

BOKANMÄLAN

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Every hard-core logologist probably knows of the marvelous words to be found in the Oxford English Dictionary (Qwythsontyd, qlk, mvwe, etc.) and Hodge's Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico (Ckutc, Cgwálikc, etc.). Recently I came across a book of Finnish place names worthy of being grouped with these: Nylands ortnamn, deras former och forekomst till år 1600 (Place Names of Nyland, their forms and occurrences to the year 1600) by Greta Hausen, publications CLII, CLX and CLXXVII of Svenska Litteratursällskapet i Finland (Helsingfors, 1920-1924). Hereafter this will be shortened to NO.

It's not likely to be on your local library's shelves, alas, but those with access to it will find it a treasure: about 40,000 names (many duplications, though) from a time when every man was his own Webster and the J's and V's flowed like vowels. (As extreme examples, pages 213-18 give almost five pages of variant forms of 'Helsingfors', pages 722-28 a bit over five pages of 'Raseborg'.) Obviously, one can give only a small sampling of these riches, and I will limit myself to a few topics that have interested me. It is next to impossible to find a name without paging through the whole book, so I have attached page numbers as an aid to anyone who wants to follow.

Surely many logologists share my love for words that are simply weird, whatever that may mean. NO offers many. Among the ones that struck me: Rídtztö 126, Nöxx 166, Noxx and Nwx 167, Oleffpsby 169, Stijnszwijk 173, Maedlwnxby 196, Dijonijby 251, Pijcttko 309, Edhedh 330, Skrigttsskogh 559, Skrijxskug 560, Gögx 663, Konwngxböle 719, Mæyaelæ 786, and Trvlzhuwt 804.

Some of the names have interesting English overtones: Storms 381, Slicko 560, Moonpört 603, Malin gods 603, Snappertuna 706, Alpha 755, Bones 758, and Grind 767.

There are slews of double letters in NO. Words with three pairs are too common to be of interest. Some that have other characteristics to commend them such as shortness or oddness, are: Kräaxnnäss 49, Goollö 114, Koollö 115, Kuussall 303, Sthobbeenng 382, Kabbööll 517, Grenneess 549, Clåssarööfåars 612, Allhooff 706, Boodaall 757, and Hijbbööll 774. There are even a fair number with four double letters: Halffskiffiisöö and Halffskiffittö 715, Lill Abborfforss (and many variants) 744, and Skeeggbööll 800. The

best of all are the remarkably compact Ollssbööll 789 and the one five-pair example I found: Lille Abborfforssenn 752.

Triple letters are rare. I found only Karssskog 669, Jnguassskog and Jnguässskog 776, and Trulzhuut 804.

Finally, NO can add many vowel tetragrams to Darryl Francis's list in the August 1974 Word Ways. Here are 62 of them, in alphabetical order by tetragram:

Saiierff 635	Kariaierffui 578	Koiuakaskij 315
Kaiiola 287	Korkiaioia 474	Poiää 539
Korkiaioia 474	Kiriauakiuj 821	Looio 411
Saiierff 483	Kalkiaäija 821	Dooues 329
Saiierffujj 483	Selieuick 563	Kouuoila 423
Saiioki 569	Kariiaierffui 578	Saffueierff 634
Saiiächi 569	Siiuendo 647	Saffuiiarffui 634
Saiiärrfui 634	Loiiuo 410	Saffuiierffui 634
Tauuala 892	Viuoila 489	Saiioki 569
Pauuola 435	Wiuuola 489	Saiiärrfui 634
Pauäila 435	Oiaualaby 868	Saiioichj 570
Korkeaoija 474	Loiia 411	Quiuas 782
Korckeaäija 474	Poiie 539	Ytterquiues 782
Heiiala 469	Poiio 538	Uiuola 489
Veieby 447	Loiiuo 410	Quiuäs 782
Meiuastöö 367	Laxepoiia 426	Viiuoila 489
Leiuosby 364	Kiskoioensw 289	Kijskäioensw 288
Korcheoia 474	Loiöön 450	Kouuoila 423
Greuieböl 512	Koiuakaskijfårs 315	Käiuakoskifårs 314
Leuiäkj 674	Koiuokoskifors 314	Dääues 330
Kärckeaäia 474	Koiuukoski 314	

There must be many more beauties that I missed on a single run through the 896 pages, but this should do as a sample.