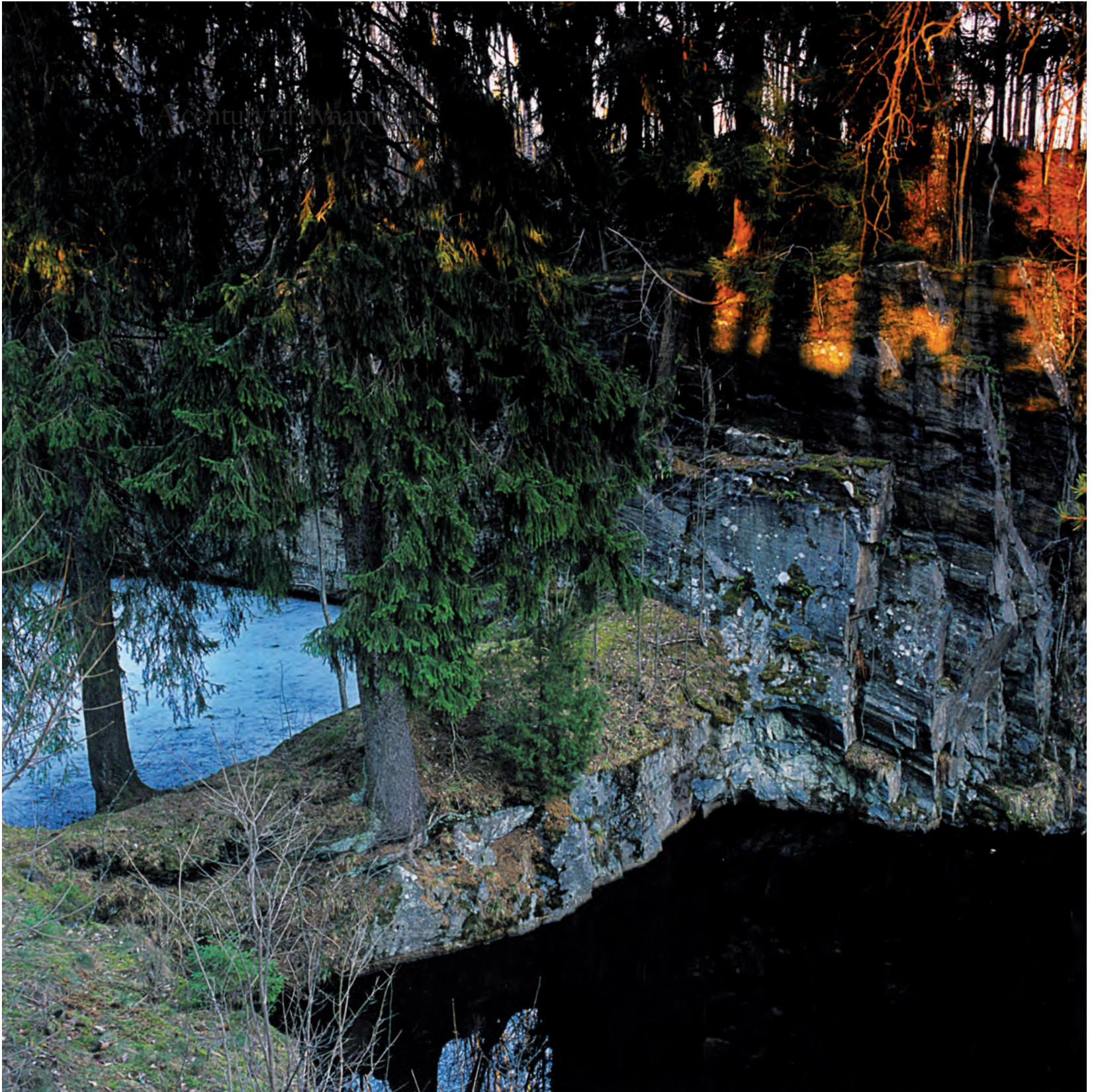




NATIONAL
ATLAS
OF
SWEDEN



The warmth of the early spring sunshine still does not reach the blue ice in the inner pit, but it soon will.

Around Norberg the much wanted ore was not far down and here on Scinryggen in the 17th century it could be mined by fire-setting. Fires were lit on the rock to make it split. With every fire – and with every blow of the sweating miner's crowbar – the wealth of Bergslagen grew.

Swedish Mining and Metalworking

– Past and Present

special editors

Jan af Geijerstam

Marie Nisser

theme manager

The Swedish Steel Producers' Association



National Atlas of Sweden

On the initiative of the Historical Metallurgy Group of Jernkontoret (the Swedish Steel Producers' Association), Jernkontoret signed an agreement in 2006 with the National Land Survey of Sweden to collaborate in publishing an atlas of 4,500 years of Swedish mining as part of the National Atlas of Sweden (SNA) series. Norstedts Publishing Group has been responsible for SNA since October 2008.

The book becomes number 24 in the National Atlas of Sweden. It is also being published in English and has been given the title "*Swedish Mining and Metalworking – Past and Present*". Parts of it will also be published on the Internet in SNA's web atlas at www.sna.se. The project has been financed with generous grants from research foundations, companies in the industries concerned, county administrative boards and organizations listed at the end of the book.

Jan af Geijerstam, PhD, and Professor Emerita Marie Nisser have been the special editors of the book. Ulla Arnberg, MSc, at Norstedts Publishing Group has been the general editor. There has been a steering group for the project consisting of Professor Marie Nisser (chair), Orvar Nyqvist, DEng, Kerstin Fernheden, research manager (secr.), and the librarian Yngve Axelsson from the Historical Metallurgy Group, together with Professor Emeritus Martin Fritz, Gothenburg University, Gert Magnusson, senior lecturer, National Heritage Board, and Professor Emeritus Leif Wastenson, chief editor, SNA.

The editorial board of the National Atlas of Sweden thanks all the authors and others who have contributed and to the authorities and organizations that have kindly made material available.

The National Atlas of Sweden comprises the following volumes (in order of publication):

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THE POPULATION

THE ENVIRONMENT

AGRICULTURE

THE INFRASTRUCTURE — ADMINISTRATION, ENERGY, COMMUNICATIONS

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CULTURAL LIFE, RECREATION AND TOURISM

SWEDEN IN THE WORLD

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AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY IN SWEDEN SINCE 1900 (2011)

SWEDISH MINING AND METALWORKING— PAST AND PRESENT (2011)

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Preface

No other branches of trade in Sweden can point to such a long period of pre-industrial and industrial production as mining and metalworking. These sectors go back in time several thousand years and even today they continue to occupy a leading position in Swedish industry and commerce. The existence of a unique source material – maps, drawings, written documentation and physical settings – makes it possible to describe the development of mining and metalworking from its beginnings to the present day.

Mining and metalworking have left their mark on people's work and leisure and shaped both landscape and settlement. Mining operations were once a route to colonization and population growth. Even in prehistoric times ironworking created new markets and during the Middle Ages and the following centuries it came to play a leading part in international trade. Copperworking has been important to Swedish exports through the Great Copper Mine at Falun in the 17th century and nowadays at Boliden in Västerbotten. These sectors have contributed to the development of our prosperity and have a prominent place in Swedish industry and commerce.

The atlas has been produced on the initiative of the Swedish Steel Producers' Association and under the auspices of the Association's Historical Metallurgy Group in close cooperation with the National Atlas of Sweden, which has been responsible for the editorial work.

The object of the Historical Metallurgy Group (formed in 1967) is to promote research and conservation work in the area of mining history and the first plans for a major atlas project dealing with these sectors in a historical and contemporary perspective began to take shape in the early 1990s. In 2004 a steering group was appointed, made up of representatives of the Historical Metallurgy Group, the Swedish Steel Producers' Association and the National Atlas of Sweden. When finance had been secured and the content and form of the atlas had been decided, thirty-six of Sweden's foremost experts in the field were contracted as authors. These experts come from different subject fields, such as technology, geology, archaeology, history of technology, economic history, history and cultural geography.

From the industries' own ranks come specialists in mining operations, the steel industry and metal manufacture. Together the authors have contributed new knowledge and given a multi-faceted picture of the history of these sectors, illustrated by new maps and a wealth of pictorial material.

The atlas has tried to cover most metals that are mined or worked in Sweden but not the processing and treatment that take place in manufacturing industry. The statistical summaries have not normally included the years 2009–2010 because of the exceptional conditions prevailing in the world's markets in these years as a result of the current financial crisis.

The Steel Producers' Association hopes that the atlas will increase understanding of mining and metalworking, their history and future challenges and opportunities, and that it will reach a broad public. There is also an expectation that it will fulfil an important role for school and popular education.

It has seemed natural to publish the atlas of "Swedish Mining and Metalworking Past and Present" as a part of the National Atlas of Sweden. This book version of the atlas thus becomes incorporated in a larger context and invites comparison with the earlier national thematic parts of the National Atlas of Sweden. The book version, of which there is a Swedish and an English version, will be followed by an interactive web atlas which will make parts of the information freely available on the website www.sna.se.

The Swedish Steel Producers' Association thanks most warmly and sincerely all those who have contributed to the production of the atlas. They have put a great deal of work into it and many of them have worked voluntarily and in their own time. There is a list of the authors at the end of the book.

It would not have been possible to produce the atlas without very generous contributions from many funds/foundations and companies in or connected with the industries and also a number of county administrations. The Steel Producers' Association would also like to mention them and expresses its gratitude for their support. There is a list of these sponsors at the end of the book.

Bo-Erik Pers
VD Jernkontoret

► Dannemora Mineral AB plans in 2012 to resume extraction of iron ore at Dannemora, where mining probably started in the 13th century. The mine closed in 1992, but mining could once again become economic, given the steep rise in demand for iron ore since the millennium. The ore body, embedded in limestone, is 400–800 m in width and 3 km long. The ore contains manganese and is almost free from phosphorus.



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