Summary

The church village of Stora Skedvi parish and its earlier names

By Leif Olofsson

The parish of Stora Skedvi in the province of Dalarna has been known since the 13th century. The village containing its church is situated on an elevation just north of the river Dalälven, and is today known simply as Kyrkbyn ‘the church village’. In this article, the author claims that the village originally had the more specific name of Berg(a) ‘hill’ and that, no later than the 16th century, this name was displaced by the more anonymous and, at the time, fairly unstable name of Kyrkbyn, Kyrkbacken or Kyrk(e)berg(et) ‘the church hill’. Using tax registers, legal documents and other sources, the author also shows which individuals lived on the farms here in the 16th century and how they inherited and bought land from one another. Much later, when Kyrkbyn had become established as the only name for the old village by the church, Kyrkberget became the name of another, later settlement on an elevation by the same name, some way to the north of the church village. The uncompounded name Berg(a) is now completely forgotten.