

## Summary

### The hamlet name *Möjbro*

*By Lennart Elmevik*

The first element of this Uppland hamlet name compounded with *bro* ‘bridge’ has previously been interpreted as containing the genitive plural OSw. *møia* of OSw. *mø* ‘maid, girl’, here in the sense of ‘daughter’, but it has also been assumed to represent an old name, of unknown origin, for (a stretch of) the river, now called the Sävåån, on which the hamlet is situated. The present author believes that there is good reason to take the river name alternative seriously, postulating for such a name a Proto-Germanic *\*Maujō-*, OSw. *\*Mø*, genitive *\*Møia(r)*. In his view, this name can be understood in two ways, either (1) as ‘the river that wears away its bed, that cuts its way down, erodes’, in which case the name can be traced to the verb PrGmc *\*mawēn* ‘rub, scrape’, preserved in OWScand. *má* with the same sense, and with counterparts in Faroese and in Norwegian and Swedish dialects; or (2) as ‘the mumbling, murmuring one’ etc., formed from an onomatopoeic root, PrGmc *\*mū-*, *\*mau-* ‘mumble, make sounds with closed lips’, that is preserved in a number of words in Scandinavian and other languages. According to the author, topographical support can be found for either interpretation.