

Church book codes (in old Swedish "Signum")

Each category of books was given a code letter (Swedish: signum) and then a volume figure.

These letters are:

AI = clerical surveys

B = removal records

C = birth and baptism records

E = banns and marriage records

F = death and burial records

(Example: AI:3 is the 3rd book of clerical survey/Household Examination Records)

<u>Swedish</u>	<u>English</u>
Adel	Noble (of noble birth) / the nobility
Adelsman	Nobleman
Amiralitetet	The Admiralty (Navy)
Ana (förfäder)	Ancestor (forefather) - a person in an ancestor chart
Anor (förfäder)	Ancestors (forefathers) - persons in an ancestor chart
Ansedel / personakt	A personal record containing biographical data about an ancestor
Antavla	Ancestor chart
	A chart where a specific person forms the starting point for a genealogical study of this persons ancestors.
Anförlust	??? - A married couple normally has eight ancestors in the second generation, four on each side. However if two cousins marry they will partly have jointly grandparents. We have "lost" 2 persons in the second generation (6 instead of 8). This kind of situation in an ancestor chart is called "anförlust" in Swedish.
Arrendator	Tenant
Arrende	Tenancy

Arv	Inheritance
Arvsskifte	Distribution of an inherited estate
Assessor	Deputy Judge
Barbarnsbarn	Great-grandchildren
Barn	Child or in plural Children
Barnbarn	Grandchild or in plural Grandchildren
Barnhus	Orphanage
Barnmorska	Midwife
Bataljon	Battalion
Begravning	Burial, funeral
Begravd i stillhet, begravd i tysthet	A quiet funeral with only the closest family present.
Beväring	Conscript (soldier), recruits
Biskop	Bishop
Bonde	Farmer
Borgmästare	Mayor
Bouppteckning	Estate inventory proceeding
Bouppteckningsdokument	Probate records / estate inventory
Bror	Brother
Brorsdotter	Niece
Brorson	Nephew
Brud	Bride
Brudgum	Groom
Bruk (ex: järnbruk eller papperbruk)	Mill, for example iron works or paper mill
Bruksarbetare	Laborer/worker at a mill/factory.
Järnarbetare	ironworker, foundry man
Brylling/fyrmänning	Third Cousin
Bröllop	Wedding

By	Village
Båtsman (motsv soldat)	Seaman/deck hand (Navy personal provided by the Allotment System)
Det stora nordiska kriget	The Great Nordic War
Dombok	Court records (court of law)
Domprost	Dean (church)
Domsaga	The territorial district of a Häradsrätt.
Dop	Baptism, christening
Dotter	Daughter
Dragon	Dragoon, light cavalryman, formerly an infantryman on horseback, however fought like foot soldiers (not on horseback)
Drottning	Queen
Dräng	Farm hand
Dödsboken	Death Records
Dödsfödd	Stillborn
Egendom	Property, estate
Egendomsägare	Owner of a property / estate. (An older Swedish spelling is: Egendomsegare)
Faddrar (vid dop)	Witnesses (at baptism)
Far	Father
Farbror	Uncle (father's brother)
Farfar	Grandfather (father's fathers or paternal grandfather)
Farfars far	Great-grandfather (on the father's side - paternal)
Farmor	Grandmother (father's mother or paternal grandmother)
Faster	Aunt (father's sister)
Fattig	Poor
Fattighus	Workhouse/poorhouse
Fattigjon	Pauper
Fideikommiss	Entailed estate

Fiskare	Fisherman
Fjärdingsman	Parish constable (UK), Sheriff's Deputy (US) - A fjärdingsman was a deputy and didn't have the right to act in police matters on his own. He always had to act on orders by the länsman. See also länsman.
Flottan (örlogsflottan)	The Navy
Flytta	Move. "Flytta från" = move from. "Flytta till" = Move to.
Flyttbetyg	Removal certificate or moving permit
Forskning	Research
Fort/Borg	Fortress
Fotsoldat	private
Fregatt	Frigate
Friherre	Baron
Frånskild	Divorced
Furir	Sergeant
Fånge	Prisoner
Fältväbel	Sergeant major
Fängelse	Prison
Född	Born
Födelse	Birth
Födelsebevis, födelseattest	Birth certificate
Födelseboken	Birth records
Födelseort	Place of birth
Församling/socken	Parish
Föräldrar	Parents
Gallärflottan	Galley Fleet
Garnison	Garrison
Generaldirektör	Agency Director (US)
Generalmönsterrulla	General-muster roll

Gesäll	Journeyman
Gesällprov	Qualifying piece of work for an apprentice to become a journeyman in a guild
Gift (som i civilstatus)	Married
Gods (slott etc)	Estate, Manor
Godsägare	Landowner, estate owner
Grenadjär	A form of infantryman
Greve	Count , Earl
Grosshandlare	Wholesale dealer, wholesaler
Gästgivare	Innkeeper
Gästgiveri	Inn
Handelsman	Merchant, Tradesman
Hantverkare	Craftsmen, artisan
Hembygdsgård	Local history center (US) / Village hall (UK) / Community centre
Hemvist	Residence
Herrgård	Country estate, Manor
Hertig	Duke
Hovrätt	Circuit court of appeal (Regional court)
Hovrättsråd	Judge of appeal
Husar	Light cavalryman
Husförhör	Household examination
Husförhörslängd	Clerical survey or household examination roll
Hustru	Spouse, wife
Hytta (järnbruk)	Smelting house
Håll och stygn	Pneumonia
Härad	Civil district within a court, it's jurisdiction.
Häradsdomare	A honorary title of the oldest nämndeman in a häradsrätt (district court of law)

Häradshövding	District court judge. He was the chairman of a häradsrätt (district court of law). The häradshövding was the only member in the häradsrätt with a law degree. The others are called nämndemän (lay members of a court).
Häradsrätt	District court of law in the countryside. It's jurisdiction in one Härad. A "häradshövding" was the chairman of a "häradsrätt". The "häradsrätt" was manned by the "häradshövding" and a board of 12 lay members called "nämndemän". Since they were 12 members they were also called "tolvmän" (tolv = twelve). The häradsrätt convened three times per year, the so-called "lagtima ting" (the regular court sessions) in spring, summer and fall. Each court session could last for one or more days depending on the number of cases they had to handle. For urgent matters there was also "urtima ting" (extra court sessions). Replaced by the Tingsrätt in 1971. Courts in the cities were called Rådhusrätt.
Indelningsverket (militära)	Allotment system (the old system of organizing and financing the Swedish armed forces)
Infanteri	Infantry
Katoliker	Catholics
Kavalleri / rytteri	Cavalry
Klart skepp (mil)	General quarters (naval term)
Klockare	Parish clerk
Knekt (soldat)	Soldier
Komminister/kaplan	Assistant minister, assistant vicar (rector)
Kommun	Municipality
Konfirmation	Confirmation
Kontrakt (kyrkan)	Rural deanery (church)
Kontraktspäst	Rural dean (church)
Krig	War
Krigsarkivet	Swedish Military Record Office, Swedish War Archive
Krigsfånge	Prisoner of war
Krigsmakten	The armed forces

Kronofogde	County Police Commissioner (UK), Enforcement Officer (US)
Kung	King
Kunglig	Royal
Kusin	Cousin
Kyrka	Church
Kyrkbokföring	Parish registration
Kyrkböcker	Church records, Parish register
Kyrkogård	Cemetery
Kyrkoherde	Vicar, parish priest, rector, parish minister
Kyrkvaktmästare	Vergers, sexton
Källa (informationskälla)	Source of information
Kön (man/kvinna)	Sex (male/female)
Lag	Law
Lagman	Chief judge in court of law
Landsarkiven	Regional/Provincial archives
Landsfiskal	District police superintendent (and public prosecutor)
Landshövding	County Governor
Landskap	Province
Lantarbetare	Peasant
Lantmätare	Land surveyor
Legosoldater/legoknektar	Mercenaries
Linjeskepp	Ships of the line
Lysning	Bann
Lytt	Crippled, disabled
Läkare	Doctor, Physician
Län	County. The Swedish County (Län) have a role more similar to the State in the USA compared to the role of the US County. However the Swedish Counties doesn't have the independence of the States in the USA.

The US County is better compared to the Swedish "Kommun" (Municipally) rather than to a Swedish county (län).

See also The subdivisions of Sweden into Provinces and Counties

Länsman	Chief Constable (UK), Sheriff (US)
	A länsman was a local police officer and had the authority to act as a police and proceed with police work. See also "fjärdningsman" (deputy).
Lärling	Apprentice
Lönskaläge	Illicit relations between unmarried persons
Lösdrivare	Vagrant
Mantal	"Mantal" was a property tax code and every farm who had to pay taxes was assigned a "mantal". In the beginning (1600's) one "mantal" meant a farm with a annual yield large enough to support the farmer's family and their farm hands.

In the forest provinces in northern Sweden a farm of 1 "mantal" had to be big to produce a yield corresponding to 1 "mantal". In the plains in southern Sweden, with a better climate and a richer soil, a farm could be a lot smaller than in the north and still produce a yield of 1 "mantal". So "mantal" is not a value for the size of the farm but rather it's capability of yielding a good crop. Farms with the same "mantal" paid the same amount of tax.

Not all farms could produce a yield corresponding to 1 "mantal" but was still able support a family. It was common with farms of $\frac{1}{2}$ "mantal" or $\frac{5}{8}$ "mantal" etc. Throughout the centuries the "mantal" rating has changed into lower values. Farms have been split up between siblings due to inheritance and the tax code has been adjusted to that in order to get a fair taxation.

Farms in the 1700's and 1800's with a "mantal" rating of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{8}$ could still support a family. A farm in the 1800's with a "mantal" rating above 1 ($1\frac{1}{4}$ for example) was a farm with a large yield. So, the "mantal" rates have changed over the years. Sometimes you will find the "mantal" rate for a farm in the Household Examination Rolls (Hfl).

Mantalskriven	Registered for tax/census purposes
Mantalslängd	Tax/census records
Medborgerligt förtroende	civil rights
Medelpad	Province of Medelpad
Menig	Private (soldier)
Militärtjänstgöring	Military service

Mor	Mother
Morbror	Uncle (mother's brother)
Morfars	Grandfather (mother's fathers or maternal grandfather)
Morfars far	Great-grandfather (on the mother's side)
Mormor	Grandmother (mother's mother or maternal grandmother)
Moster	Aunt (mother's sister)
Murare	Bricklayer
Måg	Son in law
Målsman	Guardian
Mästarbrev	A craftsmans diploma or certificate
Mönstring (mil.)	Muster, inspection, review, enrollment
Namn	Name
Nationalitet	Nationality
Nattvard	The Holy Communion
Nämndeman	<p>Courts in Sweden don't have a system with juries. Instead there are a judge and a number of "nämndemän". The "nämndemän" are appointed laymen. They are not chosen by random, you have to apply and be approved by the local council / county council (a position of trust). It is not a profession but something that's done beside the nämndeman's ordinary profession.</p> <p>Unlike a jurymen the "nämndeman" actually is a member of the court and take an active part in the trial. Together with the judge they set the sentence. They can ask questions to the prosecuted.</p> <p>In courts of appeal there are more professional lawmen (jurists) then "nämndemän". However, in district courts and city courts the "nämndemän" are in majority.</p>
Officer	Officer
Ofärdig	Crippled, disabled
Ogift	Unmarried / single
Okänd fader	Father unknown
Ort	Place

Oäkta barn	Illegitimate child
Pastor	Parish minister
Pastorat	Parish
Pastorsexpedition	Parish office
Patronymikon	Patronymic
Piga	Maid
Prins	Prince
Prinsessa	Princess
Proband	Proband or subject
	The person you start with when you do genealogical table where you start with a specific person and do a genealogical research backward in time tracing this person's ancestors.
Profoss	Provost, Flogmaster (military)
Prost	Dean (church)
Protestanter	Protestants
Präst	Clergyman, vicar. Priest (catholic). Minister
Prästgård	Vicarage (UK), parsonage (US), rectory, minister's house
Rakt nedstigande led (släktskap)	A lineal (direct) descendant of... (kinship)
Rakt uppstigande led (släktskap)	In lineal (the direct line of) ascent (kinship)
Regemente	Regiment
Rekrytering	Recruitment
Religion	Religion
Repslagare	Rope-maker
Residensstad	County seat or County capital
Riddarhuset	The House of Nobility
Riksarkivet	The National Archive
Riksdag	The Swedish Parliament
Riksdagshuset	The Riksdag (Parliament) building

Riksdagsman	Member of the Swedish Riksdag (Parliament)
Rulla	Record, roll
Rådhusrätt	City courts of law before 1971 when they were replaced by the Tingsrätt. It was the borgmästare (mayor / chief magistrate) that was the chariman (judge) of the Rådhusrätt.
	Courts in the countryside were called Häradsrätt.
Räntmästare,	Treasurer
Rättare	Farm foreman (larger farms, manors etc)
Rödsot	Dysentry
SCB utdragen	Civil registration
Sexman (pl. sexmän).	A position of trust in a parish (socken) before the 1862 municipal reform. There were sex men of trust in the board of sexmän, therefore the name (sexmän = six men). The sexmän supervised: that church decisions were carried out, that the church as well as the parsonage was maintained, church discipline, etc.
Sjukdom	Disease
Sjukhus	Hospital
Självmördare, Självspilling	A person who has committed suicide. People who had committed suicide (or been executed) weren't allowed to be buried at the church cemetery (consecrated earth). Instead they were to be buried by the "bödel" (executioner/hangman) somewhere else. If the suicide was committed due to mental derangement, someone other than the executioner was allowed to bury the dead, however not at the church cemetery. From 1864 the Church agreed to bury suicides at the cemetery, but the funeral ceremony had to be "i stillhet" (quiet). However, from 1894 this type of burial could be performed the same as any other burial. "Begravd i stillhet" or "begravd i tyshet" meant in those days that there was no bell ringing at the funeral (quiet funeral). A funeral without bell ringing was considered to be degrading.
Sjömän (pl.)	Seamen, Sailors
Skarprättare, bödel	Executioner, hangman

Skatt (ex: inkomstskatt)	Tax
Skattefrihet	Exemption from land dues to the crown
Skild	Divorced
Skomakare	Shoemaker
Skogsvaktare	Forest ranger, forester
Skrå	Guild
Skräddare	Tailor
Slott, Borg	Castle
Slakten Högman	The Högman Family
Släktforskare	Genealogists
Släktforskning	Genealogy
Släktforskning	Genealogical research
Släktforskningslitteratur	Literature on Genealogy
Släktföreningar	Family Societies
Småbrukare	Small farmer / Peasant
Snickare	Carpenter
Socken/församling	A geographical area served by a church, an ecclesiastical unit. In other words a parish
Socken (lokalt styre)	The worldly (secular) socken - A geographical area for local administration. A local administration council (sockenstämma) ran the "socken". Before 1862, the church "socken" and the administrative "socken" encompassed the same territorial area. However, the worldly "socken" was replaced by an administrative subdivision called "kommun" (municipality) in that year.
Sockenstämma	Local administration council
Soldattorp	Soldiers croft
Son	Son
Spinnsidan (av en släkt)	The distaff side (of a family)

Stad	City or town
Stadsfiskal (åklagare)	Public prosecutor
Stamfar	First ancestor / progenitor / forefather The person you start with when you do a pedigree (descendant chart) where you start with a specific person and do a genealogical research forward in time tracing this person's descendants.
Stamtavla	Pedigree / Descendent chart A chart where a specific person forms the starting point (progenitor/ancestor) for a genealogical study of this persons descendants.
Stadsarkiv	City Archives
Statare	Agricultural labourer receiving allowance (payment) in kind
Statsminister	Prime Minister
Statssekreterare	Under-secretary of State
Stift (kyrkostift)	Diocese
Svenska kyrkan	Church of Sweden
Svensk adel	Swedish nobility
Svenska stormaktstiden	The Swedish Great Power period
Sveriges Riksdag	The Swedish Parliament
Svåger	Brother-in-law
Svägerska	Sister-in-law
Svärdsidan (av en släkt)	The male line (of a family)
Syskon	Sibling / Brothers and sisters
Syssling/tremänning	Second Cousin
Syster	Sister
Testamente	Will (last will and testament)
Tingsrätt	District court of law. Replace the older Häradsrätt as well as the Rådhusrätt in 1971.

Tolvman (pl. tolvmän).	A board of 12 lay members in the district court (häradsrätt) called "nämndemän". Since they were 12 members they were also called "tolvmän" (tolv = twelve => twelve men).
Torp	Croft
Torpare	Crofter, tenant. The tenant had to do a certain number of a full days' work per year on the landowner's land or estate as a payment for the tenancy.
Trolovad	Engaged to be married
Tullen	Customs
Utfattig	Destitute
Valuta	Currency
Vanför	Crippled, disabled
Vapensköld	Coat of arms (escutcheon)
Vigsel	Marriage
Välborne / Högvälborne	The Honorable xxxx / the Right Honorable yyyy. The title "the Honourable" was carried by younger sons of counts (earls in the UK) and by children of barons plus by ladies-in-waiting (hovdamer), members of the Supreme Court (högsta domstolen) and by certain government officials etc. The title "the Right Honourable" was carried by counts (earls in the UK) and barons etc. The masculine form is Välborne, Högvälborne and the the feminine form is Vålborna, Högvälborna.
Värnplikt	National service (mil.)
Värnpliktig	A person liable for military service, a Värvning (mil.) Enrollment, enlistment
Yrke	Occupation, profession
Åbo	Tenant farmer with a conditional, inherited lease
Åklagare	Prosecutor
Ålderman	Alderman
Ägare	Owner / proprietor (In older Swedish spelling: Egare).

Äktenskap

Marriage

Äktenskapsbrott

Adultery

Ärkebiskop

Archbishop

Ättling

Descendant / a person in a pedigree