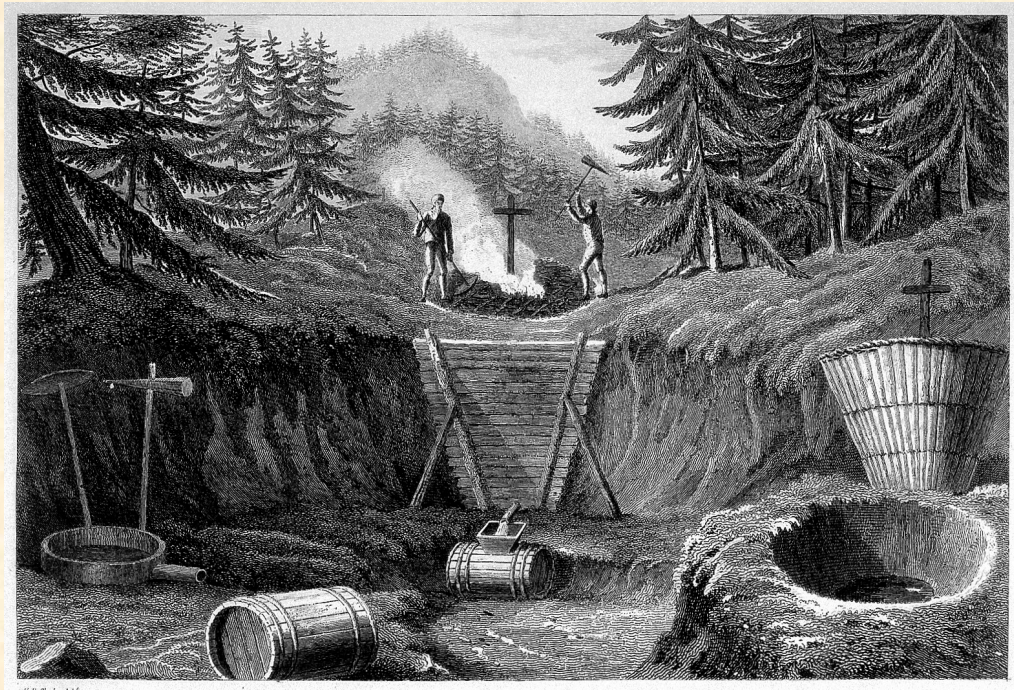


CONFLICT AND NEGOTIATION

MANAGEMENT OF FOREST COMMONS IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY NORTHERN FINLAND



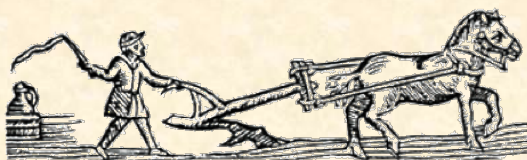
JAKOB STARLANDER

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

The forests of Northern Finland (then a part of the Swedish realm) were put under increasing pressure during the 17th century due to a rapidly expanding tar industry, prompted by the Swedish state's resource mobilization and intent to utilize the international market's demand of tar. This presentation will deal with this development from three main perspectives: (1) how village and parish communities shared and used forest commons, (2) the role of the growing class of burghers in the region, and (3) the Swedish state's attempts to regulate forest utilization. The results shows how peasant communities used local courts in order to self-regulate forest exploitation and monitor forest-related activities, whilst at the same time trying to cope with increasing taxes and growing demands of forest resources. Burgher classes acted as intermediators between local producers and the international market. The Swedish state played a double role in attempting to reduce forest cutting, whilst also prompting increasing levels of exploitation due to the Swedish Admiralty's need of ships.

Jakob is a PhD student from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, currently on his 3rd year. In 2020, he published an article on the subject, he has made several presentations at conferences, and has previously worked at the Vasa Museum in Stockholm.

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Tuesday, November 23rd at
6:15–7:30 pm Place: F011

