Summary

"Hubbestad"

By Staffan Fridell

The village of Hubbestad in Svenarum parish, Västra härad, Småland, was probably part of the original land endowment of Nydala Abbey. In 1279, its name was recorded as Habystad. The author interprets the name as a compound of OSw. *har m. ‘widening of a lake or river; cut-off inlet’ with the final element OSw. *byastadher ‘site of a lost village’. The name has since undergone a number of changes: *Habyastadh > Habystadh > Håbestadh > Håbbestadh. The late change of spelling to Hubbestad, at the beginning of the 18th century, is primarily a normalisation to standard Swedish phonotactics.