



Annual Review

2023

jake@polmanarkivet.com
www.polmanarkivet.com

At a Glance

1,000+

Yearly visitors

3,700+

Yearly website views

284

Social media followers

41

Countries reached

2,200+

Pieces of data collected

50

Objects in the collections

12

Physical acquisitions

73

Unique ancestors catalogued



Contents

3

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

9

ABOUT
POLMANARKIVET

12

MISSION & VISION

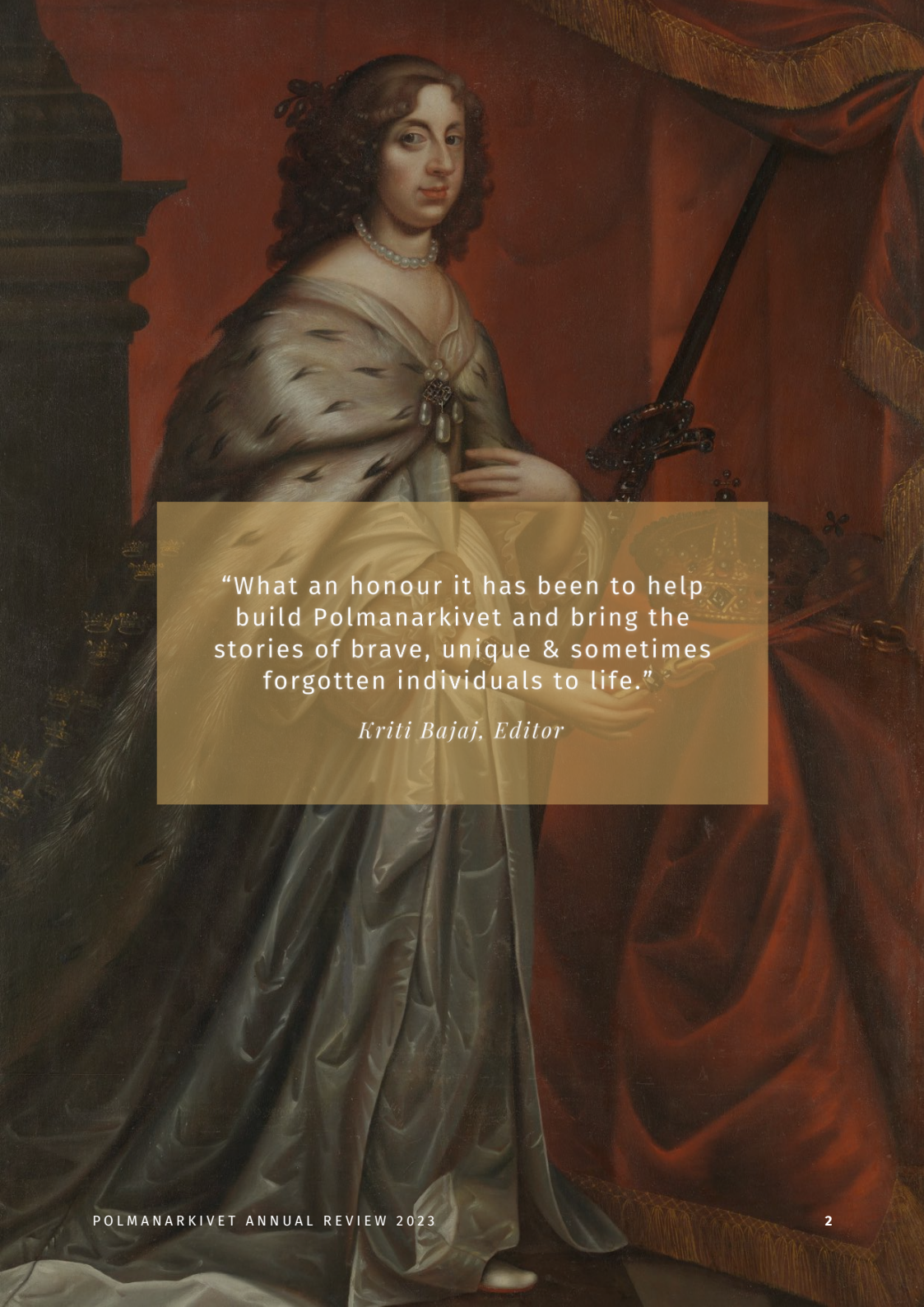
15

YEAR IN REVIEW

17

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS





“What an honour it has been to help build Polmanarkivet and bring the stories of brave, unique & sometimes forgotten individuals to life.”

Kriti Bajaj, Editor

Letter from the Director



Dear Supporters,

I am delighted to share our Annual Review, highlighting our achievements throughout the year. In mid-2023, we proudly unveiled our digital museum, which has since reached over a thousand people across 41 different countries. The accomplishments we have achieved in less than a year fill me with immense pride and gratitude.

During this period, we have curated over 100 objects from cultural institutions worldwide. We also announced our first-ever physical acquisition, a collection of 18th and 17th-century manuscripts related to the Pohlmann family from Hille, where the family originated. This collection is not just an addition to our archives, but a tangible link to the very roots of the family tree.

Of particular note, our research also led us to the rediscovery of a long-lost portrait of Jürgen Polman, the family patriarch. Once hidden within the archives of Karlberg Palace, this portrait is now accessible to the world once again.

Von Pohlmann seal

A copper alloy seal with the coat of arms of the Pohlmanns dated between 1800 to 1880. At the end of the 19th century, the seal belonged to Aleksei von Pohlmann, one of the last members of this now extinct noble family. Photo: Tallinna Linnamuuseum



Our annual review isn't just about reflecting on the past, but also planning for the future. We're embarking on a journey to delve deeper into our historical lineage, preserving the familial and cultural history of the past for the enjoyment of generations into the future. I hope you join us on this adventure.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support, and invite you to delve into the following pages of this report to discover the milestones, achievements, and exciting prospects that define Polmanarkivet.

With humility,

Jake Peterson
Director

Von Pohlmann coat of arms

The coat of arms of the von Pohlmann family. Brothers Johann and Gustav Pohlmann, Swedish officers, received the surname "Pälman" when ennobled. Photo: Rahvusarhiiv



Portrait of Carl Gustaf Pählman

The artist is unknown, but the painting depicts Lieutenant Colonel Carl Gustaf Pählman after his return from captivity during the Great Northern War. Photo: Kulturparken Småland



"The discoveries and research are exciting, but the relationships made at Polmanarkivet are the most significant."

Jake Peterson, Director

Von Oeynhausens Seal

A close-up of the von Oeynhausens seal from a 1697 promissory note. Part of the first acquisition of Polmanarkivet.

About Polmanarkivet

Our Story

In 2022, *Arcadia: Peterson Family History and the Secrets of a Swedish Nobleman* was published, documenting a Swedish noble family and their descendants across Sweden and America. A year later, what began as a family history book evolved into a digital museum. Polmanarkivet's vast collections go beyond the limitations of a traditional book.

Polmanarkivet is a digital archive and museum related to the Polman, Pählman, and von Pohlmann family, with an extensive repository of digital collections, interactive exhibits, and research material. Polmanarkivet is responsible for collecting and disseminating items that might be of genealogical or historical value. We aim to preserve collections as a tangible link between the past, present and future.



Swords of honour

This sword from around 1800 belonged to Lieutenant Colonel Adolf Fredrik Pählman, who served in the Russo-Swedish War of 1788–1790. Part of the Artefacts & Objects collection.



Mission & Vision

Our Mission

The mission describes Polmanarkivet's main purpose:

Polmanarkivet inspires a diverse audience by illuminating the lives and histories of the Polman, Pålman, & von Pohlmann families.

Core values

We boldly champion *connection* and equitable access to materials, working together in *collaboration*, and practising responsible *curation* to safeguard collections for future generations. These aren't just values, they're our ethical compass, influencing every choice we make. Together, these core values are the gold standard against which all Polmanarkivet's activities are measured.

Our Vision

The vision describes Polmanarkivet's ambition. It is grounded in our mission and core values, guiding us towards where we want to be in the future.

Polmanarkivet has the following vision:

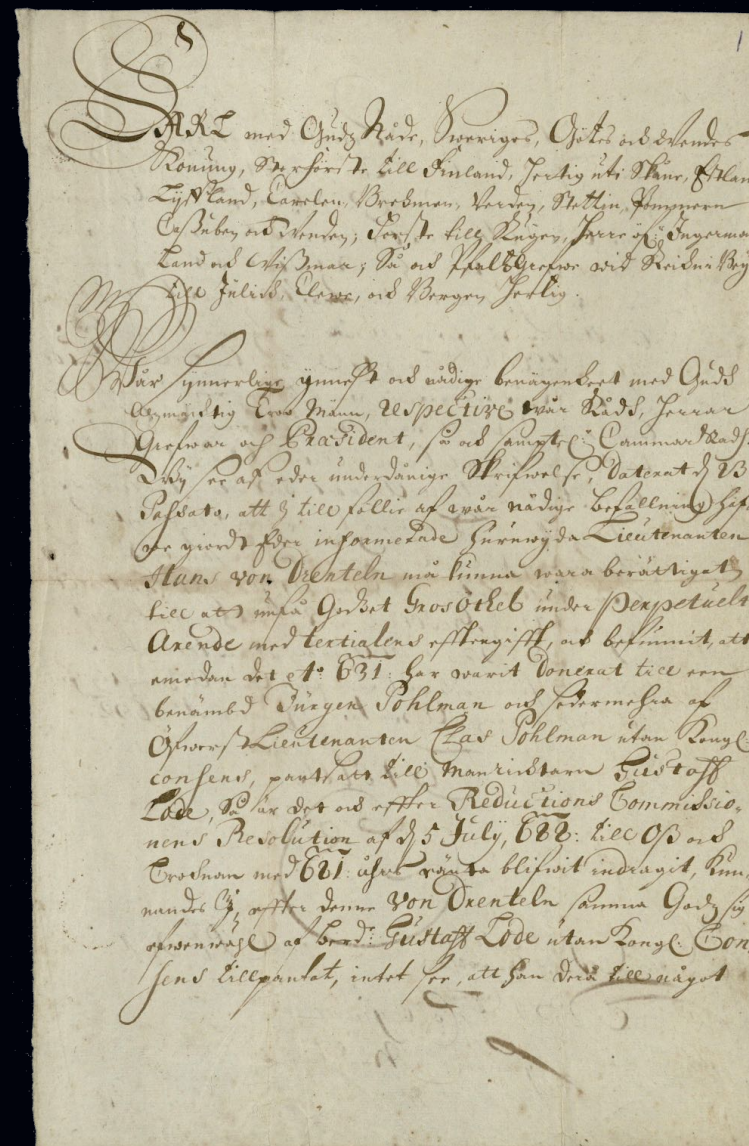
We strive to collect and disseminate materials that have genealogical, historical, or cultural significance, and ensure that our collections are appropriately stored, preserved, managed, and researched.

We are driven by an ambition to delve as far back into history as possible, documenting every Polman, Pålman, and von Pohlmann that ever existed. We aim to engage archivists, curators, and genealogists to realise this ambition to preserve this history.

Polmanarkivet aspires to establish itself as a leader in its core areas of expertise: research, family history, digital collections, publications, and social media. We strive to serve as a bridge for the museum and genealogy sectors, demonstrating the potential at the intersection of genealogy, history, and curation.

Karl XI's letter

A letter with Karl XI's decision on the lease conditions of Öötsla manor in Estonia. Part of the Manuscripts collection.





Portrait of Göran Pålman

The portrait was rediscovered by Polmanarkivet in 2023. The original is located at Karlbergs slott with a copy in a private residence in Sweden.

Year in Review

Our first acquisition

This year we announced our first-ever physical acquisition, a collection of 18th and 17th-century manuscripts related to the Pohlmann family from Hille, where the family originated. This collection is not just an addition to our archives, but a tangible link to the very roots of the family tree.

The collection comprises 12 manuscripts from the 17th and 18th centuries, including receipts, letters, inheritance documents, and promissory notes. Of particular interest are seven mortgage notes from 1697, all signed and sealed by Johann Ernst Heinrich von Oeynhausen (1653-1722) and his wife Susanna, née Pohlmann (1644-1728) in Hille. Both issued promissory notes to borrow money "to pay off our general debt."

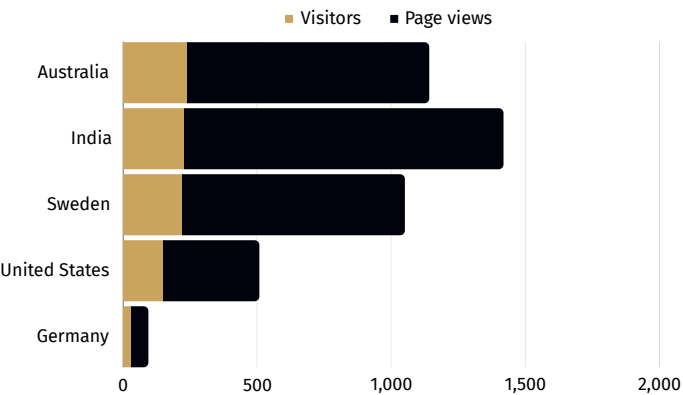
As one might expect, some of the documents are in poor condition with the paper heavily browned and stained, creased and some edge damage. Some manuscripts even have tears, resulting in the loss of some text. Polmanarkivet will be storing these manuscripts under optimal conditions for preservation until they can be evaluated for possible restoration.

A forgotten portrait

In the early 17th century, a portrait was commissioned of the family patriarch, Jürgen Polman (Göran Pålman) the Elder. Jürgen served the Swedish Crown as a commander at Padise and went into the service of Duke Karl of Södermanland, who was subsequently crowned as King Karl IX.

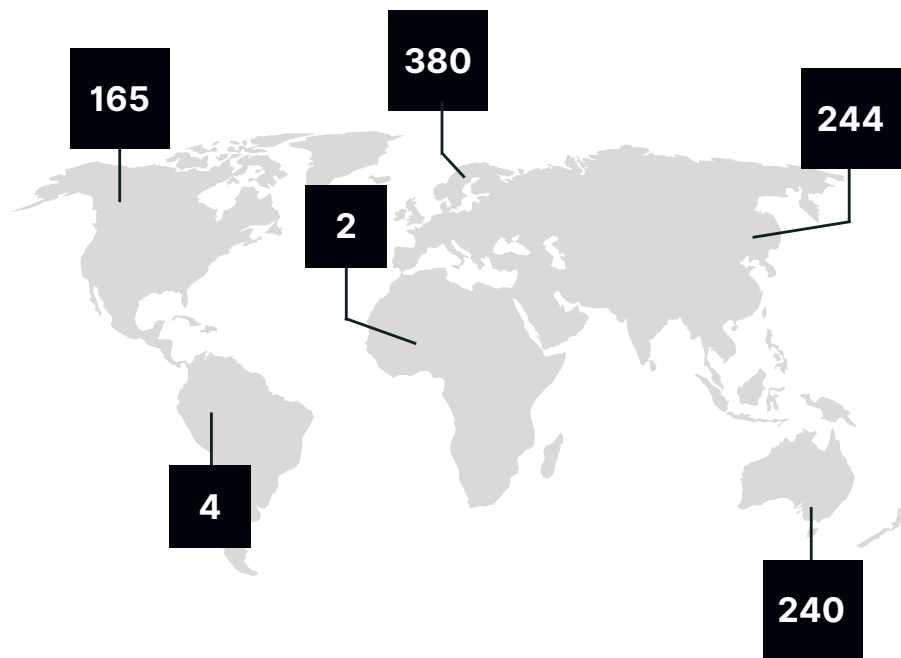
This painting, once hidden within the archives of Karlberg Castle, was rediscovered by Polmanarkivet following rigorous research into its location. Today, the portrait is once again available for the world to admire.

The precise date and artist of the painting remain unknown. Karlberg Castle is home to a collection of portraits of *fältherrar*, or field commanders, most of which were painted during the 17th century. Many of these portraits are the work of the renowned Swedish nobleman and portrait painter David Klöcker Ehrenstrahl.



Global Reach

Polmanarkivet reached 41 countries in 2023 with over 1,000 visitors. The top five countries by visits were Australia, India, Sweden, United States, & Germany.



Polmanarkivet thanks all our volunteers, patrons, donors, and visitors for their unwavering support. We are immensely grateful to the many institutions worldwide for their tireless work and incredible generosity, including:

Ateljè Catellani
 Deutsche National Bibliothek
 Digitalt Museum
 Eesti Muuseumide Veebivärv
 Eesti Rahvusraamatukogu
 Karlbergs slott
 Kriti Bajaj
 Kulturparken Småland
 Kungliga biblioteket (KB)
 Latvijas Nacionālā arhīva
 Lidköping kommunarkiv
 Ljungby kommun
 Militärhögskolan Karlberg
 Rahvusarhiiv
 Riddarhuset
 Riksarkivet
 Skoklosters slott
 Solna stadsbibliotek
 Stockholms läns museum
 Vänermuseet
 Västergötlands museum

Contact

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the SDGs.

www.reallygreatsite.com
hello@reallygreatsite.com
[reallygreatsite](https://www.reallygreatsite.com)

Image credits unless otherwise stated:

Photo PDM Klöcker Ehrenstrahl, David, Skokloster Castle/SHM (cover)

Photo PDM Nationalmuseum (at a glance)

Photo © Bukowski Auktioner AB (page 1)

Photo CC BY Unknown artist, Wikimedia Commons (page 2)

Photo CC BY Rahvuserhiiv (page 3)

Photo CC BY Tallinna Linnamuuseum (page 4)

Photo CC BY Rahvuserhiiv (page 5)

Photo CC BY Kulturparken Småland/DigitaltMuseum (page 6)

Photo PDM Nationalmuseum (page 7)

Photo CC BY Polmanarkivet (page 8)

Photo CC BY Kulturparken Småland/DigitaltMuseum (page 9)

Photo © Bukowski Auktioner AB (page 10,11)

Photo PDM Rahvuserhiiv (page 13)

Photo CC BY Karlbergs slott/Polmanarkivet (page 14)

Photo PDM Wuchters, Abraham, Skoklosters slott/SHM (page 17)

Design by Polmanarkivet



POLMANARKIVET

Polman, Pählman, von Pohlmann