814 between the allied forces of Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, Sweden, and other northern European countries against the alliance of France, Austria, and Denmark-Norway. Napoleon's forces were defeated on March 30, 1814 when allied forces marched into Paris and Bonaparte was subsequently exiled to the island of Elba.



### Timeline of Sweden's Military Involvement in 1813-1814\*

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| May 13, 1813        | Swedish Crown Prince Karl Johan lands in Swedish Pomerania (northern Germany) with 30,000 soldiers.  |
| July 9, 1813        | Prince Karl Johan becomes the commander of the allied northern army.   |
| October 16-19, 1813 | The allied northern army wins a decisive victory in Leipzig, Germany. After the battle, the northern army marches north towards Holland, as planned.   |
| October 29, 1813    | Karl Johan surprises the allied army by turning the Swedish army against Denmark, in an attempt to seize Norway from Denmark before the final peace treaty with Napoleon is signed.                                  |
| December 7, 1813    | The Swedish Cavalry defeats the Danish Infantry at the Battle of Bornhöft.   |
| January 14, 1814    | The Treaty of Kiel is signed, ending the conflict between Sweden and Denmark. One of the outcomes of this treaty is that Denmark cedes Norway to Sweden.   |
| May 17, 1814        | Believing that they should be ruled by a king of their own, the Norwegians proceed to elect Christian Fredrik, a Danish prince as King of Norway.  |
| July 26, 1814       | In response to Norway's disobedience, Sweden sends an army of 45,000 soldiers, led by Karl Johan, to Norway. Several minor encounters (mostly in southern Norway) occur.   |
| August 14, 1814     | The Convention of Moss is signed, ceasing conflict between Sweden and Norway. Christian Fredrik abdicates the throne and on November 4 <sup>th</sup> , Norway enters into a union with Sweden that lasts until 1905. |

\*Ulf Sundberg, 1997, *Svenska freder och stillestånd 1249 – 1814* (Eng. *Swedish peace treaties and armistices 1249 – 1814*),



As Sven grew older, his duties at Stumperyd increased. Sven's knowledge of the Bible and Luther's Catechism also continued to grow. By the time he was 17, Sven had been confirmed, and could recite all of the Catechism. Claes Magnus Livin, the vicar who tested Sven's knowledge, wrote that Sven had a very good understanding of the Catechism.<sup>6</sup>

| Hemmanets Namn.<br>P.g. B. S. | Född<br>uti          | Hittom<br>ifrån | Bef. N. | År   | Särskilda an-<br>märkningar. |         |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------|------|------------------------------|---------|
| Anders Andersson              | Solberga<br>1774     |                 |         | 1774 | 39                           | af      |
| Maja Wendt                    | Solberga<br>1771 1/2 |                 |         | 8    | 42                           | 28<br>1 |
| Dot. Anna                     | Solberga<br>1792 3/4 |                 |         | U    | 14.0<br>15                   | 28<br>1 |
| Sven                          | Solberga<br>1800 1/2 |                 |         | U    | 16.0 m. val<br>9             | 28<br>1 |
| Sven Johannes                 | Solberga<br>1805 1/2 | Hela (Cath)     |         | U    | 18.0 m. val<br>8.4.5. H.     | 28<br>1 |
| Sven Anders                   | Solberga<br>1808 1/2 | 4.5 H. S.       |         | U    | 18.0 m. val<br>5.1.5. H.     | 28<br>1 |
| Dot. Maja Lena                | Solberga<br>1812 1/2 |                 |         | U    | 18.0 m. val<br>12.0          |         |

Household Examination showing Sven Hög at Hesslebo, Stumperyd, Norra Solberga Parish - 1818

### **Sven's Knowledge of the Bible and Catechism is Tested\***

One snowy winter morning, there was a loud knock on the door of Hesslebo. Sven's father Anders Andersson opened the door to see Claes Magnus Livin attentively standing outside, holding a large churchbook. Accompanying Livin was Nils Ahlstrand, the parish sexton. After an opening prayer, the four eldest children of Anders and Maria gathered around Livin to be individually tested on their knowledge of the Bible and Catechism. After Sven's older sister Anna was examined, Sven was called forward to the table where Livin was seated. Over the next hour, Sven nervously read various passages from the Bible and answered different questions about the Catechism, while Livin jotted down notes in his book. Finally, the examination concluded and Livin commended Sven on his solid performance.

\*By Jeffrey High

<sup>6</sup> Norra Solberga Household Examinations, Vol. AI:4 (1818-1828), page 108

Although Sven's teenage years were filled with countless hours of mundane work in the fields, his life in Norra Solberga was not without entertainment. Norra Solberga was filled with a number of colourful parishioners, as well as a never ending supply of lively stories and amusing rumors. Often, rumors of drunken and disorderly peasants causing scenes would stir across the parish. Various quarrels between different parishioners abounded as well, with some even accusing the other of using witchcraft to harm their cattle. Public executions where criminals were violently beheaded were held nearby at Gallows Hill, and Sven may have even witnessed one. Stories of mythical creatures, like earth fairies that lived beneath the earth and caused the sound of underground streams, were also prevalent.<sup>7</sup>

Sven travelled very little growing up, since most peasants rarely ventured further than a few miles outside of where they lived. The largest and most notable city by where Sven lived was Eksjö, located a few miles east of Norra Solberga. At most, Sven probably only visited Eksjö a few times a year, since his family was very poor. Visiting Eksjö must have been a special treat for Sven. As he strolled through the town's cobblestone streets with the family, gazing through the windows of stores that sold a variety of supplies and wares, a number of horse and carriages and people dressed in fine clothing passed them by.

### Eksjö

Eksjö (Eh-quíh) was founded in the medieval period and was the center of a regional council. It was first mentioned in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and received its charter in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century by King Erik av Pommern. In 1568, Eksjö was burnt to the ground during the Nordic Seven Years War. The town was later rebuilt at a different location and the construction was led by Arendt de Roy, a Dutch architect.



The Main Square of Eksjö in the 1850's

The town became known as a center for oxen trade. Eksjö remained small until a hill just outside the city became the assembly point for Småland's Calvary. Eksjö thus became the local center of military establishments, and its prominence grew with the emergence of the engineering battalion and formation of the *Husarer* (cavalry riders) of Småland. Today, the population of Eksjö is around 9,000 people.

<sup>7</sup> "A Solberga Farmer's Look Back" by Gustav Karlsson

### Potential Reasons Why Sven Hög Joined the Military

Since Sven and his two brothers, Johannes and Anders, all joined the military, it's probable they all voluntarily enlisted in the service. There are a number of different reasons why the three may have enlisted. In 19<sup>th</sup> century Sweden, enlistment in the military provided a stable life which was much more prosperous than the meagre life of crofters. Growing up in poverty, the three may have dreamed how joining the military would allow them to have better lives than their parents. A lot of military propaganda was also spread throughout Norra Solberga. When Sven was a little boy, Sweden was involved in The Finnish War, as well as the campaigns against Napoleon. As a local representative of the Swedish government, Chaplain Johan Örling may have sometimes preached military propaganda from the pulpit. Boys were encouraged to participate in shooting practice and drill. At that time, the shooters wore uniforms and met on the field near Old Norra Solberga Church. Heroic tales from the Great Northern War (which occurred a century earlier) may have also been a motivation, as the three brothers likely heard stories of Bengt Månsson Engdahl, their great-great-grandfather who died in that war, or of Bengt Bengtsson Engdahl, their great-great-uncle who was present at the Siege of Fredrikshald in Norway in 1718 where King Karl XII was killed.

|                  |          |      |      |
|------------------|----------|------|------|
| Första Mestake   |          |      |      |
| Anders Andersson | Solberga | 1777 |      |
| Höfte Maya Leini | Marjo    | 1771 | 1/2  |
| Sot. Anna        | Solberga | 1798 | 2/5  |
| John Sven        | Solberga | 1801 | 10/1 |
| John Johannes    | Solberga | 1805 | 5/2  |
| John Anders      | Solberga | 1808 | 2/1  |
| Sot. Maya Leina  | Solberga | 1812 | 2/5  |

|         |  |  |            |
|---------|--|--|------------|
| 3/2 24. |  |  |            |
| abf.    |  |  |            |
|         |  |  | Marjo 1820 |
|         |  |  | Håknarp    |
| 24. 24. |  |  | Marjo 1828 |
| 24. 24. |  |  |            |
| 24. 24. |  |  |            |
| 24. 24. |  |  |            |
| 24. 24. |  |  |            |

Household Examination showing Sven Hög at Hesslebo, Stumperyd, Norra Solberga Parish: 1818-1828

At Hesslebo, Sven grew into adulthood. In his notes, Claes Magnus Livin remarked that Sven didn't use snuff tobacco.<sup>8</sup> By 1820, Sven was 19 years old and ready to leave his family's croft and start a life for himself. When he was 20 years old in 1821, Sven left Hesslebo and moved to Håknarp, a farm just west of Stumperyd.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Norra Solberga Bygd och Folk, del I

<sup>9</sup> Norra Solberga Household Examinations, Vol. AI:4 (1818-1828), page 108



## Sven Hög's Years as a Farmhand (1821-1826)



Håknarp, Norra Solberga – Where Sven Hög was a farmhand from 1821-1823

Sven spent two years at Håknarp. During the time, the farm was owned by Olaf Andersson. Olaf had a wife, Liskén Svensdotter, and four children: Anna Stina, Greta, John Anders, Sara Lisa. Sven lived with Olaf's family at their house at Håknarp.<sup>10</sup> He might have been good friends with John Anders, their son, who was just a few years younger than him.

While he lived at Håknarp, Sven woke up early every day to work in the fields. He probably spent at least 12 hours a day ploughing in the fields, and also helped with other tasks, such as gathering firewood. In 1823, Sven left Håknarp and moved to Bälaryd, a parish that was two parishes north of Norra Solberga.

|                        |          |      |     |
|------------------------|----------|------|-----|
| Håknarp                |          |      |     |
| Oluf Andersson         | Solberga | 1823 | 1/2 |
| Liskén Svensdotter     | Solberga | 1823 | 3/4 |
| Anna Stina Olsson      | Solberga | 1825 | 3/4 |
| Greta Olsson           | Solberga | 1827 | 1/2 |
| John Anders Olsson     | Solberga | 1824 | 3/4 |
| Sara Lisa Olsson       | Solberga | 1829 | 1/2 |
| Dr. Liskén Svensdotter | Solberga | 1831 | 1/2 |

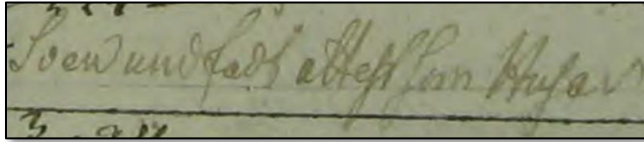
Household Examination showing Sven Andersson Hög at Håknarp, Norra Solberga Parish: 1818-1828

### Drängar - Farmhands

*Drängar* were male farmhands that did the heavy manual labor on a farm. Most of the time, they were unmarried and contracted to work at a farm for a year at a time. The employment of *drängar* was regulated under a law called *tjänstehjonsstadgan*. Smaller farms usually just employed one *dräng*, who would reside in the same house as the farmer's family. Larger farms and estates employed multiple *drängar*, who stayed in separate quarters. On Household Examinations, the abbreviation for a *dräng* is "Dr."

<sup>10</sup> Norra Solberga Household Examinations, Vol. C3 (1818-28), page 119





Note about Sven Hög in the Household Examination during his residence at Håknarp, Norra Solberga Parish: 1818-1828

## Transcription:

*Sven undfåt attest som Husar.*

## Transcription:

*Sven (has) received (a) certificate as a horseman.*

The household examination for Håknarp, Norra Solberga Parish: 1818-1828 notes that Sven had a certificate as a *husar*, or horseman. This is the only known documentation which lists that Sven had trained in the cavalry. No listings for Sven can be found in the General Muster Roll for Småland's Cavalry. However, Småland's Cavalry trained at Ränneslätt, which was located just outside of Eksjö.



Ränneslätt – Where the Småland Cavalry trained

Around 1821, Sven probably became an “extra-soldier” for the Swedish military. According to Sven’s military record, he was stationed at a camp in Backarna in 1821. Since there are several places named Backarna in Sweden, it’s unknown which one of them Sven was stationed at that year.

## **Extra rotering – “Extra soldiers”**

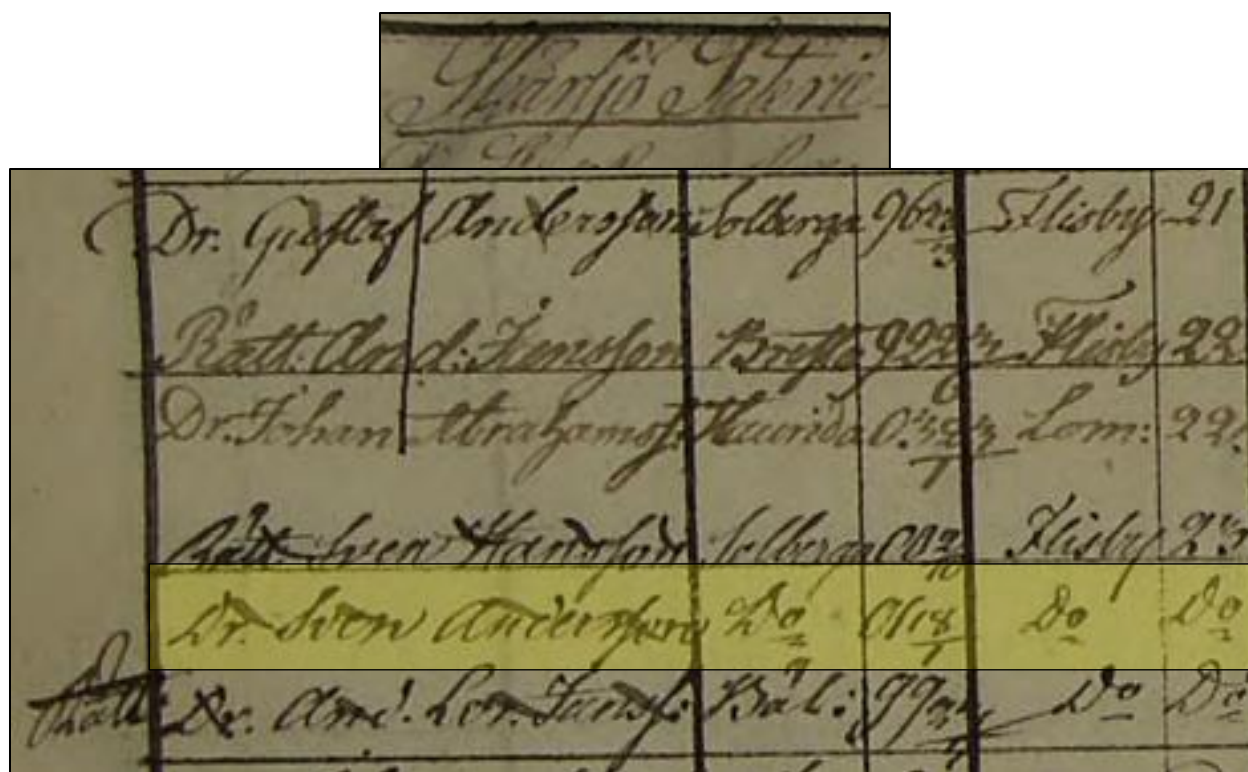
Regiments of the Swedish military sometimes set up companies with “extra soldiers,” especially in times of war. In Swedish, these extra soldiers were listed as “*extra soldat*,” “*vargerings soldat*,” or “*extra rotering*.” Extra soldiers were designated to replace fallen or diseased soldiers and serve as reinforcements. Sometimes extra-soldiers didn’t have to serve in combat, but other times they did, and they sometimes suffered heavy losses.

In 1823, Sven moved to a manor called Skärsjö Säteri, located in northeast Bälaryd Parish.<sup>11</sup> At this time, Skärsjö Säteri was owned by Sven Ingemar Ljungh (b. 1757). Ljungh lived at Skärsjö Säteri with his wife Christina Charlotta Botlei (b. 1763) and six children: Sven Otto (b. 1782), Brita (b. 1785) Charlotta, Ullrica Eleonora (b. 1787), Gustafva Fredrica (b. 1798), Christina Catharina Carolina (b. 1799), and Sophia Wilhelmina (b. 1802).<sup>12</sup>



Skärsjö Säteri, Bälaryd – Where Sven Hög was a farmhand from 1823-1825

Numerous farmhands, maids, and foremen lived and worked at Skärsjö Säteri. Because of its luxurious status, Skärsjö Säteri must have been an exclusive place to obtain employment. Sven's duties were much more specialized at Skärsjö, and he worked under the supervision of a foreman.



|                         |      |    |
|-------------------------|------|----|
| Dr. Gustaf Andersson    | 1818 | 21 |
| Pastor Andersson        | 1818 | 22 |
| Dr. Johan Abrahamson    | 1818 | 23 |
| Pastor Johan Abrahamson | 1818 | 24 |
| Dr. Sven Andersson      | 1818 | 25 |
| Pastor Dr. Andersson    | 1818 | 26 |

Household Examination showing Sven Andersson Hög at Skärsjö Säteri, Bälaryd Parish: 1818-1828

<sup>11</sup> Bälaryd Household Examinations, Vol. AI:4 (1819-1825), page 98

<sup>12</sup> Bälaryd Household Examinations, Vol. AI:4 (1819-1825), page 97





The route from where Sven lived to Ljungbyhed

According to his military record, Sven spent some time at a military camp in the southern province of Skåne in 1824. Since the military's camp in Skåne was at Ljungbyhed, Sven may have spent some time there.

Sven's military record also states that he was assigned to work on the Göta Canal in 1825.<sup>13</sup> The Göta Canal was a major project that enabled sea vessels to pass through the Swedish peninsula. The canal took 22 years to complete.



Military buildings at Ljungbyhed

### The Göta Canal



The Göta Canal was the first canal in Sweden which allowed sea vessels to pass freely through the Swedish peninsula. At the time of its construction, the canal was one of the most ambitious and arduous projects the Swedish government had ever embarked upon. Work on the Göta Canal started in 1810 and took 22 years to complete. Over 58,000 people were involved with the building of the canal including Russian prisoners from the Finnish War, Swedish soldiers, and civilian laborers. Workers on the Göta Canal would usually spend twelve grueling hours a day constructing the canal.

<sup>13</sup> Sven Hög's military record



Degla, Lommaryd – Where Sven Hög was a farmhand from 1825-1826

Sometime in 1825, Sven moved to Degla, a lavish manor in northern Lommaryd Parish. Here, he served as a farmhand for a year.<sup>14</sup> Degla was a huge mansion that stood by the banks of Lake Noen and was surrounded by thriving orchards and gardens. Since Degla was such a rich and luxurious estate, only the most qualified of farmhands could serve there, which means that Sven must have been an exemplary farmhand.

Degla

| Namn,                                 | Född          |               | Häkom.               |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
|                                       | Uti           | år            | Ifrån                | år            |
| Dr Anders Jönsson Högby               | 22            | 90            | Bälary               | 23            |
| L. Gust. Jönsson - Lom                | 25            | 95            |                      |               |
| <del>Dr. Johan Jönsson Högby</del>    | <del>25</del> | <del>95</del> | <del>Suberg</del>    | <del>24</del> |
| <del>Dr. Anders Strömberg Högby</del> | <del>29</del> | <del>94</del> | <del>Strotholm</del> | <del>24</del> |
| <del>Dr. Matt. Strömberg Lom</del>    | <del>29</del> | <del>97</del> | <del>Strotholm</del> | <del>23</del> |
| <del>Dr. Johan Jönsson Högby</del>    | <del>20</del> | <del>96</del> | <del>Strotholm</del> | <del>25</del> |
| <del>Dr. Johan Jönsson Högby</del>    | <del>22</del> | <del>97</del> | <del>Strotholm</del> | <del>23</del> |
| <del>Dr. Johan Jönsson Högby</del>    | <del>20</del> | <del>96</del> | <del>Strotholm</del> | <del>25</del> |

Household Examination showing Sven Andersson Hög at Degla, Lommaryd Parish:  
1825-1830

<sup>14</sup> Lommaryd Household Examinations, Vol. AI: 9 (1825-1830), page 232



When Sven worked at Degla, the estate was owned by Samuel Lindblad (b. 1764), who lived there with his wife Eva Rask (b. 1787) and eight children.<sup>15</sup> Most likely, Sven rarely stepped foot inside the massive mansion. Whenever he did, he must have stood in awe gazing at its ornate décor, as several works of 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century precious art covered the walls and huge chandeliers hung from the ceiling.



This early 19<sup>th</sup> century sketch of Degla shows what it looked like when Sven Hög worked there



These barns at Degla are from Sven Hög's time

A little village used to surround Degla, where around forty to fifty people lived. Since the estate was so large, it required dozens of workers to maintain it. Sven resided in special quarters for the estate's hired labor. These red wood buildings were two stories and housed five to ten farmhands on one floor, and five to ten maids on the other.

## **Drängstuga – Farmhand Quarters**

On larger farms, hired labor stayed in special quarters called *drängstuga*. Farmhands and maids stayed on different floors. The quarters where Sven Hög probably stayed at Degla still exist, although they have been moved from their original location.



Buildings of old quarters where Sven Hög probably stayed in 1825-1826

<sup>15</sup> Lommaryd Household Examinations, Vol. AI: 9 (1825-1830), page 231

## Sven Hög's First Years in the Military (1826-1828)

On January 30, 1826, the course of Sven's life forever changed when he enlisted in the military.<sup>16</sup> On that day, Sven was approved as a soldier of the *Konliga Jönköpings Infanteri Regemente* (the Royal Jönköping Infantry Regiment). He was assigned to the *Andra Majorens Compagnie* (Second Major's Company), *Fjerde Corporalskapet* (the 4<sup>th</sup> Platoon). Sven was initially registered as nr 495 in the Regiment's Roll and nr 81 in the Company Roll.<sup>17</sup>

### The Requirements to Join the Swedish Military in the Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there were a number of requirements that recruits had to fulfil to be admitted into the Swedish Military. A man had to be both physically and mentally fit in order to be a soldier. During this time, he also needed to be between the ages of 18 to 30. Additionally, he needed to be at least 172 centimeters tall.



Uniform of the Royal Jönköping Regiment  
in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century

Once he joined the military, Sven was assigned the surname "Hög."

### Surname Changes in the Swedish Military

Once a soldier enlisted in the Swedish Military, he was assigned a new surname. This is because all 150 soldiers serving in a company needed to have a unique surname so that there could be no confusion when orders were given. Swedish surnames such as Svensson, Andersson, Olsson, and Persson were extremely common at the time, so most soldiers had their surname changed once they joined the military. Once their name was changed, the soldier usually kept it as his permanent surname and it was subsequently passed down to his descendants. A chosen surname could be influenced by a certain trait of a soldier, such as "Stolt" (meaning "Proud" in English.) Militaristic terms such Svärd ("Sword"), could also be chosen for a soldier's surname. Often, a word relating to the area the soldier served in was chosen as a surname. A soldier from the village of Sundby, for example, could be given the surname Sundin.

<sup>16</sup> Sven's Military Record

<sup>17</sup> Generalmönsterrullor - Jönköpings regemente 387 (1822-1826) Image 500



### The Meaning of the Name “Hög”

Hög translates to a number of different words in English, including “high,” “tall,” “elevated,” and “lofty, or “pile” and “heap.”

### Sven Receives the Surname “Hög” \*

On a cold January afternoon in 1826, Sven Andersson was waiting to see his dreams come through. He had a couple of days off from his job as a farmhand at Degla Manor. When he was at Skärsjö Manor he had been drafted as an “extra soldier,” which meant that he had to be a “stand-in if anything exceptional happened.” But nothing had happened and he was still a farmhand. Since he couldn’t expect to inherit a farmstead of his own, it would be difficult to raise a family. Being an extra soldier meant that there was at least there was some hope to get a steady job. In the autumn of 1825, he learned that there was a job as a soldier in Linderås. This was the chance of his life.

Soon he met his commanding officer, Major Jacob Henrik Planting Gyllenbåge, who looked upon him and said: “Well Andersson, you’re one of the tallest in the Company with your height of 5’9,” so your new name will be ‘Hög.’” Suddenly, some of Sven’s dreams had come true; he had got a steady income and a house (well at least a cabin) of his own.

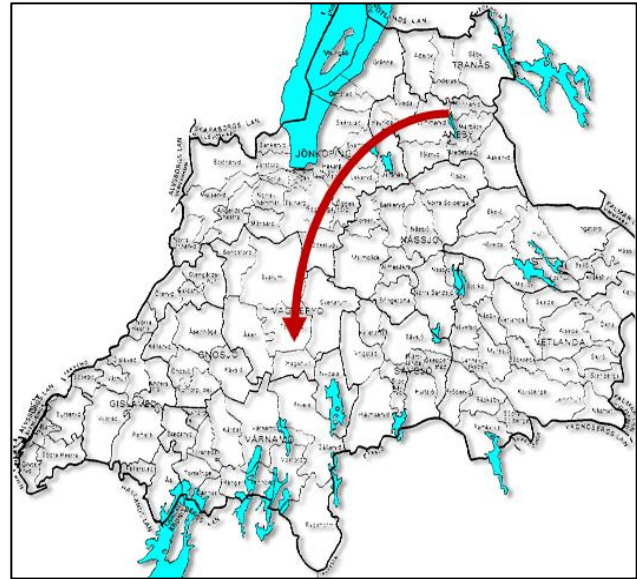
\*By Magnus Holmquist

### Why Did Sven Receive the Surname “Hög”?

There are a number of theories which attempt to explain why Sven was assigned the surname “Hög” when he joined the military. According to High family legend, Sven received the surname because he was very tall. However, since Sven’s military records state that he was just a slightly an above average height of 5’9” tall, this was not likely the reason. Sometimes, soldiers received their surname based on the farm or village they were living at when they were recruited into the military. Although there are a number of farms in Småland called “Höghult,” Sven never lived at any of them, so this also was probably not a reason why Sven was assigned the surname “Hög.” Some historians believe that Sven received the surname because he possessed the ideal and lofty qualities to be a soldier. Other historians believe that the name “Hög” can denote a swift, chopping motion. Yet others believe that the surname was randomly assigned to him.



Once he joined the military, Sven's Company traveled southwest a few days to Skillingaryds Hed in Tofteryd Parish. Sven spent three weeks in basic training at Skillingaryds Hed. There, he learned a number of skills, such as rifle shooting, how to fight with a bayonet, sewing, shoemaking, and how to properly clean his equipment. Every day at basic training, Sven woke up at 4 A.M. in the morning and spent 12 hours training, which included breaks for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. When he had free time, Sven had to take care of his personal equipment.



This map of Jönköping County shows that route the Sven's Company took from Lommeryd Parish to Skillingaryds Hed in Tofteryd Parish

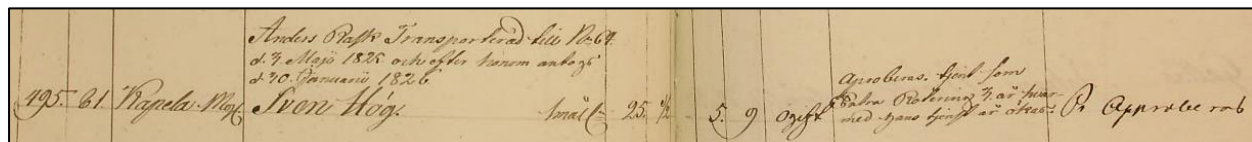
Sven slept in a tent with five other soldiers during his training. During their free time, he and the other soldiers probably engaged in some leisurely activities, such as joking, playing cards and other games, singing, and sometimes having a drink together.

### **Indelningsverket - The Allotment System**

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Swedish Military functioned under the Allotment System. Under this system (called *Indelningsverket* in Swedish), the farmers of the country, rather than the government, were responsible for funding and providing for the Swedish Military. The farmers of the land, whom made up the majority of the country's population at the time, had to ensure that the military kept an adequate amount of soldiers whom were sufficiently taken care of at all times. Instead of being recruited by the state, soldiers were usually recruited by farmers. In this time, two, three, or four farms formed a *rote* which was responsible for equipping a soldier.

There were 22 regiments in the Swedish Military, with each regiment containing 1,200 soldiers. Regiments were divided into eight companies. In turn, each company was divided into 150 wards or stations, which needed to provide the military with a soldier whom would be taken care of. Each soldier in a regiment had a unique number between 1 and 1,200, which represented the number of the *rote* and croft he belonged to. There were no limits to a soldier's term of service and he was only discharged for reasons of sickness, injury, old age, or committing a crime. A soldier in the Swedish Military was obligated to spend one month of the year in service during times of peace.

On June 26, 1826, Sven was present at the General Muster at Skillingaryds Hed. It was noted that he was 5'9" and had three years of previous military experience as an "extra soldier."<sup>18</sup>



Sven Hög listed on the Jönköping Regiment General Muster Roll – June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1826

### Transcription: (Left side)

Anders Rask transporterad till No. 64  
d. 3 Majii 1825 och efter honom antogs  
d. 30 Januari 1826

495. 81. Kapela Mel(lengård) Sven Hög

### Transcription (Right side):

Approberas tjent som  
Extra Roterung 3 år hvar-  
med hans tjenst år ökas

Smål(and) 25 ½ 5'9" Ogift Pres. P. Approberas

### Translation (Left side):

#### Notes

Anders Rask was moved to nr. 64  
on May 3, 1825 and after him  
on January 30, 1826 [Sven Hög was accepted]

| <u>Regiment Roll Number</u> | <u>Company Roll Number</u> | <u>Equippers</u>  | <u>Name</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 495                         | 81                         | Kapela Mellengård | Sven Hög    |

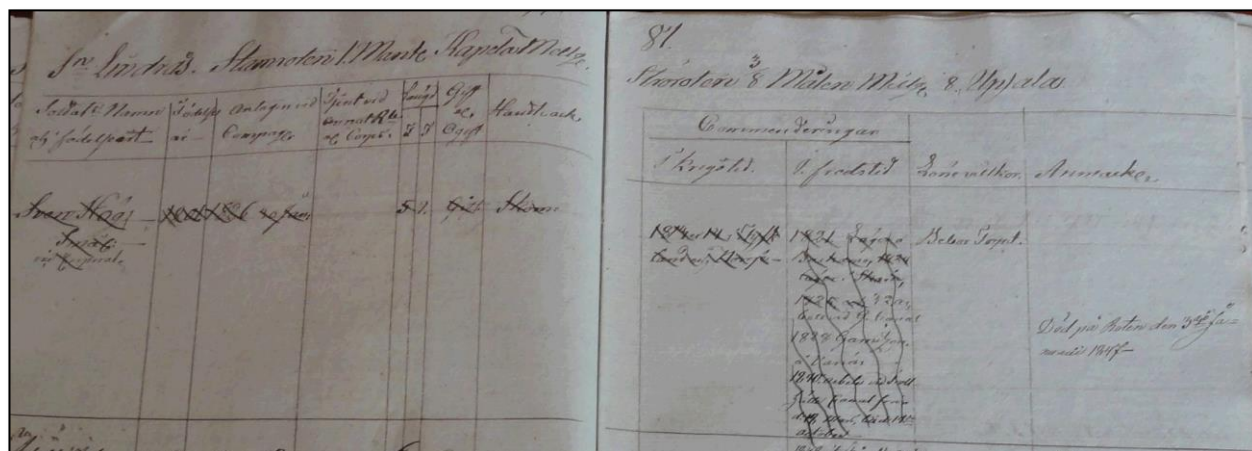
### Translation (Right side):

#### Notes

Has served as  
extra soldier 3 years,  
which should be added to his years of service

| <u>Province of Origin</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u>Years in Service</u> | <u>Height</u> | <u>Marital Status</u> |         |          |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Smål(and)                 | 25         | ½                       | 5'9"          | Single                | Present | Approved |

<sup>18</sup> Generalmönsterrullor - Jönköpings regemente 387 (1822-1826), Image 500



Sven Hög's Military Record

Transcription (Left Side):
*Sn Linderås. Stamroten 1 Mantl. Kapela Mellg.*

| Soldats Namn<br>och<br>Födelseort   | Födelse<br>år | Antagen vid<br>Compag | Tjent vid<br>annat Rte<br>el Corps | Längd |   | Gift<br>el.<br>Ogift | Handtvark |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------|---|----------------------|-----------|
|                                     |               |                       |                                    | T     | F |                      |           |
| Sven Hög<br>Småland<br>vid Corporal | 1801          | 1826 30 Jan           |                                    | 5     | 9 | gift                 | Skom.     |

Transcription (Right Side):

81

*Stroroten 3/8 Målen Millg. 8 Upsala*

| Commanderingar                       |   | Lönevilkor     | Anmark                               |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| i Krigs Tid                          | i Freds Tid   |                |                                      |
| 1813 och 14 Tysk-<br>land och Norrje | 1821 läger<br>Backana 1824<br>läger i Skåne<br>1825 och 32 i<br>G. Canal<br>1828 Garnison<br>i Vanås<br>1840 arbete vid<br>Troll-<br>hätta Canal från<br>17 Mars till<br>d.14 Octobre | Belsor torpet. | Död på roten den 3 Ja-<br>nuari 1847 |



Translation (Left Side):

*Linderås Parish Stamroten 1 Mantal Kapela Mellengård*

| <i>Soldier's Name<br/>and place of<br/>birth</i> | <i>Birth<br/>Year</i> | <i>Entered<br/>Company On</i> | <i>Service with<br/>Another<br/>Regiment<br/>or Corps</i> | <i>Height</i> |               | <i>Married<br/>or<br/>Single</i> | <i>Occupation</i> |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
|  |                       |                               |   | <i>Feet</i>   | <i>Inches</i> |                                  |                   |
| <i>Sven Hög<br/>Corporal from<br/>Småland</i>    | <i>1801</i>           | <i>January 30,<br/>1826</i>   |   | <i>5'</i>     | <i>9"</i>     | <i>married</i>                   | <i>Shoemaker</i>  |

Translation (Right Side):

*(Rote) 81*

*Stroroten 3/8 Mantal Målen Millengård 8 Upsala*

| <i>Commands</i>                                |   | <i>Salary</i>  | <i>Remarks</i>                                 |
|--|---|----------------|--|
| <i>In Wartime</i>                              | <i>In Peacetime</i>   |                |  |
| <i>1813 and 1814 in<br/>Germany and Norway</i> | <i>In 1821 Camp<br/>Backana 1824<br/>Camp in Skåne<br/>1825 and 32 in<br/>G.(ötta) Canal<br/>1828 in Vanås<br/>Garnison<br/>1840 worked in<br/>Trollhätta Canal<br/>from<br/>March 17th till<br/>October 14th</i> | <i>cottage</i> | <i>Died in the Rote on<br/>January 3, 1847</i> |

**Sven Hög's Military Record**

Sven Hög's military record above probably derives from a regiment or company roll. Unlike the General Muster Rolls, it lists the specific assignments that Sven had. One interesting thing about this record is that it refers to a number of assignments Sven had before he officially became a soldier in 1826. Perhaps the most notable thing about this record is that it states that Sven was part of Sweden's campaigns in Germany and Norway in 1813-1814. This record is kept in the Soldier's Museum in the city of Eksjö.

| SOLDATAKT   |   |               |                      |
|---|---|---------------|----------------------|
| Regemente   | Jönköpings regemente  | Socken:       | LINDERÅS             |
| Kompani:  | NORRA VEDBO   | Karta:        |                      |
| Rote:   | Kapela No 81  | Kordinat X:   | Y:                   |
| Name:   | HÖG Sven  | Föret kallad: | Andersson            |
| Född:   | 18010128  | Ort:          | Sjöstorp N Solberga  |
| Död:  | 18470103  | Ort:          | No 81 Linderås       |
| Dödsorsak:  | Lungsot   | Län:          | F                    |
| Längd:  | 173   | Län:          | F                    |
| Släktskap:  |   | Yrke:         | Älder: 45            |
| Antagen:  | 18260130  | Grad:         | Vice Korpral         |
| Inflyttad:  |   | Tjänst:       | Transport:           |
|   |   | År:           | Utmärkelse:          |
| Hustru:   | Johansdotter Anna Stina   |               |                      |
| Född:   | 18061020  | Ort:          | Säby                 |
| Vigsel:   | 18281003  | Ort:          | Linderås             |
| Död:  | 18610227  | Ort:          | Ångarp Linderås      |
|   |   | Län:          | F                    |
|   |   | Län:          | F                    |
|   |   | Län:          | F                    |
|   |   | Dödsorsak:    | Gulsot               |
| Barn:   |   | Född:         |                      |
|   |   | Ort:          |                      |
| Carl Johan  | 18290517  |               | No 81 Linderås +1829 |
| Maja Greta  | 18300408  |               | No 81 Linderås +1916 |
| Gustaf Adolf  | 18320325  |               | No 81 Linderås +1920 |
| Johan Fredrik   | 18340918  |               | No 81 Linderås +1836 |
| Sven Johan  | 18370216  |               | No 81 Linderås +1893 |
| Johanna Mathilda  | 18400304  |               | No 81 Linderås +1841 |
| Johanna Sofia   | 18420714  |               | No 81 Linderås +1885 |
| Carl Anton  | 18450516  |               | No 81 Linderås +1846 |
| Fader:  | Anders Andersson  | Yrke:         |                      |
| Modor:  | Maja Persdotter   | Yrke:         |                      |
| Källor:   | Smålands Soldatregister Elisabeth Leek GMR och Handrulla  |               |                      |
| Noteringar:   | <p>Fredskommendering: Arbete på Göta kanal 1828, 1830 samt 1832. Lager i Skåne 1824 i 2 mån. Arbete på Trollhätte kanal 18 mars - 14 okt 1840.</p> <p>Var vice korpral 1844 men ej 1841.</p> <p>Barnen Maja Greta, Gustaf Adolf, Sven Johan samt Johanna Sofia emigrerade till N Amerika.</p> |               |                      |
| Forsikare:  | Ingemar Henriksson/Personuppgifter  |               |                      |
| Adress:   | Tfn:  |               |                      |
| Soldatregistret är en andrahandskälla. Användaren ansvarar själv för kontroll av uppgifterna mot originalkällorna. Uppgifterna ur registret citeras som "Soldatregistret Småland" |   |               |                      |
| Utskriftsdatum: 2011-06-16  |   |               |                      |

Eksjö Solder Museum's file on Sven Hög

### Translation of Notes:

Assignments: Worked at the Göta Canal 1828, 1830, and 1832. Stationed at a camp in Skåne in 1824 for two months. Worked at the Trollhätte Canal March 18– October 14, 1840.

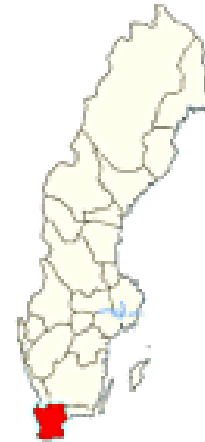
Promoted to vice corporal between 1841 to 1844.

Children Maja Greta, Gustaf Adolf, Sven Johan and Johanna Sofia immigrated to North America.

According to Sven Hög's military record, he was stationed at a garrison at Vanås in 1826. Sven was probably stationed at Vanås Castle in northern Skåne Province. The journey to Vanås Castle from Linderås would have taken a few weeks.



Vanås Castle



Location of Vanås Castle

## **Vanås Slott – Vanås Castle**

Vanås Slott (Vanås Castle) is located in Gryst Parish in northern Skåne Province. It lies just a few miles north of the city of Kristianstad. The oldest parts of Vanås Castle were built around 1400. In 1440, Eskil Åkesson was listed as the owner of Vanås Castle. The Brahe family owned the castle in the early 1500s. In 1525, the castle was sold to Claus Bille.



During the Nordic Seven Years War (1563-70) Vanås Castle was looted and burned. After Vanås Castle was burned, it was restored by Sten Bille around 1566. In 1756, Carl Axel Hugo Hamilton (1722-1763) acquired Vanås Castle. Hamilton's grandson, Count Carl Axel Wachtmeister of Johannishus took over the ownership of Vanås Castle in 1801. The current building of Vanås Castle was built in 1900. As of 2014, the Wachtmeister family continues to own Vanås Castle and the current owner is Count Carl-Gustaf Wachtmeister.



On November 13, 1826, the military assigned Sven to live at Kapela Ravelsgård, a farm in Linderås Parish just a half mile west of Linderås Church. Here, Sven was a part of Rote 81, and lived at a soldier's cottage named Sörhemmet.<sup>19</sup>

| Date       | Name                        | Other    |
|------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| 1826 11 39 | P.g. Sana Sönddatter        | 1 Adelof |
| 1826 11 40 | P.g. Johan Henrik Johansson | 1 Dö     |
| 1826 11 41 | P.g. Johanner Sjöström      | 1 Dö     |
| 1826 12 42 | P.g. Anna Sanna Sönddatter  | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 12 43 | P.g. Anna Sanna Sönddatter  | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 13 44 | P.g. Sanna Sönddatter       | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 13 45 | P.g. Sanna Sönddatter       | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 13 46 | P.g. Sanna Sönddatter       | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 13 47 | P.g. Sanna Sönddatter       | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 13 48 | P.g. Sanna Sönddatter       | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 13 49 | P.g. Sanna Sönddatter       | 1 Söby   |
| 1826 13 50 | P.g. Sanna Sönddatter       | 1 Söby   |

Record of Sven Hög from Inflytt. (Residents moving in) Linderås 1826

When Sven first moved to Kapela Ravelsgård, the farm was owned by three farmers: Måns Svensson, Magnus Jonsson, and Jonas Carlson.<sup>20</sup> These farmers were responsible for providing Sven with basic living necessities, such as an annual salary (around five Swedish riksdaler a year) firewood, leaves, and straw. In addition to this, Sven was given a *hemman*, or small amount of farmland to live on, and a few farm animals, such as cattle, sheep, and goats.



House at the location of Sörhemmet, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås - 2011

## Hemman - Homesteads for Soldiers

A hemman was a small homestead for a soldier and his family to live which included a small cottage, field, and barn. Each hemman included a cow, a few chickens, and pigs or sheep. While at home, soldiers were not permitted to do any work outside of their own hemman. This was to protect them from sustaining any injuries on the farm and being unable to perform in combat.

<sup>19</sup> Linderås Inflytt (Moving In/Out), Vol. AI:4 (1817-1832), page 405

<sup>20</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:5a, (1822-1826), pages 132-134

| Kapela Ravelsgård's ägor |    |    |           |
|--------------------------|----|----|-----------|
| N.T.                     |    |    |           |
| Sold. Anders Ravelsgård  | 24 | 94 |           |
| M. Maja Jönsdotter       | 24 | 91 | Säby 08   |
| D. Johanna               | 18 | 7  |           |
| D. Maja Stina            | 26 | 99 |           |
| D. Lovisa                | 1  | 95 |           |
| Sold. Sven Hög           | 18 | 01 | Sommar 26 |

Household Examination showing Sven Hög at Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish - 1826

In the late 1820s, there were six households at Kapela Ravelsgård. Måns Svensson (b. 1763) lived at Kapela Ravelsgård with his wife Anna Andersdotter and children, Anders, Jöns, Sven, and Gustaf. Magnus Jonsson (b. 1793), the second owner of the farm, lived with his wife Catrina Jonsdotter, and six children: Gustaf, Jonas Magnus, Peter, Anna Carin, Johan August, Hedvig Sofia, and Eva. Jonas Carlson (b. 1790), the third owner of Kapela Ravelsgård, lived at the farm with his wife Maja Jönsdotter and five children: Johanna, Göran Peter, Carl Johan, Johannes, and Anna Maja.

There was also an *undantag* (a cottage where the retired former farmer of a farm lived with his wife) at Kapela Ravelsgård. When Sven first moved to the farm, the *undantag* was inhabited by Lisa Månsdotter (b. 1765), the widow of one of the farm's previous owners, Jonas Svensson.

In 1827, a backstuga, or house for poor residents, named Storängs Grinden was built at Kapela Ravelsgård. Two widows named Maja Månsdotter (b. 1774) and Stina Månsdotter (b. 1772) lived here.<sup>21</sup> It probably didn't take long for Sven to become close to some of the other inhabitants of Kapela Ravelsgård, and he would spend the rest of his life residing at the farm.

### Farmers' Obligations to Soldiers

Farmers had several commitments to the soldiers who were their tenants. They had to provide them food, clothing, animals, and land. Farmers were required to provide soldiers with basic agricultural necessities such as hay, seeds, and oats. Farmers also were responsible for storing the soldiers' weapons while they weren't in service. While soldiers were away in training or combat, the farm owners were required to help the soldier's family maintain their hemman.

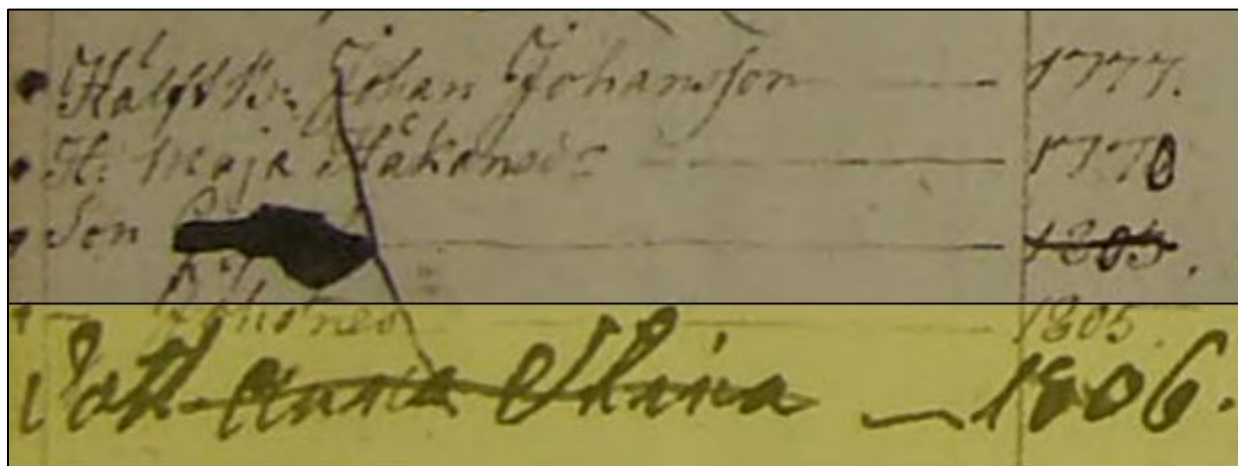
<sup>21</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:6 (1826-1830), pages 115-119

## Anna Stina Johansdotter's Youth (1806-1828)

All of the known records for Anna Stina Johansdotter, the matriarch of the High family, state she was born on October 20, 1806 in Säby Parish. Unfortunately, no birth record of her can be found in Säby Parish, so this cannot be verified. Anna Stina's parents were Johannes Johansson and Maria (Maja) Håkansdotter.<sup>22</sup> When Anna Stina was born, her family was living at Prästtorpet, a small farm that was owned by Säby Church.<sup>23</sup>



Prästtorpet, Säby – Where Anna Stina Johansdotter's family lived during her first four years



Household Examination showing Anna Stina Johansdotter at Prästtorpet, Säby Parish - 1808

### Missing Records

Occasionally, certain records, like one's baptism or burial record, are missing from the parish church books. There are a number of reasons for this. Sometimes, household examinations and other records can list erroneous information on when and where a person was born. Other times, records from certain years have been lost due to fires, or other mishaps. On some rare instances, the priest may have also forgotten to add a baptism or other event to the church books.

<sup>22</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:5 (1861-1867), page 331

<sup>23</sup> Säby Household Examinations, Vol. AI:5ab (1803-1808), page 42



### A Misinterpretation of Anna Stina's Surname

According to the 1972 High Family book, Anna Stina's surname was "Kilstenia." This erroneous information most likely came from the biography of her son, Gustaf Adolf High from the 1916 edition of "The History of LeSueur and Nicollet Counties," which states the same information. Since "Stina" is a short version of the name "Kristina," it's possible that the interview who met with Gustaf High misinterpreted the name as "Kilstenia," and incorrectly believed it to be her surname. Anna Stina's real surname, "Johansdotter," follows the Swedish patronymic naming practice of the time, and is derived from her father, Johannes Johansson.

Johannes Johansson, Anna Stina's father, was a tenant farmer. During the time of her birth, Anna Stina had an older brother, Johannes. In 1810, when Anna Stina was four years old, her family moved to Farsbo Frälsegård, a farm in western Torpa Parish, Östergötland County.<sup>24</sup> In 1811, two more of Anna Stina's brothers born were born, Gustaf and Frederick. Sadly, Frederick died only a couple of hours after he was born. During this time, a farmhand named Magnus Anders lived with Anna Stina's family at Farsbo.

| Hemmanets Namn.    | Född<br>år      | Hitt<br>ifrån |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Farsbo Frälsegård  |                 |               |
| Johannes Johansson | Marbeck<br>1777 |               |
| M. Maria Håkansson | Södra<br>1770   |               |
| Son Johannes       | Södra<br>1805   |               |
| Son Anna Stina     | Södra<br>1806   |               |
| Son Gustaf         | Södra<br>1811   |               |
| M. Magnus Anders   | Södra<br>1792   | 24<br>2       |

Household Examination showing Anna Stina Johansdotter at Farsbo, Torpa Parish - 1812

### **Some of Anna Stina's earliest memories may have included...**

- ❖ The birth of her brother Gustaf and his twin brother Frederick in 1811. (At this time, Anna Stina was almost five years old).
- ❖ Living in Torpa Parish from 1810-1814 (when she was four to eight years old.)
- ❖ The marriage of her paternal aunt, Lisa Johansdotter, in 1811 (Anna Stina was four years old at this time.)
- ❖ The Reign of King Gustaf Karl XIII (1809-1816). Karl XIII took the throne in 1809 when Anna Stina was almost three years old. Anna Stina was about ten years old in 1816 when he died.

<sup>24</sup> Torpa Household Examinations, Vol. AI: 4 (1805-15), page 474

In 1814, Anna Stina's family moved Finnanäs Nilsgården, a farm in east Linderås Parish.<sup>25</sup> In 1817, they moved to Holmen Södergård, a farm in western Linderås Parish.<sup>26</sup> Holmen is where Anna Stina grew into a young adult. During this time, Chaplain Sven Emanuel Thollander of Linderås Church also lived at Holmen. After her family moved to Holmen, Anna Stina's family started attending Linderås Church. Anna Stina was taught to read through this church.



Holmen, Linderås – Where Anna Stina Johansdotter's family lived from 1814 to 1826

As she got older, Anna Stina started helping her mother Maria Håkansdotter with chores around Holmen. Anna Stina probably helped with cleaning, cooking, feeding the animals on their small farm, and taking care of her little brother Gustaf.

|                   |          |                    |         |     |
|-------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|-----|
| Johannes Johanson | Marbella | 77 $\frac{25}{7}$  | Torpa   | 14. |
| N. Stina Johansd. | här      | 81                 | Enderås | 20. |
| H. Maria Håkansd. | Saby     | 70.                | Torpa   | 14. |
| J. Johannes       | Saby     | 05 $\frac{23}{3}$  |         |     |
| D. Anna Stina     | Saby     | 06 $\frac{20}{10}$ |         |     |
| J. Gustaf         | Torpa    | 11 $\frac{1}{9}$   |         |     |
| D. Maria          | här      | 21 $\frac{28}{2}$  |         |     |

Household Examination showing Anna Stina Johansdotter at Holmen, Linderås Parish - 1822

<sup>25</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:3 (1806-1817), page 200

<sup>26</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:4 (1817-1822), page 238



|                       |      |    |    |    |
|-----------------------|------|----|----|----|
| Öfvermannndet         | bror | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Grukar                |      | 77 | 77 | 77 |
| Johannes Johansdotter | Mar  | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| N. Stina Johansdotter | Mar  | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| S. Johannes           | Söby | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| D. Anna Stina         | Söby | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| S. Gustaf             | Söby | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| D. Maja               | Mar  | 81 | 81 | 81 |

Household Examination showing Anna Stina Johansdotter at Sjöarp, Linderås Parish - 1826

In November of 1819, when Anna Stina was only 13 years old, her mother Maria passed away from dysentery.<sup>27</sup> Maria's death must have been a crushing blow for Anna Stina and her family. Less than a year later, on July 2, 1820, Anna Stina's father Johannes was remarried to a woman named Stina Johansdotter.<sup>28</sup> In 1821, Anna Stina's younger half-sister Maja was born. Four years later, Anna's Stina's half-brother Fredrick was born in February of 1825. Sadly, Fredrick died just a few months later.

In 1826, Anna Stina's family moved Sjöarp Södergård, a farm in northern Linderås.<sup>29</sup> The same year, Anna Stina's family moved to the farm Ängarp Norrgård.<sup>30</sup> Ängarp was just south of Kapela, the farm that Sven Hög had moved to the same year.

Anna Stina celebrated her eighteenth birthday in October of 1826. By this time, she was busy helping her stepmother, Stina, with chores around the house, as well as helping take care of her young half-sister, Maja. The course of her life would soon change, as she met Sven Hög, her future husband.

|                       |      |    |    |    |
|-----------------------|------|----|----|----|
| Ängarp Norrgård.      |      |    |    |    |
| ägar Jöns Bengtsson   | Mar  | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Johannes Johansdotter | Mar  | 77 | 77 | 77 |
| N. Stina Johansdotter | Mar  | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| S. Johannes           | Söby | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| D. Anna Stina         | Söby | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| S. Gustaf             | Söby | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| D. Maja               | Mar  | 81 | 81 | 81 |

Household Examination showing Anna Stina Johansdotter at Ängarp Norrgård, Linderås Parish - 1828

<sup>27</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 790

<sup>28</sup> Linderås Weddings, Vol. C:4 (1779-1814), page 615

<sup>29</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:5a (1822-1826), page 25

<sup>30</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:6 (1826-30), page 264



## Sven and Anna Stina's Courtship and Wedding (1828)

Although the details of how Sven and Anna Stina met are unknown, they probably met shortly after Sven arrived in Linderås in November of 1826. The two may have started courting in 1827. Since, the two lived at neighboring farms, they probably saw each other quite a bit during their courtship. It's also unknown if the marriage of the two was arranged by the military, as was often the case for soldiers who married. Either way, Sven's choice of Anna Stina for a wife must have been approved of by the military.

### **Fact or Fiction: The Wedding of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter According to the 1972 High Family Book**

#### **Statement:**

Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter were married at on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1828 by Reverend Andrew Hagert.

**True:** Sven and Anna Stina were indeed married on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1828 by Vicar Anders Hagert. The name "Andrew" that the 1972 High Book mentions is the English equivalent of the Swedish name "Anders."



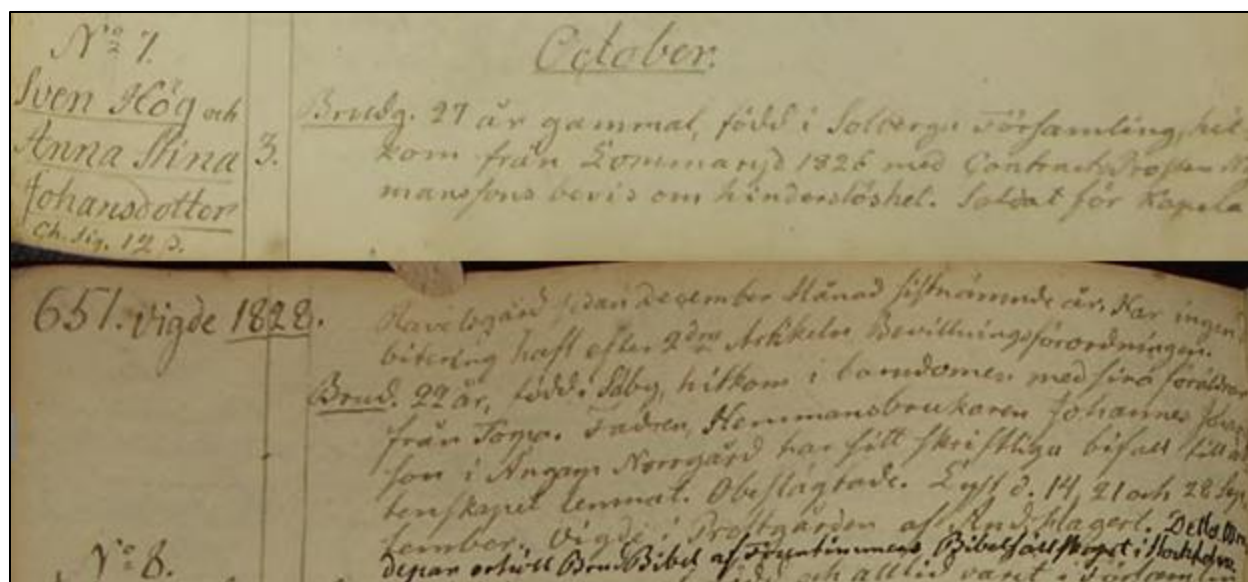
Linderås Church - Where Sven and Anna Stina attended church

Sven and Anna Stina probably became engaged sometime in 1827 or early 1828. Before the two could marry, Sven had to obtain the signature of Pastor Nymansson of Lommaryd Parish. Sven and Anna Stina were married on October 3, 1828.<sup>31</sup> They were married at the home of Anders Hagert, the vicar of Linderås and Säby, who performed the ceremony. At this time, Sven was 27 years old and Anna Stina was 22. The couple was given a Bible by the Women's Bible Society in Stockholm at their wedding.

### **Permission to Marry**

Before being able to marry, couples needed to obtain the approval of the parish vicar and church council. Often, if a groom came from another parish, he needed the vicar from the parish he came from to sign a certificate which stated that he wasn't already married, and thus was free to marry.

<sup>31</sup> Linderås Marriages, Vol. C:4, (1779-1842), pages 650-651



Marriage record of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter – October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1828

### Transcription:

#### October

No. 7

Sven Hög och  
Anna Stina  
Johansdotter  
Ch. Sig. 12 s.

651. Vidge 1828.

3. Brudg. 27 år gammal, född i Solberga församling, hitkom från Lommaryd 1826 med Contract Prästen Nymanssons bevis om hinderlöshet. Soldat för Kapela

Råvelsgård sedan December Månad sistnämnde år. Här ingen bitering haft efter 2nde Artiken Bevittnings förordningen.

Brud 22 år, född i Säby, hitkom i barndomen med sina föräldrar från Torpa. Fadren Hemmansbrukaren Johannes Johansson i Ångarp Norrgård har sitt skriftliga bifall till aktenskapet lemnat. Obeslägtade. Lyst. d. 14, 21, och 28 September, vidge i Prästgården af And(ers) Hagert. Detta brudepar ortsill? Brudbibel af frutimmans Bibelfällskapet i Stockholm.

### Translation:

#### October

No. 7

Sven Hög and ( married) 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Anna Stina  
Johansdotter  
Ch. Sig. 12 s.  
651. Married in 1828

Bridegroom: 27 years old born in Solberga Parish came from Lommaryd in 1826 with Pastor Nymansson's certificate of being free to marry. Soldier from Kapela

Råvelsgård since last December. No charge rate for the second witnessing article regulations.

Bride: 22 years old, born in Säby, came here in childhood with her parents from Torpa. [Her] father is farmer Johannes Johansson in Ångarp Norrgård [and he gives] his written assent. The banns were read on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> of September. Married at the vicarage of Anders Hagert. This couple was given a bride bible from The Women's Bible Society in Stockholm.

## Life at Sörhemmet (1828-1847)

After they were married, Anna Stina moved into the soldier's cottage Sörhemmet with Sven. The two would spend nearly the next three decades at Sörhemmet and raise a family there.

### Soldattorps – Soldier's Cottages



*Soldattorps* were the cottages where soldiers lived in Sweden. They were 7 meters wide, 7 meters long, and 4 meters high. Their roofs were constructed from stone shingles and may have had sod and grass on top. Beside the cottage door was a light blue sign which stated the name of the Company and Rote that the soldier belonged to.

A soldier's cottage in Bredestad Parish

In the military, Sven's quality of life was undoubtedly better than his meager childhood as the son of poor crofters. Although he still lived in a small, one room cottage, the military ensured that it was kept in good condition. Sven also earned a significantly higher salary than his poor father Anders Andersson and his life was much more secure and stable. As a soldier who would be willing to sacrifice his life to defend his countrymen, Sven was probably quite respected among the parishioners of Linderås.

Sven's two brothers, Johannes and Anders, followed in the footsteps of their older brother and also joined the military. Johannes joined the military in 1826, the same year that Sven enlisted. He was assigned with the new surname "Grip." Johannes lived north of Sven in Stora Åby Parish, Östergötland County with his wife Anna Greta Larsdotter and children.<sup>32</sup>

Anders, Sven's youngest brother, enlisted in the Jönköping Regiment of the military in 1830 and was assigned the surname "Borg." Once he joined the military, Anders was assigned to Adelöv, the parish just west of Linderås, where he resided at Soldattorpet Rote No. 27 (a soldier's croft).<sup>33</sup> Anders was married in Adelöv and raised a family there. Since he and Sven didn't live too far from each other, they may have frequently seen each other.

<sup>32</sup> Stora Åby Household Examinations, Vol. AI:6 (1836-1840), page 472

<sup>33</sup> Adelöv Household Examinations, Vol. AI:9 (1831-1835), page 7



Every Sunday morning, Sven and Anna Stina's family attended services at Linderås Church. During the service, Sven's family sat in the balcony above the organ where the other soldiers sat. Before the service, Sven and the other soldiers had to leave their weapons in an antechamber before the sanctuary. After the service, Sven and the other soldiers practiced some of their soldier exercises outside of the church.



The interior of Linderås Church

In January of 1829, Sven's three year probationary period as a soldier ended. He was evaluated by the military and approved to continue his service as a soldier.

### **The Probationary Period for a New Soldier in the Swedish Military**

When a soldier joined the military, he was provided with a payment from the Crown that covered the expense of buying his own *hemman* (small farm), uniform, equipment, and initial supplies. Cavalry riders were paid less money than infantry, since the cost of the horse they were provided with was so expensive. After receiving this payment, soldiers were placed on a probationary period for three years. At the end of this period, soldiers were evaluated by their conduct (including who their wives were). If a soldier failed this evaluation, he was dismissed from the service, had his lands and military equipment stripped from him, and had to pay back the sum of money he received from the Crown when he first became a soldier.

### **Could This Have Been Sven Hög's Bayonet?**



This old pike bayonet was found in the possession of Helga High Lundholm, a granddaughter of Sven Hög. It appears to be from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the same time that Sven Hög lived. Since Gustaf Adolf High, Helga's father, wasn't in the military, there's a chance it could have belonged to Sven Hög. However, this is unlikely, as soldier's weapons were returned to the military after they died or were discharged, and no bayonets were listed in Sven's estate records. Perhaps it was a "souvenir" from one of the military campaigns he served in.

### Fact or Fiction: Sven Hög's Occupation According to the 1972 High Family Book

#### Statement:

Sven Hög was a cobbler by trade.

**True:** Sven Hög's military record shows that he was indeed a shoemaker.



19<sup>th</sup> century Swedish boot

### Skomakare - Shoemakers

*Skomakare* is the term for "shoemaker" in Swedish. Each parish had at least one parish shoemaker, who provided shoes for the parish's inhabitants. These parish shoemakers were appointed by the *sockenstämman*, or parish council. They usually started their careers as apprentices to seasoned shoemakers. Shoemakers would travel to local farms, where they would gather hide and leather for material to craft shoes and boots from. Although several soldiers were also shoemakers, they weren't official parish shoemakers. Rather, they made shoes for other soldiers in the military.

In addition to being a soldier, Sven Hög was a shoemaker.<sup>34</sup> Sven was taught the craft of shoemaking in the military. He probably spent much of his time crafting new boots for the other soldiers.

Sörhemmet shared a pasture with Sörhemmet, No. 50, its sister croft. Soldattorp No. 50 was also known as Lilla Sörhemmet, and was just a short distance from Soldattorp No. 81. When Sven Hög moved to Kapela Ravelsgård in 1826, a soldier named Eric Leonard Lind (b. 1787) lived at Lilla Sörhemmet with his wife Eva Larsdotter (b. 1784) and three children: Johannes (b. 1818), Lovisa (b. 1822), and Hedvig (b. 1824).<sup>35</sup>



Location of where Lilla Sörhemmet was

<sup>34</sup> Sven Hög's military record

<sup>35</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol.AI:7 (1831-1835), page 313





Soldier's Cottage No. 73 at Råssmäte,  
Linderås Parish

Around 30 soldiers lived in Linderås. In the early 1830s, 22 privates, three corporals, two sergeants, one grenadjär, one dragoon, and two captains lived in the parish. The two captains, Captain Carl Johan Bogeman and Captain Adolf Bogeman, were from the most prestigious and wealthiest family in Linderås, and were elderly men by this time.

## Soldiers in Linderås in 1832

### Captains

- Captain Carl Johan Bogeman (b. 1750)
- Captain Adolf Bogeman (b. 1755)

### Sergeants

- Johan Sandahl (b. 1790)
- Gustaf Moback (1763) (retired)

### Dragoons\*

- Johan Magnusson Lansberg ( b. 1774) (retired)

### Grenadjärs\*\*

- Johan Magnusson Lansberg ( b. 1774) (retired)

### Corporals

- Corporal Peter Rass (b. 1751) (retired)
- Corporal Peter Rölf (b. 1786)
- Corporal Anders Wred (b. 1785)

### Privates

- Johannes Rask (b. 1808)
- Peter Djur (b. 1794)
- Anders Wipp (retired) (b. 1768)
- Peter Lejon (b. 1777)
- Magnus Åhs (b. 1779)
- Frederic Fång (b. 1805)
- Erland Finn (b. 1783)
- Elias Rap (b. 1787)
- Sven Hög (b. 1801)
- Anders Gabriel Stierna (b. 1813)
- Sven Fårding (b. 1771)
- Lars Magnus Hark (b. 1784)
- Johannes Blom (b. 1797)
- Daniel Wall (b. 1794)
- Anders Thor (b. 1799)
- Johannes Frisk (b. 1804)
- Johannes Glad (b. 1797)
- Magnus Fall (b. 1799)
- Eric Leonard Lind (b. 1787)
- Johannes Freier (b. 1797)
- Gustaf Dahl (b. 1791)
- Carl Wilhem Sand (b. 1805)

\* A soldier who rode a horse but fought on foot

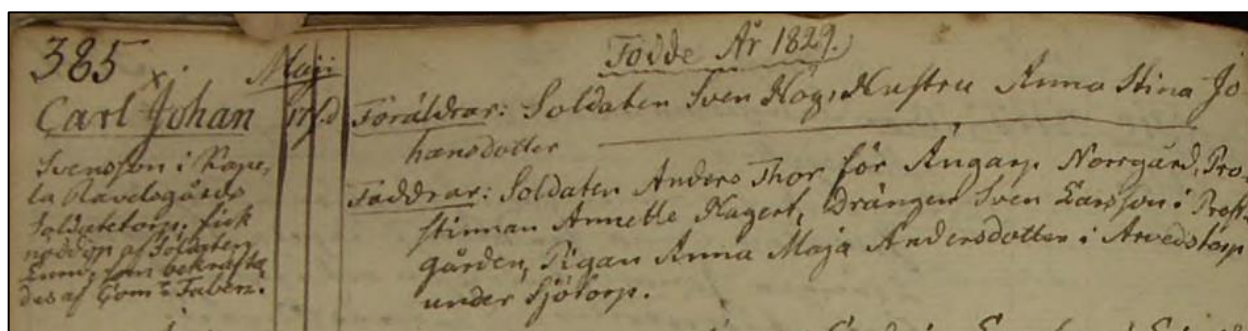
\*\* A soldier who threw grenades



On May 17, 1829, Anna Stina gave birth to the couple's firstborn child, Carl Johan. The same day, Carl Johan was baptized by either Anders Hagert or Anders Fabertz, the chaplain of Linderås Church. The baptism witnesses were Soldier Anders Thor (a close friend of Sven's from the neighboring farm of Ängarp Norrgård), Annette Hagert (Anders Hagert's wife), farmhand Sven Larsson in Prostgården, and maid Anna Maja Andersdotter in Arvidstorp of Sjötorp.<sup>36</sup>



The baptism font at Linderås Church where some of Sven and Anna Stina's children may have been baptized



Birth and baptism record of Carl Johan – May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1829

### Transcription:

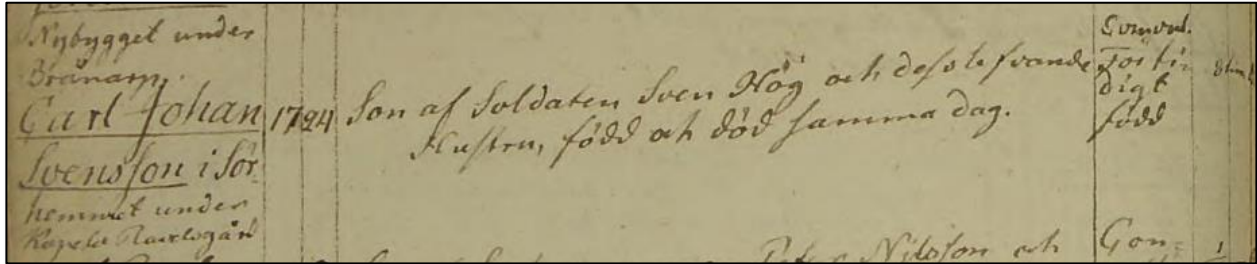
|   |             |  |
|---|-------------|--|
| 385   | <u>Maji</u> | <u>Födde År 1829</u>   |
| <u>Carl Johan</u>   | 17/s d      | <u>Föräldrar:</u> Soldaten Sven Hög, hustru Anna Stina Johansdotter  |
| Svensson i Kapela Ravelsgårds Soldatetorp. Fick nöddop af soldaten Lum som bekräftades af Com.r Faberi. |             | <u>Faddrar:</u> Soldaten Anders Thor för Ängarp Norrgård, Prostiman Annette Hagert, drängen Sven Larsson i Prostgården, Pigan Anna Maja Andersdotter i Arvidstorp under Sjötorp. |

### Translation:

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 385   | <u>May</u>                                  | <u>Born in the Year 1829</u>  |
| <u>Carl Johan</u>   | (born) 17 <sup>th</sup> (baptized) same day | <u>Parents:</u> Soldier Sven Hög, wife Anna Stina Johansdotter  |
| Svensson in Kapela Ravelsgård's Soldier Cottage. Baptized by the Soldier Lum who was confirmed by Com.r Faberi. |   | <u>Witnesses:</u> Soldier Anders Thor from Ängarp Norrgård, Pastor's wife Annette Hagert, farmhand Sven Larsson in Prostgården, maid Anna Maja Andersdotter in Arvidstorp of Sjötorp. |

<sup>36</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 385

Sadly, Carl Johan was born too prematurely and died only eight hours after he was born. It must have been heartbreaking for Sven and Anna Stina to lose their firstborn child so soon after its birth. Carl Johan was buried in the cemetery of Linderås Church a week later on May 24<sup>th</sup>.<sup>37</sup>



Death and burial record of Carl Johan – May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1829

#### Transcription:

|                        |    |    |   |        |       |
|------------------------|----|----|---|--------|-------|
| <u>Carl Johan</u>      | 17 | 24 | Son af Soldaten Sven Hög och dess levande | Förti- | 8 tim |
| <u>Svensson</u> i Sör- |    |    | Hustru, född och död samma dag.           | dig    |       |
| hemmet under           |    |    |   | född   |       |
| Kapela Ravelsgård      |    |    |   |        |       |

#### Translation:

|                    |   |  |             |
|--------------------|---|--|-------------|
| <u>Carl Johan</u>  | 17 <sup>th</sup> (died) (buried) 24 <sup>th</sup> | Son of Soldier Sven Hög and his living | Premature   |
| <u>Svensson</u> in |   | wife, born and died the same day.      | birth       |
| Sörhemmet of       |   |  | 8 hours old |
| Kapela Ravelsgård  |   |  |             |

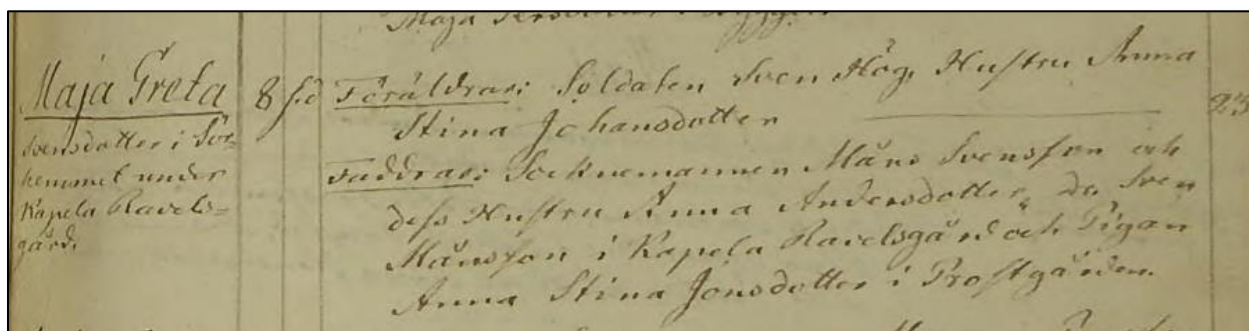
### **Infant Mortality in Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century Sweden**

In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, over a quarter of children died in infancy in Sweden. Since this was a time before vaccinations were regularly administered, diseases such as smallpox, whooping cough, and typhoid fever ran rampant throughout the country, taking the lives of millions of infants. In 1807, there were 72 deaths in Linderås Parish, 17 of which were caused by smallpox and 7 from whooping cough.\* While the loss of a child was undoubtedly heartbreaking for its parents, it was all too common, and thus not unexpected. In these days, people often tried not to get too emotionally attached to their infants until they were over two years old, believing children to be a gift from God which he could take away as quickly as he had given. By the 1830s, vaccinations for smallpox were regularly provided throughout Linderås. Henceforth, the infant mortality rate significantly declined, while the parish's population increased.

\* Lönnerholm, page 339

<sup>37</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 821

Less than a year later, Anna Stina gave birth to a healthy daughter, Maja Greta, on April 8, 1830. Maja Greta was baptized the same day. The witnesses at her baptism were farmer Måns Svensson from Kapela Ravelsgård, his wife Anna Andersdotter, their son farmhand Sven Månsson, and maid Anna Stina Jonsdotter in Prostgården.<sup>38</sup> Maja Greta was later known as Margaret High and was the first of Sven and Anna Stina's children to leave Sweden for the United States.



Birth and baptism record of Maja Greta – April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1830

#### Transcription:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><u>Maja Greta</u><br/>Svensdotter i Sör-<br/>hemmet under<br/>Kapela Ravelsgård</p> | <p>8 / s d <u>Föräldrar:</u> Soldaten Sven Hög, hustru Anna Stina Johansdotter -----23<br/><u>Faddrar:</u> Socknemannen Måns Svensson och dess Hustru Anna Andersdotter, Dr Sven Månsson i Kapela Ravelsgård och pigan Anna Stina Jonsdotter i Prostgården.</p> |
|--|---|

#### Translation:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><u>Maja Greta</u> (born ) 8<sup>th</sup> /(baptized) the same day<br/>Svensdotter in<br/>Sörhemmet in<br/>Kapela Ravelsgård</p> | <p><u>Parents:</u> Soldier Sven Hög, wife Anna Stina Johansdotter -----23 years old<br/><u>Witnesses:</u> Parishioner Måns Svensson and his wife Anna Andersdotter, farmhand Sven Månsson in Kapela Ravelsgård and maid Anna Stina Jonsdotter in Prostgården.</p> |
|--|---|

#### **Faddrar - Baptism Witnesses**

Most Swedish baptism records list the names of *faddrar*, or witnesses, at a child's baptism. Faddrar were the equivalent of godparents. Faddrar (also written in Latin as "Witten" in some baptism records) were responsible for the moral and religious upbringing of their godchildren. If their godchildren's parents died, then they would be responsible for raising them.

<sup>38</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 392



As a soldier, Sven attended different military meetings. One day a month, he attended the meeting for the Second Major's Company. Every June, Sven traveled to Skillingaryds Hed where the Royal Jönköping Infantry Regiment had their annual training for a few weeks. Every four years, Sven attended the General's Inspection. The journey from Linderås probably took a few days.



Infantry troop on the march, dressed in the 1830 uniform

## **The Military Procession Towards Training Camp**

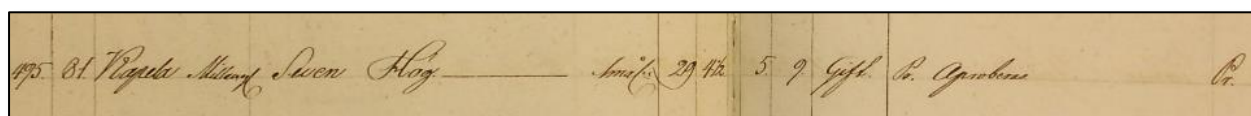
When soldiers joined the military, they met up at parish churches. They then proceeded to embark on foot towards the location of their training camp. Along their journey, they would stop at churches in different parishes where more soldiers would join their party. Soldiers had to walk the horses, not ride them, as horses were considered more valuable than soldiers. If a horse was injured and died along the journey, the soldier responsible for walking it would have to answer for himself upon arrival at the military training camp.

A military procession was led by a pair of trumpeters, drummer boys, and flute players. These army musicians dictated the pace of the journey (including when and where they stopped to eat and rest), since they would always be the first ones in the line of fire if ever attacked by enemies. For this reason, they were usually young and quick so they could quickly flee the moment they were fired on.

On June 17, 1830, Sven was present at the General Muster at Skillingaryds Hed. He was listed as 29 years old, having served in the military for 4½ years, and married.<sup>39</sup> Although the General Muster Rolls list the basic information for Sven Hög, none of them mention any of his military assignments, nor do they include any specific notes on his physical condition and the condition of his equipment.



19<sup>th</sup> century Regiment of Swedish soldiers



Sven Hög listed on the Jönköping Regiment General Muster Roll – June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1830

## Transcription:

495. 81. Kapela Mellengård Swen Hög Smål(and) 29 4½ 5'9" Gift P. Approberas

## Translation: (Left side)

| Regiment Roll Number | Company Roll Number | Equippers         | Name     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 495                  | 81                  | Kapela Mellengård | Sven Hög |

## Translation: (Right side)

| Province of Origin | Age | Years in Service | Height | Marital Status | Present | Approved |
|--------------------|-----|------------------|--------|----------------|---------|----------|
| Smål(and)          | 29  | 4½               | 5'9"   | Married        |         |          |

## Generalmönsterrullor – General Muster Rolls

*Generalmönsterrullor*, the General Muster Rolls, are the primary military records that are referenced in Swedish genealogy. Every fourth year (later every fifth year), a general muster was held for each regiment in the Swedish Military. During a general muster, each soldier was inspected and their regiment, company, soldier number, name, rank, age, years of service in the military, province of birth, height, and marital status were recorded.

<sup>39</sup> Generalmönsterrullor - Jönköpings regemente 388 (1830-1834), Image 1570



| Namn.                    | Född    |    | Hitkom. |    |
|--------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
|                          | Uti     | år | Ifrån   | år |
| Kapela Ravelsgårds ägor. |         |    |         |    |
| Soldat Sörn, Sörhemmet   |         |    |         |    |
| Sold. Sven Hög           | Solbar. | 18 | Somma   | 26 |
|                          | ga      | 14 | nyf     |    |
| A. Anna Stina Joh.       | Söldg.  | 26 | Ängar   | 23 |
| hansdotter               |         | 10 | N.g.    |    |
| N. Art. Johan            | Kar     | 29 |         |    |
|                          |         | 14 |         |    |
| D. Maja Greka            | Kar     | 30 |         |    |
|                          |         | 3  |         |    |
|                          |         | 11 |         |    |

Household Examination of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter's family at Sörhemmet, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish: 1830

### Croft Inspections

Croft inspections, in which a soldier's cottage was inspected, were held annually by the military regiment. Inspections were also regularly held at officers' living quarters. All repairs were paid for by the regiment and carried out by the equippers. When timber began to rot inside the soldier cottage it usually wasn't replaced, but covered with a plank. Croft Inspections can be accessed through the Military Archives in Stockholm.

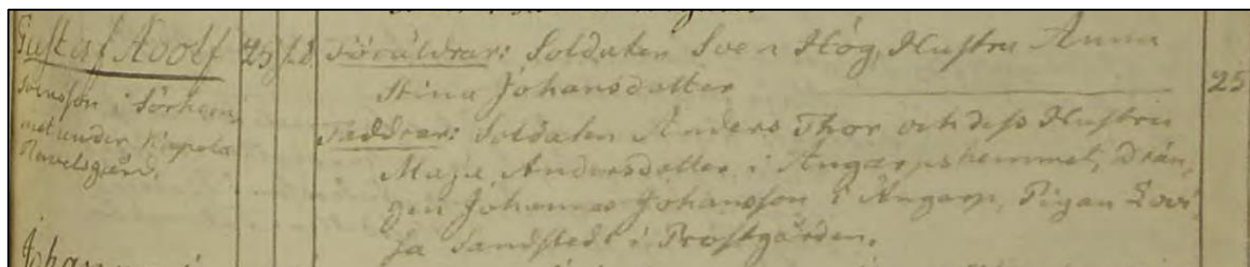
### The Croft Inspection of Sörhemmet in 1831

In 1831, Sörhemmet was inspected by the Jönköping Regiment. The inspector noted that the roof on the north side of the cottage was covered with planks, the cabin door needed to be repaired, the fireplace needed a new smoke-board, the cottage's shed needed to be recovered on the south side, the door lock needed to be repaired, and that the cow shed, field, meadow, and fences were all in good condition. Additionally, the inspector wrote that the equippers promised to paint the cottage red before the next croft inspection.

Source: Jönköping Regiment, Boställsdirektionen E IV:1-2z



Sven and Anna Stina's first son to survive infancy, Gustaf Adolph, was born on March 25, 1832. Gustaf was baptized the same day. The witnesses at his baptism included Soldier Anders Thor and his wife Maja Andersdotter from Ängarp Norrgård, Anna Stina's older brother Johannes Johansson in Ängarp, and maid Lovisa Sandstedt in Prostgården.<sup>40</sup>



Birth and baptism record of Gustaf Adolf – March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1832

### Transcription:

|                     |         |  |
|---------------------|---------|--|
| <u>Gustaf Adolf</u> | 25 /s d | <u>Föräldrar:</u> Soldaten Sven Hög, hustru Anna     |
| Svensson i Sörhem-  |         | Stina Johansdotter -----25                           |
| met under Kapela    |         | <u>Faddrar:</u> Soldaten Anders Thor och dess hustru |
| Ravelsgård          |         | Maja Andersdotter i Ängarps hemmet, Drän-            |
|                     |         | Johannes Johansson i Ängarp, Pigan Lovi-             |
|                     |         | sa Sandstedt i Prostgården.                          |

### Translation:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <u>Gustaf Adolf</u> (born ) 25 <sup>th</sup> /(baptized) the same day | <u>Parents:</u> Soldier Sven Hög, wife Anna        |
| Svensson in   | Stina Johansdotter -----25 years old               |
| Sörhemmet in  | <u>Witnesses:</u> Soldier Anders Thor and his wife |
| Kapela Ravelsgård   | Maja Andersdotter in Ängarps hemmet, farmhand      |
|   | Johannes Johansson in Ängarp, maiden               |
|   | Lovisa Sandstedt in Prostgården.                   |

### Anders Thor – Sven Hög's Close Friend

Soldier Anders Thor appears to have been one of Sven Hög's closest friends. Anders and his first wife, Maja Andersdotter, were the baptism witnesses for three of Sven and Anna Stina's children: Carl Johan, Gustaf Adolf, and Sven Johan. Anders Thor was born in Linderås in 1799. During the time that Sven Hög's family lived at Kapela Ravelsgård, Anders Thor lived at Ängarp, a farm just south of there. Anders and Maja had six children: Anna Stina (b. 1820), Hedvig Louisa (b. 1824), Margareta (b. 1827), Johan Peter (b. 1829), Anders Johan (b. 1832), and Gustaf Adolf (b. 1835). Maja Andersdotter died in 1854 and Anders married Anna Stina in 1855. Anders Thor died in at the age of 83 in Linderås on December 2, 1882.\*

\*Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:8 (1881-1892), Image 294

<sup>40</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 408

According to Sven's military record, Sven was assigned back to work at the Göta Canal in 1832. While it's unknown how long this assignment lasted, it probably was several months. During this period of time, Anna Stina was left alone to take care of their young children, Maja Greta and Gustaf Adolf, and was also responsible for tending to Sörhemmet's hemman. The farmers of Kapela Ravelsgård probably helped her with any farm work. 1832 was also the year that the Göta Canal was finally completed after 22 years of construction.

### **The Completion of the Göta Canal**

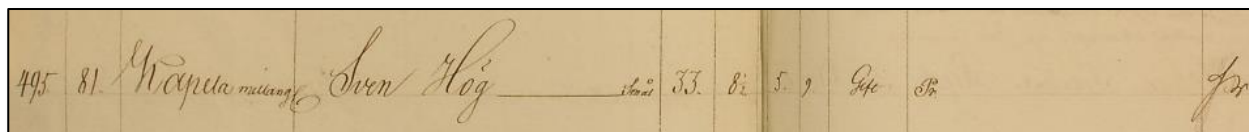
On September 26, 1832, after 22 years, 7 million work days, and 84 million hours of work, the Göta Canal finally opened. The opening of the canal was marked by a festive celebration in Snövelstorp on the shores of Lake Asplången and included a special visit from King Karl XIV Johan, Queen Desideria, their son Oscar I, and Oscar's wife, Josefina. On this cold and cloudy day, over 10,000 people gathered to see the royal family and celebrate the opening of the canal. The lavish ceremony was marked by the wild applause of spectators, an abundant amount of food and drink, brightly lit torches, the sound of gunshots being fired over the lake by soldiers in boats, proud speeches, young girls in white dresses tossing flowers on the road, festive music played by two regiments of grenadiers, and an impressive display of fireworks.



Painting depicting the opening of the Göta Canal – September 26, 1832

In 1833, Sven's youngest sister Maja Lena moved to Kapela Ravelsgård. Here, she was a maid for the family of Måns Svensson.<sup>41</sup> At this time, Maja Lena was 21 years old. She undoubtedly spent a great deal of time with Sven's family and probably helped Anna Stina take care of her young children, Maja Greta and Gustaf Adolf. Maja Lena spent a year at Kapela Ravelsgård and left the farm in October of 1834.

On June 19, 1834, Sven was present at the General Muster at Skillingaryds Hed. He was listed as 33 years old, having served in the military for 8½ years, and married.<sup>42</sup>



Sven Hög listed on the Jönköping Regiment General Muster Roll – June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1834

## Transcription:

495. 81. Kapela Mellengård Swen Hög Smål(and) 33 8½ 5'9" Gift Pr. Pr.

## Translation: (Left side)

| <u>Regiment Roll Number</u> | <u>Company Roll Number</u> | <u>Farm</u>       | <u>Name</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 495                         | 81                         | Kapela Mellengård | Sven Hög    |

## Translation: (Right side)

| <u>Province of Origin</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u>Years in Service</u> | <u>Height</u> | <u>Marital Status</u> |         |          |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Smål(and)                 | 33         | 8½                      | 5'9"          | Married               | Present | Approved |

Sometime in 1834, the military performed another croft inspection on Sörhemmet.<sup>43</sup>

## **The Croft Inspection of Sörhemmet in 1834**

In the croft inspection of Sörhemmet in 1834, the inspector noted that the cabin with a room and entry had to be partly repaired, a new vault was needed for the baking oven, the smoke-board needed to be repaired, the shed, barn, and two hay sheds were in good condition, a new roof was needed on the east side of the cottage, some of the cow sheds needed new roofing, and planks were needed to cover rot indoors.

Source: Jönköping Regiment, Boställsdirektionen E IV:1-2z

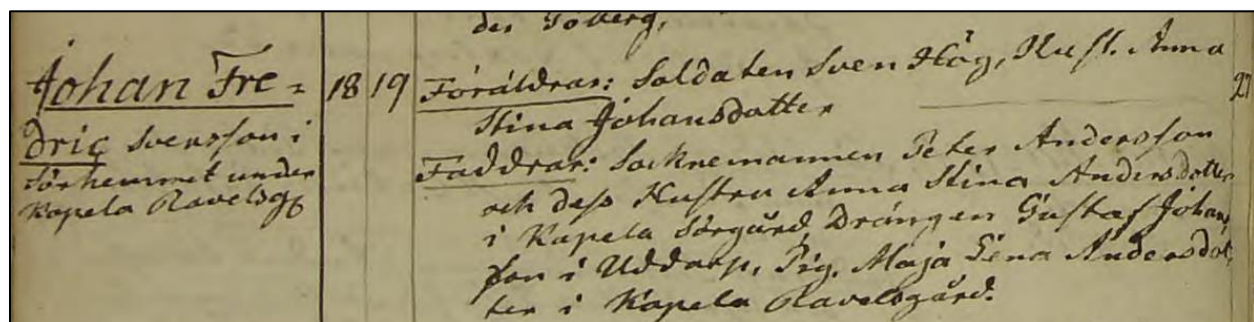
<sup>41</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:7 (1831-1835), page 98

<sup>42</sup> Generalmönsterrullor - Jönköpings regemente 388 (1830-1834), Image 4530

<sup>43</sup> Jönköping Regiment, Boställsdirektionen E IV:1-2z



On September 18, 1834, Johan Fredric, the third son of Sven and Anna Stina, was born. Johan Fredric was baptized the next day. The witnesses at his baptism were Peter Andersson and his wife Anna Stina Andersdotter in Kapela Södergård, Anna Stina's younger brother Gustaf Johansson in Uddarp, and Sven's younger sister Maja Lena Andersdotter.<sup>44</sup>



Birth and baptism record of Johan Fredric – September 19<sup>th</sup>, 1834

# Transcription:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><u>Johan Fredric</u> Svensson i Sörhemmet under Kapela Ravelsgård</p> | <p>18/19 <u>Föräldrar:</u> Soldaten Sven Hög, hustru Anna Stina Johansdotter -----27</p> <p><u>Faddrar:</u> Socknemannen Peter Andersson och dess Hustru Anna Stina Andersdotter i Kapela Södergård, Drängen Gustaf Johansson i Uddarp, Pij. Maja Lena Andersdotter i Kapela Ravelsgård.</p> |
|--|--|

# Translation:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><u>Johan Fredric</u> Svensson in Sörhemmet of Kapela Ravelsgård</p> | <p>(born ) 18<sup>th</sup> /(baptized 19<sup>th</sup>) <u>Parents:</u> Soldier Sven Hög, wife Anna Stina Johansdotter -----27 years old</p> <p><u>Witnesses:</u> Parishioner Peter Andersson and his wife Anna Stina Andersdotter in Kapela Södergård, farhmand Gustaf Johansson in Uddarp, maid Maja Lena Andersdotter in Kapela Ravelsgård.</p> |
|--|---|

Change came to Kapela Ravelsgård in 1835 when Storängs Grinden, the farm's backstuga, was torn down and another backstuga, Löfholmen, was built. A former soldier named Peter Ång lived at Löfholmen with his son Gustaf Ång. When Peter Ång died, his son Gustaf lived at Löfholmen with his wife Anna Zachrisdotter and four children: Hedda Lovisa, Carl Johan, Adolf, and Johan.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>44</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 429

<sup>45</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:8a (1836-1841), page 47

Sometime in 1836, Sven and Anna Stina's two year old son Johan Frederick contracted whooping cough. He died of the disease on May 8, 1836. A week later, Johan Frederick was buried in the cemetery of Linderås Church.<sup>46</sup>

The same year, the family of Magnus Jonsson, one of the farmers who lived at Kapela Ravelsgård, left the farm while Anna Stina's father Johannes Johansson purchased Magnus's portion of Kapela Ravelsgård and moved there with his family.

|                             |                                       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sörhemmet, Soldattorpi.     |                                       |
| Sold. Sven Hög - Solberg    | 11/18                                 |
| H. Anna Stina Johansdotter. | Säby 06 <sup>20</sup> / <sub>10</sub> |
| D. Maja Greta               | När 30 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>4</sub>    |
| J. Gustaf Adolf             | D= 32 <sup>25</sup> / <sub>3</sub>    |
| J. Johan Fredric            | D= 34 <sup>19</sup> / <sub>7</sub>    |

Household Examination of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter's family at Sörhemmet, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish: 1835

|   |      |  |  |  |          |
|---|------|--|--|--|----------|
| Maji  |      |  |  |  |          |
| Johan Fredric Svensson i Sörhemmet under Kapela Ravelsgård. | 8/15 | Son af soldaten Sven Hög och dess lefvande Hustru, född i Församlingen d. 18 September 1834. |  |  | 1 - Barn |
|   |      | Johanna Bengtiska  |  |  | 5 - Barn |

Death and burial record of Johan Fredric – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1836

#### Transcription:

|  |      |  |          |          |
|--|------|--|----------|----------|
|  |      | Maji   |          |          |
| Johan Fredric Svensson i Sörhemmet under Kapela Ravelsgård | 8/15 | Son af soldaten Sven Hög och dess lefvande Hustru, född i Församlingen d. 18 September 1834. | Kikhosta | 1 - Barn |

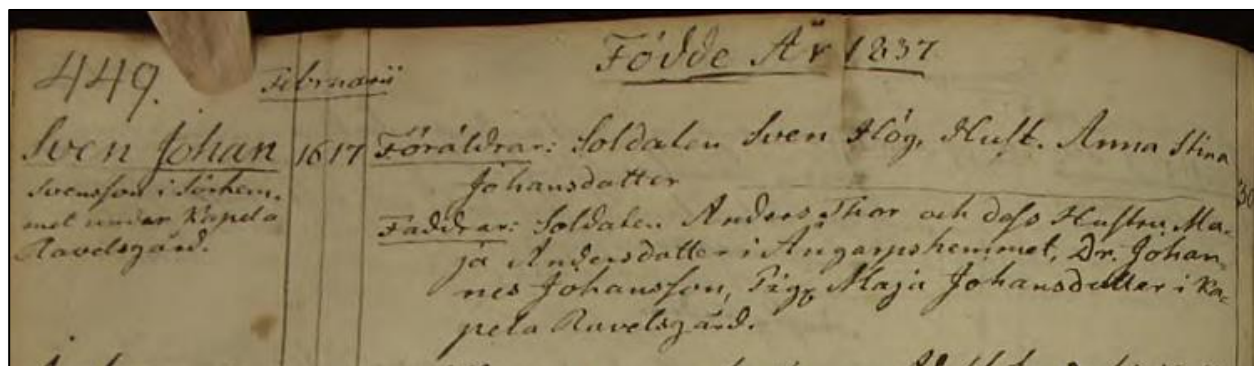
#### Translation:

|   |  |                             |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Johan Fredric (died) 8 <sup>th</sup> (buried) 15 <sup>th</sup> Svensson in Sörhemmet of Kapela Ravelsgård | Son of soldier Sven Hög and living wife, born in the same parish on September 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1834. | Whooping Cough Age 1. Child |
|---|--|-----------------------------|

Sven Johan, the third of Sven and Anna Stina's children who eventually immigrated to America, was born on February 16, 1837. He was baptized a

<sup>46</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 847

day later. The witnesses at his baptism included Soldier Anders Thor and his wife Maja Andersdotter from Ängarp Norrgård, Anna Stina's older brother Johannes Johansson, and her sister Maja Johansdotter in Kapela Ravelsgård.<sup>47</sup> Sven Johan was also known in other accounts as Sven John III.<sup>48</sup>



Birth and baptism record of Sven Johan – February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1837

#### Transcription:

449.                      Februari                      Födde År 1837

Sven Johan                      16/17    Föräldrar: Soldaten Sven Hög, hustru Anna Stina  
Svensson i Sörhem-                      Johansdotter -----30  
met under Kapela                      Faddrar: Soldaten Anders Thor och dess Hustru Ma-  
Ravelsgård.                      ja Andersdotter i Ängarps hemmet, Dr. Johan-  
nes Johansson, pig. Maja Johansdotter i Ka-  
pela Ravelsgård.

#### Translation:

449.                      February                      Born in the Year 1837

Sven Johan                      (born) 16<sup>th</sup> /(baptized) 17<sup>th</sup>    Parents: Soldier Sven Hög, wife Anna Stina  
Svensson in                      Johansdotter -----30 years old  
Sörhemmet of                      Witnesses: Soldier Anders Thor and his wife Maja  
Kapela Ravelsgård.                      Andersdotter in Ängarps hemmet, farmhand Johannes  
Johansson, maid Maja Johansdotter in Kapela Ravelsgård

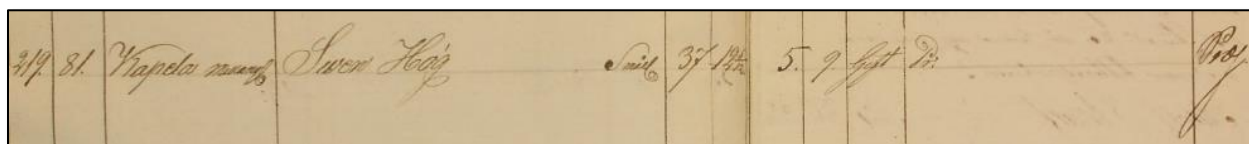
Sometime in the late 1830s, the name of the Second Major's Company that Sven was part of was changed to the Norra Vedbo Company. Sven was assigned a new Regiment Registration Number, 219, but remained as nr 81 in the Company Roll. On June 25, 1838, Sven was present at the General Muster at Skillingaryds Hed. He was listed as 37 years old, having served in the military for 12½ years, and married.<sup>49</sup>

<sup>47</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 449

<sup>48</sup> High Family Book 1972

<sup>49</sup> Generalmönsterrullor - Jönköpings regemente 389 (1838-1841), Image 1120





Sven Hög listed on the Jönköping Regiment General Muster Roll – June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1838

## Transcription:

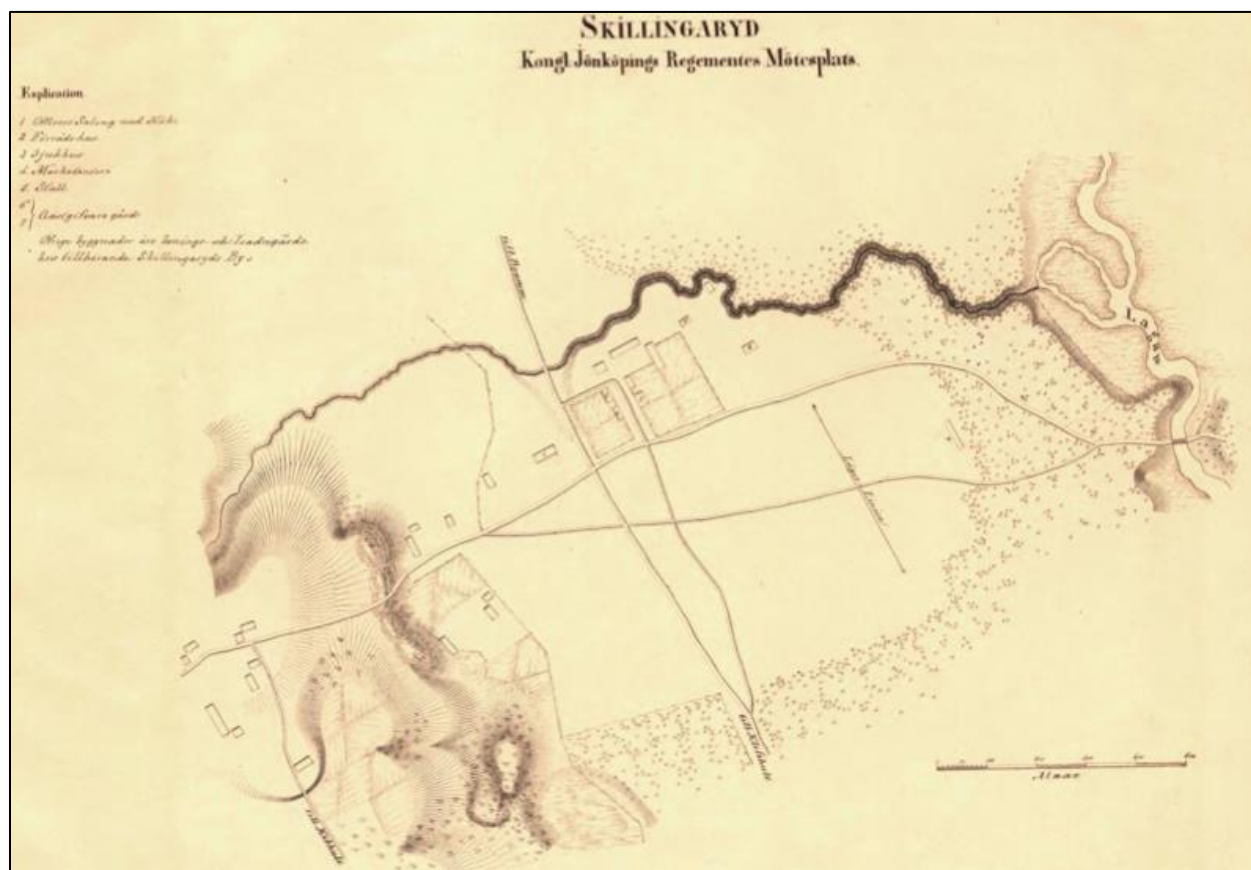
219. 81. Kapela Mellengård Swen Hög Smål(and) 37 12½ 5'9" Gift Pres. Pr.

## Translation: (Left side)

| Regiment Roll Number | Company Roll Number | Equippers         | Name     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 219                  | 81                  | Kapela Mellengård | Sven Hög |

## Translation: (Right side)

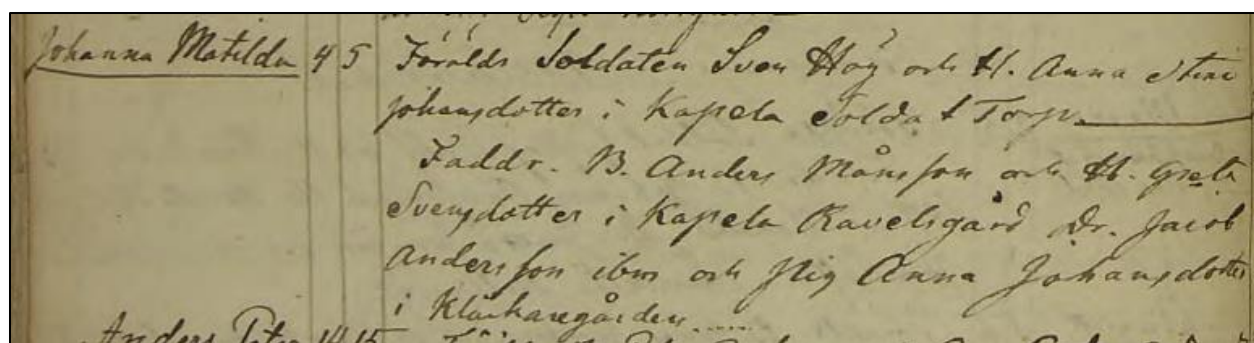
| Province of Origin | Age | Years in Service | Height | Marital Status |         |          |
|--------------------|-----|------------------|--------|----------------|---------|----------|
| Smål(and)          | 37  | 12½              | 5'9"   | Married        | Present | Approved |



Old map of the training camp at Skillingaryds Hed

On February 24, 1839, Anna Stina's step-mother Stina Johansdotter died.<sup>50</sup> On March 4<sup>th</sup> of that year, Anders Hagert, the vicar who married Sven and Anna Stina, passed away.<sup>51</sup> Sometime in 1839, Eric Lund's family, Sven and Anna Stina's neighbors, left Lilla Sörhemmet and a soldier named Sven Johan Quist moved into the soldier croft with his wife Maja Stina Andersdotter and children.<sup>52</sup> On December 10, 1839, Anna Stina's father Johannes was married for a third time to Catharina Johansdotter.<sup>53</sup>

By 1840, Måns Svensson had sold his portion of Kapela Ravelsgård to his son Anders Månsson. On March 4, 1840, Anna Stina gave birth to another daughter, Johanna Matilda. Johanna Matilda was baptized the next day. The witnesses at her baptism were Anders Månsson and his wife Greta Svensdotter, in Kapela Ravelsgård, farmhand Jacob Andersson in Kapela Ravelsgård, and maid Anna Johansdotter in Klockaregården.<sup>54</sup>



Birth and baptism record of Johanna Matilda – March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1840

### Transcription:

Johanna Matilda      4 / 5    Föräld. Soldaten Sven Hög, H. Anna Stina  
Johansdotter i Kapela Soldatorp-----  
Faddr. B. Anders Månsson och H. Greta  
Svensdotter i Kapela Ravelsgård, dr. Jacob  
Andersson, ibm och pig Anna Johansdotter  
i Klockaregården

### Translation:

Johanna Matilda      4<sup>th</sup> (born) / 5<sup>th</sup> (baptized) Parents: Soldier Sven Hög, wife Anna Stina  
Johansdotter in Kapela Soldier Cottage-----  
Witnesses: Farmer Anders Månsson and wife. Greta  
Svensdotter in Kapela Ravelsgård, farmhand Jacob  
Andersson of the same place, and maid Anna Johansdotter  
in Klockaregården

<sup>50</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:4, (1779-1842), page 503

<sup>51</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:4, (1779-1842), page 503

<sup>52</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:8b (1836-1841), page 29

<sup>53</sup> Linderås Marriages, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 691

<sup>54</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 473

Sven was assigned to work at the Trollhätte Canal on March 17, 1840.<sup>55</sup> For seven months, Sven labored alongside the others in the Norra Vedbo Company, spending long hours digging the canal, as well as crafting shoes for the soldiers to wear. Trollhätte was probably Sven's last major assignment as a soldier. Meanwhile, Anna Stina was left alone to look after their four children and perform the day to day duties around Sörhemmet and its hemman. Anna Stina's father Johannes probably helped her while Sven was away, as did the other farmers at Kapela Ravelsgård, such as Anders Månsson. Sven returned home to Sörhemmet on October 14<sup>th</sup>, and was undoubtedly happy to see Anna Stina and their children again.

### The Tröllhatte Canal



The Tröllhatte Canal is a canal that is now part of the larger Göta Canal. It is 82 kilometers and runs from Lake Vänern to the city of Göteborg. Construction began on the canal in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and was completed in 1844. The Tröllhatte Canal can accommodate vessels that weigh up to 4000 tons. The canal underwent reconstruction in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and 1950s.

### Soldier Gustav Rask Writes a Letter to His Wife

*Dear wife,*

*It's my daily desire that you are doing well. I wish the same for myself. It is strict at the meeting this year as always. We march and sweat pours down our wet shirts. Contrary to what farmers think, there is no laziness here. I felt better when I was with you and our son. Did you have buns with coffee for Midsummer's Day? We aren't starving, but do not think that I get drunk. How is the sown grain growing as grass on the field? You may need to rest before harvest. The crops surely won't be damaged by water because of the drought.*

*Your husband,*

*Rask on Konga*

Moberg, Vilhelm. *Raskens*, page 192

<sup>55</sup> Sven Hög's Military Record



Sometime in 1840 or 1841, Sven was promoted to Vice Corporal in the Swedish Army. Although this was the only promotion that Sven ever received in his military career, it was very difficult for soldiers to be promoted, especially in times of peace when they weren't able to prove themselves in combat. On June 25, 1841, Sven was present at the General Muster at Skillingaryds Hed. He was listed as 40 years old, having served in the military for 15½ years, and married.<sup>56</sup>

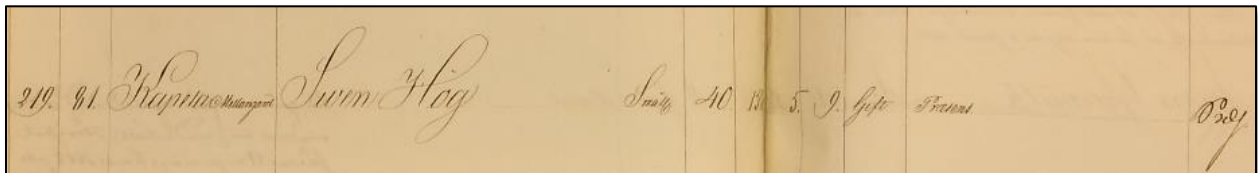


Skillingaryds Hed

## Vicekorprals - Vice Corporals



*Vicekorporal* was a rank in the Swedish Military that existed before 1972 that was between the ranks of private and corporal. The rank existed as a trainee rank for recruits who were training to be squad leaders or deputy squad leaders.



Sven Hög listed on the Jönköping Regiment General Muster Roll – June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1841

### Transcription:

219. 81. Kapela Mellengård Swen Hög Smål(and) 40 15½ 5'9" Gift Pres. Pr.

### Translation: (Left side)

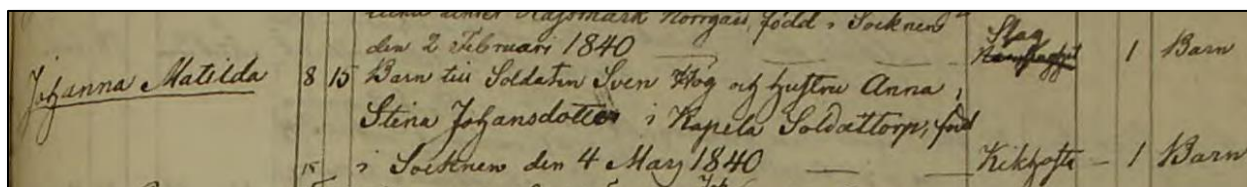
| Regiment Roll Number | Company Roll Number | Equippers         | Name     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 219                  | 81                  | Kapela Mellengård | Sven Hög |

### Translation: (Right side)

| Province of Origin | Age | Years in Service | Height | Marital Status |         |          |
|--------------------|-----|------------------|--------|----------------|---------|----------|
| Smål(and)          | 40  | 15½              | 5'9"   | Married        | Present | Approved |

<sup>56</sup> Generalmönsterrullor - Jönköpings regemente 389 (1838-1841), Image 4620

Less than a year after Sven returned home, young Johanna Matilda died of whooping cough on August 8, 1841. She was buried a week later in the cemetery of Linderås Church.<sup>57</sup>



Death and burial record of Johanna Matilda – August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1841

### Transcription:

Johanna Matilda 8/15 Barn till Soldaten Sven Hög och hustru Anna Stina Johansdotter i Kapela Soldattorp född i socknen den 4 May 1840 Kikhosta. 1. Barn.

### Translation:

Johanna Matilda 8<sup>th</sup> (died) /15<sup>th</sup> (buried) Child of soldier Sven Hög and his wife Anna Stina Johansdotter in Kapela Soldier Cottage born in the parish on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1840 Whooping Cough. 1 year old. Child.

### Kikhosta – Whooping Cough

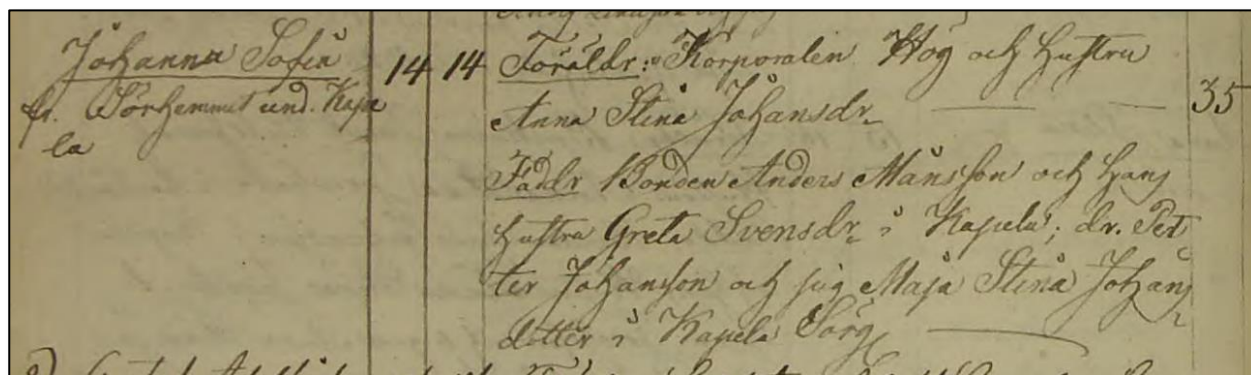
In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, whooping cough (known as *kikhosta* in Swedish) was one of the leading causes of infant deaths. Whooping cough (also known as pertussis) is a highly contagious bacterial disease in which babies and young children develop severe bouts of coughing, followed by a high-pitched “whoop” sound after they inhale air. In the 1920s, Louis Sauer developed a vaccine for whooping cough. Since then, vaccines for the disease have been readily available in the Western world.

|                            |                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Kapela Ravelsgård.         |                                    |
| Soldat. Torn, Sörhemmet.   |                                    |
| Sold. Sven Hög –           | Sölberg 18 <sup>10</sup>           |
| h. Anna Stina Johansdotter | Sölby 06 <sup>00</sup>             |
| 2. Haja Greta –            | Här 30 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> |
| J. Gustaf Fredrik          | D: 32 <sup>25</sup> / <sub>3</sub> |
| J. Johan Fredrik           | D: 34 <sup>18</sup> / <sub>3</sub> |
| J. Sven Johan –            | D: 37 <sup>16</sup> / <sub>3</sub> |
| Johanna Matilda            | D: 40 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>3</sub>  |

Household Examination of Sven Hög and Anna Johansdotter’s family at Sörhemmet, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish: 1836-1841

<sup>57</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 512

The youngest of Sven and Anna Stina's children to venture to the United States, Johanna Sofia, was born on July 14, 1842. The next day, she was baptized. The witnesses at Johanna Sofia's baptism were Anders Månsson and his wife Greta Svensdotter, in Kapela Ravelsgård, farmhand Peter Johansson, and maid Maja Stina Johansdotter in Kapela Södergård.<sup>58</sup>



Birth and baptism record of Johanna Sofia – July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1842

### Transcription:

Johanna Sofia 14/15 Föräldr. Korporalen Hög och hustru  
fr Sörhemmet und. Kapela Anna Stina Johansdotter -----35  
la . Fadr: Bonden Anders Månsson och hans  
hustru Greta Svensdotter i Kapela, dr. Peter  
Johansson och pig. Maja Stina Johans-  
dotter i Kapela Sörg.-----

### Translation:

Johanna Sofia 14<sup>th</sup>(born)/15<sup>th</sup>(baptized) Parents: Corporal Hög and wife  
from Sörhemmet of Anna Stina Johansdotter -----Age 35 years  
Kapela . Witnesses: Farmer Anders Månsson and his  
wife Greta Svensdotter in Kapela, farmhand  
Peter Johansson and maid. Maja Stina -  
Johansdotter in Kapela Sördergård.

By the time that Johanna Sofia was born, Sven Hög was 41 years old, while Anna Stina was 35. Their eldest daughter Maja Greta was now 12 and their oldest son Gustaf Adolf was now 10. Both Maja Greta and Gustaf were now old enough to help their parents with chores around Sörhemmet and its hemman. Sven and Anna Stina's youngest son Sven Johannes was five years old. Since Anna Stina's father Johannes Johansson now lived at Kapela Ravelsgård with his family, Sven and Anna Stina's family probably frequently saw them and spent a great deal of time with them. Catarina Johansdotter, Anna Stina's step-mother, was actually a year younger than Anna Stina.

<sup>58</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 489



Anna's Stina's older brother Johannes Johannsson also lived with his father at Kapela Ravelsgård and helped him tend the farm. Anna Stina's half-sister Maja also lived at Kapela Ravelsgård and was in her early twenties at this time. In 1841, Johanna, another of Anna's Stina's half-sisters, was born, and in 1843, Hedvig, yet another of Anna's Stina's half-sisters, was born at Kapela Ravelsgård.



1842 Sketch of Linderås Village by Killian Zoll

Sven and Anna Stina's children received no formal education<sup>59</sup>, despite the fact that there was a school in Linderås at this time. Their children were educated by Linderås Church, as well as by Sven, who learned several valuable skills in the military.

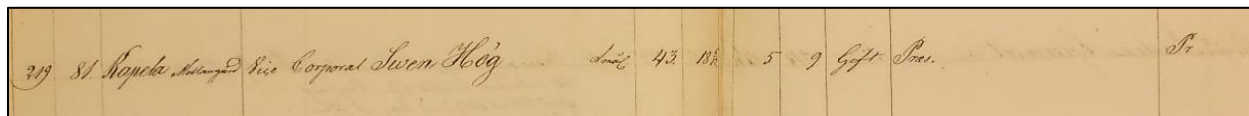
### **The Start of Public Schools in Sweden**

In 1842, the Swedish Parliament mandated that every town, city, and parish in Sweden provide public elementary schools (*folkis*) and hire teachers to staff them within the next five years. Public schools for children existed in several parishes in Sweden before this, however. These schools were usually established by the parish church. Since the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Church spread literacy throughout the country, and people's reading ability was tested in annual household examinations.

Initially, the primary purpose of elementary schools was to teach children how to read and instruct them on the teachings of the Bible. Other subjects were later taught, such as writing, math, art, geography, history, and gymnastics. Many schools also included baths, so that children would be taught about proper hygiene during a time when diseases still ran rampant.

<sup>59</sup> The History of Nicollet and LeSueur Counties

On June 25, 1844, Sven was present at the General Muster at Skillingaryds Hed. He was listed as 43 years old, having served in the military for 18½ years, married, and now listed as a Vice Corporal.<sup>60</sup>



Sven Hög listed on the Jönköping Regiment General Muster Roll – June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1844

## Transcription:

219 81. Kapela Mellengård Vice Corporal Swen Hög Smål(and) 43 18½ 5'9" Gift Pres. Pr.

## Translation: (Left side)

| <u>Regiment Roll Number</u> | <u>Company Roll Number</u> | <u>Equippers</u>  | <u>Rank</u>   | <u>Name</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 219                         | 81                         | Kapela Mellengård | Vice Corporal | Sven Hög    |

## Translation: (Right side)

| <u>Province of Origin</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u>Years in Service</u> | <u>Height</u> | <u>Marital Status</u> |         |          |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Smål(and)                 | 43         | 18½                     | 5'9"          | Married               | Present | Approved |



1845 Infantry uniform of the Jönköping Regiment

## The Jönköping Regiment

In 1623, the Jönköping Regiment was formed after the Östergötland Grand Regiment split into three smaller regiments. The Jönköping Regiment had 20 infantry units that were mentioned in the Swedish Constitution of 1634. The first commander of the Jönköping Regiment was Lars Kagg. As the Allotment System started in Sweden in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, soldiers were allotted into the Jönköping Regiment after 1684.

The Jönköping Regiment trained at Skillaryds Hed in Tofteryd Parish. In 1816, the regiment was given the designation I 12 (the 12<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment). The regiment became garrisoned in the city of Jönköping in 1909. In 1927, the Jönköping Regiment merged with the Kalmar Regiment to form the Jönköping- Kalmar Regiment.

<sup>60</sup> Generalmönsterrullor - Jönköpings regemente 390 (1844-1847), Image 99



## **Possessions that Sven Hög Owned**

At the time of Sven Hög's death, he owned the following items: \*

### **Iron Objects**

1 steelyard  
1 iron-bar lever, 1 scrap box  
4 scythes, 4 sickles  
1 band knife, 1 hatchet, 1 brace, 1 hoe  
1 catch, 1 iron wedge, 1 pair of compasses  
4 chisels, 3 drills, 1 hook, 1 rasp  
1 ice pick, 1 cabbage knife, 2 spears  
1 poker, 1 trivet  
2 spades, 1 flax comb, 1 tongs, 7 scissors  
2 saws, 8 planes

### **Wooden Objects**

3 water barrels  
1 tub, 5 old standing barrels  
2-casks for Schnapps, 1 brew cup  
3 small troughs, 1 tankard  
22 casks for snuff  
3 old churns, 1 cabbage chopper  
1 old case, 1 chest  
1 trough, 1 box, 2 old herring barrels  
4 rakes 2 rake shafts,  
1 wool basket, 1 handloom  
2 water buckets

### **Various**

2 grindstones  
1 small mirror  
1 half-stoup, 2 trays  
13 cruets, 3 bottles, 1 small decanter  
2 dram-glasses, 4 beer-glasses, 1 copper funnel  
2 large cruets, 2 candle sticks  
1 dozen metal tablespoons  
1 small jam cup  
16 various books  
1 old lantern  
10 stoneware plates, 1 dozen plates  
2 jars, 4 bowls, 4 old smoking pipes  
Shoemaker's tools  
3 ropes (with pig's bristle), 2 old Sacks  
2 old sieves  
1 coffee mill and 1 coffee roaster  
1 gridiron, 1 trunk  
1 piece of leather  
4 shaving knives, 1 mirror  
6 st cap peaks  
1 candle mold, 1 bottle, 1 comb  
2 dozen small metal buttons  
12 dozen pressed horn buttons  
4 dozen iron buttons

### **Linen, bedding, and clothes**

3 old quilts  
2 covers  
3 sheets  
1 old cloth, 1 old towel  
3 pillows filled with chaff  
2 old curtains  
2 "skålpund" (≈ 0.97 kg) wool  
1 gray coat  
2 trousers  
1 old skin rug  
1 old military coat  
7 "better" waistcoats

2 pair of boots, 2 pair of shoes  
3 old military scarves  
4 old waistcoats, 1 skin shirt, 3 old trousers  
3 old quilts  
2 covers  
3 sheets  
1 old cloth, 1 old towel  
3 pillows filled with chaff  
2 old curtains  
2 "skålpund" (≈ 0.97 kg) wool  
4 caps, 1 pair of Gloves  
4 old chemises, 1 pair of pants

\* Norra Vedbo häradsrätt, Vol. FII:72 (1846-1847), pages 563-565



Outside of his military equipment, Sven Hög owned nothing of very much value. In fact, his clothing was appraised as the most valuable property that he owned. Although he didn't use snuff when he was younger, Sven smoked snuff from a pipe later in his life. He also drank coffee. Sven probably enjoyed reading and owned 16 books at the time of his death.<sup>61</sup>

### **Bouppteckning – Estate Inventories**

In Sweden, the Act of 1734 mandated that whenever a person died, a *bouppteckning*, or inventory of the estate, must subsequently be held. Shortly after a person's death, their immediate relatives and *väredersmän*, court appointed officials, met at the home of the deceased. All of the deceased's property was recorded and appraised a monetary value. The distribution of the deceased's estate was carried out by the *häradsrätt*, or district court. Estate records can be found in *häradsrätt* volumes.

### **Possessions that Anna Stina Johansdotter Owned**

At the time of Anna Stina Johansdotter's death, she owned the following items: <sup>1</sup>

#### **Clothes**

1 green dress, 1 black dress of Orleans, 1 frock  
2 kirtles, 9 ells of blue-checked fabric  
1 sweater and 1 cardigan, 1 gray shawl, 1 black silk-shawl  
1 pair of boots and 1 pair of shoes  
2 aprons, 2 neck-clothes, 1 cap and mittens  
3 linen clothes  
2 dresses, 1 kirtle, 2 sweaters and 1 fur coat

#### **Bedding and Various**

2 quilts, 2 sheets, 2 pillowcases  
2 towels and 1 napkin  
1 picture, 2 collections of sermons  
10 hankies, 5 shawls, 3 *säckerdukskläden*<sup>2</sup>  
3 aprons, 1 box and 1 chest, 1 loom  
1 copper pan, 1 cooking pot, 1 pan lid and 2 fry pans  
3 trivets, 3 dishes and 4 plates  
2 hymn books, Communion book by Fresenius, and 2 bottles  
1/3 of a house at Lövingsborg

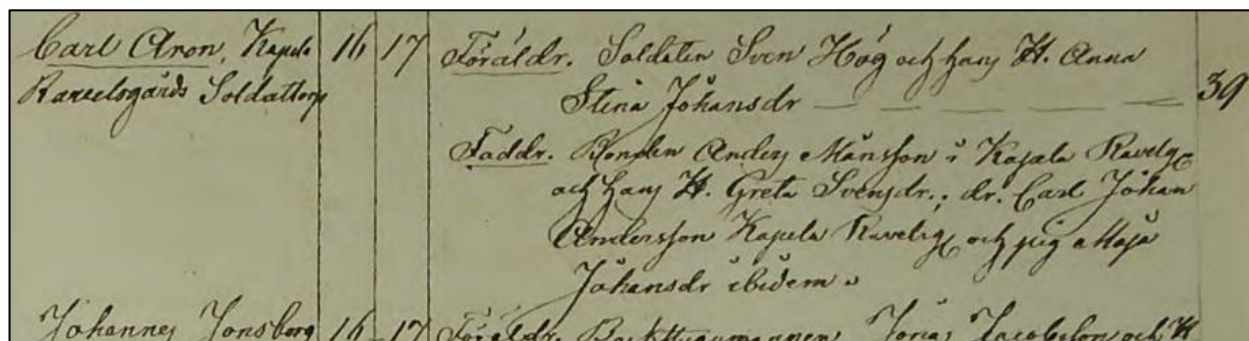


<sup>1</sup> Norra Vedbo häradsrätt, Vol. FII:79 (1860-1861), pages 595-596

<sup>2</sup> *Säckerduk* = *Sockerduk* (Eng. ≈ Sugar cloth) = a soft, fine East Indian cotton fabric.

<sup>61</sup> Norra Vedbo häradsrätt, Vol. FII:72 (1846-1847), page 563

Sven's youngest sister Maja Lena returned to work at Kapela Ravelsgård from 1844-1845. This time, she lived at Sörhemmet with Sven's family.<sup>62</sup> Carl Aron, the youngest child of the Sven and Anna Stina, was born on May 16, 1845. He was baptized the next day. The witnesses at Carl Aron's baptism were Anders Månsson and his wife Greta Svensdotter, farmhand Carl Johan Andersson, and Maja Johansdotter, all of Kapela Ravelsgård.<sup>63</sup>



Birth and baptism record of Carl Aron – May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1845

### Transcription:

Carl Aron Kapela 16 17 Föräldr. Soldaten Sven Hög och hans H. Anna  
Ravelsgårds Soldattorp Stina Johansdotter -----39  
. Fadr. Bonden Anders Månsson i Kapela Ravelsgd  
och hans H. Greta Svensdotter, dr. Carl Johan  
Andersson Kapela Ravelsgd och pig a Maja  
Johansdotter, ibidem.

### Translation:

Carl Aron Kapela 16<sup>th</sup>(born) 17<sup>th</sup>(baptized) Parents. Soldier Sven Hög and his wife. Anna  
Ravelsgårds Soldattorp Stina Johansdotter -----39  
. Witnesses: Farmer Anders Månsson in Kapela Ravelsgård  
and his wife Greta Svensdotter, farmhand Carl Johan  
Andersson Kapela Ravelsgård and maid Maja  
Johansdotter of the same place

## Do Any Pictures of Sven Hög Exist?

It's impossible that any photographs of Sven Hög exist. The first photograph to include people was developed in 1838, less than a decade before Sven's death. Photography didn't become more accessible until the 1860s, and it wasn't until the 1880s that it was common for people to get their picture taken in Sweden.

<sup>62</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:9A (1841- 46), page 46

<sup>63</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:5(1843-1861), page 27

Carl Aron died nearly eight months later of pneumonia on January 15, 1846. He was buried in the cemetery of Linderås Church ten days later on January 25<sup>th</sup>.<sup>64</sup>

| Januari   |       | M.   | R.                |
|-----------|-------|--|-------------------|
| Carl Aron | 15/25 | Barn till v. Korporalen Sven Hög och H. Anna Stina Johansdotter f. 1845 16/5 | Bröstfeber 0 Barn |

Death and burial record of Carl Aron - January 25<sup>th</sup>, 1846

## Transcription:

### Januari

Carl Aron 15/25 Barn till Korporalen Sven Bröstfe- 0 Barn  
Sörhemmet, Kapela Hög och H. Anna Stina Johans- ber  
dr f. 1845 16/5.

## Translation:

### January

Carl Aron 15<sup>th</sup>(died)25<sup>th</sup>(buried) Child to Corporal Sven (Died of) Age 0 Child  
Sörhemmet, Kapela Hög and wife. Anna Stina pneumonia  
Johansdotter, born 16 May 1845

1846 marked the last full year of Sven Hög's life. He turned 45 that year, while Anna Stina celebrated her 38<sup>th</sup> birthday in October. Sven and Anna Stina's eldest daughter Maja Greta was now 16 years old, and considered a young adult. Their eldest son Gustaf Adolf was an adolescent of 14 years, their youngest son Sven Johannes was a nine-year-old boy, and their youngest daughter Johanna Sofia was just four years old.

Sometime in 1846, Sven Hög fell ill with tuberculosis. Over the course of time, his health deteriorated.

| Namn                       | Född |     |      | Hitkom. |     |
|----------------------------|------|-----|------|---------|-----|
|                            | uti  | år. | dag  | Ifrån.  | år. |
| Kapela Ravelsgård          |      |     |      |         |     |
| Sörhemmet                  |      |     |      |         |     |
| Sven Hög                   | 11   | 18  | 1845 |         |     |
| H. Anna Stina Johansdotter | 06   | 20  | 1808 |         |     |
| Maja Greta                 | 30   | 8   | 1830 |         |     |
| Gustaf Adolf               | 32   | 25  | 1831 |         |     |
| Sven Johan                 | 37   | 6   | 1836 |         |     |
| M. Johanna Sofia           | 40   | 1   | 1839 |         |     |
| Johanna Sofia              | 44   | 14  | 1841 |         |     |
| Johanna Sofia              | 45   | 1   | 1842 |         |     |

Household Examination of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter's family at Sörhemmet, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish: 1841-1846

<sup>64</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:5 (1843-1861), page 231



**Lungsot - Tuberculosis**

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, tuberculosis was one of the most common diseases that people died from. Tuberculosis (also known as consumption) is an infectious disease which usually attacks the lungs. Tuberculosis is spread through the air by people with active strains of the disease coughing or sneezing. The symptoms of tuberculosis include a chronic cough (which often includes blood), fever, fatigue, and loss of weight. In old times, people with tuberculosis sometimes traveled to warmer climates to slow down the disease.

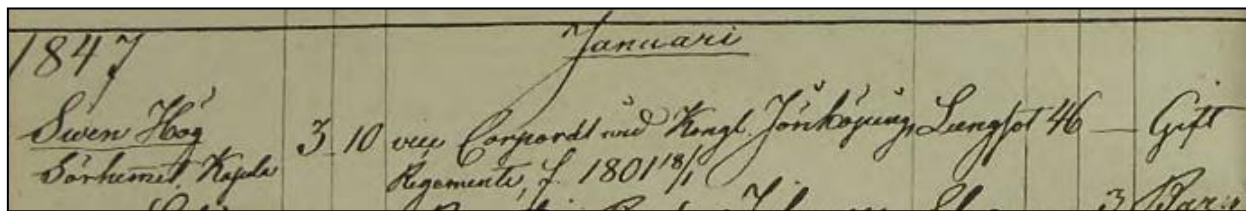
**Christmas Day at Sörhemmet, 1846\***

Christmastime was typically a joyous occasion for Sven Hög and his family. Boughs of greenery hung from the walls of their cottage. A Christmas tree, humbly decorated with handmade ornaments, filled the air with a pungent holiday scent. Sven's wife, Anna Stina, would prepare the Christmas Eve meal with bowls of rice pudding, cheeses, bread, and a delicious ham. Toasts were made with steaming mugs of glögg- a mulled wine heated in a cast iron kettle. The children, Maja Greta, Gustaf Adolf, Sven Johannes, and Johanna Sofia played happily with the small trinkets they received, and if they were especially well-behaved that year, they would get a small stick of candy or a piece of fruit. Candles throughout the cabin cast a festive glow, much in contrast to the dark Swedish winter's sky outside. Then before the morning sun could rise, the family would attend Linderås Parish's 6 am morning church service, filling Pastor Kaplan's pews along with Anna Stina's father, Johannes Johansson, his wife Catarina, and Anna Stina's sisters Maja, Johanna, and Hedvig. The church was adorned with wreaths and swags of pine, and a candle in every window as the parishioners prayed and sang songs of Christ's birth. But the candles that burned in Sörhemmet on Christmas Eve, 1846 burned not in celebration, but in vigil for 45 year old Sven Hög as he lay dying.

The sound of pained coughing pierced the air, and Anna Stina empathetically winced with each labored hack coming from her beloved husband. There was no Christmas tree that year, no ham, no pudding. Anna Stina mopped Sven's feverish brow with cold water from a bedside basin, keeping the children at a distance so that the tuberculosis bacteria from the coughs could not reach them. The older children, Maja Greta and Gustaf Adolf, sat somberly while the younger two, Sven Johannes and Johanna Sofia, played, not quite grasping the gravity of their father's condition. As Sven Hög brought up crimson blood from his lungs, he knew it would be his last Christmas with his family.

\*By Rhonda Serafini

Sven succumbed to his illness on January 3, 1847. He was just a few weeks shy of his 46<sup>th</sup> birthday at the time of his death. Sven was buried a week later on January 10<sup>th</sup> in the cemetery of Linderås Church.<sup>65</sup>



Death and burial record of Sven Hög – January 10<sup>th</sup>, 1847

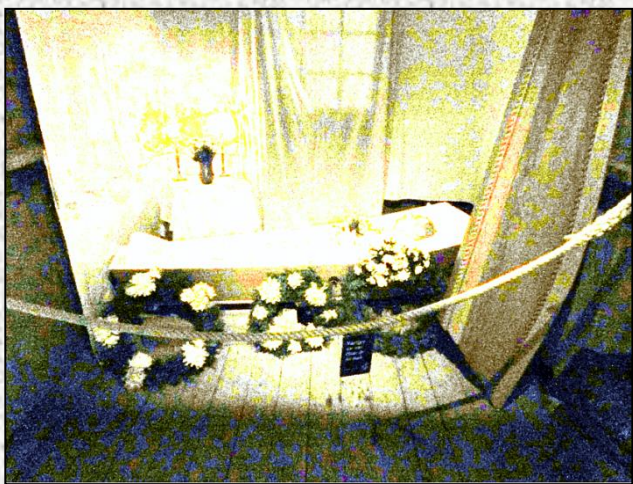
Transcription:

1847 Januari  
Sven Hög  
 Sörhemmet Kapela. 3 10 Corporal med Kongl. Jönköpings Lungsot. 46. Gift.  
 Regimente, f. 1801<sup>18/1</sup>.

Translation:

1847 January  
Sven Hög  
 of Sörhemmet (died) 3<sup>rd</sup> (buried) 10<sup>th</sup> Corporal with the Royal Jönköping.  
 (in) Kapela Regiment. Born January 18<sup>th</sup> 1801.  
(died of) tuberculosis. (age) 46. Married.

**Visitations for the Dead in Old Sweden**



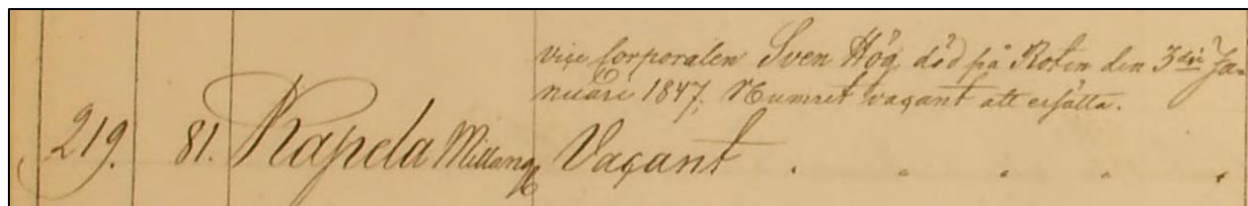
This exhibit at the Nordic Museum in Stockholm depicts a visitation for the dead in Old Sweden.

Mortuaries didn't exist in old times. When a person died, it was the responsibility of his or her family to prepare their body. The deceased's body was washed and dressed in their finest clothing. The body would then be on display for several days at the family's residence. Loved ones of the deceased would stop by the home to view the body and pay their respects. Sometimes, the body could even be on display for longer than a week. After this period, the body would be buried in the parish cemetery.

<sup>65</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:5 (1843-1861), page 234

## Life at Löfvingsborg (1847-1855)

To add to the devastation of Sven's death, Anna Stina and her children were forced to move out of Sörhemmet because of the Swedish Military's regulations. The soldier's cottage Sörhemmet was taken over by a younger soldier, Anders Blom.



Mention of Sven Hög's death on the Jönköping Regiment General Muster Roll – June, 1847

### Transcription:

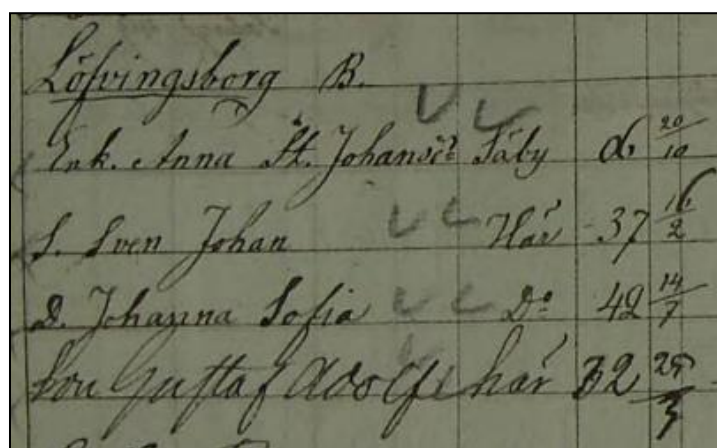
*Vice Corporalen Sven Hög död på Roten den 3<sup>rd</sup> Januari 1847 Numret vacant att ersätta.*

219. 81. Kapela Mellengård Vacant

### Translation: (Left side)

*Vice Corporal Sven Hög died in the Rote on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1847. His number is free to be replaced (by another soldier)*

219. 81. Kapela Mellengård Vacant



Household Examination of Anna Stina Johansdotter's family at Löfvingsborg, Linderås Parish: 1846-1852

After the death of Sven Hög, Löfvingsborg, a backstuga, or cottage for poor people, was built at Kapela Ravelsgård. Here, Anna Stina and her children lived in extreme poverty and merely scraped by to survive the harsh conditions of the time.<sup>66</sup> Maja Greta, Anna Stina's oldest daughter, left Kapela Ravelsgård to be a maid at the farm Kattnacken, located just southeast of Linderås Church.

<sup>66</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:10A (1846-1852), page 52



Without Sven, Anna Stina was left alone to care for her three youngest children, Gustaf Adolf, Sven Johannes, and Johanna Sofia. To support her family, Anna Stina may have sold bread and milk to other parishioners. Gustaf, her eldest son, had to grow up very quickly after his father died, and he helped his mother by working as a farmhand at Kapela Ravelsgård, and practicing various crafts such as carpentry and basket weaving.



Field at Kapela Ravelsgård where Löfvingsborg may have been

Undoubtedly, the farmers at Kapela Ravelsgård helped support Anna Stina and her family. One of the farmers, Anna Stina's father Johannes Johansson, must have been of particular assistance to her family. On May 26, 1854, Anna Stina's oldest daughter Maja Greta immigrated to America.<sup>67</sup>



This sketch shows the interior of a backstuga

<sup>67</sup> Emibas migration file ID: Säby F 1854 032

| Löfvingsborg. Backst.    |    |    |      |
|--------------------------|----|----|------|
| Ent. Anna Stina Johansd. | 20 | 00 | Säby |
| J. Gustaf Adolf Swens.   | 25 | 39 | Kär  |
| J. Sven Johan Swens.     | 16 | 37 | Kär  |
| Q. Johanna Sofia Swensd. | 17 | 42 | Kär  |
| J. Gustaf Adolf Swens.   | 25 | 39 | Kär  |
| J. Gustaf Adolf Swens.   | 3  | 29 | Kär  |
| J. Johanellia            | 21 | 08 | Kär? |
| J. Johanellia            | 22 | 45 | Kär  |

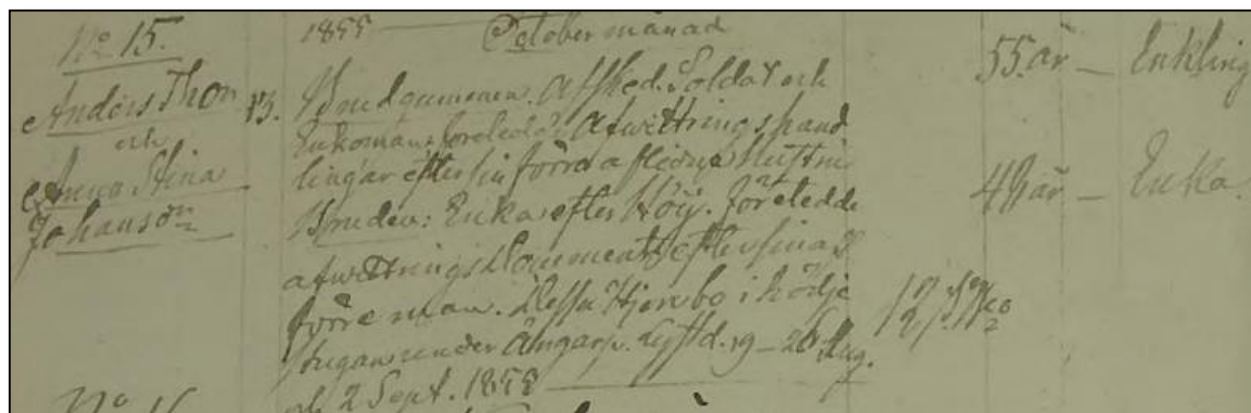
Household Examination of Anna Stina Johansdotter's family at Löfvingsborg, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish: 1852-1856

### Poverty in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Sweden

As the percentage of those who owned land in Sweden became smaller and smaller in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, the amount of poverty throughout the country grew. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the local parish churches began to address the issue of poverty and set up different ways of helping the poor. At parish meetings, the issue of the poverty in the parish was brought up on a number of occasions. A certain amount of the congregation's offerings was set aside to assist the parish's needy.

During this period, several *backstugor*, or poor cottages, sprung up along the countryside, which were inhabited by the sick, elderly, or very poor. The inhabitants of *backstugor* were exempted from taxation. *Inhyeshjon*, or lodgers, were also very common in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Sweden. When people got older, they could often no longer support themselves and had to reside with someone who could help provide for them. Most parishes had a *fattighus*, or poor house, that provided lodging for some of the parish's poorest inhabitants.

By 1855, Maja Andersdotter, the wife of Sven Hög's friend Anders Thor, had died. Anna Stina was probably friends with her and saddened by her death. Sometime after Maja's death, Anna Stina started courting Anders Thor. On October 13, 1855, Anna Stina Johansdotter was married to Anders Thor.<sup>68</sup> At the time of their marriage, Anders was 55 and Anna was 48.



Marriage record of Anders Thor and Anna Johansdotter - October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1855

### Transcription:

No. 15. 1855-----October månad  
Anders Thor 13 Brudg Bondemannen, afskedade Soldat och 55 år -- Enkling  
 och och enkomän i Sorelida. Afwittnings hand-  
Anna Stina lingar efter sin förre aflidna hustru  
Johansdr. Bruden: enka efter Hög. Förstedde 48 år -- Enka  
 afwittnings Document efter sina  
 förre man. Dessa hjem bo i Rödje  
 stugan under Ängarp. Lys. d. 19, 26 Aug. (Charta Sig.) 12 Skillingar.  
 och 2 Sept 1855-----

### Translation:

No. 15. 1855-----Month of October  
Anders Thor (married) 13<sup>th</sup> Bridegroom Farmer and discharged soldier, 55 years Widower  
 and and widower in Sorelida. Witness  
Anna Stina documents after his former deceased wife.  
Johansdotter Bride: widow of Hög. Witness 48 years Widow  
 document after her first  
 husband. Their home stands in Rödje  
 cottage of Ängarp. Banns (Stamp tax paid was) 12 shillings.  
 read August 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1855.

<sup>68</sup> Linderås Marriages, Vol. EI:1 (1843-1860), page 28



## The Fate of Maja Greta Svensdotter (Margaret High Mann)

After the death of Sven Hög, Sven and Anna Stina's eldest daughter Maja Greta lived and worked as a maid throughout several farms at Linderås and Säby parishes for seven years. In 1847, she left Kapela Ravelsgård to be a maid at Kattnacken, a farm just southeast of Linderås Church.<sup>69</sup> A year later, Maja Greta moved back to Kapela Ravelsgård, where she spent a year living with her grandfather Johannes Johannesson's family.<sup>70</sup> In 1849, Maja Greta moved to Taleryd, a farm in east Linderås, where her aunt Maja Johansdotter lived.<sup>71</sup> The following year, Maja Greta moved to Storryd, a farm in Säby Parish.<sup>72</sup> After working for a year at Storryd, Maja Greta moved to Älmås, the farm where her maternal grandmother Maria Håkansdotter was born. Maja Greta lived and worked at Älmås from 1851 to 1853. In 1853, Maja Greta moved to Drumstorp, the last of the Swedish farms she lived at.<sup>73</sup> While living at Drumstorp, Maja Greta lived in a cottage called Stora Målarp.

On May 26, 1854, Maja Greta joined a group of 26 emigrants from Säby en route to America.<sup>74</sup> Among the other emigrants were Göran Jakobsson, a farmhand who also lived at Stora Målarp, and Solider Jonas Mann, the future husband of Maja Greta.



Record of Maja Greta Svensdotter (Margaret High Mann)'s emigration from Säby Parish – May 26<sup>th</sup>, 1854

### The Rumor Behind Maja Greta's Immigration

There was a rumor in the High Family that the reason that Maja Greta (Margaret High Mann) immigrated to America was to meet up with a young man that she had courted. Apparently, this man (who was probably from Linderås or Säby) had previously immigrated to Philadelphia. When Margaret arrived in Philadelphia, however, she discovered that he was already married.

Jonas Mann was born on October 28, 1812 at Hallebo, Buckhult, Norra Solberga Parish. His parents were Soldier Israel Bing and his wife Carin Svensdotter.<sup>75</sup> In 1836, Jonas joined the Jönköping Regiment of the Swedish Military and was assigned the surname "Mann."

<sup>69</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:10b (1846-1852), page 120

<sup>70</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:10a (1841-1846), page 51

<sup>71</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:10a (1846-1852), page 98

<sup>72</sup> Säby Household Examinations, Vol. AI:13b (1850-1854), page 538

<sup>73</sup> Säby Household Examinations, Vol. AI:13b (1850-1854), page 374

<sup>74</sup> Säby Moving In and Out, Vol. BI:1 (1816-1859), Image 1350

<sup>75</sup> Norra Solberga Births, Vol. C:3 (1801-1860), page 54

### **Fact or Fiction: The Father of Jonas Mann According to the 1972 High Family Book**

**Statement:**

The father of Jonas Mann was Soldier Iselon Mann, who served in The War of 1812.

**False:** The father of Jonas Mann was Israel Bing. Although he was a soldier, there's no chance that he was involved in The War of 1812, as it was an American war that was fought on the other side of the Atlantic. Perhaps Israel Bing was involved in the military campaigns against Napoleon at this time.

On January 1, 1837, Jonas married his first wife Anna Carin (Catharina) Isaksdotter (b. 1810) at Höreda Church.<sup>76</sup> The two had four children: Johan Petter (b. 1843), Carl August (b. 1846), Hedda Sofia (b. 1848), and Mathilda (b. 1851). Jonas and Anna Karin's family lived at soldier's cottage Sjelfsvåld No. 105 on the farm Magersjö in Säby.<sup>77</sup>

### **The Swedish Immigration**

Between the mid-1840s to 1930, almost 1.3 million Swedes immigrated to the United States of America. Over the course of the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, the combination of new vaccinations, long lasting peace, and the introduction of the potato crop to Sweden caused the country's population to skyrocket. The Swedish population doubled between 1750 and 1850, and some parishes even tripled in size. With little land and poor soil available, Swedes began to seek a new life across the Atlantic in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Most emigrants sailed out of Gothenburg, Sweden. Since no Swedish ships sailed directly to America, emigrants sailed to the British Isles where they boarded British ships that took them the rest of the way across the Atlantic. Upon arrival, most Swedes travelled west to states such as Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The Homestead Act of 1862 provided numerous immigrants with the opportunity to purchase cheap land where they setup their homes and farms. Only the number of immigrants from the British Isles and Norway surpassed the amount of Swedish immigrants.

Maja Greta probably arrived in Philadelphia in late July or early August of 1854. Margaret may have lived as a maid with Jonas Mann's family after arriving. In 1855, Margaret High moved to Chicago, Illinois. The following year, she moved to Elgin, Kane County, Illinois.<sup>78</sup> Sometime in the mid-1850s, Jonas Mann's first wife Anna Carin passed away. Margaret was married to Jonas in Illinois in 1856.<sup>79</sup> On February 21, 1857, Margaret gave birth to her first child, Andrew William.

<sup>76</sup> Höreda Marriages, Vol. C:5 (1830-1861), page 533

<sup>77</sup> Säby Household Examinations, Vol. AI:13a (1850-1854), page 280

<sup>78</sup> 1972 High Family Book

<sup>79</sup> St. Peter First Lutheran Church records

## Children of Jonas Mann and Margaret High Mann

| Name            | Born               | County, State | Died               | County, State |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Andrew William  | February 21, 1857  | Kane, IL      | December 4, 1883   | Nicollet, MN  |
| Frank           | September 19, 1858 | Kane, IL      | September 29, 1882 | Nicollet, MN  |
| John Alfred     | September 9, 1861  | Kane, IL      | January 17, 1893   | Nicollet, MN  |
| Otto            | October 19, 1863   | Kane, IL      | November 23, 1909  | Nicollet, MN  |
| Emma            | February 19, 1866  | Kane, IL      | March 23, 1893     | Nicollet, MN  |
| Gustav Albert   | January 25, 1869   | Nicollet, MN  | April 25, 1962     | Nicollet, MN  |
| Ida Marie       | March 28, 1871     | Nicollet, MN  | March 25, 1952     | Nicollet, MN  |
| Oscar Frederick | December 23, 1875  | Nicollet, MN  | October 10, 1945   | Nicollet, MN  |

Margaret and Jonas had six other children together: Frank (b. 1858), John Alfred (b. 1861), Otto (b. 1863), Emma (b. 1866), Gustav Albert (b. 1869), Ida Marie (b. 1871), and Oscar Frederick (b. 1875). Sometime during the late 1860s, Jonas and Margaret's family moved to Nicollet County, Minnesota, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

|                      |      |                       |
|----------------------|------|-----------------------|
| Mr. Jonas e Mann     | 1812 | Sweden                |
| Mrs. Margaretta      | 1830 | Sweden                |
| Incl. Andrew William | 1857 | "                     |
| " Frank              | 1858 | "                     |
| " John Alfred        | 1861 | "                     |
| " Otto               | 1863 | Elgin, Kane Co., Ill. |
| In Emma              | 1866 | Elgin Kane co. Ill.   |
| In Gustaf Albert     | 1869 | St. Peter             |
| In Ida e Maria       | 1871 | "                     |
| In Oscar Fredrik     | 1875 | "                     |

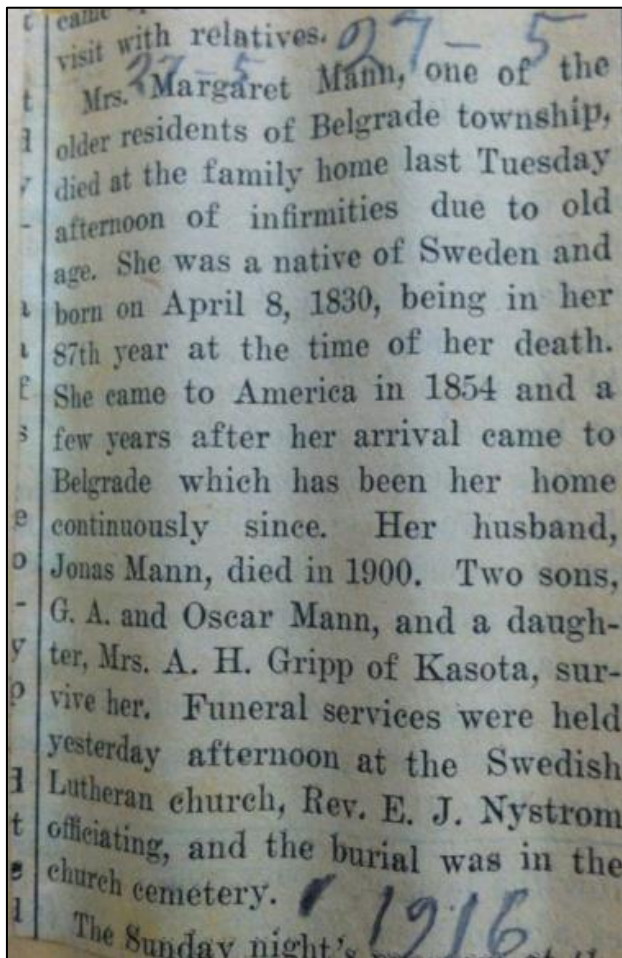
St. Peter Swedish Lutheran Church record for Jonas and Margaret Mann's family



Margaret's family owned and farmed several acres of land in Belgrade Township, Nicollet County. Their family attended church at the Swedish Lutheran Church in St. Peter. Sadly, four of Margaret's children preceded her in death: Frank died in 1882, Johan Alfred and Emma both died in 1893, and Otto died in 1909. Margaret's husband Jonas Mann died on June 20, 1900.



The grave of six of Margaret High Mann's children: Emma, Frank, Otto, Andrew, Gustaf Albert, and John Centennial Cemetery – St. Peter, Minnesota



Obituary of Margaret High Mann  
May 27, 1916

Margaret High Mann passed away on May 23, 1916.<sup>80</sup> She was 86 at the time of her death. Margaret was buried beside her husband Jonas in Centennial Cemetery (known at that time as the Swedish Lutheran Cemetery) in St. Peter.

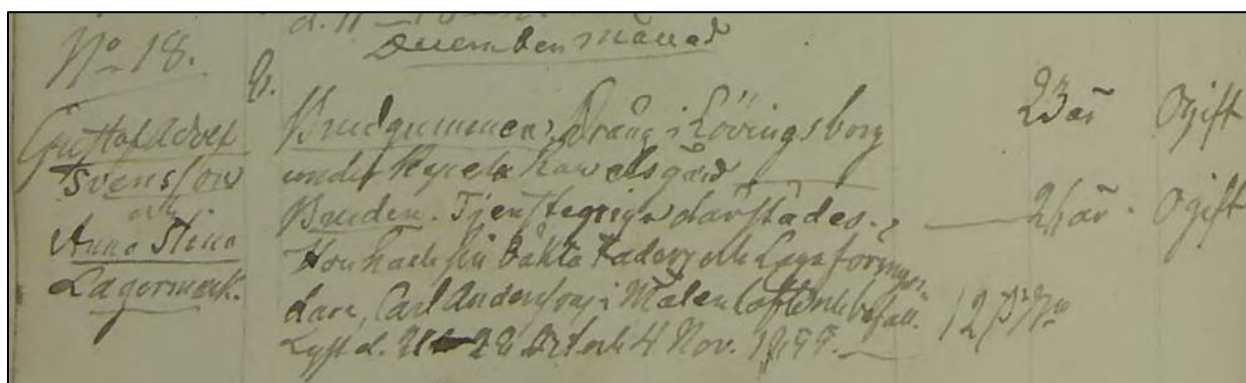


The grave of Jonas and Margaret High Mann Centennial Cemetery – St. Peter, Minnesota

<sup>80</sup> Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002, State File Number: 008697, Record Number 193546

## The Fate of Gustaf Adolf Svensson (Gustaf Adolf High)

Gustaf Adolf, Anna Stina Johansdotter's eldest son, continued to live at Löfvingsborg after Anna Stina's marriage to Anders Thor. On December 8th, 1855, he married Anna Christina Lagermark, a maid who was living at Kapela Ravelsgård.<sup>81</sup> Anna Christina Lagermark was born in Linderås on March 8, 1829.<sup>82</sup> After they were married, Anna Christina moved into Löfvingsborg with Gustaf. On April 27, 1857, Gustaf Adolf and Anna Christina's eldest child Johan Alfred was born at Löfvingsborg.<sup>83</sup>



Marriage record of Gustaf Adolf Svensson (High) and Anna Stina Lagermark – December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1855

### Transcription:

No. 18.                      December månad

Gustaf Adolf    8    Brudgummen dräng i Lövingsberg                      23 år    Ogift  
Svensson                      under Kapela Ravelsgård  
och                      Bruden- Tjenstepiga därstädes                      -----26 år    Ogift  
Anna Stina                      Hon hade sin oäkta faders och laga förmyndare  
Lagermark.                      Carl Andersson i Målen löfte och bifall  
Lys. d. 21, 28, October, 4 Nov 1855. 12 SkBo

### Translation:

No. 18.                      December månad

Gustaf Adolf (married) 8<sup>th</sup>    Bridegroom farmhand in Lövingsberg                      23 years    Single  
Svensson                      under Kapela Ravelsgård  
and                      Bride- Maid at the same place                      -----26 years    Single  
Anna Stina                      She had the promise and assent to get married from her illegitimate father  
Lagermark.                      and legal guardian Carl Andersson in Målen.  
Marriage banns were 21 and 28 October, and 4 Nov 1855.  
12 shillings stamp tax paid

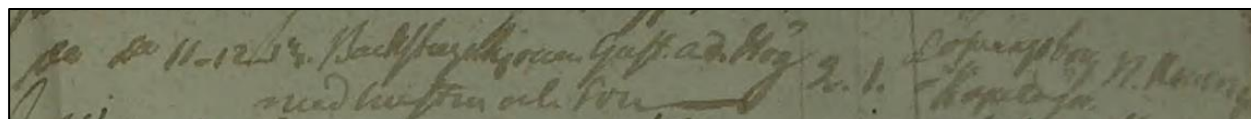
<sup>81</sup> Linderås Marriages , Vol. EI:1 (1843-1860), page 28

<sup>82</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:4 (1779-1842), page 383

<sup>83</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:5 (1843-1861), page 154



On June 16, 1858, Gustaf Adolf, a pregnant Anna Christina, and young Johan Alfred left Linderås Parish to immigrate to America.<sup>84</sup> On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Gustaf's family sailed out of Göteborg, leaving Sweden forever.



Record of Gustaf Adolf Hög (High)'s emigration from Linderås Parish – June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1858

The voyage to America took nearly seven weeks. At the port city of Göteborg, they boarded the ship *Lulea*, which was captained by H.P. Olsson. On August 20<sup>th</sup>, the *Lulea* arrived in the harbor of Castle Garden, New York City.<sup>85</sup> After arriving in New York, Gustaf's family took a train west to Geneva, Illinois, where they arrived on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

## Gustaf Adolf's Oil Lamp from Sweden

This oil lamp is said to have been brought over from Sweden by Gustaf Adolf and Anna Christina High in 1858. Only the base of it is original. The lamp used to belong to Anna Holm, a granddaughter of Gustaf and Anna Christina, and currently belongs to Jeffrey High, a great-great-grandson of the two.



| District of New-York—Port of New-York.  |           |               |               |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|-----------|---------------|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I, <i>H. P. Olsson</i> Master of the <i>Swed. Brig Lulea</i>  |           |               |               |   | do solemnly, sincerely and truly                        |   |   |   |   |
| that the following List or Manifest, subscribed by me, and now delivered by me to the Collector of the Customs of the Collection District of New-York, is a full and perfect list of all the passengers taken on board of the said  |           |               |               |   | from which port   |   |   |   |   |
| said <i>Swed. Brig</i> has now arrived; and that on said list is truly designated the age, <i>Gottenburg</i> sex, and the occupation of each of said passengers, the part of the vessel occupied by each during the passage, the country to which each belongs, and also the country to which it is intended by each to become an inhabitant; and that said List or Manifest truly sets forth the number of said passengers who have died on said voyage, and the names and ages of those who died. |           |               |               |   | So help me God.   |   |   |   |   |
| Given in this <i>20<sup>th</sup> Aug</i> 1858   |           |               |               |   | <i>H. P. Olsson</i>                                     |   |   |   |   |
| Before me <i>M. J. [illegible]</i>  |           |               |               |   | whereof   |   |   |   |   |
| Not at New-York, at the time the said passengers were taken on board the <i>Swed. Brig Lulea</i>  |           |               |               |   | from  |   |   |   |   |
| is Master, from <i>Gottenburg</i>   |           |               |               |   | burthen   |   |   |   |   |
| NAME.   | AGE.      | SEX.          | OCCUPATION.   | The country to which they intend to become inhabitants. | Part of the vessel occupied by each during the passage. | Country to which they intend to become inhabitants. | Part of the vessel occupied by each during the passage. | Country to which they intend to become inhabitants. | Part of the vessel occupied by each during the passage. |
| <i>Gustaf A. Svensson</i>   | <i>26</i> | <i>male</i>   | <i>farmer</i> |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <i>Anna Stina</i>   | <i>29</i> | <i>female</i> |               |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <i>Johan Alfred</i>   | <i>1</i>  | <i>male</i>   |               |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Ship manifest showing Gustaf Adolf Svensson (High) – August 20<sup>th</sup>, 1858

<sup>84</sup> Linderås Moving In and Out, Vol. BI:1 (1842-1860), page 57

<sup>85</sup> Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, New York, 1820-1897, Date: August 20, 1858, Ship: *Lulea*





Gustaf Adolf High and Anna Stina Lagermark  
1870s

Gustaf and Anna Christina's family lived in St. Charles, Cane County, Illinois for two years. Gustaf spent his time in St. Charles working on farms and carpentry. On October 6, 1858, Anna Christina gave birth to Matilda Josephine, the couple's first daughter.

Sometime in 1860, Gustaf discovered a cheap plot of land available in Nicollet County, Minnesota. In August of 1860, Gustaf's family traveled by train and boat to Carver, Minnesota, and then traveled via ox cart for the remainder of their journey to Nicollet County. Gustaf's family arrived in St. Peter, Minnesota on September 5, 1860. Their family spent their first two months in Minnesota living in a makeshift shanty. On November 3, 1860, Gustaf's family settled on their homestead in Belgrade Township, Nicollet County.<sup>86</sup>

### Children of Gustaf Adolf and Anna Christina Lagermark

| Name              | Born              | Parish/County | Died               | Parish/County  |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| John Alfred       | April 27, 1857    | Linderås      | May 24, 1927       | Nicollet, MN   |
| Matilda Josephine | October 6, 1858   | Kane, IL      | January 19, 1927   | Nicollet, MN   |
| Maria Christina   | August 5, 1860    | Kane, IL      | October 19, 1945   | Nicollet, MN   |
| Gustaf Aaron      | June 28, 1862     | Nicollet, MN  | March 24, 1930     | Nicollet, MN   |
| Charles Oscar     | February, 1864    | Nicollet, MN  | April 6, 1944      | Blue Earth, MN |
| Helga Louise      | April 4, 1866     | Nicollet, MN  | December 21, 1955  | Nicollet, MN   |
| Andrew Victor     | April 19, 1868    | Nicollet, MN  | September 22, 1936 | Blue Earth, MN |
| Johanna Charlotte | July 8, 1870      | Nicollet, MN  | February 2, 1871   | Nicollet, MN   |
| Frans Emil        | September 1, 1872 | Nicollet, MN  | August 11, 1873    | Nicollet, MN   |

<sup>86</sup> Gustaf Adolf High's funeral program

Gustaf and Anna Christina spent the remainder of their lives at their homestead in Belgrade Township. In addition to Johan Alfred and Mathilda Josephine, they had seven other children: Maria Christina (b. 1860), Gustaf Aaron (b. 1862), Charles Oscar (b. 1864), Helga Louise (b. 1866), Andrew Victor (b. 1868), Johanna Charlotte (b. 1870) and Frans Emil (b. 1872). Johanna and Frans, their two youngest children, died in infancy.



Gustaf Adolf High's house – 1900s

Gustaf became a fairly successful farmer in Belgrade Township, and owned several acres of land. Gustaf's family was among some of the first members of St. Peter's Swedish Lutheran Church.

|    |                                 |                 |                |                      |
|----|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 70 | Gustaf Adolf Hög                | 1832            | 2/3            |                      |
| 71 | hustru Christina Lagermo        | 1829            | 8/3            |                      |
| 72 | Walter Mathilda Josephina       | 1858            | 6/10           |                      |
| 73 | " Maria Christina               | 1860            | 4/8            |                      |
| 74 | Son Gustaf Aaron                | 1862            | 2/6            |                      |
| 75 | <del>Gustaf Linström</del>      | <del>1835</del> | <del>1/9</del> |                      |
| 76 | Son Johan Alfred                | 1857            | 2/4            |                      |
| 76 | S. Carl Oscar                   | 1864            | 5/2            | 1864 17/4            |
| 76 | D. Helga Lovisa                 | 1866            | 4/4            | 1866 27/4            |
| 77 | S. Anders Victor                | 1868            | 12/4           | 1868 25/5            |
| 78 | <del>D. Johanna Charlotte</del> | <del>1870</del> | <del>3/4</del> | <del>1870 28/8</del> |
| 79 | Son Frans Emil                  | 1872            | 1/9            |                      |

St. Peter Swedish Lutheran Church record for Gustaf Adolf and Anna Christina High's family





Colorized photo of Gustaf Adolf High's family in the 1880s

Front row: Gustaf Aaron, Gustaf Adolf, Anna Stina, John Alfred

Back row: Andrew Victor, Mary Christina, Matilda Josephine, Charles Oscar, Helga Louise

Gustaf was a very active member of Nicollet County. In 1869, he became active in the school his children attended, serving as school treasurer for several years. Gustaf also often served as a road supervisor for twenty to thirty years. Jury duty was another common role for Gustaf as he was a member of a jury for over thirty different trials in Nicollet County.<sup>87</sup>



Interior of Gustaf Adolf High's house

Gustaf was an avid reader. He regularly read a variety of American and Swedish-American newspapers and farm almanacs. Gustaf compiled several scrapbooks of newspaper clippings that were of interest to him. In 1885, Gustaf acquired a Vasa Bible, one of the first bibles printed in the vernacular Swedish language. Gustaf's Vasa Bible and scrapbook collection now belong to the archives of Gustavus Adolphus College.

<sup>87</sup> The History of LeSueur and Nicollet Counties - 1916



### The Vasa Bible

The Gustav Vasa Bible is the name of the first edition of the Swedish Bible which was published in 1540-41. This Bible was translated into Swedish by Laurentis Andreae, Olaus Petri, and his brother, Laurentis Petri. It was commissioned by King Gustav Vasa. The Vasa Bible closely follows the German Bible that Martin Luther had published in 1526 not only in language, but in typography as well. This version of the Bible is also filled with numerous wood stamped illustrations depicting Biblical characters and events in a contemporary, 16<sup>th</sup> century northern European style.



Gustaf Adolf High's Vasa Bible

The Vasa Bible established the use of the Swedish language. It was the only Swedish Bible used before 1917.

### Gustaf Adolf's Scrapbook Collection



The Gustaf High Collection consists of seven scrapbooks Gustaf compiled that contain numerous newspaper clippings from 1880-1918. The clippings are from a variety of different newspapers, many of which were Swedish-American publications and written in Swedish. These clippings covered a variety of events that were occurring in Sweden, references of notable people (including Swedish nobility and Minnesotan pioneers from Sweden), Minnesotan news, some obituaries, and even a few amusing articles. These scrapbooks also include a few clippings about the Salvation Army, as well as some Temperance Movement and anti-tobacco propaganda. Gustaf's scrapbooks are very insightful at showing what types of things interested him, as well as revealing what some of his values were.

Around 1900, Gustaf retired from farming. On April 19, 1901, Anna Christina died from asthma. Gustaf survived his wife by 19 years. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Gustaf became involved with the Salvation Army. He donated money for the Salvation Army to set up a post in St. Peter. Since the Swedish Lutheran Church forbade its members from being affiliated with other religious originations, Gustaf ended up leaving that church over his involvement with the Salvation Army.

Gustaf had 24 grandchildren. He became a great-grandfather on September 10, 1918 when Obert Forsberg, his eldest great-grandchild, was born.



A four generation picture - 1919  
 Matilda High Olson (Gustaf's daughter)  
 Ruth Olson Forsberg (Gustaf's granddaughter)  
 Obert Forsberg (Gustaf's great-grandson)  
 Gustaf Adolf High

### The Salvation Army



The Salvation Army is a Christian church and charitable organization. It was founded by former Methodist minister William Booth in London, England's East London in 1865 and originally known as the East London Christian Mission. In 1878, Booth made significant changes to the organization, structuring it in a military fashion. The Salvation Army spread to Australia, Ireland, and the United States in 1880. Some of the first converts to the Salvation Army were alcoholics, morphine addicts, and prostitutes. One of the Salvation Army's core missions is taking care of the poor. Sacraments such as baptism and communion are not used within the Salvation Army. Today, the Salvation Army has over 1.5 million members worldwide.



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">In Memory of</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Gustaf Adolf High</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Birth Place<br/><i>Lindås socken, Jönköpings län Sweden</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Passed Away at<br/><i>Immanuel Hospital Mankato</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Date<br/><i>March 18, 1920.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Age<br/><i>Born March 25, 1832</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Years <i>87</i> Months <i>11</i> Days <i>23</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Memoranda</p> <p><i>Left Sweden July 4, 1858.</i><br/> <i>Arrived at New York, Aug 20, 1858</i><br/> <i>Geneva, Ill. Aug. 28, 1858.</i><br/> <i>St. Peter, Minn., Sept. 5, 1860.</i><br/> <i>Settled on homestead</i><br/> <i>Nov. 3, 1860.</i></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Services</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>At Home on Farm</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Officiating Clergyman<br/><i>P. A. Sjogren</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Song Selections<br/><i>Jesus, Lover of my Soul</i><br/> <i>Nearer, My God, To Thee</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rendered By _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Organist _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Memoranda<br/>(Fun., Etc.)</p> <p><i>Funeral, Sunday, March</i><br/> <i>21, at 2:00 P. M.</i></p> |
|--|---|

Program for Gustaf Adolf High's funeral – March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1920



The grave of Gustaf Adolf and Anna Christina High  
Centennial Cemetery – St. Peter, Minnesota

Gustaf Adolf High died of kidney failure at Immanuel Hospital in Mankato, Minnesota on March 18, 1920. He was just a week shy of his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday. Gustaf's funeral was held at his family's homestead at 2:00 P.M. on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The songs "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" and "Nearer My God to Thee" (presumably two of Gustaf's favorite hymns) were sung at the funeral. Gustaf was buried beside his wife Anna Christina at the Centennial Cemetery in St. Peter.



## The Fate of Sven Johan Svensson (John High)

Sven Johan, Sven and Anna Stina's third eldest child to survive infancy, also continued to live at Löfvingsborg after Anna Stina was married to Anders Thor and moved to Ängarp. Like his older brother Gustaf Adolf, Sven Johan worked as a farmhand at Kapela Ravelsgård.

| Löfvingsborg, Kapela Ravelsgård          |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Sven Johan Svensson                      | Linderås 1837 $\frac{16}{2}$        |
| Gustaf Adolf Svensson                    | D <sup>o</sup> - 32 $\frac{25}{3}$  |
| Käster Anna Stina Lagermark              | D <sup>o</sup> - 29 $\frac{8}{3}$   |
| Född i Ångarp Augustin Lorentz Johansson | D <sup>o</sup> - 45 $\frac{28}{8}$  |
| S. Johan Alfred                          | D <sup>o</sup> - 57 $\frac{27}{14}$ |

Household Examination showing Sven Johan Svensson (John High) at Löfvingsborg, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish: 1856-1861

In the spring of 1862, Sven Johan and his younger sister Johanna Sofia emigrated out of Linderås to join their older siblings in America.<sup>88</sup> They probably arrived in the harbors of New York City sometime in early August of 1862. Once he arrived in America, Sven Johan changed his name to John High. From New York, John traveled to Minnesota, where his brother Gustaf Adolf lived.

| No. | Name                   | Destination                   |
|-----|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 18  | Sven Johan Svensson    | Kapela Ravelsgård, Minnesota  |
| 19  | Johanna Sofia Svensson | D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> |

Record of Sven Johan Svensson (John High)'s emigration from Linderås Parish - 1862

<sup>88</sup> Linderås Moving In/Out, Vol. C:6 (1861-1867), Image 135

On October 23, 1863, during the middle of the American Civil War, John High enrolled in Company B of the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.<sup>89</sup> John served for over a year in the Union Army and was discharged on June 28, 1865 at Jackson Post, Arkansas, two months after the war ended.

| MUSTER AND DESCRIPTIVE ROLL of a Detachment of United States <i>Volunteer Recruits</i> , forwarded by <i>Capt. J. H. Smith, 3rd Minn. Inf.</i> to <i>Fort Snelling, Minnesota</i> , pursuant to <i>Order of the War Dept.</i> dated <i>Oct. 23, 1863</i> |                   |             |          |                       |                      |                  |           |               |               |                     |              |            |               |             |                                 |
|--|-------------------|-------------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| No.  | NAME              | RANK        | COMPANY  | REGIMENT              | DATE OF ENTRY        | PLACE OF BIRTH   | AGE       | COLOR OF HAIR | COLOR OF EYES | COLOR OF COMPLEXION | HEIGHT       | WEIGHT     | BUILD         | TATTOO      | REMARKS                         |
|  |                   |             |          |                       |                      |                  |           |               |               |                     |              |            |               |             |                                 |
| for the <i>Third</i> Regiment of <i>Minnesota Volunteer Infantry</i> stationed at <i>Oct. 23, 1863</i>   |                   |             |          |                       |                      |                  |           |               |               |                     |              |            |               |             |                                 |
| <i>2</i>   | <i>High, John</i> | <i>Sgt.</i> | <i>B</i> | <i>3rd Minn. Inf.</i> | <i>Oct. 23, 1863</i> | <i>Wisconsin</i> | <i>23</i> | <i>Blue</i>   | <i>Blue</i>   | <i>Fair</i>         | <i>5' 8"</i> | <i>160</i> | <i>Medium</i> | <i>None</i> | <i>Discharged June 28, 1865</i> |

Minnesota Civil War Muster Roll for John High

|                   |  |                 |          |                 |
|-------------------|--|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
| NAME OF SOLDIER:  | <i>High, John</i>                            |                 |          |                 |
| SERVICE:          | <i>Late rank, Co. B, 3rd Regt Minn. Inf.</i> |                 |          |                 |
| TERM OF SERVICE:  | <i>Enlisted, 1 Discharged, 1</i>             |                 |          |                 |
| DATE OF FILING:   | CLASS:                                       | APPLICATION NO. | LAW:     | CERTIFICATE NO. |
| <i>1896 Aug 4</i> | <i>Invalid,</i>                              | <i>899, 567</i> | <i>L</i> | <i>672, 923</i> |
|                   | <i>Widow,</i>                                | <i>574, 644</i> | <i>L</i> | <i>393, 723</i> |
|                   | <i>Minor,</i>                                |                 |          |                 |

Civil War pension record for John High

## The Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

The Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry was originally mustered from October 2 to November 16, 1861 by companies in Fort Snelling, Minnesota. The unit was first stationed at Kentucky and Tennessee until most of its men were captured by Confederate General Nathan Forrest's forces at Murfreesboro, Tennessee on July 13, 1862. The regiment's soldiers were formally exchanged on August 27, 1862 and the unit was reorganized. The Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry spent the first half of 1863 back in at Kentucky and Tennessee. From August 13 to September 10, 1863, the regiment was part of a siege on Little Rock, Arkansas. In early 1864, part of the regiment traveled down the White River to Augusta, Georgia which culminated in the Battle of Fitzhugh's Woods on April 1, 1864. The Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry was disbanded on September 16, 1865.

<sup>89</sup> Minnesota Civil War Muster Rolls. St. Paul, Minnesota: Minnesota Historical Society, Image 39

After he was discharged from the military, John High bought 150 acres of land in Belgrade Township, Nicollet County, and spent the rest of his life farming there. On July 18, 1868, John was married to Johanna Sofia Gustafsdotter.<sup>90</sup> Johanna Sofia was born at Tärenäs, Linderås Parish, Sweden on September 13, 1844.<sup>91</sup> Her parents were Gustaf Johansson, John High's maternal uncle, and Eva Maja Jonsdotter. Johanna immigrated to America in 1868. John High was 31 and Johanna Sofia was 23 at the time of their wedding.

**Fact or Fiction: Johan Sofia - The Wife of John High**  
**According to the 1972 High Family Book**

**Statement:**

John High was married to his paternal cousin, Johanna Sofia Gustafson.

**Misinterpretation:** John High was married to his *maternal* cousin, Johanna Sofia Gustafsdotter. Johanna Sofia was the daughter of Gustaf Johansson, John High's maternal uncle.

## Children of Sven Johan and Johanna Sofia Gustafsdotter

| Name           | Born               | County, State | Died               | County, State |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| John Albert    | October 23, 1879   | Nicollet, MN  | September 28, 1951 | Nicollet, MN  |
| Hulda Sofia    | May 26, 1872       | Nicollet, MN  | May 2, 1909        | Nicollet, MN  |
| Emma Christina | September 13, 1876 | Nicollet, MN  | June 29, 1954      | Hennepin, MN  |
| Frank Edward   | February 23, 1883  | Nicollet, MN  | May 19, 1883       | Nicollet, MN  |
| Esther Amanda  | July 15, 1885      | Nicollet, MN  | November 10, 1970  | Denver, CO    |

John and Johanna Sofia High had five children: John Albert (b. 1879), Hulda Sofia (b. 1872), Emma Christina (b. 1876), Frank Edward (b. 1883), and Esther Amanda (b. 1885). John High's family attended church at the Swedish Lutheran Church in St. Peter.

On March 22, 1893, John High died of asthma. He was only 56 years old at the time of his death. His funeral was held at the Swedish Lutheran Church. Reverend M. Sandell officiated at the service. John High was buried at Centennial Cemetery in St. Peter.<sup>92</sup> His wife Johanna Sofia passed away on August 7, 1907 and was buried beside him.

<sup>90</sup> 1972 High Family Book

<sup>91</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:5 (1843-1861), page 20

<sup>92</sup> John High's Obituary



|                    |               |          |
|--------------------|---------------|----------|
| Mr. Johan Hög      | 16 1857       | Hinderås |
| Mrs. Johanna Sofia | 15 1844       | Gaffby   |
| Dr. Johan Albert   | 25 1869 28 69 | St. Rån  |
| Dr. Hulda Sofia    | 26 1872 8 72  | " "      |
| " Emma Christin    | 4 1876 4 76   | " "      |
| Hans Edvard        | 20 1883 10 83 | " "      |
| Eltha Amanda       | 15 1885 18 85 | " "      |

St. Peter Swedish Lutheran Church record for John and Johanna Sofia High's family

**Death of John High.**

We are called upon to record the death of John High, which occurred at his residence in Belgrade Wednesday, March 22d, of asthma. Mr. High was a farmer by occupation, and we are told by those who know him well, that he was the soul of honor. He was a soldier in the Union Army, being a member of the Third Minnesota Volunteers. He has answered the last roll call on earth, and has gone to join his comrades on the other shore. His funeral took place on Saturday last from the Swedish Lutheran church in this city, Rev. M. Sandell officiating. His age was 56 years. Mr. High came to this country from Sweden in 1862, and to Nicollet Co. in 1863.

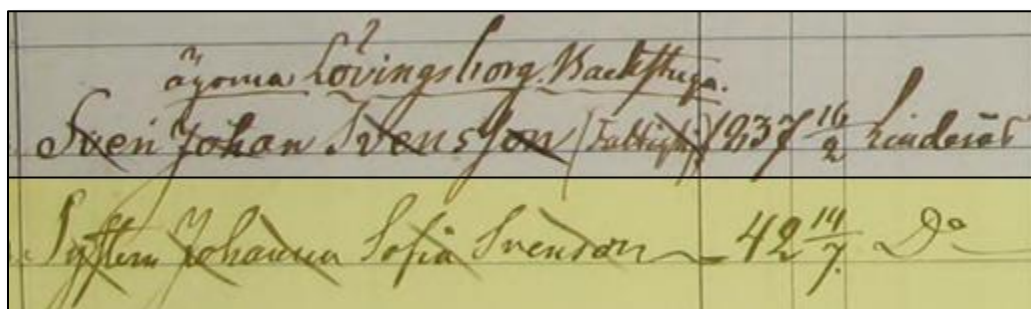
Obituary of John High – March, 1893



The grave of John and Johanna Sofia High Centennial Cemetery – St. Peter, Minnesota

## The Fate of Johanna Sofia Svensdotter (Sophia High Williamson)

Johanna Sofia, Sven and Anna Stina's youngest child, moved to the croft Rödjestugan at Ängarp to live with her mother after the marriage of Anna Stina and Anders Thor.<sup>93</sup> After Anna Stina's death in 1861, Johanna Sofia moved back to Löfvingsborg where she lived with her brother Sven Johan. In 1862, Johanna Sofia left Linderås and accompanied Sven Johan over the Atlantic to America.



Household Examination showing Johanna Sofia Svensdotter (Sofia Williamson) at Löfvingsborg, Kapela Ravelsgård, Linderås Parish: 1861-1865

After she moved to America, Johanna Sofia became known by her middle name, Sofia. Sofia lived in Illinois for at least 12 years after she immigrated to America. While in Illinois, Sofia met her husband, Peter Williamson. Peter was born as Per August in Torpa Parish, Östergötland County on November 2, 1846. His parents were Petter Kämpe, a shoemaker, and his wife, Gustafa Carolina Petersdotter.<sup>94</sup> Sofia and Peter Williamson married sometime before 1868. Sofia and Peter's family lived in Rockford, Illinois for a few years and later moved to Chicago. By 1880, they had moved to Nicollet County, Minnesota, where Sofia's three siblings were living.

## Children of Peter Williamson and Johanna Sofia High

| Name               | Born              | County, State | Died              | County, State     |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Dwight Albert      | November 24, 1868 | Winnebago, IL | August 22, 1952   | Dakota, MN        |
| Ida Sophia         | August 17, 1870   | Winnebago, IL | May 19, 1957      | Washtenaw, MI     |
| Esther Christina   | May 2, 1872       | Cook, IL      | January 27, 1960  | Denver, CO        |
| David Leonard      | November 14, 1874 | Cook, IL      | Unknown           | CA                |
| Joseph Theodore    | February 2, 1880  | Nicollet, MN  | December 24, 1950 | San Francisco, CA |
| Ruth Miriam        | March 2, 1882     | Nicollet, MN  | February, 1973    | Araphoe, CO       |
| Alexander Aurelius | July 20, 1884     | Nicollet, MN  | October 30, 1976  | Orange, CA        |

<sup>93</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:12A (1856-61), page 200

<sup>94</sup> Torpa Births, Vol. C:4 (1844-1861), page 26



|                                |                          |                             |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <del>Peter A. Williamson</del> | <del>4/1846</del>        | <del>Scapa</del>            |
| <del>Mrs Sofia (b. Hög)</del>  | <del>4/1846</del>        | <del>Linderås</del>         |
| <del>Dr. Bengt Thelander</del> | <del>3/1868</del>        | <del>Rockford Ills</del>    |
| <del>Dr. Ida Sophia</del>      | <del>2/1870</del>        | <del>" "</del>              |
| <del>" Esther Christina</del>  | <del>3/1872</del>        | <del>Chicago " "</del>      |
| <del>Dr. David Leonard</del>   | <del>4/1874</del>        | <del>" "</del>              |
| <del>" Joseph Theodore</del>   | <del>3/2 1880 7/80</del> | <del>St. Peter, Minn.</del> |
| <del>Dr. Ruth Miriam</del>     | <del>3/1882 9/82</del>   | <del>" " "</del>            |
| <del>Alexander Aurelius</del>  | <del>3/1884 7/84</del>   | <del>" " "</del>            |

St. Peter Swedish Lutheran Church record for Peter and Sofia Williamson's family

Sofia Williamson lived in Nicollet County for the remainder of her life. The two owned a grocery store in St. Peter that was right across from the courthouse. Sofia and Peter had seven children: Dwight Albert (b. 1868), Ida Sophia (b. 1870), Esther Christina, (b. 1872), David Leonard (b. 1874), Joseph Theodore (b. 1880), Ruth Miriam (b. 1882), and Alexander Aurelius (b. 1884). Peter and Sofia's family attended the Swedish Lutheran Church in St. Peter.

On February 25, 1885, Sofia Williamson died of pneumonia. At the time of Sofia's death, Alexander, her youngest child, was less than a year old. Sofia was buried at Centennial Cemetery in St. Peter. After Sofia's death, Peter Williamson moved to Chicago, Illinois, where he later remarried.<sup>95</sup>



The grave of Sofia High Williamson  
Centennial Cemetery – St. Peter, Minnesota

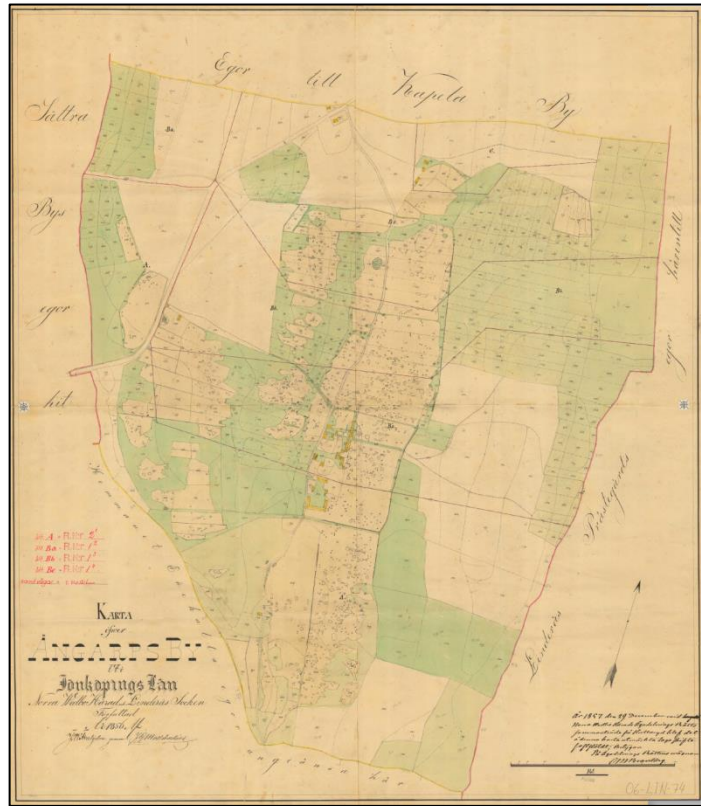
<sup>95</sup> 1972 High Family Book



## The Final Days of Anna Stina Johansdotter (1855-1861)

After their marriage, Anna Stina lived with Anders Thor at the Rödjestugan croft at Ängarp Norrgård.<sup>96</sup> Johanna Sofia, her youngest child, moved to Rödjestugan with her. One of Anders Thor's daughters, Anna Stina Andersdotter (b. 1820), also lived at Rödjestugan during this time. At this point, Anders Thor was retired from the military and was receiving a little salary from the military for his many years of service.

Since Ängarp was just south of Kapela Ravelsgård, Anna Stina probably continued to regularly see her two sons, Gustaf Adolf and Sven Johan, as well as her father, Johannes Johansson. Gustaf Adolf was married on December 8, 1855.



1857 Map of Ängarp

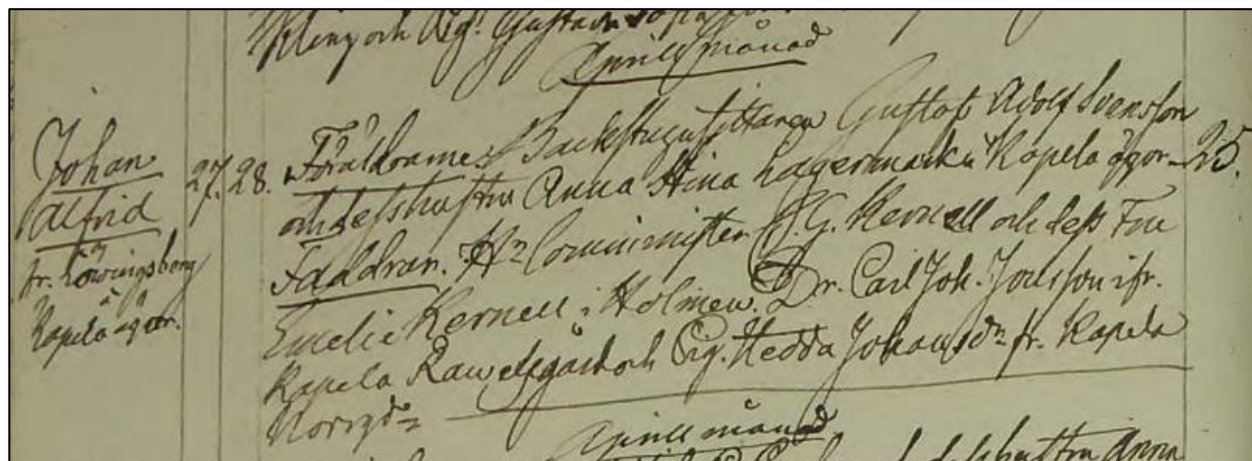
Anna Stina must have deeply missed her eldest child Maja Greta, who immigrated to America in 1854. The only communication Anna Stina had with Maja Greta was through letters, which took several months to send. Through Maja Greta's letters, Anna Stina learned about Maja Greta's arrival in Philadelphia, her move to Illinois, her marriage to Jonas Mann, and the birth of her eldest grandchild Anders William (Maja Greta's eldest child who was born on February 21, 1857).

### Letters from America

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, letters were the only form of communication that was available for people to keep in touch across the Atlantic. It took several months for letters to arrive, and the circulation of letters was dependent on the time of year, since ships didn't sail across the Atlantic during winter months. Letters were sent and received at post offices and there was a fee for both sending and receiving letters. Letters from America described what it was like across the Atlantic, the numerous opportunities there, as well as the various challenges that pioneers faced.

<sup>96</sup> Linderås Household Examinations, Vol. AI:12A (1856-61), page 200

Although Anna Stina became a grandmother in February of 1857, she never had the opportunity to meet Andrew William, her eldest grandchild. The only grandchild that Anna Stina ever met was Johan Alfred, the son of Gustaf Adolf. Johan Alfred was born on April 27, 1857 and baptized the following day.<sup>97</sup>



Birth and baptism record for Johan (John) Alfred High – April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1857

# Transcription:

## April månad

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <u>Johan</u> 27 28     | <u>Föräldrarne</u> Backstugasittare Gustaf Adolf Svensson |
| <u>Alfrid</u>          | och dess hustru Anna Stina Lagermark, Kapela ägor--25     |
| <u>fr Lövingsborg.</u> | Faddrar- H. Comminister J.G. Kernell och dess fru         |
| <u>Kapela ägor</u>     | Emilie Kernell i Holmen, Dr. Carl Joh. Jonsson ifr        |
|                        | Kapela Rawelsgård och pig. Hedda Johansdr. fr. Kapela     |
|                        | Norrgd -----  |

# Translation:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <u>Johan</u> (born) 27 <sup>th</sup> (baptized) 28 <sup>th</sup> | <u>Parents</u> Poor cottage dweller Gustaf Adolf Svensson                    |
| <u>Alfrid</u>  | and his wife Anna Stina Lagermark from Kapela's land – (wife's age) 25       |
| <u>from Lövingsborg.</u>   | <u>Baptismal witnesses</u> Assistant parish priest J.G. Kernell and his wife |
| <u>in Kapela's land</u>  | Emilie Kernell in Holmen, farmhand Carl Joh. Jonsson from                    |
|  | Kapela Rawelsgård and maid Hedda Johansdr. from Kapela                       |
|  | Norrgård -----   |

Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter had 29 grandchildren, 27 of whom survived infancy. By the time of Anna Stina's death in 1861, five of her grandchildren had been born: Andrew William Mann (b. 1857), Johan Alfred High (b. 1857), Frank Mann (b. 1868), Mathilda Josephine High (b. 1858), and Mary Christina High (b. 1860).

<sup>97</sup> Linderås Births, Vol. C:5 (1843-1861), page 154



Sign at Ängarp

Anna Stina lived at Rödjestugan for the remainder of her days. On November 16, 1857, her father, Johannes Johansson, was killed after he slipped on a rock outside of his home. He was buried 13 days later on November 29<sup>th</sup>.<sup>98</sup> Anna Stina was undoubtedly deeply saddened by her father's passing.

Anna Stina saw her eldest son Gustaf Adolf, daughter-in-law Anna Christina, and grandchild Johan Alfred for the last time on June 16, 1858, as the family left Linderås to immigrate to America. Now half of her children had left Sweden for the New World. Anna Stina probably didn't receive a letter from Gustaf until the spring of 1859.

### **The Last Time Anna Stina Johansdotter Saw Gustaf Adolf\***

**A**нна Stina's heart was laden with sorrow as she bade farewell to her eldest son Gustaf Adolf for the last time. For over a year, Anna Stina had known of Gustaf's plans to travel to America, the promised land where her eldest daughter Maja Greta had immigrated to four years ago. How fast that year of preparation had passed! Now, on a cloudy summer morning in front of Linderås Church, the moment of Gustaf's departure had finally come. Several parishioners from Linderås were present to see Gustaf and his family off. Johan Peter Jacobsson, a farmhand from Linderås Village, was accompanying Gustaf's family to the New World. Gustaf and Johan Peter had pulled some of their money together to rent a team of horses that would take them and their luggage to Göteborg. A large chest containing Gustaf and his wife Anna Christina's most valuable possessions was lodged within the wagon. After Chaplain C.G. Kernel had said a prayer of blessing for the emigrants, Anna Stina said her farewells to each member of Gustaf's family. She tenderly hugged her daughter-in-law Anna Christina who had become like her own daughter over the past few years. Next, she planted a soft kiss on the forehead of her baby grandson Johan Alfred who was peacefully sleeping in Anna Christina's arms. Finally, Anna Stina embraced her son Gustaf as tears ran down both of their cheeks. "The next time we see each other, we will be with God," Anna Stina whispered.

\*By Jeffrey High

<sup>98</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:5, (1843-1861), page 301



| Hemvist och Namn.  | ut | år   | mån.<br>o.<br>dag. | ifrån |
|--|----|------|--------------------|-------|
| Ångarp Norrgård.<br>Rödjestugan. Backstuga.<br>Anders Thon |    | 1799 | 29                 |       |
| Sven Stina Johansdotter<br>Linderås                        |    | 1806 | 10                 |       |
| Linderås   |    | 1827 | 12                 |       |
| Linderås   |    | 1844 | 14                 |       |
| Linderås   |    | 1847 | 14                 |       |

Household Examination showing Anna Stina Johansdotter at Rödjestugan, Ångarp Norrgård, Linderås Parish: 1856-1861

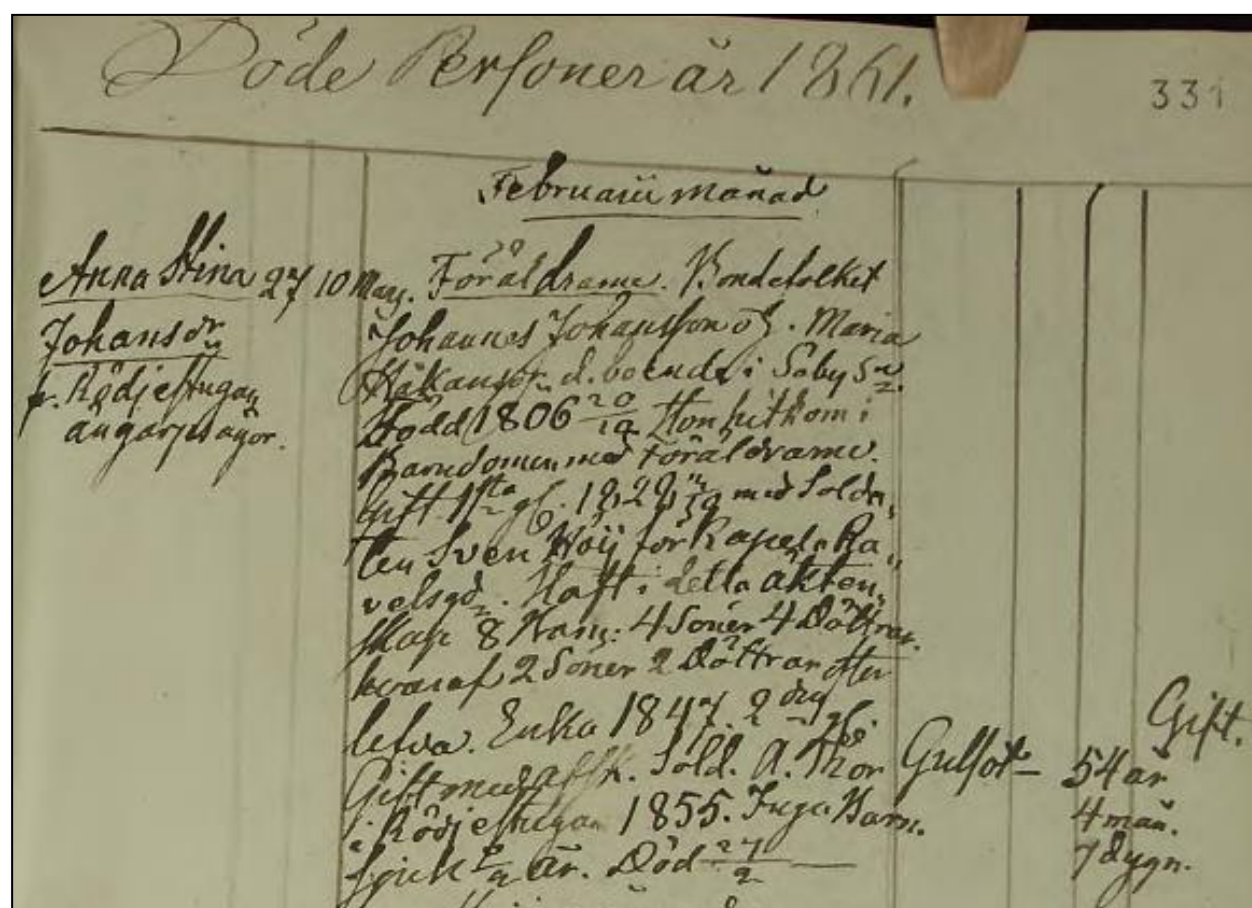
### Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter – The Inspiring Lives of the Patriarch and Matriarch of the High Family

Examining the lives of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter suggests that they were strong people who persevered through dire poverty and numerous heartbreaks. As the son of crofters, Sven Hög was born into poverty and had few opportunities to socially advance himself. Yet, he was determined to lead a different life from his parents. By joining the Swedish Military, Sven was able to improve his circumstances and experience new opportunities that would not have otherwise been available to him. Sven must have been an exemplary farmhand, as he ended up working at the lavish manors of Skärsjö and Degla. Sven was probably an inspiration to his two younger brothers, Johannes and Anders, as they followed in his footsteps and also enlisted in the military. As a soldier, Sven gained valuable skills and was greatly respected in his community. Anna Stina must have also possessed a lot of inner strength, as she had to look after her young children and tend to the chores around the home by herself whenever Sven was away for training. Although Sven and Anna Stina endured the heartbreaking loss of four of their children, they carried on and remained deep rooted in their strong faith and values. They were likely an inspiration to their four children who bravely sailed across the Atlantic to live better lives in America.

Sometime in the summer of 1860, Anna Stina fell ill and displayed symptoms of jaundice. Her condition worsened throughout the winter of 1861. On February 27, 1861, Anna Stina passed away.<sup>99</sup> Anna Stina was only 54 at the time of her death, leaving the world at an early age, just like her first husband Sven. Anna Stina was buried on March 10<sup>th</sup> in the cemetery of Linderås Church.

### Gulsöt - Jaundice

Jaundice is the yellow pigmentation of skin that occurs in various diseases, such as hepatitis or liver cancer. The main symptom of jaundice is the yellow discoloration of skin and the white part of the eyes. There are three categories of jaundice: pre-hepatic (in which the pathology occurs prior to the liver), hepatic (in which the pathology is located within the liver), and post-hepatic (in which the pathology is located after the conjugation of bilirubin in the liver).



Death and burial record of Anna Stina Johansdotter – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1861

<sup>99</sup> Linderås Deaths, Vol. C:5 (1843-1861), page 331

# Transcription:

Döde Personer år 1861.

331

## Februarii Månad

Anna Stina 27/10 Mars Föräldrarne Bondefolket  
Johansdr Johannes Johansson och Maria  
fr. Rödje Stugagd, Håkansdotter, d. boende i Saby socken.  
Ängarps agor. Född 20/10 1806. Hon hitkom i  
barndomen med föräldrarne.  
Gift 1sta 3 Oct 1828 med Solda-  
ten Sven Hög för Kapela Ra-  
velsgd. Haft i detta akten-  
skap 8 barn: 4 soner, 4 dottrar,  
hvaraf 2 soner, 2 dottrar efter-  
lefva. Enka 1847. 2dra  
gift med afsk. Sold. A. Thor  
i Rödjestugan 1855. Inga Barn.  
Sjuk 1/2 år. Död 27/2.

Gift  
Gulsöt 54 år  
4 mån  
7 dager

# Translation:

Dead People in 1861.

331

## Month of February

Anna Stina (died)27<sup>th</sup>/(buried) March 10<sup>th</sup> Parents Farmer  
Johansdotter Johannes Johansson and Maria  
fr. Rödje Stugagd, Håkansdotter, in Saby Parish.  
Ängarps agor. Born October 20<sup>th</sup>, 1806. She came here as a  
youth with her parents.  
Married the first time on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1828 to  
Soldier Sven Hög from Kapela Ravelsgård  
She had in marriage  
8 children, 4 sons 4 daughters,  
of which 2 sons and 2 daughters  
live. Widowed in 1847  
Married with retired Soldier Anders Thor (died of) Jaundice  
in Rödjestugan in 1855. No Children.  
Sick 1/2 year. Died on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Married  
54 years  
4 months  
7 days



### Do the Headstones for Sven and Anna Stina's Graves Still Exist?



Descendants of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter will be disappointed to learn that no headstones for the patriarch and matriarch of the High family can be found in the cemetery of Linderås Church. In old times, stone graves were usually reserved for the more prominent members of the parish, such as nobility or church clergy. Most people's graves were marked by white wooden crosses that deteriorated within a few decades after they were erected.



The cemetery of Linderås Church – The final resting place of Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter

### **Quiz on Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter**

1. What year was Sven Hög born?
  - a. 1799
  - b. 1800
  - c. 1801
  - d. 1802
2. What was Sven surname before it was changed to "Hög"?
  - a. Svensson
  - b. Nilsson
  - c. Larsson
  - d. Andersson
3. What parish was Anna Stina Johansdotter born at?
  - a. Linderås
  - b. Säby
  - c. Lommaryd
  - d. Bälaryd
4. Who was the vicar who married Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter in 1828?
  - a. Anders Hagert
  - b. Claes Livin
  - c. C.G. Kernel
  - d. Sven Emmanuel Tholander
5. How many children did Sven and Anna Stina have? How many of them died in infancy?
6. In addition to being a soldier, what other occupation was Sven Hög?
7. What was the name of the farm in Linderås where Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter's family lived?
8. What was the name of the cottage that Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter's family lived in?
9. How did Sven Hög die?
10. Where are Sven Hög and Anna Stina Johansdotter buried?

Answers: 1. c 2. d 3. b 4.a 5. eight, four 6. shoemaker 7. Kapela Ravelsgård 8. Sörhemmet 9. tuberculosis 10. The cemetery of Linderås Church



# Estate Records for Sven Hög<sup>100</sup>

1847 den 28 Januari förrättades lagar Brüggebedömning efter  
Vice Korporalen Sven Hög, i Kapelns Soldat. torp, som  
med döden afled den 3<sup>de</sup> dennes, och efter sig lämnade Enkan  
Anna Skina Johansdotter och 4 Ommyndiga barn Juans rätt  
bevakades af deras Morbröder <sup>Johans dotter</sup> Johannes Johans son, Hyckle  
Enkan tillgades att uppgifva boet sådant det vid mannens  
frånvaro besams, hvilket skedd i följande ordning.

| Jern: Saken  | Planks      | Summa       |
|--|-------------|-------------|
|  | Skil f= re. | Skil f= re. |
| 1 Mets man   | 24 "        |             |
| 1 Jettsting, 1 Skrädder  | 36 "        |             |
| 4 <sup>te</sup> Län, 4 <sup>te</sup> Skärer,                             | 8 "         |             |
| 1 Brandknif, 1 Svärspå, 1 Borrspång, 1 Loffkast                          | 18 "        |             |
| 1 Fäls knif, 1 Jernvigg, 1 Fisker  | 16 "        |             |
| 4 <sup>te</sup> Luggjern, 3 <sup>te</sup> Skarpar, 1 Hatt hak, trap      | 18 "        |             |
| 1 Blåt, 1 Kåstap, 2 <sup>de</sup> Spjut                                  | 18 "        |             |
| 1 Eldgaffel, 1 Brandring   | 12 "        |             |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Skarpar, 1 Linnepå, 1 Tång, 1 <sup>te</sup> Skarpar      | 24 "        |             |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Säger, 8 <sup>te</sup> Lyflar                            | 16 "        | 3 40        |
| <b>Träd: Saken</b>   |             |             |
| 3 <sup>te</sup> Wärdspåren   | 8 "         |             |
| 1 Kar, 5 <sup>te</sup> Skärer  | 8 "         |             |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Brännvinsfjerdingsar 1 Bruggkopp                         | 20 "        |             |
| 3 <sup>te</sup> Snar Frög, 1 dricks kanna                                | 10 "        |             |
| 22 <sup>te</sup> Snusfjerdingsar   | 6 "         |             |
| 3 <sup>te</sup> Skärer 1 Kallhast  | 8 "         |             |
| 1 <sup>te</sup> Län, 1 Kist, 1 Trä, 1 Skärer, 2 <sup>de</sup> Skärer     | 8 "         |             |
| 4 <sup>te</sup> Skärer, 2 <sup>de</sup> Skärspåst, 1 Kallhast, 1 Brandst | 12 "        |             |
| 1 <sup>te</sup> Skärer   | 3 "         |             |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Watten armbor  | 8 "         | 1 43        |
| <b>Lång: Saken: och Gång: Skiden</b>                                     |             |             |
| 3 <sup>te</sup> Långskärer gamla   | 16 "        |             |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Underkäcken  | 20 "        |             |
| 3 <sup>te</sup> Län  |             |             |
| 1 <sup>te</sup> drick, 1 <sup>te</sup> Skärer                            | 12 "        |             |
| 3 <sup>te</sup> Skärer: Kuddar   | 16 "        |             |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Skärer   | 40 "        |             |
| 2 <sup>te</sup> Skärer   | 3 8 "       |             |
| 563 Transport  |             |             |

<sup>100</sup> Norra Vedbo häradsrätt, Vol. FII:72 (1846-1847), pages 563-565



|   | RP | 1  | 10 | 100 | 1000 | 10000 |
|---|----|----|----|-----|------|-------|
| Transport                                   | 3  | 8  |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Går Sortent                               | 2  | 24 |    |     |      |       |
| 2 par Byxor                                 | 1  | 16 |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Skinnfäls gammal                          | 2  | 8  |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Melitair Sortent gammal                   | "  | 8  |    |     |      |       |
| 4 g. Wästar, 1 Skinnkroja, 2 par g. Byxor   | 1  | 14 |    |     |      |       |
| 7 H. Läder wästar                           | "  | 24 |    |     |      |       |
| 4 H. Majar, 1 par Sandflar                  | 1  | 5  |    |     |      |       |
| 4 H. Linder, 1 par Hallpöngar               | 2  | 24 |    |     |      |       |
| 2 par Höfter, 2 par Skor                    | "  | 3  | 16 | 28  |      |       |
| 3 par Melitair Hallpöngar                   |    |    |    |     |      |       |
| Diverse                                     |    |    |    |     |      |       |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Skjortmar                   | "  | 16 |    |     |      |       |
| 1 liten Spigel                              | "  | 4  |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Skjort Hallpöng 2 <sup>de</sup> Formen    | "  | 24 |    |     |      |       |
| 13 H. Skarv, 3 H. Skarv, en Karapir         | "  | 38 |    |     |      |       |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Skarv 4 Skarv 1 Skarvskatt  | "  | 16 |    |     |      |       |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Skarv Skarv                 | "  | 12 |    |     |      |       |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> Skarv                       | "  | 3  |    |     |      |       |
| 1 dupin metall - Matflar                    | "  | 24 |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Liten fyltkopp                            | "  | 3  |    |     |      |       |
| 16 H. Diverse Båder                         | "  | 32 |    |     |      |       |
| 1 g. Ljokta                                 | "  | 4  |    |     |      |       |
| 10 H. Skarv 1. dup. Skarv, 2 Skarv, 4 Skarv | "  | 26 |    |     |      |       |
| 4 H. g. Skarv                               | "  | 8  |    |     |      |       |
| Skomakers verktyg                           | "  | 24 |    |     |      |       |
| 3 H. Skarv 2 g. Skarv                       | "  | 30 |    |     |      |       |
| 2 <sup>de</sup> g. Skarv                    | "  | 4  |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Skarv garn och 1 Skarv                    | "  | 24 |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Skarv, 1 Skarv                            | "  | 16 |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Skarv Läder                               | "  | 12 |    |     |      |       |
| 4 H. Skarv, 1 Skarv                         | "  | 1  |    |     |      |       |
| 6 H. Skarv, 1 Skarv                         | "  | 6  |    |     |      |       |
| 1 Skarv, 1 Skarv, 1 Skarv                   | "  | 12 |    |     |      |       |
| 2 Skarv 1. dup. Skarv                       | "  | 8  |    |     |      |       |
| 12 Skarv 1. dup. Skarv                      | "  | 28 |    |     |      |       |
| 4 2 <sup>de</sup> Skarv                     | "  | 8  |    |     |      |       |
| Summa Tillgångar                            | "  | "  | 31 | 12  |      |       |

|   |   |    |       |
|---|---|----|-------|
| Skuld och Begravningskostnad              |   |    |       |
| Likhästa och Kross                        |   |    |       |
| Brännvin med mera till Begravningskostnad | 2 | 38 |       |
| till Sonen Gustaf Skolf                   | 9 | 16 |       |
| för kläder och bänklager                  | 1 | 16 |       |
| till Svarfvarer Sundqvist                 | " | 20 |       |
| till Samuel Larsson i Sättra              | " | 32 |       |
| till Gustaf i Spinkarv                    | " | 32 |       |
| Proppteckningsaffvode                     | " | 32 |       |
| Sattig Procenten till Linderås fattighus  | " | 2  | 14 22 |
| Summa Skulden                             |   |    |       |
| Den Skulden och Begravningskostnaden är   | " | "  | 14 22 |
| betallad års Herbergsets Beträffning      | " | "  | 16 38 |

Att detta be med tillgången och skulden är uppgjort så-  
dant som det vid min manns försämr Befall, och ike  
det ringaste med wett vilja rindandigt vilt jag med  
Ed bestyrka om de påfordra: datum som ofwan:

Anne Rine Johansdotter  
En kon

Sälundes upptecknad och värderat W. Supra

Gaston Lundqvist. Peter Samuelson i Sättra  
Propptecknings man

Sattig procenten för ofwanstående Proppteckning är  
betallad till Linderås församlingss fattig-kassa med 2 pkr 32  
gittoral Linderås den 10 Februar 1847.

M. Joh. Lund  
Orgelnist.

## Transcription:

### Nr 1

1847. den 28 Januari förrättades laga Boupteckning efter Vice Korporalen Sven Hög i Kapela Soldattorp, som med döden afled den 3<sup>die</sup> dennes, och efter sig lemnade Enkan Anna Stina Johansdotter och 4 omyndiga barn hvans rätt bevakades af deras Morbroder hemmansägaren Johannes Johansson i Hyckle Enkan tillsades att appqifva boet sådant det vid mannens fränfalle befans, hvilket skedde i följande ordning:

| <u>Jern-Saker:</u>   | Banko |    |    | Summa |    |    |
|--|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|
| 1 Betsman  | --    | 24 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 hotstång, 1 skralåda   | --    | 36 | -- |       |    |    |
| 4 st Liar, 4 st Skäror   | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 Bandknif, 1 Tväryxa, 1 Borrsång, 1 Löfhack                   | --    | 18 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 Fällhack, 1 Jernvigg, 1 Cirkell                              | --    | 16 | -- |       |    |    |
| 4 st huggjern, 3 st Nafrar l. hållhake, 1 rasp                 | --    | 18 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 Isbill, 1 käläss, 2 <sup>ne</sup> Spjut                      | --    | 18 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 Eldgaffel, 1 Brandring                                       | --    | 12 | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> Spadar, en Linrepa, 1 Tång, 7 st Saxar         | --    | 24 | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> såger, 8 st: hyflar                            | --    | 16 | -- | 3     | 40 | -- |
| <u>Trädsaker</u>   |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| 3 st Wattensåer  | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 kar, 5 gl: Stånnor   | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> Brännvinsfjeringar 1 Bryggkopp                 | --    | 20 | -- |       |    |    |
| 3 <sup>ne</sup> små tråg, 1 drickes kanna                      | --    | 10 | -- |       |    |    |
| 22 st Snusfjeringar  | --    | 6  | -- |       |    |    |
| 3 gl: Tjärnor, 1 kålhacka                                      | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 gl: Lår, 1 kista, 1 tråg, 1 skrin, 2 gl: Silltunnor          | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 4 st Råfser, 2 <sup>ne</sup> Råfseskapt, 1 ullkorg, 1 Bandstol | --    | 12 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 gl: Sålina   | --    | 3  | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> Watten ämbar                                   | --    | 8  | -- | 1.    | 43 | -- |
| <u>Säng-Linne och Gång-Kläder.</u>                             |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| 3 st: Sängtäcken gamla   | 1     | -- | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> Undertäcken                                    | --    | 16 | -- |       |    |    |
| 3 st Lakan   | --    | 20 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 gl: duk, 1 gl: handduk                                       | --    |    |    |       |    |    |
| 3 st agne kuddar   | --    | 12 | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> gl: Gardiner                                   | --    | 16 |    |       |    |    |
| 2 tt Ull   | --    | 40 |    |       |    |    |
| Transport  | 3     | 8  | -- |       |    |    |



### 1.1.1. Estate Records for Sven Hög

|   | RD | sk | ru | RD  | sk | ru |
|---|----|----|----|-----|----|----|
| Transport   | 3  | 8  |    |     |    |    |
| 1 Grå Sortout                                     | 2  | 24 | -- |     |    |    |
| 2 par Byxor                                       | 2  | -- | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 Skinnfäll gammal                                | 1  | 16 | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 Melitair Sortout gammal                         | 2  | 8  | -- |     |    |    |
| 4 gl: Västar, 1 skinntröja, 3 par gl: Byxor       | -- | 8  | -- |     |    |    |
| 7. st bättre västar                               | 1  | 4  | -- |     |    |    |
| 4 st Mössor, 1 par handskar                       | -- | 24 | -- |     |    |    |
| 4 gl: Lindtyg, 1 par kallsonger                   | 1  | 5  | -- |     |    |    |
| 2 par Stöflor, 2 par skor                         | 2  | 24 | -- |     |    |    |
| 3 gl: Militär halsdukar                           | -- | 3  | -- | 16  | 28 | -- |
| <u>Diverse</u>                                    |    |    |    |     |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> Slipstenar                        | -- | 16 |    |     |    |    |
| 1. liten Spegel                                   | -- | 4  | -- |     |    |    |
| 1. Stop halfstop 2 <sup>ne</sup> Former           | -- | 24 | -- |     |    |    |
| 13 st Bouteljer, 3 st Flaskor, en Karafin         | -- | 37 | -- |     |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> Spetsglas 4 ölglas 1 koppartratt  | -- | 16 | -- |     |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> stora Bouteljer                   | -- | 12 | -- |     |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> Ljusstakar                        | -- | 3  | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 dussin metall-Matskedar                         | -- | 24 | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 Liten syltkopp                                  | -- | 3  | -- |     |    |    |
| 16 st diverse Böcker                              | -- | 32 | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 gl Lyckta                                       | -- | 4  | -- |     |    |    |
| 10 st Stenfat 1 dus: Tallrickar, 2 krus, 4 skålar | -- | 26 | -- |     |    |    |
| 4 st gl: Tobakspipor                              | -- | 8  | -- |     |    |    |
| Skomakare verktyg                                 | -- | 24 | -- |     |    |    |
| 3 st: Svinhårnsrep, 2 gl: Säckar                  | -- | 30 | -- |     |    |    |
| 2 <sup>ne</sup> gl: Sicktar                       | -- | 4  | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 Kaffe qvarn och 1 d <sup>o</sup> Brännare       | -- | 24 | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 Haltster, 1. koffert                            | -- | 16 | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 Stycke Läder                                    | -- | 12 | -- |     |    |    |
| 4 st Rakknifvar, 1 Spegel                         | 1. |    |    |     |    |    |
| 6 st Pappskärmar till Mössor                      | -- | 6  | -- |     |    |    |
| 1 Ljusform, 1 Flaska, 1 kamm                      | -- | 12 | -- |     |    |    |
| 2 Dussin Små Metall Knappar                       | -- | 8  | -- |     |    |    |
| 12 Dussin Präsade Hornknappar                     | -- | 28 | -- |     |    |    |
| 4 D <sup>o</sup> Jernknappar                      | -- | 8  | -- |     |    |    |
| Summa Tillgångar                                  |    |    |    | 31. | 12 | -- |

|  |    |    |    |     |    |    |
|--|----|----|----|-----|----|----|
| <u>Skuld och Begravningskostnad</u>  |    |    |    |     |    |    |
| Likkista och korrs   | 2  | 38 | ”  |     |    |    |
| Brännvin med mera till Begravnings och aucti                               | 7  | 16 |    |     |    |    |
| till Sonen Gustaf Adolf  | 1. | 16 |    |     |    |    |
| För klockor och bårkläden  | -- | 20 |    |     |    |    |
| till Svarfvare Lundquist   | -- | 32 |    |     |    |    |
| till Samuel Larsson i Sättra   | -- | 32 |    |     |    |    |
| till Gustaf i Spinkarp   | -- | 32 |    |     |    |    |
| Boupptecknings arfvode   | -- | 32 |    |     |    |    |
| Fattig Procenten till Linderås fattigkassa                                 | -- | 2  | -- | 14. | 22 | -- |
| Summar Skulder   |    |    |    | 14  | 22 | -- |
| Då Skulder och begravningskostnader är<br>Betalt är Sterbhusets Behållning |    |    |    | 16  | 38 | -- |

Att detta bo med tillgångar och skulder är uppgifvet sådant som det vid min mans frånfälle Befans, och icke det ringaste med wett (och) vilja undandöljt vill jag med Ed bestyrka om så påfordras: datum som ofvan:

*Anna Stina Johansdotter*  
Enka

Sålunda upptecknadtoch värderat *Ut Supra*

*Casten Lundquist* *Peter Samuelsson i Taleryd*  
Bouppteckningsmän

Fattig procenten för ofvanstående Bouppteckning är betalt till Linderås församlings fattig-kassa med 2 skl: B<sup>co</sup> qvitteras Linderås den 20 Februari 1847

*And(ers) Joh(an) Lind*

## Translation:

### Nr 1

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1847 estate inventory was made after the Vice-Corporal Sven Hög at the Kapela soldier's croft, who died on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, and left behind the widow Anna Stina Johansdotter and 4 under aged children whose rights were looked after by their uncle the farmer Johannes Johansson in Hyckle. The widow was told to declare the estate as it was at her husband's death, this was done in the following order:

| <u>Iron objects:</u>   | Value |    |    | Total |    |    |
|--|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|
| 1 steelyard_____   | --    | 24 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 iron-bar lever, 1 scrap box_____                               | --    | 36 | -- |       |    |    |
| 4 scythes, 4 sickles_____  | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 band knife, 1 hatchet, 1 brace, 1 hoe_____                     | --    | 18 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 catch, 1 iron wedge, 1 pair of compasses_____                  | --    | 16 | -- |       |    |    |
| 4 chisels, 3 drills, 1 hook, 1 rasp_____                         | --    | 18 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 ice pick, 1 cabbage knife, 2 spears_____                       | --    | 18 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 poker, 1 trivet_____   | --    | 12 | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 spades, 1 flax comb, 1 tongs, 7 scissors_____                  | --    | 24 | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 saws, 8 planes_____  | --    | 16 | -- | 3     | 40 | -- |
| <u>Wooden objects</u>  |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| 3 water barrels_____   | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 tub, 5 old standing barrels_____                               | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 2-casks for Schnapps, 1 brew cup_____                            | --    | 20 | -- |       |    |    |
| 3 small troughs, 1 tankard_____                                  | --    | 10 | -- |       |    |    |
| 22 casks for snuff_____  | --    | 6  | -- |       |    |    |
| 3 old churns, 1 cabbage chopper_____                             | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 old case, 1 chest, 1 trough, 1 box, 2 old herring barrels_____ | --    | 8  | -- |       |    |    |
| 4 rakes 2 rake shafts, 1 wool basket, 1 handloom_____            | --    | 12 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 old "sällna"_____  | --    | 3  | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 water buckets_____   | --    | 8  | -- | 1.    | 43 | -- |
| <u>Linen, bedding and clothes</u>                                |       |    |    |       |    |    |
| 3 old quilts_____  | 1     | -- | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 covers_____  | --    | 16 | -- |       |    |    |
| 3 sheets_____  | --    | 20 | -- |       |    |    |
| 1 old cloth, 1 old towel_____                                    | --    |    |    |       |    |    |
| 3 pillows filled with chaff_____                                 | --    | 12 | -- |       |    |    |
| 2 old curtains_____  | --    | 16 |    |       |    |    |
| 2 "skålpund" (≈ 0.97 kg) wool_____                               | --    | 40 |    |       |    |    |
| Brought Forward"   | 3     | 8  |    |       |    |    |



|   | RD | sk | ru | RD        | sk        | ru        |
|---|----|----|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Brought Forward:  | 3  | 8  | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 gray coat_____  | 2  | 24 | -- |           |           |           |
| 2 trousers_____   | 2  | -- | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 old skin rug_____                                       | 1  | 16 | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 old military coat_____                                  | 2  | 8  | -- |           |           |           |
| 4 old waistcoats, 1 skin shirt, 3 old trousers_____       | -- | 8  | -- |           |           |           |
| 7 “better” waistcoats_____                                | 1  | 4  | -- |           |           |           |
| 4 caps, 1 pair of gloves_____                             | -- | 24 | -- |           |           |           |
| 4 old chemises, 1 pair of pants_____                      | 1  | 5  | -- |           |           |           |
| 2 pair of boots, 2 pair of shoes_____                     | 2  | 24 | -- |           |           |           |
| 3 old military scarves_____                               | -- | 3  | -- | 16        | 28        | --        |
| <u>Various</u>  |    |    |    |           |           |           |
| 2 grindstones_____  | -- | 16 | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 small mirror_____                                       | -- | 4  | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 half-stoup, 2 trays_____                                | -- | 24 | -- |           |           |           |
| 13 cruets, 3 bottles, 1 small decanter_____               | -- | 37 | -- |           |           |           |
| 2 dram-glasses, 4 beer-glasses, 1 copper funnel_____      | -- | 16 | -- |           |           |           |
| 2 large cruets_____                                       | -- | 12 | -- |           |           |           |
| 2 candle sticks_____                                      | -- | 3  | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 dozen metal tablespoons_____                            | -- | 24 | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 small jam cup_____                                      | -- | 3  | -- |           |           |           |
| 16 various books_____                                     | -- | 32 | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 old lantern_____  | -- | 4  | -- |           |           |           |
| 10 stoneware plates, 1 dozen plates, 2 jars, 4 bowls_____ | -- | 26 | -- |           |           |           |
| 4 old smoking pipes_____                                  | -- | 8  | -- |           |           |           |
| Shoemaker’s tools_____                                    | -- | 24 | -- |           |           |           |
| 3 ropes (with pig’s bristle), 2 old sacks_____            | -- | 30 | -- |           |           |           |
| 2 old sieves_____   | -- | 4  | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 coffee mill and 1 coffee roaster_____                   | -- | 24 | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 gridiron, 1 trunk_____                                  | -- | 16 | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 piece of leather_____                                   | -- | 12 | -- |           |           |           |
| 4 shaving knives, 1 mirror_____                           | 1. | -- | -- |           |           |           |
| 6 st cap peaks_____                                       | -- | 6  | -- |           |           |           |
| 1 candle mold, 1 bottle, 1 comb_____                      | -- | 12 | -- |           |           |           |
| 2 dozen small metal buttons_____                          | -- | 8  | -- |           |           |           |
| 12 dozen pressed horn buttons_____                        | -- | 28 | -- |           |           |           |
| 4 dozen iron buttons_____                                 | -- | 8  | -- |           |           |           |
| <b>The Grand Total is:</b>                                | -- | -- | -- | <b>31</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>--</b> |

### 1.1.1. Estate Records for Sven Hög

|  |    |    |    |           |           |           |
|--|----|----|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Debts and Funeral costs  |    |    |    |           |           |           |
| Coffin and cross   | 2  | 38 | -- |           |           |           |
| Schnapps etc. for the funeral and auction                                  | 7  | 16 |    |           |           |           |
| To the son Gustaf Adolf  | 1  | 16 |    |           |           |           |
| For bell-ringing and coffin-cover  | -- | 20 |    |           |           |           |
| To the turner Lundquist  | -- | 32 |    |           |           |           |
| To Samuel Larsson in Sättra  | -- | 32 |    |           |           |           |
| To Gustaf in Spinkarp  | -- | 32 |    |           |           |           |
| Estate administrators' remuneration  | -- | 32 |    |           |           |           |
| Percent for the poor to Linderås' "social insurance office"                | -- | 2  | -- | 14        | 22        |           |
| <b>The estate's debts:</b>   | -- | -- | -- | <b>14</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>--</b> |
| After the debts and funeral costs have been paid<br><b>the Residue is:</b> |    |    |    | <b>16</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>--</b> |

That everything is stated and nothing with intent omitted,  
as it was at my husband's death, certifies under oath, date as above

*Anna Stina Johansdotter*  
Widow

Booked and valued as above,

*Carsten Lundquist*      *Peter Samuelsson* in Taleryd  
Estate administrators

The "Percent for the poor" for this Estate record  
has been paid to Linderås's "social insurance office"  
with 2 Skilling Banco.

Linderås, February 20<sup>th</sup> 1847

*Anders Johan Lind*  
Organist

# Estate Records for Anna Stina Johansdotter<sup>101</sup>

N:o 23 Exlib. med Norra Wedbo Härads W. F. 1861.

**Bouppteckning**, förrättad den 21. Mars 1861 efter Anna Stina Johansdotter i Rödjestigan under Angarp Norgård i Linderås socken. Hon blef död den 27 Februaridetta år, samt lemnade efter sig mannen, Enkomannen Anders Thor, med hvilken hon inte har några barn, men i ett föregående ägteskap med afledne Soldaten Sven Hög har hon fyra barn, af hvilka Majja Breta och Gustaf Adolf hafva emigrerat till Nordamerika för några år sedan och äro de båda gifte hvaraför sig, samt myndiga; wid detta tillfälle bevaras deras rätt utaf Hemmansegaren Anders Peter Persson i Ståleryd Norgård, som jämwäl är lagad förmyndare för Johanna Sofia; och myndiga sonen Sven Johan är sjelf, liksom förmyndaren; wid tillfället har närvarande.

Enkomannen Anders Thor uppgifver boet, sådant det wid döds- timman befanns, under edelig förbindelse.

| Gångkläder.  |               | Räkning |
|--|---------------|---------|
| 1 Grön klädning G. 1 Swart Orleans & 10, 1 Kåls 10.                    | 29            |         |
| 2 Stygkjörklar 4.50, 9 aln. blårutigt styg a 50 öre, 4.50              | 9             |         |
| 1 Tröja och 1 kofta 3.75, 1 grå sjal 6., 1 swart sidensjal 6.          | 15.75         |         |
| 1 par Stöflor och 1 par hängar   | 5             |         |
| 2 Förkläden 1.50, 2 Halskläden, 1 klyfsa och Mantar 1.50               | 3             |         |
| 3 Lintyg   | 3             |         |
| 2 klädningar 3., 1 kjortel, 2 tröjor och 1 Sals 3.                     | 6             | 70.75   |
| <b>Sångkläder och Diverse:</b>   |               |         |
| 2 Tricken 6., 2 Saker 2., 2 Kuddar 1.                                  | 9             |         |
| 2 Handdukar och 1 Servett  | 1             |         |
| 1 Saffa 1., 2 Soffor 10  | 11            |         |
| 10 Vasdukar 2.50, 5 Sjalor 1.50, 3 Sakerdukskläden 75                  | 4.75          |         |
| 3 Förkläden 75, 1 Skrin och 1 kofta 1.50, 1 Wäfstol 1.50               | 3.75          |         |
| 1 Kopparsanna, 1 Kottade, 1 Pannlock och 2 Stekpannor                  | 2             |         |
| 3 Frytvingar, 3 Stet och 4 Ställrekar                                  | 25            |         |
| 2 Lapsalmböcker 50, Fresen Comunionbok, och 1 Klaskor                  | 2             |         |
| Utdel utaf en Stigbyggnad i Sofringsborg                               | 10            | 43.75   |
| Inneftående Koppskilling för såld fastighet uti Ka-<br>pela Ravelsgård | 476           |         |
| <b>Summa Utgångar Rmt 82.</b>  | <b>590.50</b> |         |

<sup>101</sup> Norra Wedbo häradsrätt Vol. FII:79 (1860-1861), pages 595-596



Skulder.

Begravningskostnad, sammanräknad 21. 59.  
Behållna summor är altså Riksmünt Riksdaler, 568. 91.  
Gemensamt hafva wi följt uppgifwa kvarlåtenskapen, såvitt  
den vid dödsstämman befanns, samt hafva icke med witt och  
vilja dödt eller utlemnat något; belygga under edelig  
förbindelse. — Som ofwan.  
Anders Thor, enkomman; med hand på papperet. —  
Sven Johan Swensson. — Anders Peter Petersson  
Antecknad och värderad. Ut Supra.  
And Joh Lind. Jöns Johanson; Ångarp Peter Jönsson; Ångarp.  
Procent 65 öre riksmünt är inbetald till Linderås  
Tättigkassa; Götterås. Linderås den 23. Mars 1861.  
And Joh Lind  
Linderås  
Organisatör

## Transcription:

No 23 Exhib. vid Norra Wedbo Härads W(år)T(ing) 1861.

Boupteckning, förrättad den 21. Mars 1861 efter Hustrun Anna Stina Johansdotter i Rödjestugan under Ängarp Norrgård i Linderås socken. Hon blef död den 27 Februari detta år, samt lemnade efter sig mannen, Enkomannen Anders Thor, med hwilken hon icke har några barn; men i ett föregående ägtenskap med afledne Soldat Swen Hög har hon fyra barn af hwilka Maja Greta och Gustaf Adolf hafwa emigrerat till Nordamerika för några år sedan och äro de båda gifta hwarförsig, samt mymdiga; wid detta tillfälle bewakas deras rätt utaf Hemmansegaren Anders Peter Persson i Taleryd Norrgård, som jämwäl är laga Förmyndare för Johanna Sofia; och myndige sonen Swen Johan är sjelf, likasom Förmyndaren, wid tillfället här närwarande.

Enkomannen Anders Thor upgifwa boet, sådant det vid dödstimman befanns, under edelig förbindelse.

| <u>Gångkläder:</u>   |     |     | <u>Riksmünt</u> |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----------------|-----|
| 1 Grön klädning 9: 1 Swart Orleans d <sup>o</sup> 10:, 1 Kålt 10:_____ | 29: | --  |                 |     |
| 2 Tygkjortlar 4:50, 9 aln. blårutigt Tyg à 50 öre, 4:50_____           | 9:  | --  |                 |     |
| 1 Tröja och 1 Kofta 3:75, 1 grå sjal 6:, 1 swart sidensjal 6:_____     | 15: | 75. |                 |     |
| 1 par Stöflor och 1 par känger_____                                    | 5:  | --  |                 |     |
| 2 Förkläden 1:50, 2 Halskläden, 1 Myssa och Wantar 1:50_____           | 3:  | --  |                 |     |
| 3 Lintyg_____  | 3:  | --  |                 |     |
| 2 Klädningar 3:, 1 kjortel, 2 Tröjer och 1 Päls 3:_____                | 6:  | --  | 70:             | 75. |
| <u>Sängkläder och Diverse:</u>   |     |     |                 |     |
| 2 Täcken 6: , 2 Lakan 2:, 2 kuddewar 1:_____                           | 9:  | --  |                 |     |
| 2 Handdukar och 1 Servett_____   | 1:  | --  |                 |     |
| 1 Tafla 1:, 2 Postillor 10:_____                                       | 11: | --  |                 |     |
| 10 Näsdukar 2:50, 5 Sjalar 1:50, 3 Såckerdukskläden 75_____            | 4:  | 75. |                 |     |
| 3 Förkläden 75, 1 Skrin och 1 kifta 1:50, 1 Wäfstol 1:50_____          | 3:  | 75. |                 |     |
| 1 kopparpanna, 1 kokbase, 1 Pannelock och 2 Stekpannor_____            | 2:  | --  |                 |     |
| 3 Grytringar, 3 Fat och 4 Tallrickar_____                              | --  | 25. |                 |     |
| 2 Parpsalmböcker 50, Fresenii Comunibok, och 2 Flaskor_____            | 2:  | --  |                 |     |
| 1/3 del utaf en Stugubyggnad i Löfwingsborg                            | 10: | --  | 43:             | 75  |
| Innestående Köpeskilling för sålld fastighet uti Kapa Ravelsgård_____  |     |     | 476:            | --  |
| Summa Tillgångar R(iks)m(yn)t RD <sup>f</sup>                          |     |     | 590:            | 50  |

### 1.1.2. Estate Records for Anna Stina Johansdotter

| <u>Skulder.</u>                                  |      |     |
|--|------|-----|
| Begravningskostnad, sammanräknad_____            | 21:  | 59. |
| Behåltna summan är altså Riksmünt Riksdaler_____ | 568: | 91. |

Gemensamt hafwa wi sökt uppgifwa qvarlåenskapen sådan den wid dödstimman befanns, samt hafwa icke med wett och wilja doldt eller utelemn timer något; betyga under edelig förbindelse.\_ Som ofwan.

*Anders Thor, enkoman; med hand på papperet*  
*Swen Johan Swensson – Anders Peter Petersson*

Antecknad och värderadt. Ut Supra.

*And(ers) Joh(an) Lind. Jöns Johansson i Ängarp. Peter Jonsson i Ängarp*

Procent 65 öre riksmünt är inbetald till Linderås  
 Fattigkassa; Qvitteras. Linderås den 23, Mars 1861.

*And(ers) Joh(an) Lind*  
 Organist



# Translation:

No 23 shown at the Norra Vedbo District Court session, spring 1861.

On March 21<sup>st</sup> 1861 Estate inventory was made after the wife Anna Stina Johansdotter at Rödjestugan under Ängarp Norrgård in Linderås parish. She died on February 27<sup>th</sup> this year and left her husband, the widower Anders Thor, behind, with whom she doesn't have any children; but from a previous marriage to the deceased soldier Sven Hög she has four children: Maja Greta and Gustaf Adolf immigrated to North America a couple of years ago and are both married and of lawful age, at this occasion their rights are taken care of by the farmer Anders Peter Persson in Taleryd Norrgård, who also is the legal guardian of Johanna Sofia; the son Sven Johan of age is present himself, as well as the guardian.

The widower Anders Thor declares under oath the estate, as it was at the time of death.

| <u>Clothes:</u>  |     |     | <u>Riksmünt</u> |           |
|--|-----|-----|-----------------|-----------|
| 2 kirtles 4:50, 9 ells of blue-checked fabric à 50 öre 4:50_____           | 9:  | --  |                 |           |
| 1 sweater and 1 cardigan 3:75, 1 gray shawl 6:, 1 black silk-Shawl 6:_____ | 15: | 75. |                 |           |
| 1 pair of boots and 1 pair of shoes_____                                   | 5:  | --  |                 |           |
| 2 aprons 1:50, 2 neck-clothes, 1 cap and mittens 1:50_____                 | 3:  | --  |                 |           |
| 3 linen clothes_____   | 3:  | --  |                 |           |
| 2 dresses 3:, 1 kirtle, 2 sweaters and 1 fur coat 3:_____                  | 6:  | --  | 70:             | 75.       |
| <u>Bedding and various:</u>  |     |     |                 |           |
| 2 quilts 6:, 2 sheets 2:, 2 pillowcases 1:_____                            | 9:  | --  |                 |           |
| 2 towels and 1 napkin_____   | 1:  | --  |                 |           |
| 1 picture 1:, 2 collections of sermons 10:_____                            | 11: | --  |                 |           |
| 10 hankies 2:50, 5 shawls 1:50, 3 Säckerduskläden* 75_____                 | 4:  | 75. |                 |           |
| 3 aprons 75, 1 box and 1 chest 1:50, 1 loom 1:50_____                      | 3:  | 75. |                 |           |
| 1 copper pan, 1 cooking pot, 1 Pan lid and 2 frying pans_____              | 2:  | --  |                 |           |
| 3 trivets, 3 dishes and 4 plates_____                                      |     | 25. |                 |           |
| 2 hymn books 50, Communion book by Fresenius , and 2 bottles_____          | 2:  | --  |                 |           |
| 1/3 of a house at Lövingsborg_____   | 10: | --  | 43:             | 75        |
| Deposited purchase sum for sold property in Kapela Ravelsgård_____         |     |     | 476:            | --        |
| <b>The Grand Total is:</b>   |     |     | <b>590:</b>     | <b>50</b> |



### 1.1.2. Estate Records for Anna Stina Johansdotter

|                                   |             |            |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| <u>Debts:</u>                     |             |            |
| Funeral costs, all included _____ | <u>21:</u>  | <u>59.</u> |
| <b>The Residue is:</b>            | <b>568:</b> | <b>91.</b> |

Together we have tried to declare the estate  
as it was at the time of death, and  
have not hidden or left out anything with sense and intention;  
we certify under oath. Date as above.

*Anders Thor*, widower; with his hand on the paper  
*Swen Johan Swensson – Anders Peter Petersson*

Booked and valued as above  
*Anders Johan Lind. Jöns Johansson in Ängarp. Peter Jonsson in Ängarp*

The “Percent for the poor” for this Estate record has been paid to Linderås’  
“social insurance office” with 65 öre Riksmünt.  
Linderås March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1861

*Anders Johan Lind*  
Organist

**Notes:** the currency of that time was 1 Riksdaler Riksmünt = 100 öre.