

## Summary

### Allbo härad

*By Thorsten Andersson*

The old minor province (*land*) of Värend in Småland was divided into five districts (*härad*). One of them had the name *Allbo härad*, OSw. *Albo(a)hæradh*.

The name of the district probably derives from the place where the district assembly, or thing, was held. The assumption has been that OSw. *alboar* (*-boar* ‘inhabitants’) could refer to the village of Alvesta, in the former parish of Aringsås. However, Alvesta is not known as the meeting place of a thing during the Middle Ages. Following a tip from a reader of *Svenskt ortnamnslexikon* (The Swedish Place-Names Dictionary), *al* can be linked, rather, to a documented medieval thingstead in Aringsås, a neighbouring village of Alvesta. The element *al* can then be identified with *ål*, OSw. *\*āl* ‘ridge’, which is well attested in place-names, referring here to the ridge in Aringsås.