

Summary

Tierp(e) and other medieval bynames identical to place-names

By Lennart Ryman

This essay examines the Old Swedish byname *Tierp*, which is identical to the parish name *Tierp* in Uppland. A derived form *Tierpe* also occurs as a byname and could be used alternately with the form identical to the place-name. Swedish place-names used as bynames are uncommon in the Middle Ages, but they do occur, often as the bynames of men of property in urban settings. *Tierp* may be regarded in this context as a relatively common name, with between nine and eleven known bearers from 1338 onwards. A corpus from Stockholm is presented for comparison, and the author discusses why this byname became as common as it did. The place-name *Tierp* possibly lent itself particularly well to use as a byname: it cannot be confused with any other Uppland place-name and, as the name of an old settlement area, it may have enjoyed greater status than the majority of parish names in the province. At all events, it became part of a byname onomasticon, and in Stockholm, where most bearers of the name are known, it may possibly have been handed down from one generation to another.