



Swedish Colonial News

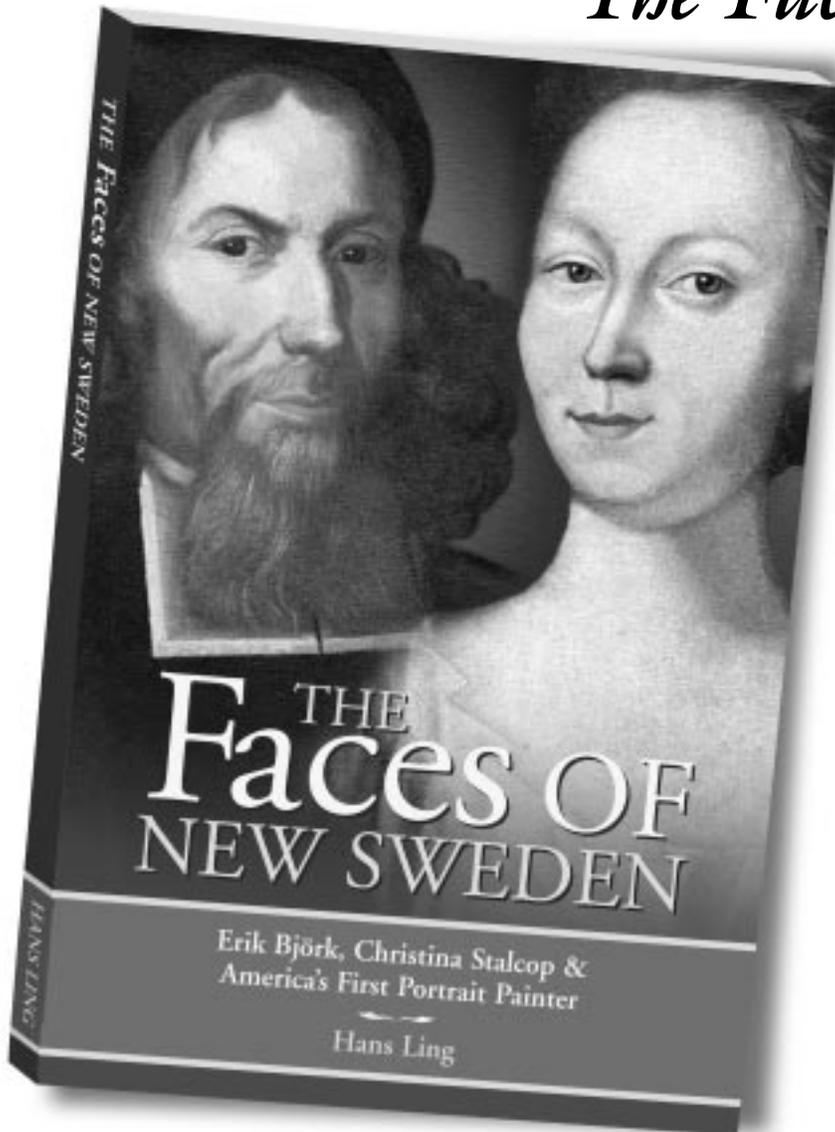
Volume 3, Number 1

Fall 2004

Preserving the legacy of the New Sweden Colony in America

The Faces of New Sweden now in print

Kim-Eric Williams



After more than two years of work, the long-awaited *The Faces of New Sweden* is now available and was premiered at the New Sweden History Conference on November 20 in Wilmington, DE. It is a perfect-bound book and includes many full color reproductions of the recently rediscovered paintings of Pastor Erik Björk and his wife Christina Stalcop.

Erik Björk was one of the three Church of Sweden priests sent to America in 1697 by Jesper Svedberg and King Carl IX to revive the churches and serve the remaining Swedes on the Delaware. He was pastor at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church in Wilmington from 1697 until 1713.

The portraits of Björk and his wife seem to date to 1712 and are by America's first portrait painter, Gustavus (Gustaf) Hesselius, who was the brother of the next two Swedish priests to serve in Wilmington, Andreas Hesselius and Samuel Hesselius.

The family background of the painter Gustavus Hesselius and the families of Erik Björk and Christina Stalcop is told by the author Hans Ling of Uppsala, Sweden, legal advisor to the National Heritage Board and a Forefather member of the Swedish Colonial Society.

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Pål Jönsson Mullica the Finn and his Descendants

Three and a half centuries ago, in 1654, the ship *Eagle* arrived in New Sweden, carrying many Finns. Among them was the large family of Pål Jönsson Mullica. Generally known as Pål Jönsson, his Finnish surname (Mullikka) rarely appeared in the records. On one occasion he was called “little Pole,” leading one genealogist to claim he was the first of Polish birth to come to America. However, records show that he came originally from Mora in Hälsingland, but probably had moved to western Sweden prior to being recruited by Captain Sven Skute to come to America.

Many passengers died during the trans-Atlantic voyage of the *Eagle* and Pål Mullica was himself in poor health, so that his family initially had to be supported by charity. After the Dutch takeover in 1655, the family was living on the southwest side of the Christina River, obliquely opposite Fort Christina. In June 1656 Margareta, the wife of Pål Jönsson the Finn, complained to the Dutch court at Fort Casimir (present New Castle) that Anders the Finn was threatening to take her grain from the field and secured an injunction from the court, prohibiting further molestation. This land was being rented on half shares.

Indian Point

Soon, however, Governor Stuyvesant granted Pål Jönsson his own land on the north side of the Brandywine at the mouth of Skilpot Creek. This tract was known as Wild or Indian Point, and finally patented to Pål Jönsson on 7 April 1661.

Before this patent arrived, Pål Jönsson had already moved to Cecil County, Maryland, with his wife and younger children, leaving his eldest children behind to manage the land at Indian Point.

None So Good In Finland

On 29 July 1661, Maryland granted Pål Jönsson denization, allowing him to secure land in present Cecil County. He selected a site on the north side of the Sassafras River, which he called, “None So Good in Finland.” Unfortunately, Pål Jönsson Mullica died before

this land was surveyed and patented.

On 14 April 1664, Rev. Lars Lock convened the widow and heirs of Pål Jönsson at the Crane Hook church and drafted an agreement for the division of his property. The land at Indian Point was to be divided between the widow Margareta Andersdotter and her son-in-law Hans Peterson. “None So Good in Finland” was to be divided among the youngest daughters.

After the death of Pål Jönsson, his widow Margareta Andersdotter married the widower Anders Mattsson, who had been a passenger on the ill-fated *Golden Calf*, which had arrived near Manhattan in 1655. Eventually he rejoined his countrymen (including his brother Matthias Mattsson) on the Delaware and on 14 November 1668 received a patent from the English for Margareta’s half of Wild Hook. Anders Mattsson died within a few months after this patent was issued. His son, by the same name, thereafter moved to Maryland.

The Long Finn Rebellion

In late 1669, Margareta Andersdotter, now twice a widow, and her children living in New Castle County became active in the Long Finn Rebellion – a plot to take up arms against the English when (as was erroneously expected) a Swedish fleet would sail up the Delaware River to re-establish New Sweden.

The plot was discovered and quashed by Peter Cock, then chief justice of the Swedish court at Upland. As a result of her involvement, Margareta was fined 100 guilders. On one fine list, she was listed as “Margaret Matson, widow.” On the other she was named as “Paul Johnson’s wife.”

The last mention of Margareta Andersdotter was in a deed dated in September 1674 when she sold her half of “Wild Point” to her grandson Paul Månsson, who on the same day reconveyed the same to her son-in-law Hans Peterson.

Paul Jönsson Mullica and Margareta Andersdotter had ten children, all of whom appear to have been born in Sweden:

1. — **Pålsdotter**, became the first wife of Måns Pålsson by 1654. He was also a Finn arriving on the *Eagle* in that year and initially settled in “Finland,” the area just north of Naaman’s Creek in present Delaware County, PA. She had two children before her death c. 1658 – Paul Månsson and Margareta Månsson.

2. **Elisabeth Pålsdotter** became the sec-

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SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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Fall 2004



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Dear Friends of New Sweden,

Now barely two weeks old, my copy of *The Faces of New Sweden* is already worn from use and dog-eared from reference. My reading is partly because of interest in the Björk and Stalcop paintings, but primarily because I can scarcely believe we really did it. I am happy to report that this volume represents the third puzzle piece that had been missing from our work "preserving the legacy of the New Sweden Colony in America."

- Our long history of public celebration has been well maintained by the 365th Jubilee Celebration and the Royal visit of Crown Princess Victoria in 2003; the Falckner Tercentenary at Philadelphia Cathedral; the five-day visit of HSwMS CARLSKRONA to Wilmington and, of course, the ever-popular annual New Sweden History Conference (now entering its 5th year of success).
- The transfer of Pennsylvania's Gov. Printz Park from state to local ownership was accomplished with safeguards to forever bar commercial development. New Jersey has a new monument proclaiming its proud New Sweden heritage. Soon, Delaware will boast a National Coastal Heritage Park anchored by Ft. Christina and the historic Seventh Street Peninsula.
- And now *The Faces of New Sweden* proclaims the Society as a legitimate publishing resource for new works that promote our proud legacy. Joining *Swedish Colonial News* and our web site <www.ColonialSwedes.org>, this book completes the picture painted of our 95-year-old mandate.

As I approach the last few months of my term of leadership I can, hopefully, be forgiven for my unapologetic enthusiasm for the good works we have accomplished. These past years have permitted me the honor of serving with a group of volunteers that knows no equal. I am proud of the work we have done, the friendships we have formed and the memories we have made.

Thank you all.

Sincerely,

Ronald Hendrickson
Governor

ond wife of Måns Pålsson, who relocated his home plantation to an island in the Christina River at the north end of Crane Hook. He was fined 150 guilders in the Long Finn Rebellion. He served as a Councilman for the Swedish church at Crane Hook, but became disabled in 1676 while working for Hans Peterson. He died at the age of 70 in December 1680. Elisabeth had four known children by him, sons John and Peter Månsson and daughters Catharine (who became the second wife of Matthias Holstein of the Wicaco congregation) and Anna (who married John Tussey). Elisabeth was still living in 1699 when assigned a pew in the new Holy Trinity Church at Christina (present Wilmington).

3. **Magdalena Pålsson** became the second wife of Hans Peterson alias Petascus, a Holsteiner, born in 1631, who had arrived on the Delaware as a Dutch soldier. He had previously been married to a daughter of Carl Jönsson, a Finn who came on the *Mercurius* in 1656. She bore him a son named Carl. Hans Peterson was fined 50 guilders in the Long Finn Rebellion and became active in the Swedish church. At the settlement of Pål Jönsson Mullica's estate, he received one-half of Indian Hook, and later added further holdings, including the first grist mill on Skilpot Creek. It is unknown when Magdalena died, but she was the mother of three sons – Peter, Paul and Israel Peterson. At the time of his death, c. 1720, Hans Peterson had married a third time, to a wife named Anna.

4. **Eric Pålsson Mullica**, born c. 1637 in Hälsingland, Sweden, moved as an adult to live among the upriver Swedes, where he married Ingrid, daughter of Olof Philipsson, a Finn who arrived with his family on the *Mercurius* in 1656. They lived successively at Moyamensing and Tacony until her death. Eric then married Ingeborg Helm, daughter of Israel Helm, and moved to the river on the Atlantic coast of New Jersey which later bore his name – the Mullica River. He died before 1704, when Pastor Andreas Sandel preached at his house.

All of Eric's eight children were by his first wife and used the surname of Mullica. All of them died in New Jersey:

- Anna, born 1668, married John Reynolds (Runnells), English; seven children; died after 1724.
- Anders, b. 1670, m. Brigitta Kämpe; died childless, 1720.
- Olof (William), b. 1675, m. Eva —;

seven children; d. after 1731, Mullica Hill, NJ.

- Eric, Jr., b. 1675, m. Margareta, daughter of Olle Petersson; seven children; d. after 1754, Mullica Hill, NJ.

- John, b. 1677, m. Anna Halton; d. 1766, Mullica Hill, NJ; no surviving children.

- Helena (Ella), b. 1680, m. George Keen; d. before 1740; three children living to adulthood.

- Catharina, b. 1682; not traced.

- Stephen, b. 1684, m. Elisabeth —, 1712, Christina Homan, 1731; died at Maurice River, NJ after 1748; seven children.

5. **John Pålsson Mullica** was fined 150 guilders, under the name of “John Powles” on one list and as “Jan Paulson” on a second list for his involvement in the Long Finn Rebellion in 1669. No later record has been found about him.

6. **Margareta Pålsson** married before 1664 Bärtil Hendricksson and moved with her parents to Maryland. On the division of Pål Jönsson Mullica's estate, it was agreed that she and her husband would receive 150 acres of “None So Good in Finland.” In 1668, he traded his share of this plantation to John Cocks for the latter's 200-acre tract known as “Cock Crows Thrice” and later added a 100-acre tract known as “Indian Range.” The death of Bartholomew Hendrickson occurred in 1684, after which Margareta married their servant, John Hagley. She had three sons: Matthias, Hendrick and Bärtil (Bartholomew) Hendrickson.

7. **Anna Pålsson** was married in Maryland to an English widower, John Cocks (Cox), who already owned extensive lands in present Cecil County. She apparently was the mother of John's two younger sons, Benjamin and Thomas Cox.

8. **Christina Pålsson** also became married in Maryland, first to Cornelis Petersson, born in Sweden, who had arrived in New Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654 with his father, Peter Månsson, and thereafter moved to the Sassafras River. On the division of Pål Jönsson Mullica's estate, Cornelis received 150 acres of “None So Good in Finland,” which he sold to John Cocks in 1669. Cornelis died childless soon thereafter, and Christina then married his brother Anders Petersson. He died in 1686, after which Christina married an Englishman Nicholas Dorrell. She died a year later, survived by Mary Peterson (then married to Peter

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Delaware National Coastal Heritage Park

Claiming a national park would boost tourism in the state and enrich Delaware's sense of history and community, on August 30, 2004, U.S. Senator Tom Carper (D-DE) unveiled a proposal to establish the Delaware National Coastal Heritage Park. Speaking to several dozen history-minded listeners on a rainy morning at Fort Christina State Park, Sen. Carper was joined by Wilmington Mayor James Baker and others to announce plans for the First State's first national park unit.

Under the proposal, a "gateway" hub would be located at "the Rocks" in Wilmington, site of the Fort Christina monument. The plan calls on the National Park Service to examine the possibility of constructing a formal visitors center, a park headquarters and perhaps a re-creation of the original Fort Christina. Other hubs, to be determined, would be located in southern New Castle, Kent and Sussex counties – all at locations along the Delaware coastline.



RONALD HENDRICKSON

FOREFATHERS

Sefferson), Andrew Peterson and Margaret Dorrell (who later married Robert Money).

9. **Anders Pålsson Mullica**, the youngest son, was called Andrew Mullica in the 1661 record of his move to Maryland, but he generally was known as Andrew Poulson, which was the surname used by his sons. In 1662 a 50-acre tract called "Poleson" was surveyed for him on the southeast side of Elk River, north of the Sassafras River. A 1676 deed identifies Andrew Powlson as the son-in-law of Nils Jöransson (also known as Cornelius Urinson) and his wife Elinor. Nils had arrived in New Sweden as a soldier on the *Eagle* in 1654. In 1678, Andrew Poulson petitioned Governor Andros in New York for land on the Delaware, claiming that he had received a warrant for land at Appoquinimink Creek in New Castle County, which had been surveyed for him, but that when the Dutch retook the Delaware in 1673-1674, he had been taken as a spy, imprisoned and lost his land. He claimed to be poor with a large family. In 1683 Andrew Poulson alias Mullica was naturalized by Maryland. From 1683-1690 he lived at the Head of Elk in the Swedish village known as Sahakitko (known as "Successor" in land patents). He sold his interest there in

1690 and his name disappears from public records after November 1692. His known sons include John Poulson (adult by 1700, died 1733), Jonas Poulson (adult by 1693, died 1744), and Poul Poulson (b. 1686, still living in 1760).

10. **Maria Pålsson** married Johan Nommersson [later Numbers], who had been born in Sweden in 1643 and came to the Delaware River by 1664, as a servant for the Dutch colony of New Amstel. In 1665, after the English captured the Delaware, Johan Nommersson moved to Cecil County, Maryland, where he was naturalized in 1674. He then returned to White Clay Creek in New Castle County, where he obtained a patent for 340 acres of land in 1675. He conveyed 100 acres of this land to Anders Poulson (#9) in 1677. Although Anders sold this land in 1680, Johan Nommerson maintained close ties with Anders Poulson, visiting Anders on occasion at Sahakitko. In 1698, Johan Nommerson returned to Cecil County, where he died c. 1716. Johan and Maria had five known children: sons John, Peter and James Numbers and daughters Maria and Elisabeth.

The fascinating story of the discovery of these original oils at the Nordic Museum in Stockholm is told by Dr. Peter S. Craig, the Historian of the Swedish Colonial Society.

The editing, indexing and translation was provided by Kim-Eric Williams, the Senior Deputy Governor of the Society. The Foreword, design layout and publishing were the work of Governor Ronald Hendrickson and the firm of Cataleno and Company in Moorestown, NJ.

The publication of this landmark, 104-page book signals a return by the Society to its original purpose. Although the picture book *New Sweden: Past, Present & Future* was produced by Gov. Hendrickson for the 365th

Jubilee in 2003, the Society's previous publications had been largely the work of the late Amandus Johnson, the last of which came out in 1957. With the final editing of the forthcoming ten volumes of the *Gloria Dei Records Project*, a new era has begun for the Swedish Colonial Society.

Copies are limited and may be purchased at any meeting of the Swedish Colonial Society for \$20 each, or at the gift shop of the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia, or in Wilmington at the Delaware History Museum or the Hendrickson House at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church.

See "Where to buy" below.



PEAFF PHOTOGRAPHY

The restored Björk and Stalcup paintings are admired at the 365th Jubilee Celebration in Wilmington in 2003 by SCS Historian Peter Craig (l.), Forefather Member Larry Stallcup, Historical Society of Delaware Chair Ellen Semple, HSD Executive Director Barbara Benson, Forefather Member Lowell Smith, SCS Honorary Governor Herbert Rambo, Kerstin Eliasson, Ambassador of Sweden Jan Eliasson, Stockholm Lord Mayor Barry Andersson and SCS Governor Ronald Hendrickson.

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Ninety-three-year-old Johan Printz descendent Bo Ehrner was moved to tears when welcoming the “2004 New Sweden Delegation” to his country estate in Bottnaryd, Småland, once the residence of Printz himself. Bo and his wife, Anna Greta had just received a gift from Swedish Colonial Society escort Jim Seagers. Jim presented Mr. Ehrner with an original brick recovered from the original Printzhof estate on Tinicum Island near present-day Philadelphia. This brick was likely transported from Holland to America over 350 years ago, and it was now being returned to the home of New Sweden’s most prominent Governor. The Ehrners have been involved in a restoration project of the Printz estate over the past 25 years. The property is now in a condition that most likely resembled how it appeared when Printz resided there.

That afternoon was but one of the numerous instances that American descendants from the New Sweden Colony reunited with their Swedish Colonial brethren during the Swedish Colonial Society’s summer Delegation to Sweden 2004 . Others with Swedish ancestry also joined the trip along with people just wishing to participate in an enjoyable summer vacation to Sweden.

After landing in Copenhagen, our tour group was driven via travel coach over the scenic Oresund Bridge into the Skåne province of southern Sweden. Our coastal ride gave us a view of the agricultural region of the country, as well as the Kattegat Strait, dividing Sweden from Denmark. At one point we could view the Kronoborg Castle in Denmark, the alleged haunt of Shakespeare’s Hamlet.

Our drive led us into Gothenburg, Sweden’s second largest city and the port from which many Swedes, both from the colonial times and the 19th century, emigrated to America. We had a lovely welcome dinner at our hotel on the Kungsporsavenyn, the primary pedestrian thoroughfare in Gothenburg.

The second day of our stay started with a tour of Gothenburg narrated by our friendly tour guide, native Swede Björn Olsson. Sites included the old neighborhood of Haga, the cliffs of Ramberget, Sillgaten (where the emigrants stayed before boarding their ships), and the Maritime Museum at Stigberget. The Maritime Museum had models and portraits of many of the ships that the Colonial Swedes,

New Sweden Visitors in *Sweden*

as well as the 19th and 20th century Swedes, used to emigrate to America. The museum also treated us to a special screening of a silent movie, made in the 1920s, documenting a trip on a steamer ship from Gothenburg to New York. Society member DeAnn Clancy’s mother emigrated from Sweden to New York in the 1920s, no doubt on a ship very similar to what the movie depicted.

We were greeted on our third day with marvelous weather and took advantage of it to travel north to the coastal village of Marstrand Island. Marstrand is a charming, small fishing village. At the island’s highest point is Carlstrand Fortress, an enormous castle dating back to the 1600s. We enjoyed a tour of the fortress and the view, from the castle tower down over the village and out across the Atlantic, was spectacular. We also spent some time browsing through the shops on this

Banquet table awaits the Delegation from New Sweden 2004 for a Nobel Dinner in the Prince’s Gallery of Stockholm City Hall.





2. The *Kalmar Nyckel* model in the New Sweden gallery at the Maritime Museum.
3. The German Church viewed from the Padden Boat on the Göta River.
4. The grand stairway entrance to City Hall.
5. Jorgen Linder (l.) and Ron Hendrickson present the memorial wreath to New Sweden settlers.
6. The Delegation from New Sweden 2004 pays its respects at the Carl Milles monument on the Stone Pier in Gothenburg harbor.

quaint village before departing for our next stop, the small town of Torsby.

Senior Deputy Governor Kim-Eric Williams had made arrangements with the parish in Torsby for a Sunday church service, as well as a dinner and social gathering with the church parishioners, many of whom were descendants from Johan Printz and other New Sweden colonists. It was a captivating country church and the dinner was classic Swedish fare, including pickled herring and bread baked using the same method the Colonial forefathers followed. The New Sweden Delegation presented gifts to the parishioners, including a rare reproduction of the original instructions given to Johan Printz from the Queen of Sweden. It was a stirring moment, with people related from over 350 years of ancestry and across an ocean, being reunited together in their motherland. Soon a piano was playing and everyone joined in singing Swedish folk songs.

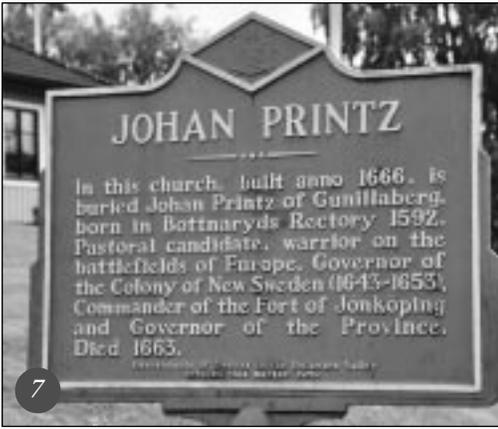
Monday's activities included a guided tour of Gothenburg City Hall, followed by lunch with the Gothenburg Mayor Jorgen Linder. Ron Rolander, the Mayor of Lindsborg, Kansas, exchanged keys to their respective cities with Mayor Linder. More gifts were exchanged and, after a gracious welcome from

the Mayor and his staff, we all made the short excursion to the Carl Milles monument of the *Kalmar Nyckel* at the Gothenburg's Stone Pier. A color guard was on hand and a wreath ceremony took place. The day concluded with a tour of Gothenburg City Museum and a Padden Boat tour of Gothenburg harbor.

The following morning we embarked on our trek across Sweden, destined for Stockholm. Our first stop on this journey was the first-mentioned town of Bottnaryd. We first visited the center of town where Johan Printz was buried inside a majestic church nestled up against a quiet serene lake. This wooden church (Bottnaryds kyrka) dates to the 17th century and its interior walls and ceilings are covered with remarkable spiritual paintings dating back to that era. The Ehrner's home "Gunillaberg" was just a few miles from the church grounds and the Ehrners gave us a private tour of their lovely home. Swedish Colonial Society member and concert pianist Karin Hampel serenaded everyone with a sonata appropriate for the occasion. Karin's ancestors hail from the Öland region of Sweden and she was following our trip up with a family reunion.

After our lovely Bottnaryd visit, we continued on our way, stopping at the famous

Photos courtesy of
Ron Hendrickson



Medieval town of Vadstena. Upon entering the town we passed a pristine castle dating to the 16th century, complete with a moat and drawbridge. It looked like a scene out of a fairy tale. About a mile behind the castle was the enormous and spectacular Church of Saint Birgitta. Among the splendid church architecture and ornaments was the carved sarcophagus of its patron saint. After touring this area we made our way to Stockholm. Once in Stockholm we checked into our hotel, in close proximity to the famous Johan Tobias Sergel Square and fountain. With the extended daylight during Sweden's summer months, we were able to squeeze in a twilight dinner before calling it a day.

It's hard to stay in Stockholm without visiting the famous Vasa Museum. This renowned museum is home to the famous *Vasa*, an enormous Swedish warship from 1628 that sank in the Stockholm harbor on its maiden voyage. It was raised from the harbor in the 1970s, almost fully intact. Words cannot fully describe the grandeur of this museum. It is a "must see" while visiting Stockholm.

After our *Vasa* tour, Stockholm Lord Mayor Barry Andersson arranged for our group to have a boat tour of Stockholm's archipelago. The Mayor and his family met us at the boat

docks and joined us for lunch on a lovely afternoon boat ride. Midway through our boat tour, we stopped at the delightful seaside village of Vaxholm to stretch our legs and enjoy another small Swedish community. Vaxholm is a small artist village and browsing its many art galleries and small shops occupied our brief visit there.

In the evening, Mayor Anderson gave our entire group a guided tour of Stockholm City Hall, followed by a dinner from the same menu as the previous Nobel banquet. We enjoyed cocktails in the famous "Golden Hall" prior to the meal, and exchanged gifts and conducted an award ceremony following dinner. Forefather Member Hans Ling was named a Fellow of the Swedish Colonial Society. It was a very memorable evening and all of us appreciated the Mayor's kind and generous hospitality.

On Thursday, we headed north of Stockholm toward the city of Uppsala. On our way, we first stopped at Skoklosters Castle, once home to Swedish nobleman Carl Gustaf

- 7. Johan Printz marker in Bottnaryd, erected by Delaware Valley Swedes in 1959.
- 8. Bottnaryd bell tower and Church.
- 9. Bottnaryd Church sacristy with Printz and wife paintings.
- 10. The Delegation from New Sweden is welcomed to Gunillaberg, the Johan Printz ancestral home.
- 11. Anna Greta and Bo Ehrner bid the Delegation from New Sweden a fond farewell.



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14



15

- 12. Carlstrand Fortress towers over Marstrand Island.
- 13. Torsby Church, with one of the oldest bell towers in Sweden.
- 14. Kim-Eric Williams preaches from the pulpit of Torsby Church
- 15. Barry Andersson gives a personal tour of the Stockholm archipelago
- 16. The Delegation from New Sweden 2004 gathers for a champaign reception in the Golden Hall of Stockholm City Hall.

Wrangel. Swedish Colonial Society Governor Ron Hendrickson had arranged for our group to have a private tour of this remarkable structure. The castle dates to the 17th century and its ownership was in private hands until the Swedish government took over the facility in the 1970s. Nothing in the castle is refurbished, reconstructed or updated in any way. When going through it, one was walking right back into the 17th century. Wrangel and the castle have a unique tie back to the Swedish Colonial Society. The castle has a room that houses gifts that were once sent to Wrangel from around the world. One of these gifts is items from the Lenape Indians, apparently sent to Wrangel from the New Sweden Colony in America. In 1759 Carl Magnus Wrangel, a relative of the original castle owner, became pastor at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in Philadelphia.

Our next stop was the summer home of Carl Linneaus, arguably Sweden's most acclaimed scientist. This estate is called Hammarby and has a manor house with sprawling gardens containing plants for which the

famous botanist was most noted. We then arrived in Uppsala and this bustling university town was full of activity. We toured Uppsala Cathedral and saw the Gustavianum, with its famous medical amphitheatre.

Friday was Midsommer and we spent the day at Skansen, Stockholm's most famous outdoor amusement park. We witnessed the peak of the Swedish summer celebration - the raising of the Maypole. Some of us joined the native Swedes and danced around the Maypole to traditional Swedish folk music performed by Swedish musicians playing nyckel harp, fiddle and other Swedish instruments. The rest of the afternoon was spent whiling around the sprawling grounds of Skansen. The park includes a zoo, rides and grounds depicting scenes from all of Sweden's provinces about 100 years prior.

Our final day in Stockholm included a tour of the old historic region of the city called Gamla Stan, literally "Old Town." We saw the Swedish Parliament, the Royal Palace and the Changing of the Guard ceremony. We also toured the famous Riddarholm Church where

Photos courtesy of Ron Hendrickson



- 17. Earl Seppälä (l.) and Ron Hendrickson present Hans Ling with his Fellow medal and certificate.
- 18. Skokloster Castle.
- 19. Uppsala Cathedral.
- 20. Hammarby, home of Carl Linneaus.
- 21. Musicians lead the procession to raise the Maypole during Midsummer festivities at Skansen.

many of the Swedish nobility are buried, many of them in carved stone sarcophaguses.

Throughout our stay the Swedish soccer team was competing in the World Cup, and enjoying success advancing in the tournament. On our final night, Sweden played Holland where the winner would advance into the tournament quarter-final round. Our group gathered in the hotel lobby on our final night and watched some of the match which was captivating Sweden at the time.

The Swedish Colonial Society's 2004 summer trip to Sweden was an astonishing success. Americans with Swedish ancestry reunited with

Swedish people and native Swedes reunited with their American counterparts. In addition, these collaborations occurred beneath a backdrop of breathtaking Swedish countryside, urban architecture and history. It was a memorable vacation that saw most members either planning their next visit to Sweden or arranging an occasion to host our Swedish friends.

Concealed Weapons

Quickly after his arrival in 1643, New Sweden Governor Printz started work on a fort on the South River (later the Delaware) to be used to control ship traffic approaching the New Sweden settlements farther up the river. This fort was located on the eastern shore of the river about 15 miles south of Fort Christina. It soon proved itself to be the most active and successful of all military positions in New Sweden. It was named Fort Elfsborg in honor of a massive stone fort located in Sweden itself.

When an English bark sailed into the river on May 6, 1643, it had a shot fired across its bow from Fort Elfsborg even though the fort was not fully completed until at least October. Afterward, all Dutch vessels entering the South River were required to cast their anchors, strike their flag and pay a toll. They then had to send a small boat up the river to Tinicum Island, where Printz had established his home, to get Printz's permission before they could sail higher up the river. This situation was quite irksome to the Dutch.

In 1651, a Dutch fleet of 11 ships entered the South River and forced its way past Fort Elfsborg and sailed on up river to Fort Nassau. Coming back down the river, Director General Stuyvesant and the Dutch fleet stopped and constructed a fort at Sandhucken (Sand Hook), the spot where the town of New Castle now stands. This new Dutch fort was just five miles south of Fort Christina and ten miles north of Fort Elfsborg.

A force of 200 Dutch soldiers built the fort in just 12 days. Stuyvesant named it Fort Casimir. The size of the work force that built the fort defined Printz's problem. It outnumbered the entire population of New Sweden by nearly three-to-one and outnumbered Printz's military force by about seven-to-one, without even counting the sailors sailing the 11 ships. Upon completion, Stuyvesant sent nine of the ships and most of the soldiers back to New Amsterdam but left two ships to patrol the river until winter set in.

Alf Åberg writes in his book *Folket i Nya Sverige* (The people in New Sweden) (page 90) that "In front of the Dutch pressure, Printz had considered it necessary to concentrate his forces to Christina, Tinicum Island and the land north of it. New Elfsborg was left empty, because it no longer was the key to the river." This last state-

ment is not strictly true. Elfsborg was located between the new Dutch fort and the mouth of the river. This meant it still was the key to control of the river. Given enough men and supplies, Fort Elfsborg could have effectually trapped the Dutch fleet in the river and rendered the new Dutch fort at Sand Hook untenable. The problem was that Printz did not have either the men or supplies to properly garrison the fort.

The patrolling Dutch ships cut direct overt communications between Fort Christina and Fort Elfsborg, located 15 miles down river and over on the opposite shore. Printz was not willing to risk the lives of any of his small force of men by having them attempt to force their way past the Dutch fort and patrolling ships. He therefore had little choice except to abandon Fort Elfsborg. The garrison, by this time reduced to five or six men, was withdrawn and Fort Elfsborg fell into disuse. Printz himself never gave an "official" reason for the action, but merely stated the garrison was withdrawn. This was not as simple as merely moving the men stationed there to somewhere else. There was high value equipment to be considered. Printz's major problem was what to do about the heavy weapons located in Fort Elfsborg.

According to the surviving records, Fort Elfsborg was armed with four 12-pound bronze guns, four 12-pound iron guns and one large mortar. The mortar is a compact, short barrel, high trajectory short-range weapon that fires a very heavy shell. The 12-pound guns were long barreled naval guns mounted on wheeled carriages. They were approximately 12 feet long. The bronze guns weighted approximately 4,000 pounds each, exclusive of their carriages and accessories. We have a very good indication of their weight from a contemporary weapons inventory that includes sixteen 12-pound bronze cannons manufactured in Kopparberg (Kopparberget, Falun), Sweden. Iron guns are said to have weighed even more than bronze guns. The problem faced by Printz was just what to do with the heavy weapons of Fort Elfsborg. He could not abandon them because of their high value. He probably could not move them to Fort Christina or to Tinicum. He had a real problem on his hands.

When originally installed, the rigging of the ship supplying the guns was probably used to lift them over the side of the ship and set them on a temporary wooden track. The wheeled gun carriages were then used to roll them along the temporary track into the fort and into position on the ramparts. Such a method of removing the guns was not available to Printz because

he did not have a big ship available. His yacht and a small barge were the only vessels known to be available to him. Neither vessel would have sufficient masts and rigging to lift such heavy objects. Neither could he manually lift the guns to load them. Assuming he could use all 30 of his men, each man would have to lift and carry at least 135 pounds, probably a bit more. That is an improbable heavy load for 30 men to lift and carry in synchronization, especially from solid ground to onboard a small floating vessel that is moving about.

Thirty men probably could not even get into position around a cannon to be able to lift it. The usual method was to use long poles with the gun slung beneath the poles from ropes. For smaller guns of up to about 1,000 pounds, five poles were used with four men, two on each side of the weapon, lifting each pole. A 50 pound load per man is manageable.

Even if Printz could somehow load the guns on a vessel, he could probably move only one gun at a time due to their immense weight and the small size of the vessels available to him. This would mean the boat or boats had to sneak by the patrolling Dutch ships twice for each weapon, or a total of at least 18 times. The heavily loaded boat would probably have to be rowed, at night, for at least 15 miles between Fort Christina and Fort Elfsborg during every trip.

All of the men would have to make all of the trips in order to be available to first load each weapon on the boat at Fort Elfsborg and later to unload each weapon when it arrived at Fort Christina. Thirty men weigh as much or more than a 12-pound cannon. A second boat probably would be needed on each trip.

There is no record of the heavy weapons from Fort Elfsborg being moved anywhere. So if Printz could not remove the weapons from Fort Elfsborg, what did he do with them? His only option would be to conceal them. He must somehow hide them away from discovery until a future date when they could be retrieved.

The usual method of concealing heavy weapons in this era was to submerge them in nearby water or mud. There was plenty of water and mud near Fort Elfsborg but it was salt water, not fresh water. The bronze guns could withstand being submerged in salt water but the iron guns would deteriorate so rapidly that they would soon be unsalvageable. Hiding the guns by submerging them in water or mud probably was not an option for Printz.

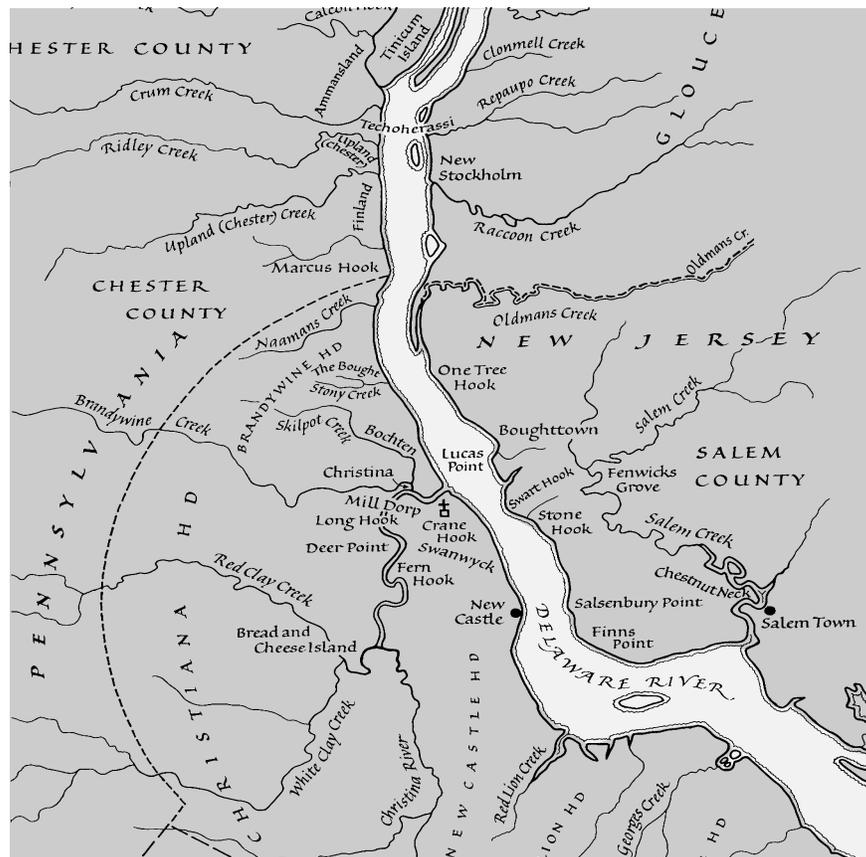
The last option was to hide the guns by burying them. This could be done fairly quickly with probably the least amount of manpower

required. The earth was simply dug out from in under the guns and they were lowered straight down to below ground level and then the hole was filled in over the gun. A few men with shovels could do the job.

On his way back to Sweden, Printz became ill and was confined to a sickbed in the Netherlands. He was never able to meet with Risingh to inform him of conditions in New Sweden. Specifically, he never informed Risingh (or apparently anyone else) of what happened to the heavy weapons of Fort Elfsborg.

When the *Örn* (Eagle) arrived off Fort Elfsborg in 1654 the military engineer, Peter Lindström recorded a comment that seems to indicate Printz may have buried the guns. He noted “There we cast anchor and landed finding the fort, with the houses and ramparts totally in ruins...” The ramparts were simply mounds of earth. They likely would be completely undisturbed if the guns had been rolled away on a temporary track for concealment in water or

This is the second article in a series that describes the means used in New Sweden to provide security for the colony.



mud or for loading onto a boat. On the other hand, they likely would be totally ruined if the guns were buried where they stood.

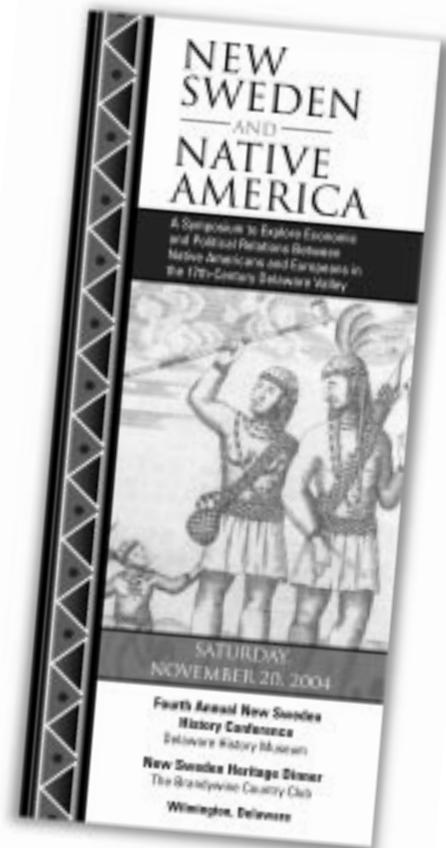
Those heavy weapons, eight cannons and one mortar, are probably still right where they were concealed three-and-a-half centuries ago, buried under their ruined ramparts inside of Fort Elfsborg.

Fourth Annual New Sweden History Conference & Heritage Dinner

For the fourth year, the New Sweden Project attracted a record crowd of history lovers to the all-day seminar at the Delaware History Museum in Wilmington. This year's theme dealt with the relationship between the American Indians and the New Sweden settlers. Sponsored by the Society, American Swedish Historical Museum, McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, Trinity Episcopal Church in Swedesboro, NJ, and the New Sweden Centre, eight researchers were featured, including Dr. Daniel Richter from the University of Pennsylvania, Gunlög Fur of Växjö University and Staffan Brunius, curator of the "The Americas" from the Ethnographic Museum in Stockholm,

Following a full day of presentations and discussion, most of the participants adjourned to the Brandywine Country Club for a social hour and dinner. Following the dinner, Richard Waldron was cited for his leadership of the

American Swedish Historical Museum and his founding of the New Sweden Project. Honorary Governor Herbert Rambo was presented with a medal and certificate as a "Fellow of the Swedish Colonial Society" in recognition of his contributions.



Life in New Sweden

Kim-Eric Williams

An exciting new educational videotape and DVD, entitled "Life in New Sweden" has been produced by the New Sweden Centre of Wilmington, DE. In the works for over a year, this new resource is meant for middle school students but may profitably be viewed by anyone interested in colonial history. The colonial re-enactors, directed by Janet and Art Malestein, show people in their everyday clothing and household tasks and in historically correct settings. Life along the Delaware is imaginatively described and special focus is placed on the everyday life, trade and friendship that the Swedes and Finns developed with the Lenape.

The introduction of the log cabin is shown at an actual cabin built by early immigrants, as explained by Olle Stille (George Ambrose). An authentic reconstruction of a Lenape village

shows the actual conditions of the native population, as coordinated by Mary Ellen Flynn. Adolphus Fletcher brings to life Black Anthony, the first black settler in the Delaware Valley. The importance of their Christian faith and practice is described with shots of Old Swedes Church in Wilmington and the remembrances of Pastor Johannes Campanius (Kim-Eric Williams).

The technical production was done by Arden Media Resources of Wilmington and the video/DVD is dedicated to the memory of Malcolm Mackenzie, founder of the New Sweden Centre and former Secretary of the Swedish Colonial Society. Copies of either the video or the DVD may be obtained for \$15 plus postage from Marianne Mackenzie, 608 Foulke Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803.

A Swedish Cabin in Delaware County

Just above the site of Johan Printz's new headquarters on Tinicum, named New Gothenburg in 1643, the Mill (Darby) Creek led early Swedish settlers into the interior of the country. In the shadow of the Great Hill (Stora Kullan), the first physical obstacle on this creek, the rapids, deterred further travel and suggested a place to settle. Besides the ample supply of chestnut and oak trees, there were many large flat stones that could be used to anchor the corners of any "stuga" (cabin) built on the site. A simple one-room dwelling of rounded logs with the bark left on was quickly erected. Notching the logs at the ends permitted assembly without the use of nails. Inside, a corner fireplace of stone was built following the heat-effective principles of Scandinavia. A low-pitched roof of split logs overhead and a clay floor made it quite habitable. The open spaces between the logs were chinked with mud, and/or clay mixed with grass, straw or animal hair. There were no windows - sliding boards between the courses of logs were used to let in light or provide visual access to the outside.

Shortly after the original cabin was built, an addition was added to the East side. In all likelihood, this was done to house a newly married son or daughter. This sort of log structure was a major architectural contribution to the American frontier, typical to all of Scandinavia, but unknown in the British Isles.

No records exist to show the names of the builders and original settlers. But, as the Swedes prospered and moved on, English settlers moved in and the cabin was lived in continuously for almost 300 years. Many of the early tenants were workers who toiled in the mills built along the Darby Creek. During this time the cabin was "Anglicized," with the pitch of the roof being raised to allow sleeping on the second floor, and a winding stairway being added for access, plus windows put in the gable ends.

In 1937 the Historic American Building Survey identified its antiquity and the cabin became the property of Upper Darby Township. In the 1940s it was used by the local Girl Scouts. In the 1960s a caretaker was allowed to live in it until 1974 when the township again assumed direct responsibility for its care. An unsuccessful attempt at restoration was made and vandalism increased because of its isolated location. Finally, through the efforts

of Alice and Carl Lindborg and the Swedish Colonial Society, the cabin was placed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Historic Sites Committee of the Darby Creek Valley Association played a major role in getting the attention of local governments. A grant from the state was received and an architect hired. A local support group, the Friends of the Swedish Cabin, oversaw the restoration and continues to monitor and care for the "Lower Swedish Cabin." The name indicates that there was an Upper Swedish log cabin at one time, but that cabin has been lost through historical carelessness.

In April 1988 the refurbished and restored cabin was rededicated and opened to the public during the celebrations of the 350th anniversary of the landing of the Swedes.

Of all the New Sweden sites, this seems the least touched by time. It is no wonder that an early 20th century filmmaker used the cabin as a setting for a western or that the New Sweden Centre in Wilmington used the site to produce a videotape to illustrate the history of New Sweden for school children. Signs on Baltimore Avenue now direct visitors to the site, over the Lindbergh Bridge and at the end of Creek Road in Landsdowne. The Friends of the Swedish Cabin can be reached at P.O. Box 200, Drexel Hill, PA 19026.

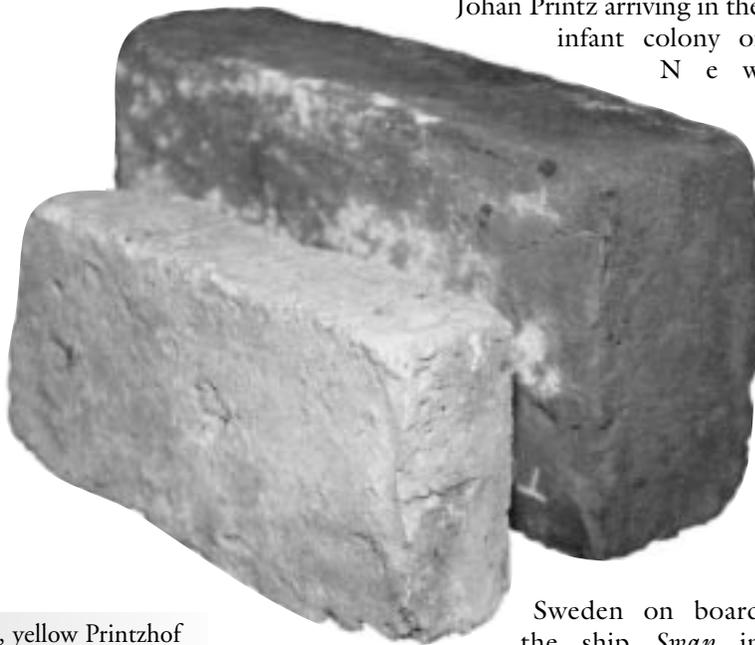
Lower Swedish Cabin, Creek Road, Drexel Hill, PA



Printzhof Bricks

Have you ever been as excited to see and touch something of historical value as I have? Maybe you found an Indian arrowhead or a Civil War minnie ball, or saw a cannon from an old shipwreck or even touched the Liberty Bell. Well, I'm holding an item in my hand as I write this article that will interest anyone familiar with the Swedes on the Delaware. And that is a small yellow brick from Governor Johan Printz's mansion.

Most people know about Governor Johan Printz arriving in the infant colony of
N e w



A small, yellow Printzhof brick (left) compared to its modern, red brick cousin.

Sweden on board the ship *Swan* in 1643 and setting up his homestead at Tinicum Island on the Delaware. It was there that he built his remarkable home, the Printzhof, relocating the capital of the colony and becoming the first capital of Europeans within the bounds of present Pennsylvania. This is one of the most historic sites in the state. This notable building was built of logs in the typical Swedish style. Yellow Dutch bricks that were used as ballast, probably on Printz's ship, went into the making of the chimneys.

The Printzhof lasted about 180 years and now no trace remains, excepting these strange bricks. Henry Graham Ashmead, in his *History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania*, wrote "Printzhof, that noted mansion of the Swedish

Governor, stood until the summer of 1822...at that date the greater part of that ancient building was destroyed by fire." Dr. George Smith published his *History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania* in 1862 and reported, "The dilapidated remains of what was said to be the chimney of this mansion were standing within the recollection of the author and up to this time one of the small, foreign-made bricks of a pale yellow color of which it was constructed, may be occasionally picked up in this vicinity." Much later on in 1936, archaeologist Donald Cadzow did a dig on the site of the Printzhof and discovered hundreds of small yellow bricks just in time for the tercentennial of the landing of the Swedes in 1938. These bricks were given to the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia.

So where are Governor Printz's bricks today? Many of those same bricks are now incorporated into an interesting "corner fireplace," a recreated 17th century Swedish kitchen display in the "Pioneer Room" of the museum. I was told by Wally Richter, Honorary Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society, that another lot of these same bricks existed somewhere and asked me to find them and note their status. Luckily, I did find them. At the Brandywine Battlefield Park they were sitting in a pile outside in the elements, covered in dirt and leaves as they had been for eight years. Imagine my surprise when they were kindly offered to the Swedish Colonial Society to keep and care for. With the help of Marie Boisvert and her husband Peter, we brought Governor Printz's bricks home to Gloria Dei Church where they are being stored. We and the bricks were welcomed by the Reverend David Rivers and Reverend Kim-Eric Williams.

Upon analysis, the bricks are a dull yellow color with no traces of mortar adhering to them. They measure an average 6.75 inches long, 3.06 inches wide and 1.375 inches thick, smaller than the red bricks of today. Their shape is irregular, a bit warped, and not perfectly flat or square. Some seem to have been fired, more or less. Most of these bricks are broken in half. Our historian, Dr. Peter S. Craig confirms them to be genuine Printzhof bricks. Raymond T. Rye, Paleobiological Information Officer for the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, had a brick analyzed and found that, in all likelihood, it originated in Frisia in the Netherlands.

In Memoriam

David E. Lewis of Ridley Park, PA, a Councillor of the Swedish Colonial Society known throughout the Delaware valley for his reenactment of New Sweden Governor Johan Printz, died on August 20, 2004 at the age of 75. Known for his good humor and attention to historical accuracy, he had portrayed Printz for thousands of school children for the last 15 years. An elementary school teacher for 32 years, he had sailed and served as a cook on the *Kalmar Nyckel*, as well as being active in the New Sweden Centre. He was a music and history lover and had been active in many capacities with the Rittenhouse Opera Company, serving as stage manager, set contractor, costume creator and singing in over 400 performances. He was a member of the Metropolitan Community Church.



NEW SWEDEN COLONY
1638-1655

Membership

LIFE MEMBER

Cole Palen, Rochester, NY

FAMILY MEMBERS

Dr. James W. Toy, Lawton, OK
Julie Diaz, Ph.D. and Family, Cypress, TX
Jon Forde and Family, Houston, TX
Samantha and Stinea Forde, Houston, TX

Cynthia and Joe Harris, Manhattan, KS
Roxanne Forde Sisman and Family, Cypress, TX
Paul Forde and Family, Houston, TX

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

William Clark Snyder, Binghamton, NY
James J. Strong, Massillon, OH
Bickley Ashens Rivera, Land O'Lakes, FL
Leila Rambo Anderson, Southampton, NJ
Keli Ann Kovalcik-Spiegel, Jeannette, PA
Eric E. Johnson, Avon Lake, OH

Sandra G. Van Amburgh, Downingtown, PA
Cindy Creighton, Amarillo, TX
Sunshine S. Payne, Annapolis, MD
Viola R. Limric, Summerdale, PA
Nicki Fern Haas-Kovalcik, Penn, PA

NEW FOREFATHER MEMBERS

Active members of the Swedish Colonial Society may apply for recognition as "Forefather Members" if they can prove descent from Swedish colonists arriving in the United States prior to the Treaty of Paris, marking the close of the Revolutionary War, in 1783. Application forms may be obtained from the SCS website <www.ColonialSwedes.org> or from Dr. Peter S. Craig, 3406 Macomb Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016

Emily Samson Tepe, Wilmington, DE, descended from Peter Larson Cock through his son, Erick Cock, and the latter's son Peter Cock of Gloucester County, NJ.

Stephen H. Garrett, Boothwyn, PA, descended from Marten Gerritsen and Christina Lom through their son, Gerrit Gerritson, and the latter's son, Morton Garrett of Blockley Township, Philadelphia County.

Sunshine S. Payne, Annapolis, MD, descended from Peter Gunnarson Rambo and Brita Mattsdotter through their son, Peter Rambo, Jr., and the latter's son, Swan Rambo of Lancaster County, PA.

Karol Flesher Childs, Sierra Vista, AZ, descended from Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and Brita Mattsdotter through their daughter, Gertrude, who married Andrew Bankson, and the latter couple's son, Jacob Bankson, of Philadelphia County.

Barbara Wescott, Moreno Valley, CA, descended from Anders Bengtsson and Gertrude Rambo through their son, Andrew Bankson, and the latter's son, Lars (Lawrence) Bankston of Orange County, NC.

Cindy Creighton, Amarillo, TX, descended from Måns Andersson through his daughter, Brita Månsdotter, who married Johan Gustafsson, and their daughter, Elizabeth Gustafson/Justis who married Matthias Peterson, of New Castle County, DE.

William Clark Snyder, Binghamton, NY, descended from Peter Jochimsson through his son, Peter Petersson Yocum, and the latter's son, Charles Yocum of Kingsessing, Philadelphia County.

Dr. James W. Toy, Lawton, OK, descended from Christina, mother of Elias Johnsson Toy, and the latter's son, Frederick Toy of Burlington County, NJ.

Sandra G. Van Amburgh, Downingtown, PA, descended from Olof Stille through his son, Anders Stille, and the latter's son, Jacob Stille of New Castle County, DE.

New Members Welcomed

The Swedish Colonial Society welcomes new members. No Swedish relative or ancestry is required - only an interest in colonial history. Contact our Registrar: Doriney Seagers, 371 Devon Way, West Chester, PA 19380 or visit us online at: <www.ColonialSwedes.org>. The annual membership fee for an individual is \$30. An annual family membership, which includes two adults and minor children, is \$35. Lifetime membership is available for \$400.

In Memoriam

David R. Anderson of Newark, DE, a Forefather member by way of Anders Jöransson and a Councillor of the Swedish Colonial Society, died on August 9, 2004. He had worked as a real estate agent and insurance agent and for the State of Delaware before his retirement. He was a life member of Opera Delaware, a member of the Society's newsletter committee and was an avid reader and traveler. He was a member of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church in Wilmington.

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Dues Increase in 2005

Faced with the effects of inflation, the Councillors of the Swedish Colonial Society voted for a modest increase in dues for the Society beginning on January 1, 2005. The new schedule will increase the regular dues by \$5: making individual dues \$30 and family dues \$35. Life membership will also increase to \$400. This is the first increase since 1986, when the Society did not have a web site, a New Sweden History Conference or a newsletter.

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 15	Hans Christian Andersen Exhibition Opening (through Feb. 21, 2005) at American Swedish Historical Museum, Philadelphia. Information: 215-389-1776.
DECEMBER 25	Saturday, Julotta Christmas Day Service in Swedish led by Pastor Jan Keskar (of the Church of Sweden in New York) at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church in Philadelphia at 7:00 a.m.
FEBRUARY 20	Sunday, Seventh Annual George Washington's Birthday Party at the Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard. Sponsored by the New Sweden Centre, Wilmington. Contact Marianne Mackenzie: 302-764-6766.
APRIL 3	Sunday, Swedish Colonial Society Forefathers Luncheon & Annual Meeting, with the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society at the Brandywine Country Club, 2822 Shipley Rd., Wilmington, DE.
SEPTEMBER 4	Sunday, Scanfest at NJ Convention and Exposition Center, Raritan Center, Edison, NJ. For more information visit: < www.Scanfest.org >.
SEPTEMBER 24	Saturday, "Pennsylvania Before Penn" at Governor Printz Park, Tinticum, Essington, PA. Sponsored by the Delaware County Historical Society and the Swedish Colonial Society.
SEPTEMBER 24-25	Saturday & Sunday, Mouns Jones Country Fair at Old Moralatton Village, Douglassville, PA. For more information call 610-385-3431.
SEPTEMBER 29- OCTOBER 2	Swedish Council of America Board of Directors visitation to New Sweden.

Swedish Colonial News

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www.ColonialSwedes.org

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