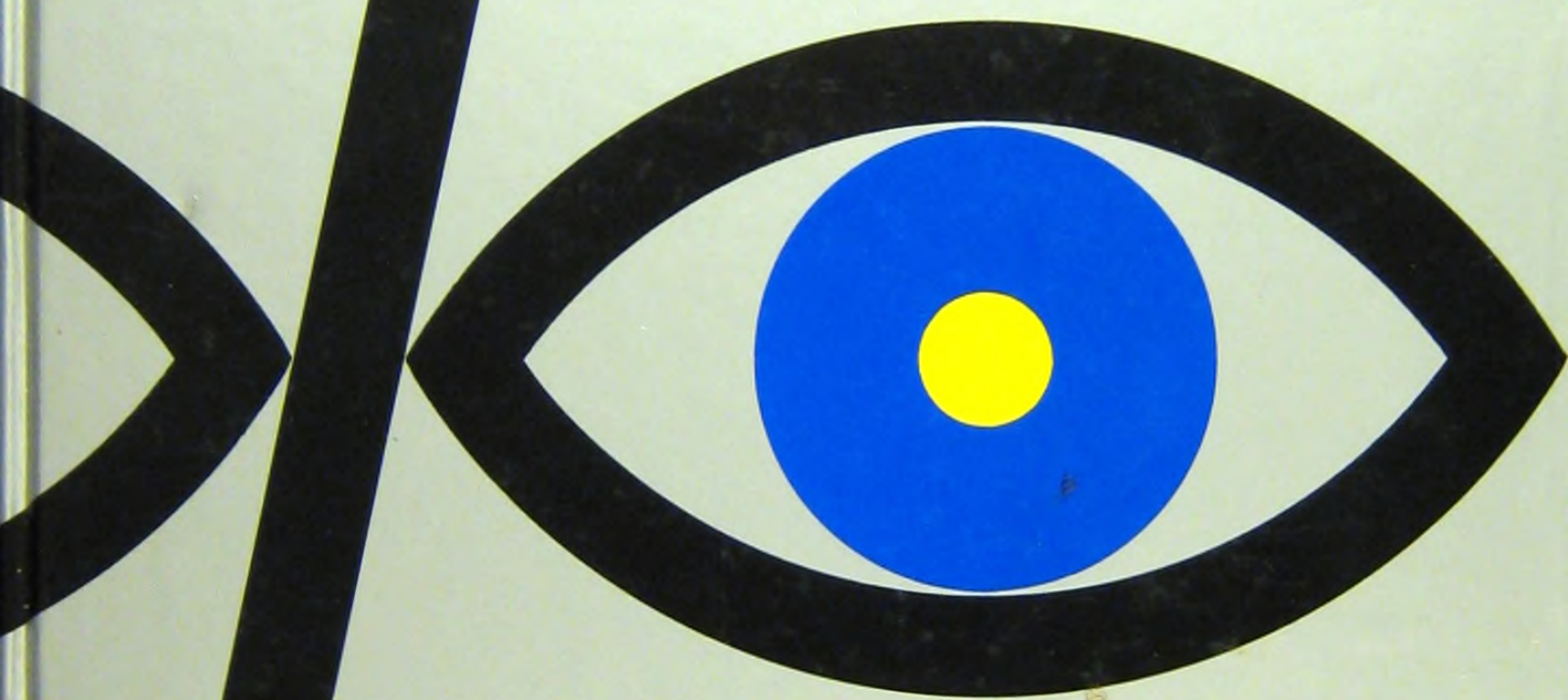


DONNER GULLERS



SWEDEN

SWEDEN

SE is the new national term for Sweden



Text: Jörn Donner, Jan Mårtenson, Tor Ragnar Gerholm

Photo: Peter Gullers

Design: Olle Eksell

Publishers: Gullers Pictorial AB



Is there a Swedish landscape?

Images that often re-occur in people's minds are those of Swedish meadows in summer, or Swedish woods and forests, or Swedish lakes, or coastal islands: images of Swedish natural scenery, less often of the landscapes in which most Swedes live, the surroundings of the cities of Stockholm, Göteborg and Malmö, of larger towns, in high-rise blocks or private houses, in a landscape criss-crossed by roads, power lines, and the rest of the communications network.

During recent decades Swedes have for the most part become dwellers in built-up areas, often longing for the countryside, its untouched landscapes (as they are thought to be), the scene of lengthier and lengthier holidays. A longing for the *stuga* in the country.

The everyday Swedish landscape hardly matches these images. During these decades, when millions of Swedes moved or were moved from their home tracts, the desire to "build away" urban housing shortages created many new suburbs and high-rise housing areas which are already beginning to be cleaned up: boredom and social problems were intrinsic to them, and all who could left them for private houses, either semi-detached or in their own gardens, for that was how they really preferred to live. Much inner city housing, often old and run down, was taken over by the many contemporary immigrants.

A national landscape exists but is multiform, for a single image of summer meadows fails to reflect the high-tech urban Sweden that in many ways resembles the USA, not merely superficially but also in essentials. So the images are necessarily many, none of them expressing the whole truth.

To depict a society is impossible: instead I am forced to mediate fragments, backgrounds, thoughts and images.

At the start of the 1970s, Sweden was essentially a complete or completely built society, although many contemporary politicians would have denied this, as would their successors today: politicians like to see society as incomplete, for this, at least in Sweden, justifies the reform work that all political parties say they want.

What is meant by a completely built society is a bit hard to define.



Sweden

Constitution

Constitutional monarchy

Head of state

King Carl XVI Gustaf, b. 1946

Parliament

One House, 349 members

Sweden covers 174 000 sq. miles (450 000 km²) and, in terms of land area, is the fourth largest country in Europe. Sweden has a population of 8 358,000.



Population

<i>Largest cities</i>	<i>1986</i>
Stockholm	663 217
Göteborg	429 339
Malmö	230 056
Uppsala	157 675
Norrköping	118 801
Örebro	118 443
Linköping	117 835
Västerås	117 732

Foreigners living in Sweden

	<i>1960</i>	<i>1970</i>	<i>1980</i>
Totally	199 000	412 000	389 041
Of these are from			
U.S.A.	2 000	6 000	6 374
Chile	—	—	9 238
Denmark	30 000	31 100	25 105
Great Britain	2 000	4 000	8 939
Finland	75 000	209 000	138 622
Greece	23 000	21 000	9 397
Italy	5 000	8 000	4 409
Yugoslavia	1 000	37 000	38 409
Norway	20 000	28 000	26 445
Poland	—	14 000	15 455
Turkey	—	4 000	21 105
Germany	2 000	6 000	11 972



Political parties and election results

	<i>%1979</i>	<i>%1982</i>	<i>%1985</i>
Social Democratic Party	43,6	45,6	44,7
Center Party	24,1	15,5	12,4
Liberal Party	11,2	5,9	14,2
Conservative Party	15,8	23,6	21,3
Communist Party	4,8	5,6	5,4
Others	3,7	3,8	2,0

<i>Number of persons employed by sectors</i>	<i>1985</i>	<i>1976-84</i>	<i>1985</i>
	<i>1000's</i>	<i>Annual change</i>	<i>%</i>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing	208	-1,9	-5
Mining and manufacturing	1 024	+0,8	+1
Construction	260	-1,1	-0,4
Trade and restaurants, hotels	591	-0,4	0
Communications	300	+1,2	+1,7
Banking and insurance	321	+4	+1,7
Public administration and other services	1 594	+2,8	+0,7



Education

Elementary education. A 9-year compulsory comprehensive school starting at the age of seven. English is compulsory from the third year. French or German offered as a second language. Certain options from the seventh year. The "Gymnasium", corresponding to Senior High School in the United States, covers 2-4 years. It offers education and training on both theoretical and practical lines, and is a merger of the traditional Central European "gymnasium" and the former vocational school.

Universities have existed in Uppsala, Lund, Gothenburg, and Stockholm for a long time, but there is also one in Umeå and one in Linköping, and a number of colleges on graduate level throughout the country. The number of students has grown rapidly — from 50 000 in 1963 to 125 000 in 1985.

Adult education has great traditions in Sweden, and courses are offered along every possible line, nowadays also through TV. Many adult education schemes are offered by organisations like the Labor movement, the Temperance movement, churches, etc.

Native language education is offered both pupils and adults in more than 60 languages.

Other photos:

Front leaf KW Gullers.

p. 24, 31, 101 Pressens Bild.

26, 46, 50 Björn Enström

31 top Tiofoto/Sven Gillsäter

38 Bilspport, 45 top Drottningholmsteatern.

43 Tiofoto P O Stackman, 51, 85, 89 Thomas Wingstedt,

52 bottom, 53 SAS, 64 top Nationalmuseum.

65 Åke Sandin, 66 Georg Sessler,

87 ASEA, 100 Per-Erik Svedlund

Printing: Tryckcentra AB, Västerås

Type Composition: Tryckeri AB Björkmans, Efttr

Paper: 170 g Macoprint

© Gullers Pictorial AB, 1987

ISBN 91-86440-24-1

*The Esrange space research centre is
located above the Arctic Circle.*





Jörn Donner, b. 1933, is one of the most wellknown and prolific writers and filmmakers in Scandinavia. He has so far published 29 books and made 14 feature films, most of them written by himself. On Sweden, Donner has published an extensive analysis in 1973. The book was a Swedish Book of the Month—main selection. He has also made a TV documentary on Sweden that will be transmitted during 1987 on Sweden's Channel One. Donner lives in Helsinki, where he also manages his own independent production company. He is a member of the Helsinki City Council and Chairman of the Board of the Finnish Film Foundation.



Jan Mårtenson, Swedish diplomat, well-known writer, and former Chef de Cabinet to the king of Sweden, and presently Director-General of the U.N. office in Geneva and Head of the Centre for Human Rights.



Tor Ragnar Gerholm, b. 1925, is a professor of physics at the University of Stockholm. He has been a member of the Royal Academy of Science since 1985, of the Board of Industrifonden since 1979, of the Board of the Swedish institute of Foreign Affairs since 1975, of the American Physican Society and of the International Chamber of Commerce's Commission on Energy since 1980. The author of over 80 scientific publications. Prof. Gerholm earned the Swedish Authors' Association Literary Prize in 1962.

