

Summary

Möjbro

By Staffan Fridell

Möjbro is the name of a hamlet in the parish of Hagby in western Uppland. The Old Swedish form is *Møiabro*. Otto von Friesen suggested in 1949 that the first element was to be interpreted as the genitive plural of *mö* ‘daughter; young girl’, possibly referring to two daughters, Fastlög and Torun, who are mentioned on a Viking Age rune-stone from the period after 1050 (U 878), found near the hamlet. The author considers this interpretation both likely on linguistic grounds and possible from an extralinguistic point of view, since it can be linked to the late Viking Age practice of building a bridge (usually, in fact, reinforcing a causeway or ford) as a Christian act for the salvation of someone’s soul. In the case of *Möjbro*, the final element probably refers to a ford on the river *Sävaån*, south of the hamlet. This interpretation presupposes that the hamlet of *Möjbro* changed its name, as the settlement appears to date from before the late Viking period.