THE RUNE STONE PATH
"Sven and Sten raised this stone after Toste, their father, who died in Ingvar's retinue. And after Torsten and after Östen, the son of Alvhild."

The third stone that was found in the field stands in the park by Vansta farm. This is a special stone, a so called Ingvar’s Stone. The stone speaks of "Toste, who died in Ingvar's retinue." At least Toste, and possibly Torsten and Östen, participated in it.

The stone talks about the largest known Viking raid eastwards, namely Ingvar the Vittfarne’s journey to Särkland during the first part of the 1100th century. “Särkland” probably refers to the Abbasid caliphate, whose capital Baghdad was stack space for the exchange of goods between the Orient and Europe at this time. There are some 30 runic stones around the Lake Mälaren that discuss this journey. Apparently, the ending was unfortunate. You can read more about this Viking expedition in the Icelandic saga about Ingvar the Vittfarne.

Latitude: 58.978307
Longitude: 17.87452
Inscription: "Vigmar raised this stone after Kåre, his father, and Tora"

The final word pair "and Tora" should probably be interpreted as "and Tora after her husband." Less likely is the alternative "and after Tora."

Initially, the stone was found in 1969 during the plowing of a field. It was erected back about 175 m southeast of the original discovery site. The stone belongs to another rock located in the driveway of Säby farm. The area south of the bird lake Styran is lined with ancient monuments. These two stones, as well as the southeast 254, which now stands at Vansta, originally stood on a road near the parish boundary between Ösmo and Sorunda. The road used to connect Sorunda district with a probable wharf at Djursnäs at Fällnäsviken. Rune stones were carved by special rune carvers during the latter part of the Viking era.

This stone was moved just out to the edge of the field as close to the discovery site as possible. The stone stands at the very edge of a graveyard with a total of 250 graves from the Iron Age.

Latitude: 58.970687
Longitude: 17.867675
The rune stone by Säby-Stymninge

This rune stone is well embedded in the greenery at the entrance to Säby Farm, a few kilometers south of Ösmo. Southwest of the stone is a big grave field.

Inscription in translation:
"... (had this bridge built) and placed the stone after Toke, his good brother."
The rune stone was found in 1930 during the autumn plowing in a field north of Säby farm. The stone proved to be identical with a long time gone rune stone, which apparently had fallen over already in the 1700th century. This stone, and runic finds close by, have obviously lined a stretch of the prehistoric road that connected the central countryside of Sorunda with a probable wharf at Djursnäs.

Latitude: 58.965792
Longitude: 17.862686
Klastorp

The rune stone path runs from Klastorp where a rune stone is standing adjacent to a graveyard.

Inscription in translation:
"Disälv and Inga raised this stone after Slode, their father."

The custom of raising rune stones belongs to the critical period between Paganism and Christianity in the 1100th century and the engraved crosses are reminiscent of the Christian mission activity. The rune stone, which likely stands in its original location by an ancient road, can be found adjacent to a grave field from the Iron Age (500 B.C. - 1050 A.D.). It is not impossible that Slode, after whom the memorial stone was erected, is buried in the stone’s proximity.

The rune stone is located at the edge of a ditch.

Latitude: 58.959857
Longitude: 17.85553
The rock engraving and grave field at Blista

The rock engraving at Blista is our municipality's most impressive rune monument. It has three engravings next to each other in the same outcrop. All three are probably crafted by the rune master Hägvid. The plain up towards Sorunda church was the heart of Sorunda during the Iron Age.

Inscription in translation:
Inscription to the left: “Agute had these monuments made after Froste, his brother. Hägvid crafted the stone.”
Inscription in the middle: “Kvick and Elev had the monument made after Rodger, their good father.”
Inscription to the right: “Stenfast had this monument made after Sämund, his father. God help (the soul).”

The rune carvings have been chopped in solid rock next to an ancient country road. They can be dated to the transition time between the prehistoric age and the middle ages (the later part of the 1100th century). They were probably crafted by the same man, Hägvid.

* In the slope above the carving rock is a grave field with approximately 20 ancient monuments; cairns, mounds and stone formations. The grave field can be dated to later iron age (500 BC-550 A.D.). The grave field was likely a cemetery for the people in a nearby now gone village, called Västerby.
The archaeological site’s borders are established by the county government in Stockholm under resolution 24th November 1944. Ancient monuments are protected by law.

The grave field at Blista

The grave field, with 145 visible burials, is one of the greatest and most beautiful in Sorunda. Here you can find 23 mounds – some of them truly impressive – about 113 circular stone formations, 5 square stone formations and 4 raised stones that have now fallen.

The grave field can mainly be dated to the earlier iron age (circa 500-1050 A.D.), but the raised stones are a type of grave present during the Roman Iron Age (0-500 A.D.). The grave field should thereby point to a continuous residence from the centuries A.D. to early Middle Ages.

Number 7 marks the grave field.

5: 58.986589 latitude, 17.843428 longitude
6: 58.985793 latitude, 17.843642 longitude
7: 58.982001 latitude, 17.835982 longitude
The villages Berga, Blista, Lyngsta and Tibble were built during the early Iron Age. At the grave field in Berga there are three well visible large mounds. There is also a rune stone in Berga which mentions that “Otrygg died in Gudve’s entourage”. From the village Berga, the road led past Tibble, towards the church of Sorunda, over what today is a growing field but is still called “Dyarna” (the sludge). There has probably been a small footbridge here so that people could get around without getting wet. The old road continues to Gudby, Billsta and Fullbro and big parts of it run parallel with road 225.

8: 58.986479 latitude, 17.821198 longitude
9: 58.989901 latitude, 17.832162 longitude
Between Billsta and Fullbro there is an erratic block with a rune carving on it.

Inscription in translation:
“Holmger and Stenbjörn had them (the runes) carved after Gudlev, (their) father”.

Number 11 marks the grave field by Fullbro.

Try to understand the runes by yourself! Have in mind that one letter/sign can symbolize more than one sound. B = p. U = o, y, ö. I = e and k = g.

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10: 59.037077 latitude, 17.806993 longitude
11: 59.042961 latitude, 17.806284 longitude
The next rune carving is located by Frölunda, right where the road turns in the direction of N Stutby.

We cannot drive any further than to Stutby within our municipality, and that’s where the last rune stone is located. It’s a very beautiful stone that has a stylized snake loop and a four legged animal pictured on it. The animal is believed to be a horse.