

OLGA OCH FOLKE GIFTER SIG – BILDER

Arrangerat av Leif Södergren

Folke börjad tidigt arbeta i sin fars firma och på en affärsresa i på kontinenten 1909, träffade han en amerikansk familj med tre barn som bodde på samma pensionat. Den äldsta dottern hette Olga och han blev genast förälskad i henne.

Olga som med sina syskon befunnit sig i Europa i fyra år för att få en fin utbildning, var rätt trött på skolgången i Bryssel, Paris och London och var utled på den kulturella sightseeingen under heta sommardagar med båda föräldrarna i släptåg. Hon var nu väldigt pigg på att sätta bo och att hänge sig åt den vackre Folke. Med föräldrarnas gillande gifte de sig i Paris några månader senare. De bosatte sig i Göteborg och när Olga var 32 år hade hon redan åtta barn.

De var båda kreativa och skapade vackra hem först i Göteborg sedan ett på Särö "Villa Florida" och till sist, det pampiga Lysholmen, även det på Särö. Där, med alla sina barn, uppvisade de en exceptionell gästfrihet och generositet.



SÄRÖ VISITORS 1909



The Swedish King Gustav V visited Särö the summer of 1909 (above) It was considered a large event to most people, but the most important event that summer to the young Folke Jonsson, was the arrival of his young American fiancée' Olga Dawson and her family. They were to spend the summer to get to know Folke's Swedish family before the wedding in October. They stayed in rented accommodations.

The visitors could enjoy the fine bathing and walks of Särö. There were plenty of opportunities for fishing and sailing. Särö also boasted a thousand year old oak.



Olga and her family often visited villa "Beau Rivage" Folkes father's summer house at Särö (above). Each of his children ended up with an adjacent lot. Olga and Folke later built their villa Florida here, their first house.



This is where Olga and her family rented three rooms and a balcony for the summer. Folke would walk down from his father's house and call for "Miss Olga". After Olga left, he wrote her a letter every day until they married in October.



1909

When my American grandmother Olga, and my Swedish grandfather Folke, met in Paris in 1909, they fell madly in love. Marriage was arranged for October the same year.

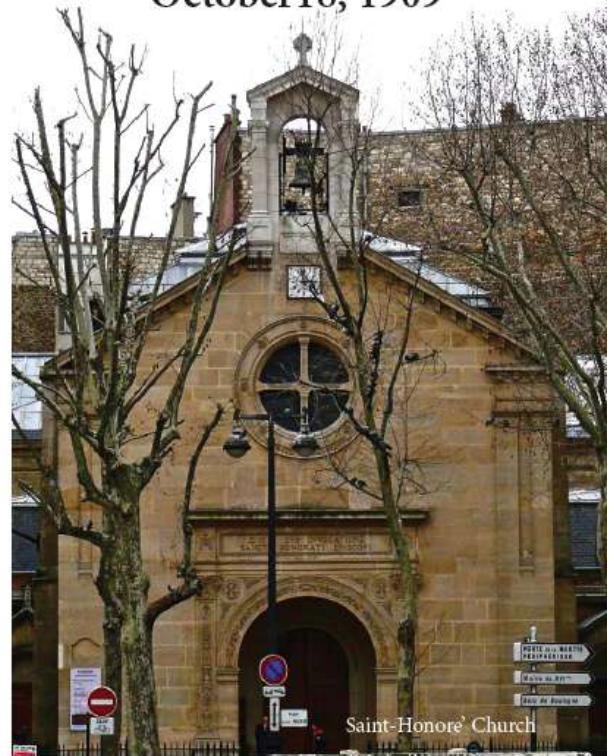
Olga and her family went to Sweden to meet Folke's Swedish family during the summer of 1909. Having spent most of the summer in Sweden, they returned to the continent early August to spend their time there travelling until the marriage in Paris in October.

During this period, Folke would remain in Sweden working for his father's company. This meant that he would be without his beloved Olga for over two months and he wrote passionate letters to Olga almost every day. The addresses on the envelopes are various hotels in Belgium, Germany and France. Two months separation is a long time for two people in love.

It seemed like an eternity to Folke.



OLGA AND FOLKE
MARRIED IN PARIS
October 18, 1909





Olga's parents, William and Anita Dawson and their home on 115 East Adams Street in Jacksonville, Florida



Folke's parents, Axel and Ragnhild Jonsson and the family home on Avenyn 2, in Gothenburg , Sweden



1 STEN STUREGATAN 25



THE HOMES OF OLGA AND FOLKE

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When Olga and Folke were engaged in 1909 they arranged to get their first home in Gothenburg on STEN STUREGATAN 25. What is now considered very central, was then on the outskirts of Gothenburg. Olga and Folke's letters are filled with talks of how to furnish the new flat.



2 BERZELIIGATAN 26



3 VILLA FLORIDA

2 By 1913, Olga and Folke had three children and needed more space. They moved to a new, bigger flat around the corner on BERZELIIGATAN 26.

Olga had travelled to Florida with two of her children and left the baby with Folke and a nanny. It was up to Folke to make many of the arrangements before they could move into the new flat. Folke, who so longed for Olga that he wrote a letter daily, informed her about every detail of their new flat. He was very proud to announce that they would have a proper W.C

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MY DARLING OLGA Folke Jonsson 1909-1961

3

Olga and Folke built their first house, VILLA FLORIDA at Särö where Folke's father had his summer house. As children kept coming, the house became too small and one day, Folke told Olga that he had found a very fine place for their next house.

4

LYSHOLMEN was built in 1918 and Folke and Olga raised their nine children here in a wonderful environment. This was once a barren rock but with stone terraces and new soil and plants, it became very green indeed.



4 LYSHOLMEN