

Mikko Huhtamies

**Abstract: The Nordenberg utopia of manufacturing in Sipoo as a manifestation of wishful thinking in the Age of Utility**

The article deals with the utopian plans of the island of Fagerö in Sipoo, east of Helsinki, in the 1720s. The objective of the study is to reveal the motives and background of the project in a geographical context. The masterminds of the project were the Nordenberg (Nordenskiöld) brothers, young military engineers from Sipoo. The bold idea of Fagerö was to be an independent centre of international commerce (similar to Hong Kong) between the Netherlands and St Petersburg. Technologically and commercially, the plan was far ahead of its time and a forerunner of e.g. wind power and hydrotechnics. In the background of the plans were leading entrepreneurs from Stockholm and Gothenburg. However, nothing came from these plans, except for a wind-powered sawmill. The plans for Fagerö reflect well the over-optimistic Zeitgeist of the early eighteenth century in Sweden. The sources of the study are mainly compiled from the correspondence of the Nordenbergs.

Keywords: 18th century, The Gulf of Finland, industrial history, innovations, maritime history, utopias

Antti Räihä

**Abstract: To incorporate into the Russian empire and to annex to the Grand Duchy of Finland. Administration and economy in the towns' argumentation**

Antti Räihä's article examines in a comparative context the unification of "Old" and "New" Finland at the beginning of the 1810s from the perspective of three Old Finnish towns – Hamina, Lappeenranta and Savonlinna. The process of transition when these urban communities were incorporated into Russia after the signing of the Treaty of Turku/Åbo (1743) comprises in this article empirical comparison material for the unification of Old and New Finland. As well as emphasizing the reasons for unification, this article focuses on aspects of economic administration and argumentation with regard to the transitions. In analysing unification in the 1810s from the towns' perspective, the burghers' livelihoods and local administrative questions were of great importance. In previous studies focusing on unification mainly from donations' and peasants' point of view, these themes only received cursory examination.

Keywords: Early modern Russia, Old Finland, borderland, urban societies, comparative perspective

Erkki Salo

**Abstract: The Church Island of Vanaja: The Backgrounds of a Myth**

Studies dealing with the region of Hämeenlinna (Tavastehus in Swedish) often mention the island of Vanajansaari. The idea of the Vanaja Church being built on an island, which would have disappeared during the land raising process following the Middle Ages, is firmly rooted in the local historical tradition and in scholarly works as well. However, as Erkki Salo (t) proves by comparing the tradition with early written documents, maps, place names and our knowledge of water levels in the area, it is most likely that no such island ever existed. The tradition was perhaps inspired by occasional spring floods, when the church area was temporarily surrounded by water.

Keywords: Vanaja Church, island of Vanajansaari, myths, history writing

Jaak Valge

**Abstract: Why did some Estonian authors join the Soviet administration in 1940?**

In his article, Jaak Valge analyses why some Estonian authors joined the Soviet administration after the occupation of Estonia in 1940. Above all, he studies the motives of Nigol Andresen, Johannes Semper and Johannes Vares-Barbarus, who were appointed as ministers in the puppet government formed in 1940. Their alienation from Estonian society had begun in the 1920s and progressed during the years of the crisis. They saw in the Soviet Union the strictest opponent of National Socialism. In their eyes, this made the Soviet Union immune to criticism, which made it considerably easier and more effective for Moscow to operate in Estonia.

Keywords: Estonia, 1940s, communism, intellectuals, Soviet Union, collaboration

Kai Eriksson ja Helena Tuorila

**Abstract: Finnish self-service culture from a historical viewpoint**

The paper investigates the distinct historical phases of Finnish self-service culture from the 1950s to the 21st century. The first phase is organised around the introduction of self-service retail, which transferred service delivery partly to the customer and rendered customer choice the key principle. The second phase centres on the rise of self-service technology and the idea of co-production, and the third around the increasing interactivity of services and the growing demand of customer competence. The empirical contexts of the

analysis include the partial opening of the practices of Finnish alcohol monopoly Alko, the automation of the Finnish banking sector, and the transformation of nursing services, respectively. This paper examines the development of self-service culture and traces its expansion from relatively simple transactions to ever more demanding interactive services in both the private and public sectors.

Keywords: self-service store, self-service banking, nursing services, history, Finland