

Likely the first soldier to live on Soldier Torp #76 was Sven Börjesson in 1683. Another, died serving in the war of 1742. Early in the 1800's there came a soldier named SLÄTT (whose name likely became the name of the village). The last soldier serving here passed away in 1891. After that time the farm was rented.

SOLDIER FARM SLÄTTERYD NO. 77, this was the soldier torp where Rune Löw, Judy Palmer and Janette Peterson's common ancestor - Gustaf Pettersson Spets, his wife: Catarina Andersdotter and 5 children lived in 1815 - 1841.

Even this soldier farm has been deserted just as long, but, still has evidence of it's buildings. Several of the farmer/soldiers died in Wars during the 1700's. Håkan Bengtsson Stadig, born in 1720 actually survived the war, but drown Dec.23, 1790; "out in a mighty storm on Kansjö Lake." Nils Nilsson Tall was assigned to this farm, as a 24-year old and served 23 years "well distinguished, but became so ill during the last maneuvers that he is incapable of further military service." Names of soldiers living here during the 1800's were Spets, Bolm and Djerv.

SLÄTTERYD'S MILL was located north of the village. There Jim Christianson's ancestor name JOHANNES ANDERSSON, his wife: Anna Lena Svensdotter and 5 children lived and operated this mill from 1872 - 1892. He was the miller and came from Öggestorp. His wife died 1886 (at 43 years of age). He remarried in 1888 and, then he died in 1892 (at 49 years old). All 4 of his remaining children moved in 1896 to North America.

From the book (SWEDISH MILLS 1940): Slätteryd Mill was built in the 1500's, then last added to in 1920 when new millwork was installed and now has 3 floors. Waterfall of 4,5 meters. The miller operated one waterwheel and 2 turbines - together making 36 hp, and consists of 2 pairs of stones and grinding machinery." From 1836 until the 1960's, when milling activities ceased, about 15 different millers and their families lived there and operated the mill. Now, only the church record books reveal information about these families and mostly only short notes.

Compiled by Jean Quist Sellstrom, a speech for VASA program May 23, 2005