

Summary

Skällerö in Funbo parish

By Svante Strandberg

Skällerö is a now lost settlement in Funbo parish in the province of Uppland. Its name was written (*in*) *skiælarø* in 1316 and (*villa*) *skællarøghe* in 1344. The final element consists of the word *ø* in the old sense of ‘land by water’.

An earlier interpretation suggests that the first element of *Skällerö* could contain an older name for the nearby river Funboån, OSw. **Skæl* f., gen. **Skællar*, or **Skiæl* f., gen. **Skiællar*, a name describing the sound of the river and etymologically related to OWScand. *skjallr* ‘loud, resounding’. The earlier topography of the site, however, poses problems for this interpretation. Another scholar has therefore preferred to regard *Skällerö* as containing an old genitive of the word *sköld* ‘shield’, used to denote an elevation.

While not wishing to reject the *sköld* alternative, the present author points out that a river name OSw. **Skæl* f. or **Skiæl* f., descriptive of the sound of a river, could be linked in a topographically satisfactory way to another watercourse: the one that flows from Lake Trehörningen, between the manor of Marielund and the former site of Skällerö, and discharges into the larger Funboån.