

Summary

Some place-names in Värnamo parish

By Staffan Fridell

This article examines a number of hamlet names in Värnamo parish, Östbo härad, in Småland. *Mossle* is interpreted as OSw. *Moslø*, with the genitive singular of *mo* ‘sandy (forest) ground’ as its first element and an OSw. **lø* ‘open land’ as its final element. In line with earlier work by Fritz Askeberg, the three names *Västhorja*, *Östhorja* and *Hov* are regarded as names of cultic sites, although historical evidence indicates that *Hov* and *Östhorja* used to constitute a single settlement unit. The present author also suggests the possibility that the name of a neighbouring hamlet of *Västhorja*, *Alandsryd* (< OSw. *Alvisrydh*), could contain an appellative Runic Scand. **alvir* (< **alawihar*) ‘pagan priest’. The author supports Askeberg’s hypothesis that the hamlet name *Hindsekind* is an old name for a settled area, referring to the eastern part of the present parish.