

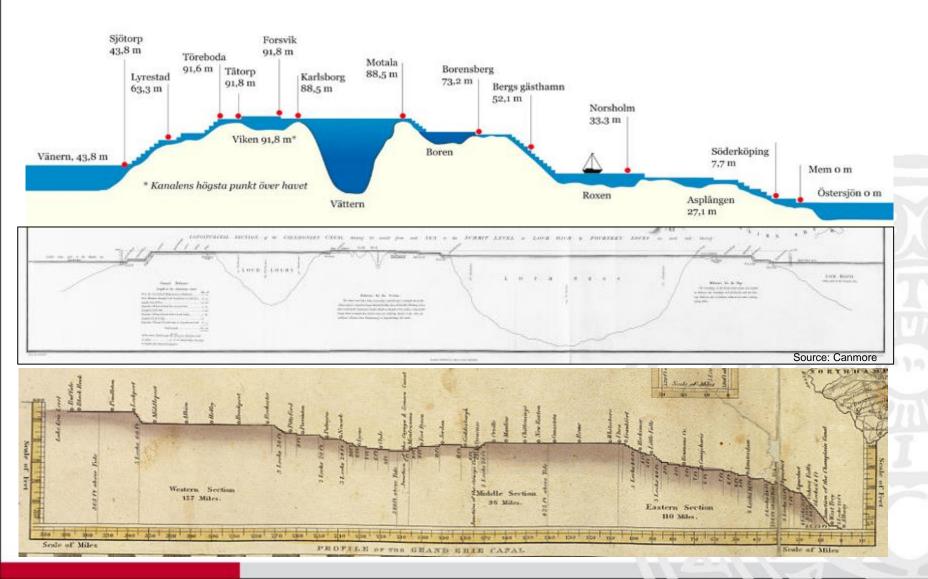
Göta Kanal och den politiska ekonomin

"Konstitutioner och kanaler"

Björn Hasselgren, PhD Årsmöte i Föreningen Sveriges och Norges kanaler Motala 31 mars 2020



Göta Canal and contemporary projects





Three contemporary projects

Göta Kanal	1806	1808		1822	18	332
Caledonian Canal 1803	3			1822	15	2236
Erie Canal		1808	1817	1820	1825	

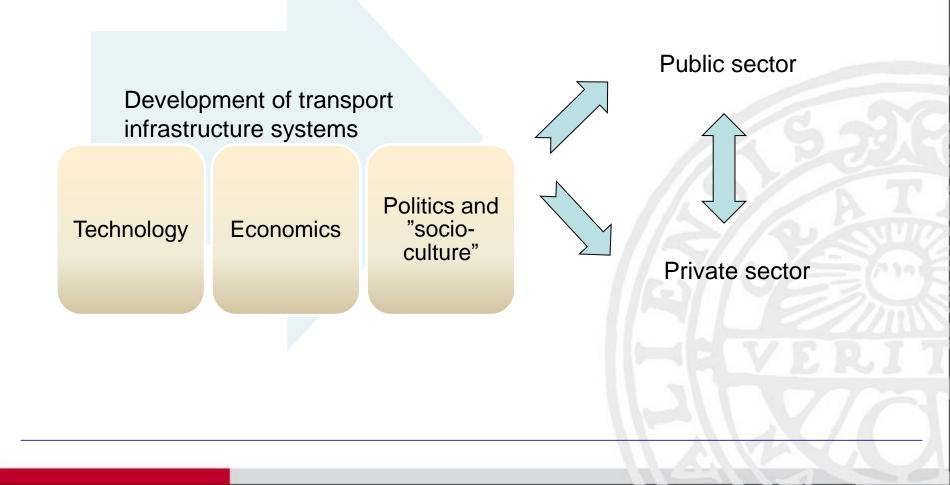


But of different kinds...

- Göta Kanal
 - A national project, innovation and growth, agriculture and trade, cut the distance
- Caledonian Canal
 - A regional development project, military (Napoleonic wars) and trade enhancing
- Erie Canal
 - A modernization and nation buildning and defining project. State vs federal (internal improvements)
 - The making of free republican citizens



Development of Transport Infrastructure Systems



Time period	Technology	Economics	Politics/Socio- culture	Organizational principle	
1800 – 1809	International	Socio-	Connect east	Not in focus	
Planning and	experiences	economics	and west		
raising support for					
the vision					
1810 – 1818	Lack of	The Diskont	Successively	A private	
The indepen-	technology	for financing	in political	sector/von	
dence phase			focus	Platen business	
1819 – 1832	Education of	Continuous	Communicate	A national	
A national	Sweden and	distress.	long term	concern, but	
business project	the Motala Verkstad	Revenues from operations.	vision and growth/- defense	private operation	
1832 –	Focus on	Marginal	Varying	Private	
Using Göta Kanal	transport	costs?	arguments over time	operation regulated by the	
– business	moderni-				
operation or	zation				
national				government	
corporation?					



Literature

- Trew, A (2010) Infrastructure Finance and the Industrial Takeoff in England
- Arnold, A. J. and McCartney, S., (2011) Veritable Gold Mines Before the Arrival of Railway Competition: But did Dividends Signal Rates of Return in the English Canal Industry?. 2011.
- Bogart, D (2019) Investing in early public works: financial risks and returns in English and Welsh turnpikes, 1820–82
- Cassis, De Luca, Florio (2016) Infrastructure Finance in Europé
- Cross-Rudkin P (2010) Canal Contractors 1760-1820
- Burton, A (2015) Thomas Telford: Master Builder of Roads and Canals
- Burton, A (1972/2015) The Canal Builders, Pen and Sword Transport
- Sheriff, C (1996) The Artifical River, Hill and Wang



Locks and the constitution



Lock no 1 The Constitution



Lock at Forsvik: Carl XIII



Research questions



- How did the political and constitutional conditions affect the Göta Kanal-project?
- What role did von Platen play in the 1809 revolution, and how did it affect the Göta Kanal project
- How did the financing of the Göta Kanal-corporation affect the organizational and "corporate/political setting?"
- Are there contemporary international comparisons primarily in Britain and the US during the Canal era.



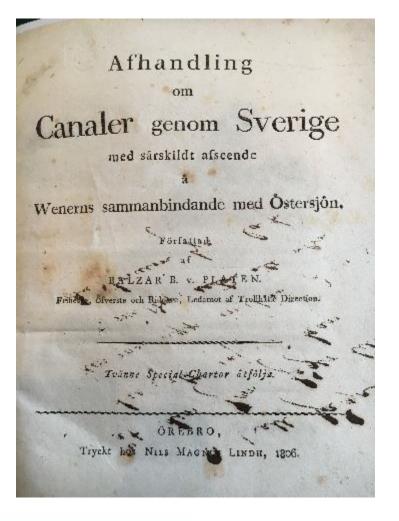
Baltzar von Platen 1766-1829

- Born Rügen, Pommern 1766
- Swedish Navy 1779-1800 (captured at Hogland 1788)
- Served at many of the Skärgårdsflottan vessels
- Discusses ships and construction with af Chapman
- Member of the board of governors of Trollhätte Kanal
- Close friend of Georg Adlersparre





von Platen's proposal, 1806



- Suggests a canal from West to East
- Inspiration from Britain,
 France, Holland etc
 (Telford's proposal in 1802)
- Bubble Act 1720 + 1794 amendments
- Discusses the width and depth of the canal
- Economics of the canal operations
- Ownership
- Proposal sent to Adlersparre for comments in 1806



Financials of the Canal

- Starting from the transport flows and fees for Trollhätte Kanal
- Counting on western line (Vänern Vättern)
- Receipts (iron, crops, wood, salt and hering, other) + 10%
- Costs (staff + maintenance/repair)
- Net result
- Investment cost 333 333:16 Rdr B
- 1 4/5 %
- "is a dividend which would not attract any Capitalist, who only seeks return on his capital" (von Platen 1806)
- Calculation for eastern line, very simplified
- Discusses how amortization could be arranged
- -> Support by the government necessary

Unders och andre skapar; Spinnedt frin Covergothland som note still hestodelig del Ketten uttriligg den myckas utiliadika unites v statischoog, sits en vizzade cultur 1 ritera via pressure over the alter freiddarlart fyllde dern behaf. opar solt miles tam sands afves might beirage. Halvodinger oppiernie warm billes naturligtvis Sill och Sain. Jag these we are send on an direct for shalls donos articula transpust på denne sågne betydeligen ikus äfven af insikes conannen, hitst solan Toomanno ajmades tedan mycken Sill eine den vigen till Walterns, och skalle en gling planen i bewin with bulkoons grown Cantern fullfuljunde till Osterallow, all for hagen aniford are den subaydubblash Als non hendinde an på säkra undershielser kunna beint seguiltys drass productors mychcahet has varis fifingen munit bands on argues the nedose of lower och an upstade of. What, the all direct houses supportunity diesa havad mus has and Pulpade in hrad man efter min tasks for det nievaratmol mmollibles hat strags, då man for de filrat nimmle shill usede 18 ulfa sig ned means tana over vid Trollblown , much hight \$0 proteins lock-bining 15,000 Narped Jaro 6 71 skill. - - 28 18751 -2101: 32 10001 Tradvanar all ett belage af inn - - -Overrar andre varar till hels beloppet som vid with outs dath will ett il its beinge som vid Trollhåitan - 1900." -Saus 20 1365: 32-In property dist. 936: 16. 10305: ---AI.

10 303:00 Rdr B - 4369:32 Rdr B 5933:16 Rdr B

```
Afdrages man fran denne Susana Ordinaise
 Lonings-statum, som vinst stiger till - 20001 -
Och widam till fielige separationar och
 Hvilken & hourside surunn of gis sees as 1.5 poncessi, on as
delning hvilken vinn inhis three from nigon Capitality, and to
dist start göra sina petningar gillande, och säledra bydet
gen beyisse att någun annan utväg är den vid Triskfall van nytt-
tais, miste pollanav, on man skalle hoppav ar detta arbeie ar-
fless. Eburn nilfillie of schnats i Dyon with Perindand, all
allociators visat sig frikoning for algot inducid, som man
trott linds till slimin beder och syns, hvarpi sererentation i
1794 of nim 800,000 Rids var en hodennie bevis, ") ok wiger
jag doch ej grunda mint böpp på en stylik händelte , derfierer vill
utfordt Caml- och Slusswerk, hålts om det täthas Ourrojes
atriader, vivarfigen für Svenska Nationer, bleire en både nje
tig och hodrande minnstreled. Jag ente tydninn, att innen din
 gränts jag nög föreskrifvir nämligen, att Canales hinner Wet-
 teras spincker, skulle en mun och kölig egennen kunna skaf.
fa nidig tillglog på model, endast, som ty wirr an sillan här-
 der, en hvar vore tillhörligen uplyst om en samvkyldiga ogte
 to Ectuality vi de hotydeligs och till stfore delen gassha
 trakibara Landskepes ann genom Wetterna förböndande med
 Weners shalle likeom forlodes ein satur, skalle ifein an une
 instingle intom more hadsuricker och isvange ate
                                                   figa alt
```

- ⁴) Till ullerlige wijzlice berde til en Canel over dienen og virst hard mer na ningen for få riksnes ensektering. De predenante i følter mer bleg hard och Doukark verste att mer erklike. ⁴ Bilder Neisener for Sin Sternels forfar med Enge erklike stöll skre et att och erklike sternes for det sternessen. ⁴ Bilder Neisener for Sin Sternels forfar med Enge erklike stöll skre et att och erklike sternesse for sternesse store for att och erklike et att och erklike sternesse for att och erklike stölle store for et att och erklike sternesse för att och erklike stölle store for star och forste for store står ogsår, medan inne sublige som berte star och forstenande.



The gustavian supremacy 1772/89 - 1809

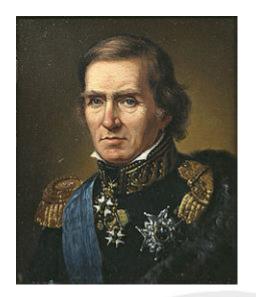
- Wide decision-making powers between the parliamentary sessions
- Ony one parliament summoned 1800
- Von Platen among the members of the Nobility given different assignments (Trollhätte Kanal, commander of the naval forces 1808, member of a committee with the aim of solving the financial distress (?))
- The 1806 proposal was sent to the King
- Support for further investigation was given 19 February 1808, Telford mentioned





Telford and von Platen

- Close working relation 1808 1829
- Project, technology, politics
- Friendship?



Gotheborg the 28 april 1808. Vol 361) The Georgenes low will I hop nexcused man for introducing ? self quite in stranger to face in this ma and I fear in Englisch not of the bes



Inspection tour 1808, report 1809

- Telford and von Platen travels along the plan
- Telford makes some proposals for changes
- Report written during September March 18
- During August 1808 Adlersparre meets wit Platen at *Frugården* (Carlsson 1944)
- Von Platen allegedly refuses to support Adlersparre on the revolution, but supports suggestions of connecting to Norway/Danish prince Fredrik Kristian August
- Why this slow progress? Report 10 March 1809 explicitly to Gustavus IV





The 1809 revolution

- 13 March G IV dethroned
- Adlercreutz and Adlersparre driving figures
 - From 10 March to 13 March to 28 March to 30 April

Von Platen carried out three assigments (Bring 1922)



Jugar 48 March 180%. Aq Lan Since the last of the 28. Ister Pay tat excert have has accounted in this Unentry, and suggere the for some from my die of the Change accounts as get to accuse little Disturbances and the landing, ations as yet is loan of from any duard God shwill go in an and that so is come to a state of questing so fallship to This way as well, as end any other, the A set being Determined to the 1. May when probably the fate of Survey a be atomined; what will become of it I do know but Decide to fall or stand with my Country I shall be at the Ret and there between she thenge bring forward to mouth of our maluel' and and and Jam arry I had no letter from you nonce forms I the ste for and consequently am as yet at a low for the calculations, but my min









Von Platen - One of the leading "men of 1809"

- Member of the 1809 constitutional committee
- Collaborates closely with Adlersparre
- 9 June 1809 member of Cabinet (until 1812)
- Autumn 1809 Parliament- MoPs proposes Göta Kanal



- » Mayor Gezelius Vadstena
- » Bishop von Rosenstein Linköping
- » Santesson, Gothenburg



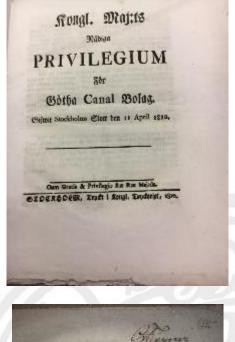
BERNOT SANTESSON Milning (beskuren) av P.Keallt dy Foto SPA





Organization and financing, 1810-

- Private corporation ("Actie-bolag"). Shareholders from all over the country.
- Close connection to government/Cabinet. Land, timber, powder, workers/soldiers, government guarantee.
- A bank for financing the project Göta Kanal Diskont. Borrowing in Stockholm, lending in Gothenburg and regional.
- Diskont dismantled 1817, following crisis for sister Diskont in Malmoe.



Regl

Gener Maai, Malifs Sidoga Silebegion of Sin at Spill 1420 Oliveratie Gibtha Camal Bolad.

earling Snickholms, WARD Driv as Arc. 1, about

Can the P 100 game To a re-



Subscription in May 1810

Subscrition in May 1810 in accordance with the Company Regulations. Supported by a broad set of citizens aorund the country. What was a corporation, from a legal perspective?

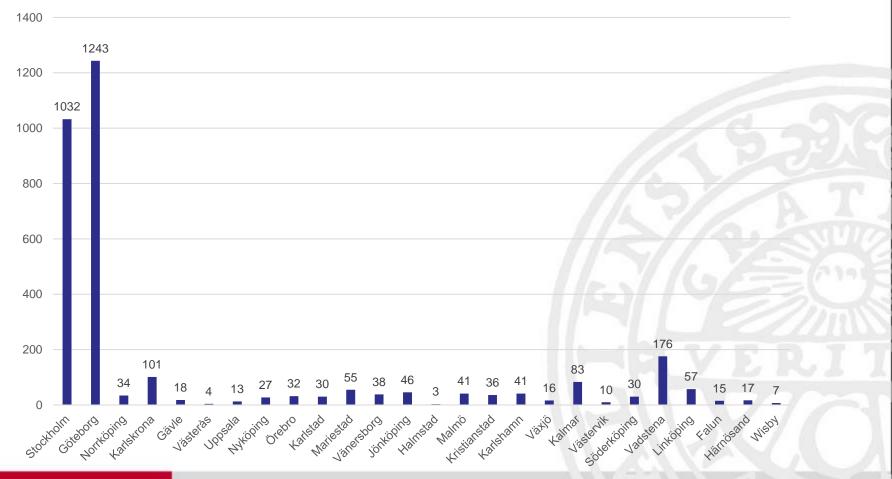
Subscriptions-Lista till deltagende _ / . C. Discont-inventions - rober del Gots Cousi-Bolag och den dermed forenade Discont-inrittings, enligt hängsde at en Kongl Majts nädiga Privilegium som Bolags-Regfor och Discont-Bredmund Regior och Discont-Reglemente af den 11 April 1810 Hvarje Sühserihemi behagade has a techni sitt namn, Summan som listundas nu fulla rocche Riksdaler-tal, uti ivad and Actic-documenter han onskar få denaamma fördelnd, ordestent fördelad, och slutligen beloppet af de na första Toletalningar derä, a Fem Procent a. walnut 16000 1000 lait Suguest Rate Tonis port 39000





Broad subscription 1810

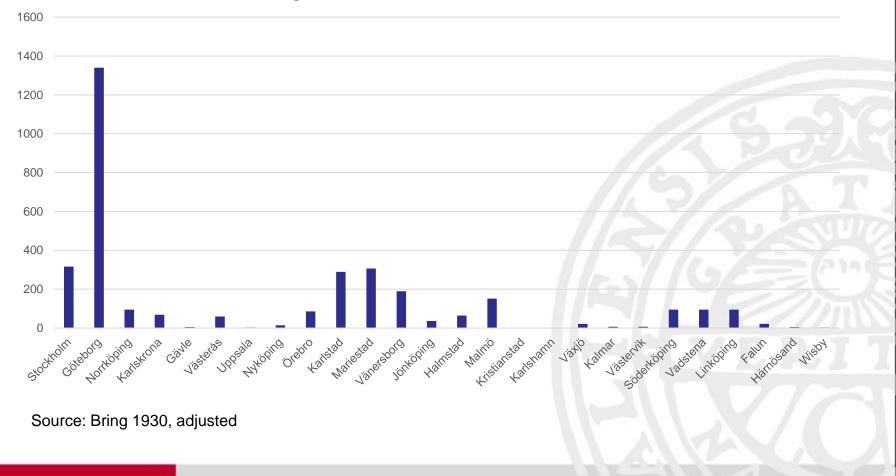
Subscribed shares 1810, tRdr





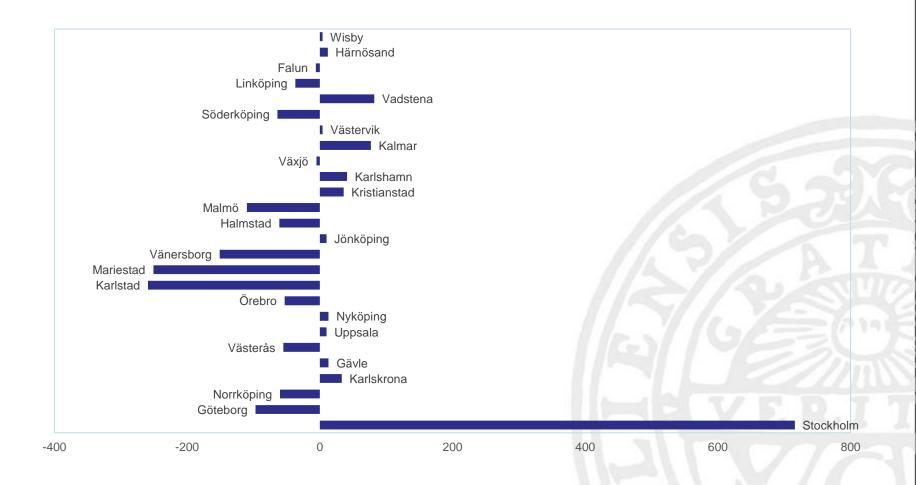
The Göta Kanal Diskont lending

Lending from the Göta Kanal Diskont 1811 tRdr





"Net" of subscription and lending, t Rdr (1810/11)



UPPSALA UNIVERSITET

Conclusions and further research

- How did the political and consitutional conditions affect the Göta Kanal-project? Not too much?
- (Any contemporary international comparisons?) **Yes**
- What role did von Platen play in the 1809 revolution, and how did it affect the Göta Kanal project Active, naming the locks after the constitution had meaning
- How did the financing of the Göta Kanal-corporation affect the organizational and "corporate/political setting?" Powerful additional interest groups were included that would influence the project until 1832
- Further research comparing with UK and US
- Further data on the shareholders