

2024

ANNUAL REVIEW



Polmanarkivet

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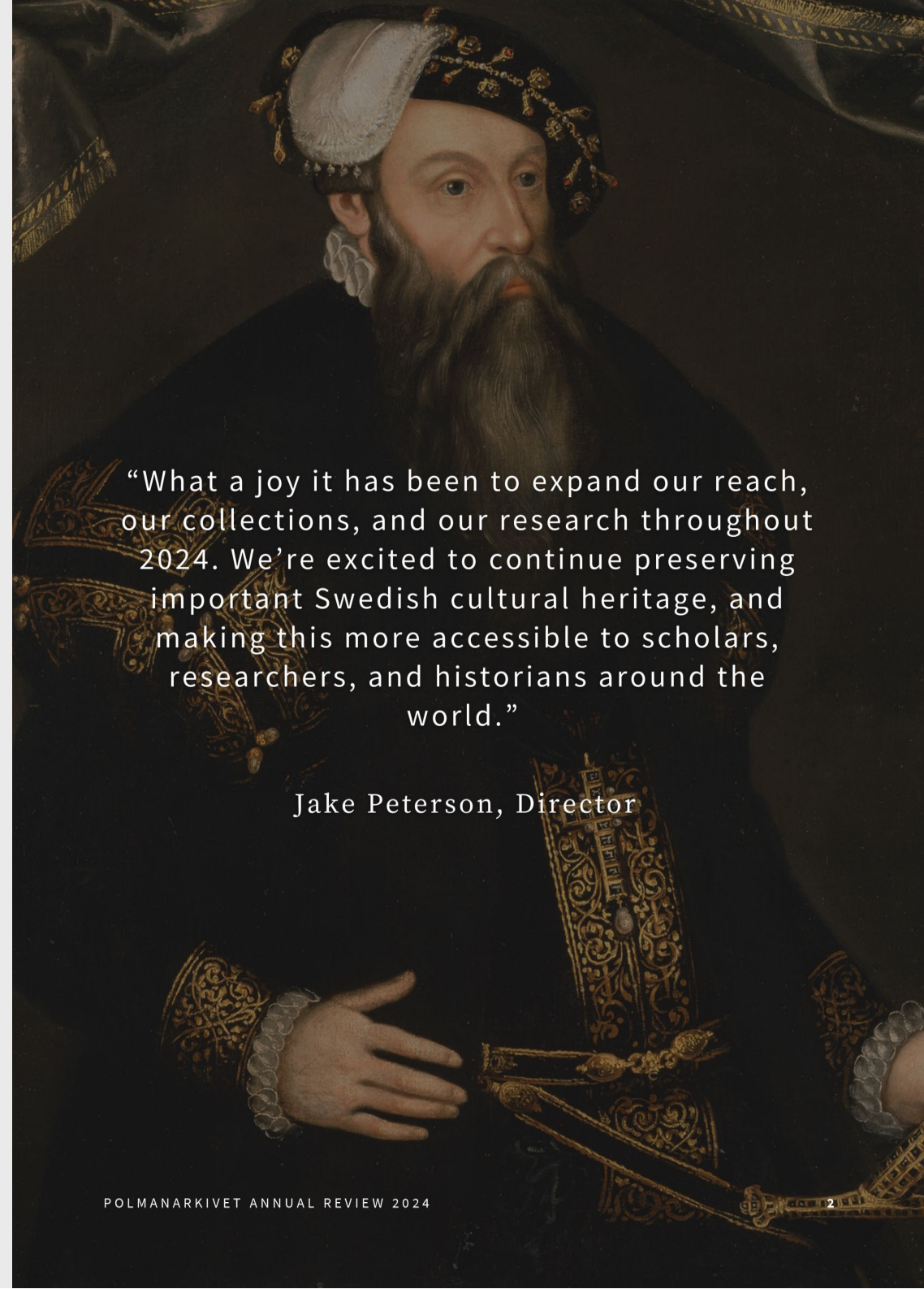
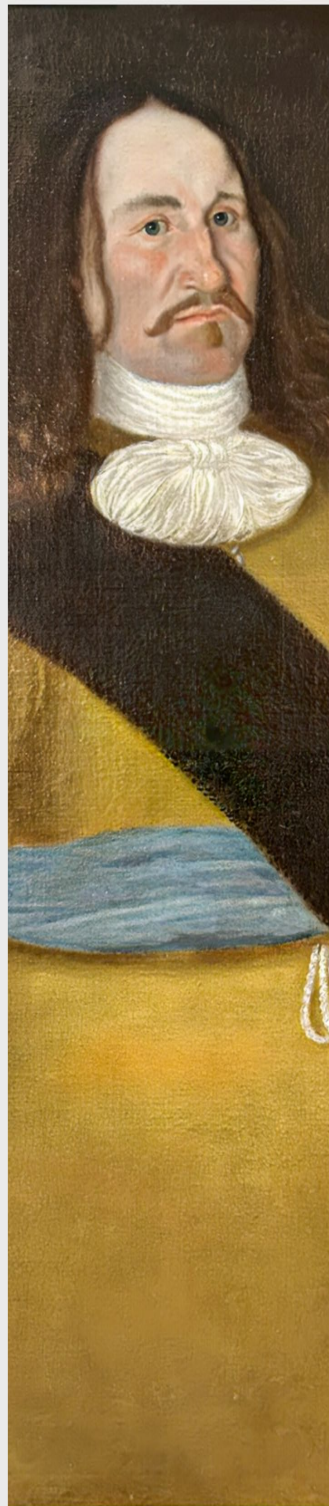
YEAR IN REVIEW

15

OUR NUMBERS

18

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



“What a joy it has been to expand our reach, our collections, and our research throughout 2024. We’re excited to continue preserving important Swedish cultural heritage, and making this more accessible to scholars, researchers, and historians around the world.”

Jake Peterson, Director

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

DEAR SUPPORTERS,

As the year comes to a close and we approach our second anniversary, it is humbling to reflect on how far we've come. 2024 has been a year of memorable events, and I am proud to share the 2024 Annual Review of our achievements, which are possible because of your ongoing support.

This year, we dedicated much of our time on deepening our understanding of the family history. One of the most significant milestones was confirming the identity of the father and mother of the family progenitor, Jürgen Polman († ca. 1640). After years of research, we were able to answer this long-standing question through the confirmation of an archival source, allowing us to trace the family lineage back another generation.

Our commitment to preserving history and making it more accessible inspired the creation of the *Legacy in Letters* project. This initiative is focused on transcribing and translating letters written by family members to prominent historical figures over the past 500 years, including Catherine the Great, Gustavus Adolphus, Axel Oxenstierna, and Curt von Stedingk. We are particularly proud of this project, as it not only preserves these irreplaceable letters but also opens up their historical content to scholars, researchers, and historians around the world.



In 2024, we expanded the collection by adding 15 new letters, dating from 1603 to 1700, further connecting the story of the family's contributions to pivotal moments in history.

Looking forward, 2025 promises to be our most exciting year yet. We have ambitious plans to further expand our research efforts, deepen our collections, and make our work even more accessible to the global community. With new partnerships and innovative projects, we are eager to discover and preserve important Swedish cultural heritage for future generations.

In the pages that follow, you will find more details about our achievements in 2024. We invite you to explore our work and share in illuminating the lives and histories of the Polman, Pählman, & von Pohlmann families.

The progress we've made this year would not have been possible without your support, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Jake Peterson
Director





“It has been another exciting year at Polmanarkivet! As we explore the broader histories of the region and how they impacted the families in focus, our upcoming new avatar promises even more relevance and significance to family history research.”

Kriti Bajaj, Editor

ABOUT POLMANARKIVET

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT US

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 the largest museum of cultural history and stories about the Polman, Pålman, & von Pohlmann family.

Polmanarkivet is a digital archive and museum with an extensive repository of digital collections, interactive exhibits, and research material. Established in 2023, Polmanarkivet has been illuminating the lives and histories of the Polman, Pålman, & von Pohlmann families and bringing forgotten stories to life. We are responsible for collecting and disseminating items that might be of genealogical or historical value.



PURPOSE, MISSION & VISION

OUR PURPOSE

To illuminate the lives and histories of the Polman, Pålman, & von Pohlmann families.

OUR MISSION

We bring the Polman, Pålman, & von Pohlmann past to life through stewardship, research, and storytelling.

OUR VISION

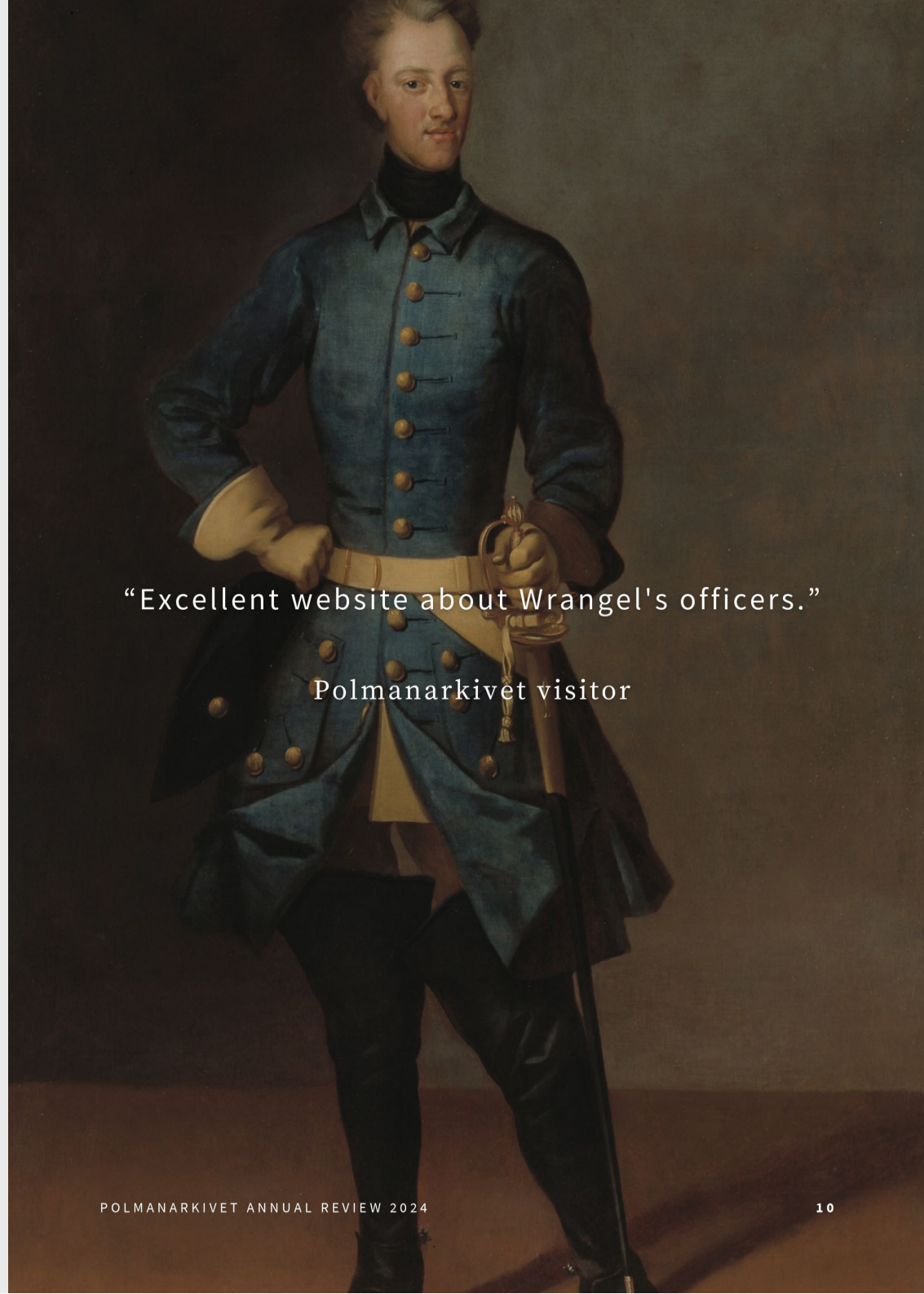
We strive to collect and disseminate materials that have genealogical, historical, or cultural significance, and ensure that our collections are appropriately stored, preserved, managed, and researched.

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.



“Excellent website about Wrangel's officers.”

Polmanarkivet visitor



YEAR IN REVIEW

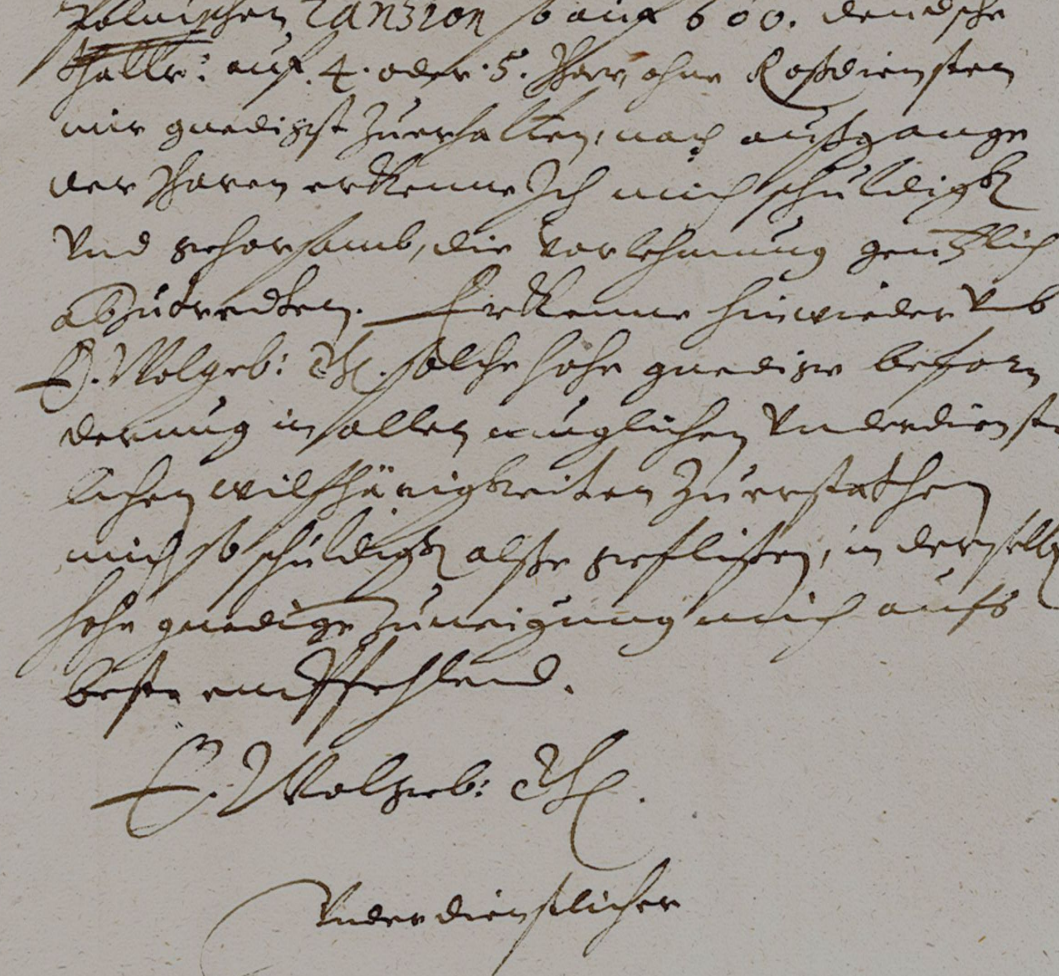
LEGACY IN LETTERS: BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

The *Legacy in Letters* project is focused on transcribing and translating letters written by family members to prominent historical figures over the past 500 years, including Catherine the Great, Gustavus Adolphus, Axel Oxenstierna, and Curt von Stedingk.

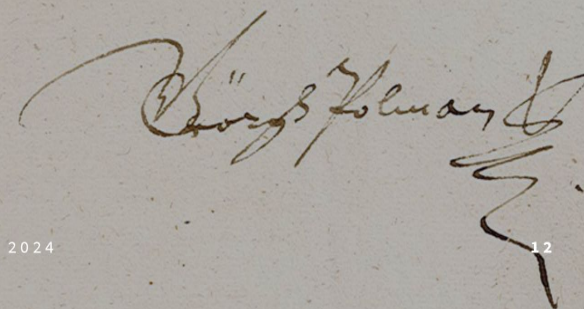
This year we expanded the collection by adding 15 new letters, dating from 1603 to 1700, further connecting the story of the family's contributions to pivotal moments in history.

The oldest letter in the collection is from 1603, written by Jürgen Polman to his commander, Anders Lennartsson, urging him to secure his freedom at the earliest. Lennartsson was the commander of the Swedish forces in Livonia. Expressing his gratitude to be alive and held in the favour of the commander, Jürgen wrote that he had heard of a plan to set him free in exchange for a Polish prisoner.

Full-page photos of selected letters are included in this review. Our long-term goal is to translate all letters in the collection for wider research access.



Letter from Jürgen Polman





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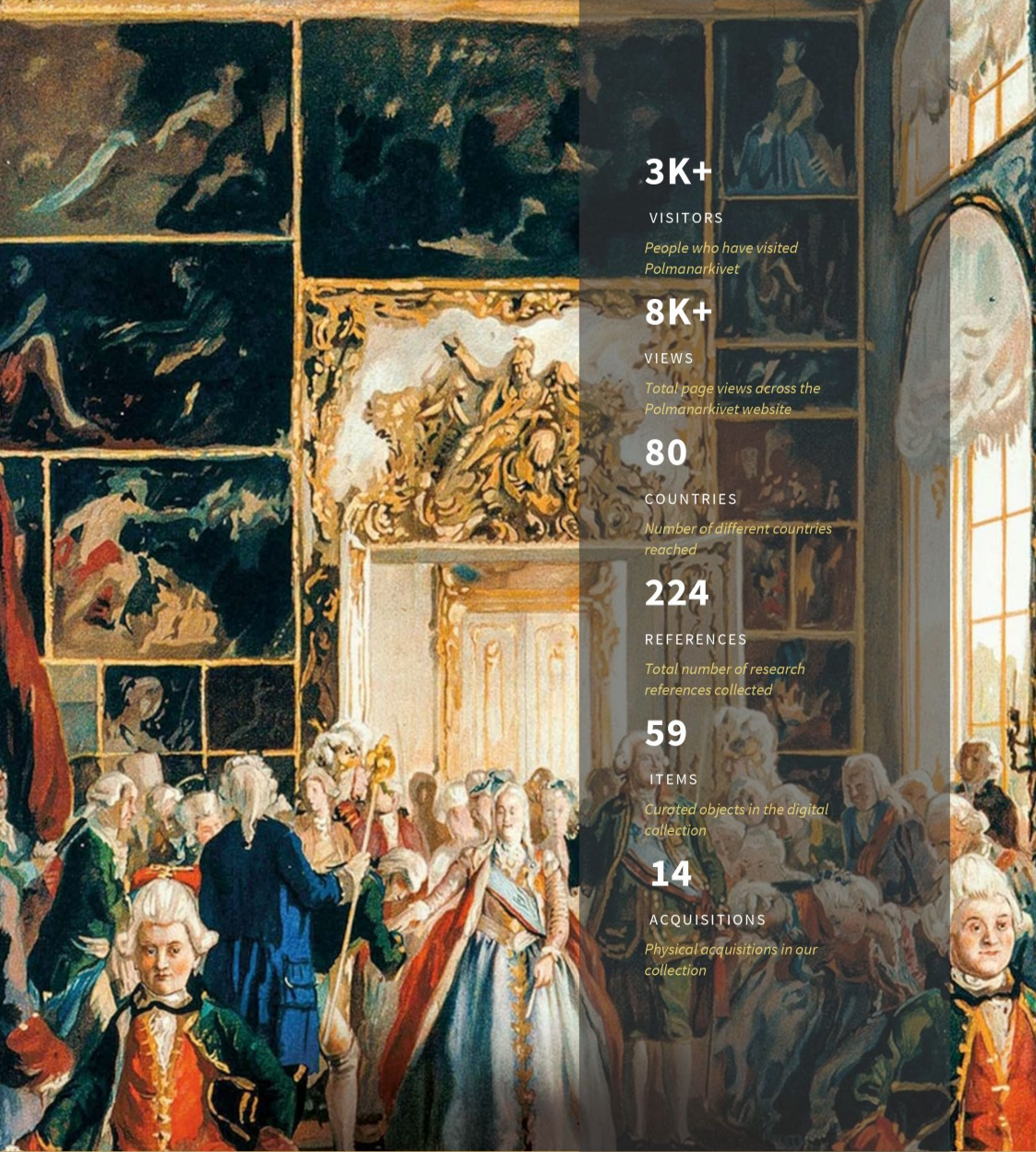
Ärle Gerns Lufft Mäst Min
Allerhöfdeste Loring

Ätthor

2:

Stockholm.
Höfvermästare

Letter from Åke Ulfsparre,
Governor of Kronoberg County
A series of letters to request for
clarification from the king
regarding compensation for a
widow, Mrs. Margareta
Silfversparre, after her husband
Johan Pählman's death.



3K+

VISITORS

*People who have visited
Polmanarkivet*

8K+

VIEWS

*Total page views across the
Polmanarkivet website*

80

COUNTRIES

*Number of different countries
reached*

224

REFERENCES

*Total number of research
references collected*

59

ITEMS

*Curated objects in the digital
collection*

14

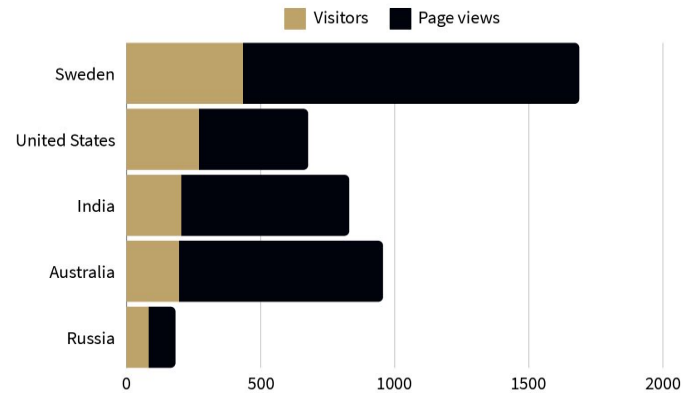
ACQUISITIONS

*Physical acquisitions in our
collection*

OUR NUMBERS

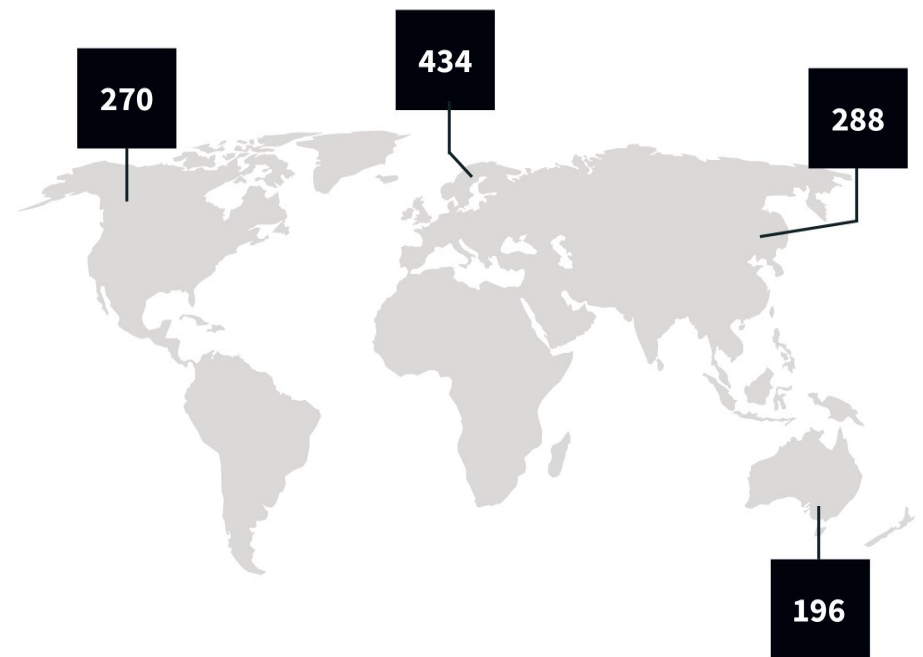
GET IN TOUCH

Website: polmanarkivet.com
Email: hej@polmanarkivet.com
Social Media: [@polmanarkivet](https://www.instagram.com/polmanarkivet)

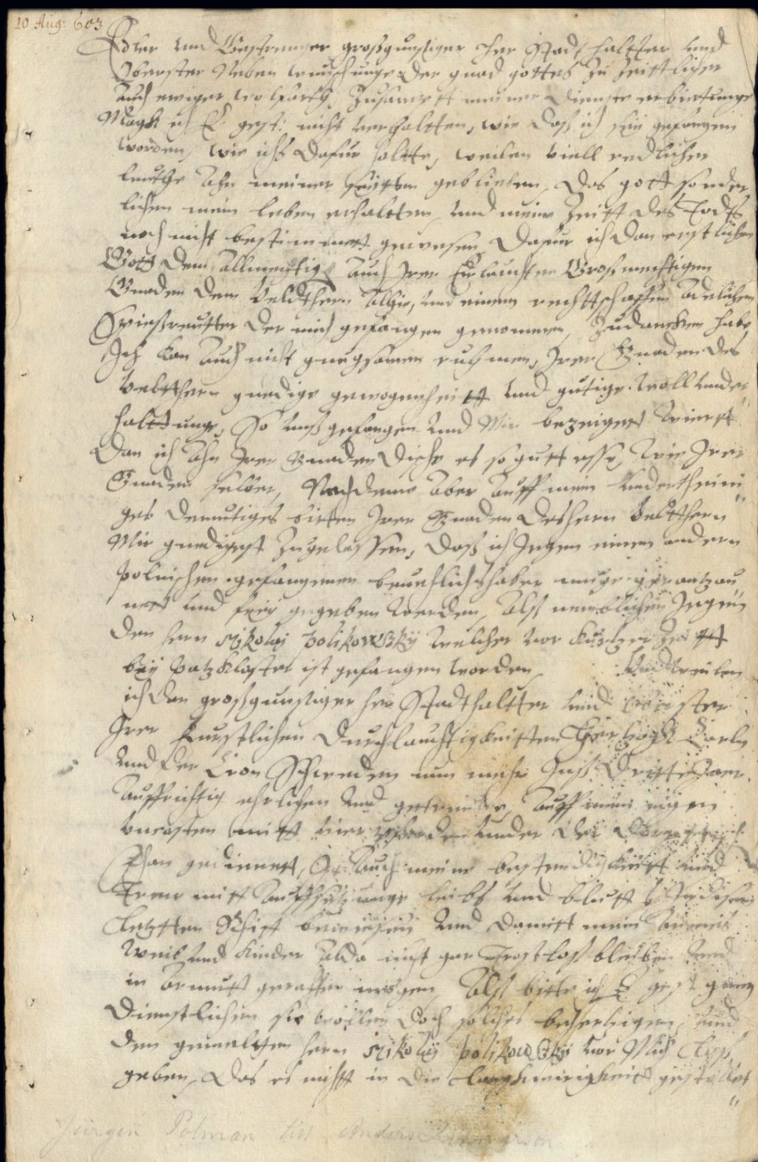


Global Reach

Polmanarkivet reached 80 countries in 2024 with over 2,000 visitors. The top five countries by visits were Sweden, United States, India, Australia, & Russia.



Letter from Jürgen Polman
A letter from Jürgen Polman (The Elder) to his commander Anders Lennartsson in 1603 to secure his freedom.



OUR HUMBLE THANKS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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:

- ArkivDigital
- Beyond History
- Genealogiska Föreningens
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- Karlbergs slott
- Kriti Bajaj
- Kulturparken Småland
- Kungliga biblioteket (KB)
- Ljungby kommun
- Nättidningen Svensk Historia
- Påhlmans Handelsinsitut
- Rahvusarhiiv
- Riddarhuset
- Riksarkivet
- Skoklosters slott
- The Swedish Organizer



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