



The history of Sannäs Manor

The name Sannäs has been known since the **14th century** when there were small villages and a mill quite close together on the site. At the end of the 14th century Peter Svärd, "a rich man from Livonia", owned this area. A memorable figure in the **15th century** was Paul Skytte whose name went down in history, because he bestowed the land of Sannäs on the convent of Naantali in gratitude for his daughter being taken into the convent. The convent later relinquished its claim to the land.

At the beginning of the **16th century** Bengt Larsson became the owner of Sannäs manor by marriage. He was raised to the nobility in 1586 and was given the name **Sabelhjerta** (Sabre Heart). In 1615, his son Jacob Bengtsson Sabelhjerta, who like his father was already an important man and a cavalry captain, became the manor's new owner. During Jacob Bengtsson Sabelhjerta's time the manor lands were expanded by linking them with several holdings, some through marriage. When the legacy of Jacob Bengtsson Sabelhjerta was divided Sannäs went to Jacob Jacobsson Sabelhjerta. Since the boy was a minor his mother managed the manor. When the boy grew up he went off to study in Turku, but like the rest of the men in his family he decided on a military career. In 1675 he was given a captainship in the cavalry.

After Jacob Jacobsson Sabelhjerta's death the estate was divided up in 1707. The heirs failed to reach an agreement, and the manor was divided into two. One half was given to Anna Margaretha Bosin, the widow of the son of Jacob Jacobsson. The other half was given to former captain **Otto Henrik Sabelhjerta**; a wastrel whose legacy and health were gone even before the estate was divided up. The former captain's fortunes fell quite quickly, and he was finally imprisoned for life for theft and vandalism. The golden age of the Sabelhjerta family was at an end, and in 1709 cavalry captain **Reinhold Johan Bure** became proprietor of both halves of Sannäs. He had lent the heirs money and had partially backed their debts.

During the "Great Wrath" (the Russian occupation in 1700-1721) the manor was uninhabited, but in 1716 the manor's crofters began to farm the manor's fields, too. In 1730 Anna Bosin managed with her able son-in-law, major **Otto Christer Boije** to purchase her share of Sannäs. Reinhold Bure's daughter, Anna Elisabeth Bure, owned the other half of the manor. Otto Christer Boije was a very capable man who took good care of the manor. After the death of his first wife Boije had married Gertrude Elisabeth Taube who died in 1740. The understanding between Major Boije and Miss Anna Elisabeth Bure deepened further, and in 1741 they were married. Sannäs was once again united.

Major Otto Christer Boije died in 1766 and left his well-kept manor to **Otto Christer Boije** the Younger, his son by Anna Elisabeth. Over the years, the manor of Otto Christer Boije the Younger sank deep into debt. He had become involved in the Anjala League conspiracy at an early date and in 1816 was forced to sell the manor to **Johan Anders Jägerhorn**. The sale was cancelled, however, since Jägerhorn was not able to raise the price.

In 1819 a suitable buyer was found. Count **Axel Gustav Mellin** (1775-1856), a privy councillor who later gave Sannäs Manor its fine aristocratic manor form. Construction was begun in early summer 1836 to the designs by architect Carl Ludvig Engel. The interiors were done in 1837. In 1841 master carpenter Simon Olander supplied a few more doors, and Adolf Lindholm from Helsinki made a 4-ell long mahogany corner sofa, shelves and other furnishings for the manor.

In 1856 Mellin died, and Sannäs went to his daughter, the dowager countess Agneta Charlotta Mellin. In 1894 Vilhelmina Mellin's granddaughter Ingrid Vilhelmina Ekelund inherited the manor. In 1898 she married count Gustav Silverhjelm, then a lieutenant, later a major. A year later Vilhelmina Ekelund died, and her newborn daughter became the manor's owner. Count Silverhjelm bought the manor from his daughter when she was just over a year old. The count later married Elsa von Born, who subsequently received recognition as a patriot and Swedish-language author in Finland. At the beginning of the 20th century the manor was the gathering place for a Military Commission when Finland was planning its independence from Russian rule.

In 1927 Lars Åberg and his wife Sylvi Helena Åberg bought most of Sannäs Manor. Thereafter the manor changed ownership at frequent intervals. In **1972** Oy Liikkeenjohdon Koulutuskeskus Ab (Management Education Centre Ltd.) bought the manor from the estate of Aarne Euramaa.

Today, Sannäs Manor is a modern and service minded conference hotel. Our four conference units lie in separate buildings, thus providing an undisturbed and inspiring working environment for each group. Sannäs Manor has 87 spacious and comfortable single/double rooms, altogether 174 beds. Our romantic Manor restaurant with ancient glory offers tasty cooking. Sannäs Manor has three saunas with cosy sauna lounges and fireplaces as well as a large swimming pool. The separate sports building is designed for volleyball, basketball, tennis, floorball and squash. You can also jog or ski on our lighted three kilometre long outdoor track.

Welcome!