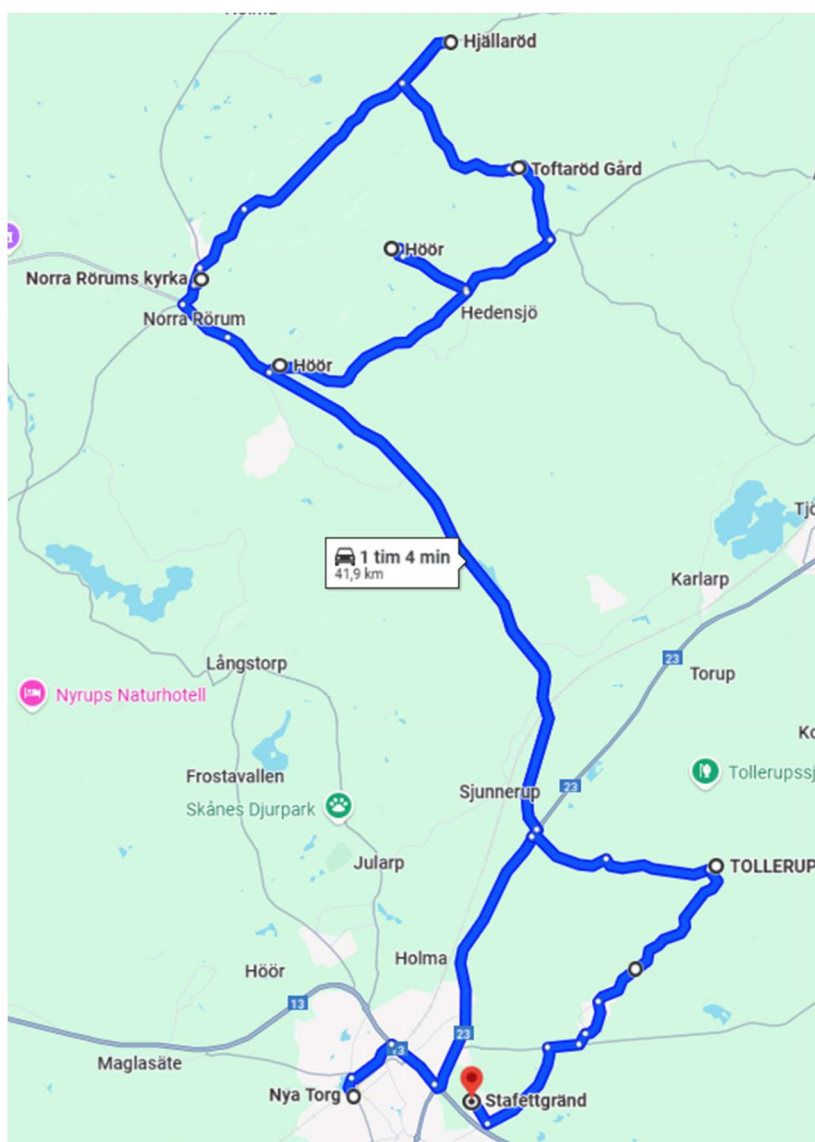
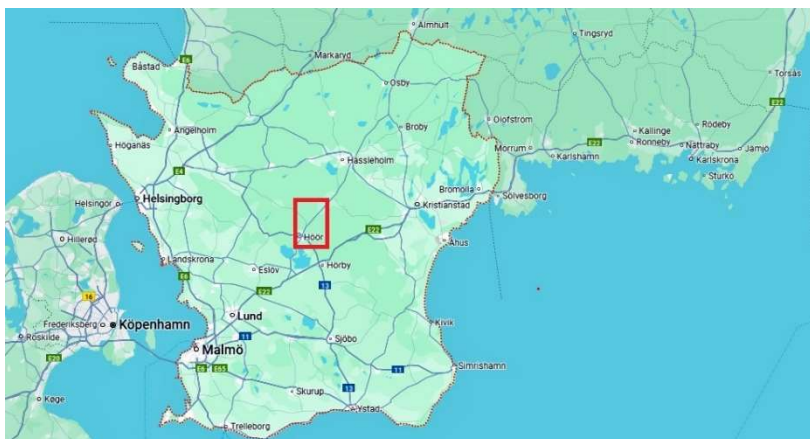


Back to the roots-trip

September 20, 2024



Visitors from North Carolina

During September 19–22, 2024 Kristin Bergman and her partner Jameson Parker from Cary, North Carolina, visited us. Kristin's grandfather's mother Ida Magnusson (1884–1926) was my grandfather Nils' (1872–1930) sister, which means that she is the daughter of a third cousin of mine.

Ida was one of the 37 107 Swedes who left our country in 1902 with hopes of a brighter future elsewhere. In August 1907 she was married in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to the nine days younger German migrant Carl Bergman.^A

September 19–22

We had met Kristin, her siblings and her parents Linda and Gerald (Jerry) twice before in USA. In September 2024 Kristin and Jameson attended a wedding in Germany and then came to visit us for a few days. That way she also got to meet a few more of her Swedish relatives for the first time.

On Thursday 19 Kristin and Jameson arrived in Malmö, where they had lunch with our son Pär and strolled around a bit in the city. They then took a train to our home in Rydebäck, just south of Helsingborg.

The next day we took our guests on a “back to the roots-tour” in the middle of Skåne, the southern-most region of Sweden, where some of our common relatives were born, lived and were buried. But more about that on the following pages.

Saturday 21 we visited Sofiero^B, a castle that used to be the summer residence of king Gustaf VI and as such was also visited by several American presidents and other foreign leaders. Kristin and Jameson also climbed the old fortress tower Kärnan^C, where they to the west could enjoy a good view of the Danish coastline including Copenhagen skyline as well as Kronborg, the castle famous from Shakespeare's story about the Danish prince Hamlet. In the evening, we had dinner with our son Johan and his family (Annette, Nellie and Filip).

Finally, on Sunday we went for a walk in the Söderåsen nationalpark and the valley Skärålid^D. After some coffee/tea in the afternoon with Johan and his family at their house in Borgeby we took our guests to Malmö, where they went by train across the Öresund to Copenhagen. The next day they took a flight back home to the US.



^A For further information on Ida, Carl and their descendants, see pages 154–176 in *Across the Atlantic* on www.vindogatan62.se under *Släktforskning*.

^B www.sofiero.se.

^C www.karnan.se.

^D www.soderasen.com/skaralid.



Above left: A short walk to Öresund, the water between Skåne and Denmark.
Above: "This is me about to try pickled herring for the first time" (photo: Jameson).
Left: Jameson inside the tower Kärnan (photo: Kristin).
Below: With Johan at Skärallid (photo: Annette).



Back to the roots

On September 20 we went to Höör. We started by showing where the house stood that my father's mother Amanda (Kristin's grandfather's uncle's wife) lived from 1936 until her death in 1960. We also had a look at the adjacent house that once was a bakery where my parents worked during the latter part of the 1930s.

At the old graveyard in Höör we visited the grave where my father's parents Nils and Amanda are buried, as well as where my father's father's parents Magnus and Emelie (and probably some of their children) are buried.

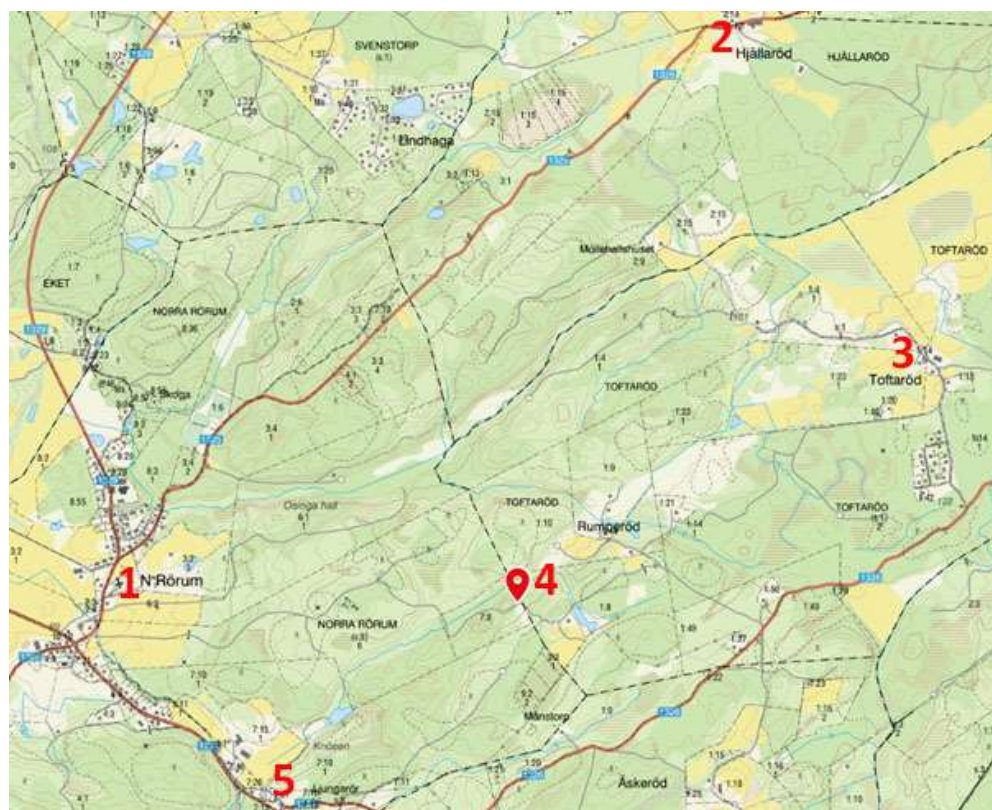
"Magnus Nilssons familjegrav" and "Murare (mason) N.J. Nilssons familjegrav" where my aunt Ester also is buried.



After lunch we went to places connected to long ago deceased relatives of Kristin and me. I refer the relations below as for example FF = father's father, MFM = mother's father's mother, SDD = son's daughter's daughter etc. Where no exact place is noted (like the church below), the name of the place/village should be understood as "in the neighborhood of...".

1 Norra Rörum

In the church of Norra Rörum, Ida's FF Nils Olsson and FM Hedvig Hansdotter were married in 1833. Both were buried here in 1899 and 1884 respectively. Ida's MFM Karna Nilsson was buried here in 1853, just as her MMF Anders Olsson (1861) and FFM Kjerstina Heljasdotter (1838).



2 Hjällaröd

Ida's mother Emelie Nilsson was born here in 1850, and her MF Nils Svensson in 1827. Also, her MMF Anders Olsson died here in 1861.

3 Toftaröd

Ida's father Magnus Nilsson was born in Toftaröd in 1844. Magnus' father Nils Olsson died here in 1899.



4 Askesholm

Ida's FMF, shoemaker Hans Peter Beckman (b. 1766) and his family lived here from around 1812. In 1815 the family consisted of Hans Peter, his wife Kjerstina Heljasdotter (b. 1772) and their children Anna, Sisela och Elna. Their last child Per was born here in 1817. Kjerstina died here in 1838, Hans Peter in 1852.

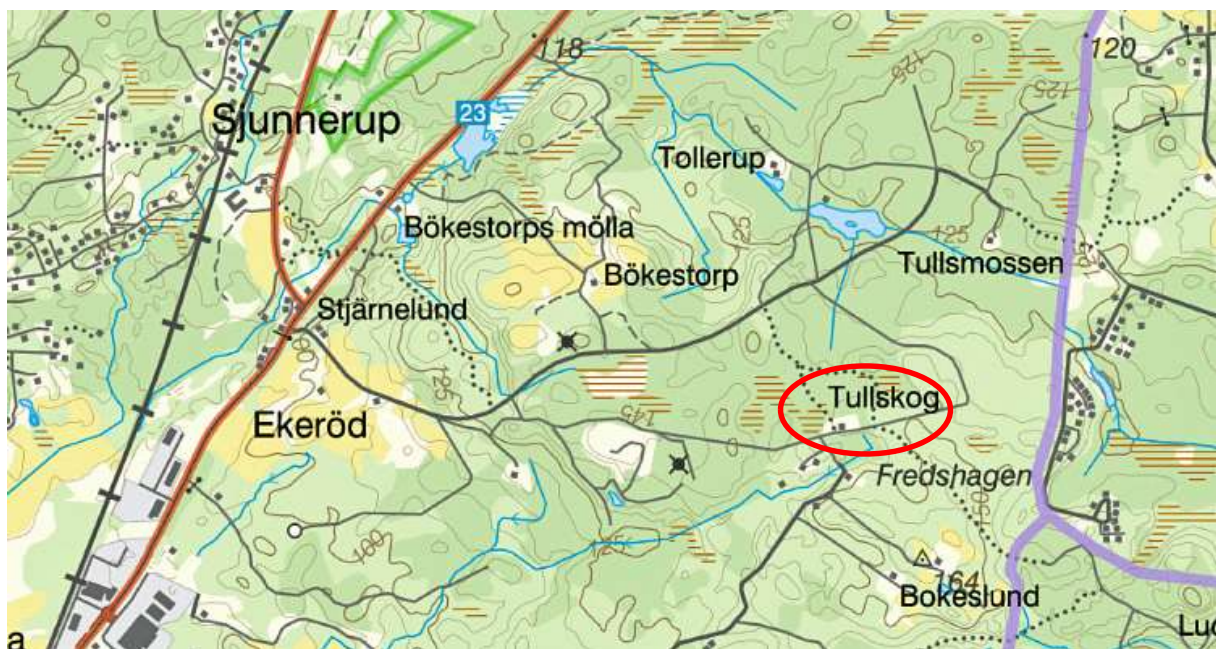
H. P. Beckman's DSDS SD Kristin Bergman and her partner James Parker just in front of the place where Beckman's house stood.

5 Ljungarör

Ida's FM Hedvig Hansdotter was born here in 1802. Her FMM Kjerstina Heljasdotter was born here in 1772 and also died here in 1838.

6 Tullskog

A couple of miles northeast of Höör is Tullskog. It once was a crofter's holding where my paternal grandfather Nils' parents Magnus Nilsson and Emelie Nilsdotter lived with their children, including Nils and Kristin's FFM Ida. Ida was born here (1884), as well as Hjalmar, Amanda, Enok, Joel and Rut. Magnus and Emelie died here (1914, 1907), just as Nils, Oskar, Enok and Joel. Also, at Tullskog my father was born in 1915 and his brother Gustaf in 1913.





Emelie and Magnus with their children, around 1900. Back row: Amanda, Vallentin, Nils, Sigrid, Alma. Middle row: Enok and Ida. Sitting: Magnus, Joel, Emelie and Ruth.



Tullskog around 1906–1907. The man with a white hat is my father's father Nils, while the bearded man with white cap is his father Magnus. At the far right is Magnus' wife, Emelie.

*Around 118 years later:
behind Jameson and
Kristin you can get a
glimpse of today's
Tullskog. To the far left
is a part of a stonewall
that once was the gable
of the barn that Nils
built as an attachment
to the rest of the house.*



Birthday party in Höör

Thanks to a combination of luck and good planning we managed to finish our roots-tour in Höör at the home of my first cousin Anders and his wife Monica. Anders and his twin sister Berit celebrated their birthday in the company of their siblings and in-laws. And Ingemo, me and our American guests also participated.



From left: Charley, Jameson, Ingemo, Kristin, Agneta, Ingegerd's husband Maths, Ingegerd*, Berit*, Berit's husband Lasse, Åke*, Anders*, Åke's wife Birgitta, Ander's wife Monica. Thanks to the neighbor for taking the picture!*

**= first cousin of mine.*

Ida Magnusson Bergman's ancestors and descendants

