

# A Swedish forrest moved to Denmark 1902 - 1970

for splint basket production  
at Lillerød

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## We had a factory in Denmark

We had a factory in Denmark at which we produced splint baskets, or you could call them chip basket. Through the years we brought with us from Sweden the forest of which we made 100.000's of splint baskets from 1900 to 1970. Together with us worked many other Swedes from the same municipally Örkened in Sweden as we came from. Some stayed some returned.

We stayed and are now Danes.



But the era of the splint basket has ended.

Since it is almost forgotten how well known and extensive this everyday product was, I have collected many items from small ones to big ones, and written a book on the subject.

The summary can be read in English on Internet here <http://per-olof.dk/cdt/splint.htm> .



This is the factory around 1950. The pine logs were stored in a little pond, because they had to be wet when used. This were the common baskets which every ordinary family used. Big ones and small ones.





The pine logs came from places like this Ålshult, Ryd in Sweden



Before loading on the train at Ålshult Station, Ryd it looked like this.





We expected that every pine log was without knots at any time.



In old times a railway station was in function at Ålshult, the building is still there.



In 1931 my grandfather made a deal with his nephew, who took care of the economy. He had found so much good wood to buy. When the train arrived to Lillerød in Denmark it was not with 9 wagons, as Karl the nephew had expected – but 20! Our own little pond could not contain all this, so we had to loan many ponds around.

*[Photo: Jyväskylä, Finland 1979]*



This is the pond – we call it water hole – and the factory around 1914.



This is my grandfather Per Martin Johansson at the pond 1931. He was not an expert in making the baskets but an expert in choosing the logs to use. So he went to Sweden and had seen all the trees in the forest himself - so I guess he looks very satisfied with this part of the work - even since he was misunderstood by his nephew.



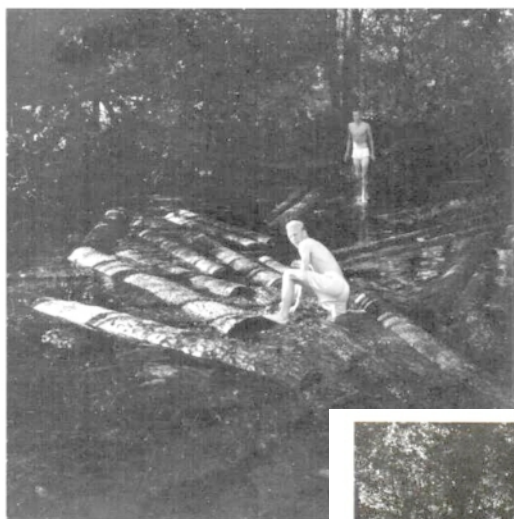
The boy to the right is my cousin Ernest, born 1922 in Canada, went to school in Denmark, became navy soldier in Sweden under Second World War and then stayed in Sweden. With a friend Willy Sandner. We guess it is at another pond in Lillerød 1931.





This is my father with the axe and three other basket makers at the pond. Maybe 1933.





Playground for  
big kids 1962.



Splint baskets from  
my collection

