

Dalanamnen *Hedemora*, *Gussarvet* och *Rusbo* samt belägget *køpstadher* 1414 s. 59–77

Summary

The Dalarna names *Hedemora*, *Gussarvet* and *Rusbo*,
and a 1414 record of the word *køpstadher*

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This essay examines the present-day municipality, town and parish name *Hedemora* in Dalarna, together with two other names in the same town: *Gussarvet*, which now refers to a district of the town, and *Rusbo*, a lost settlement name. The first element of *Hedemora* contains the adjective **heden*, in an older sense of ‘belonging to a heath (“dry pine woodland”)', and the final element *mor* ‘marshy ground’, here referring to a long, marshy (but now drained) depression running alongside a sandy ridge with pine vegetation in the centre of the town. *Gussarvet* is interpreted as ‘Gusse’s (Gudzorm’s/Gudhthorm’s) inheritance’, and *Rusbo* as ‘the farm where a man with the byname Rus lives’, in this case most likely referring to a Knut Rus from the middle of the 16th century. In a reference to *Hedemora* as a *køpstadher*, recorded in 1414, the noun used can scarcely have had the same sense as modern Swedish *køpstad* ‘town with trading privileges’, but must, rather, have retained its older meaning of ‘place where trade occurs, trading place’. This instance of the word is interesting from the point of view of its history, given that *Hedemora* was not granted its charter as a town until the middle of the 15th century.