

Summary  
Three Småland village names

*By Staffan Fridell*

Börje Svensson, in 2012, interpreted the southern Småland name *Korrö* as originally a river name *\*Korra* ‘the murmuring one’, formed from a verb *korra* ‘to make a murmuring, rippling sound’ and referring to a stretch of the river Ronnebyån. The present author argues that the name instead contains the noun *korra* ‘marshy ground, small fen’, a word well attested in the local dialect. Immediately to the north of the farm is a small marshy area. The original form of the name was *Korro qværn* ‘the mill by the *korra*’.

A village in Värnamo parish in Småland has the name *Maramö*. As several researchers have previously assumed, this most probably represents an earlier Old Swedish *\*Marheme*, dative of a form *\*Marhem*. The development of the name can be summarised as follows (where > denotes a phonological development and → an analogical change):

*\*Marheme* > *\*Marme* → *Marmø* > *Maremø* → *Maramö*

Two different possible interpretations of the first element have been put forward, either the word *mar* ‘lake, body of water; marine inlet; fen’ etc. or a form *\*mar* ‘horse’, corresponding to Old West Scandinavian *marr* and cognate with modern Swedish *märr* ‘mare’. The same two alternatives need to be considered for a number of other place-names that can all be traced back to OSw. *Marhem*. The word and place-name element *mar* ‘body of water’ etc. has a markedly eastern distribution in Sweden. It therefore seems entirely reasonable and likely that it should occur in names from Uppland and Södermanland. On the other hand, there must be considerable doubt about it forming part of the names *Marum* in Västergötland and *Maramö* in Småland. The most probable interpretation of the first element of these two names is instead the word *\*mar* ‘horse’. The name *Maramö* (< *Marhem*) could thus be translated as ‘the horse village’ or ‘the horse farm’, referring perhaps to the settlement having a large number of horses or being known for particularly good horses. A semantic parallel can be found in *Hästum* in Lur parish in Tanum *härad*, Bohuslän, and probably also in *Jom* in the parish of Ekeby in Oland *härad*, Uppland, which has been suggested to derive from an older *\*Juhem*, with OSw. *\*jur* ‘horse’ as its first element.

In Uråsa parish in Konga *härad*, southern Småland, there is a village called *Skye*. The Late Old Swedish form of the name is *Skydhi*, gen. *Skydhis*. The author proposes that the name is formed from a derivative of a noun OSw. *\*skiudh*, corresponding to OWScand. *skjóð* f. ‘skin bag’, with the weakly declined variant *skjóða*, which also has a counterpart in Old Gutnish

*sciaupa* f. 'skin bag', recorded in *Gutalagen*, the provincial law of Gotland. Skye is situated on a small elevation just to the east of the wide, flat valley of the river Skyeån, an elevation that has thus been compared to a skin bag.