Summary

From Gilstring to Göstring

The phonological development of an Östergötland district name

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The Östergötland district name Göstrings härad shows an interesting phonological development. With reference to an earlier work by the author (Andersson 1965), this article examines the development of the name in Old Swedish from Gilstring, via Gylstring, Gölstring and Gørstring, to Göstring. Of particular interest here are the variant forms Gölstring and Gørstring, which occur side by side at the beginning of the 15th century. They suggest that the rs in Gørstring represents a single, assimilated supradental, as in contemporary Swedish fors. This observation is of importance in dating when that sound arose, a question on which different views have been advanced in the literature.