Ingria and Ingrians –
recording histories, preserving memories
The *Ingria and Ingrians – recording histories, preserving memories* project (2018–2020) aims to collect the archival materials of private individuals and associations that are at risk of being lost, and improve the availability and usability of materials already in the archives. The cooperation project is carried out by the National Archives of Finland, the cultural foundation Inkeriläisten sivistysäätiö and the Finnish Literature Society (SKS).

**What are we recording?**

We record original archival materials donated by Ingrians and their descendants. We hope to obtain diaries, letters and photographs, for example, so as to preserve as diverse a sample as possible of Ingrian history for future generations and researchers. We also want to record archived materials related to the activities of associations. The materials donated during the project will be archived in the archive collections of the National Archives of Finland and the Finnish Literature Society (SKS), where their use and preservation is safeguarded and where the materials are equally available to everyone interested in them.

**Material on Ingrians in the archives of SKS and the National Archives**

The archives of SKS contain Ingrian folklore starting from 1840s, and the collections also contain the materials of private individuals with an Ingrian background. In addition, the archives of many writers and researchers who used to work with or within SKS contain Ingria-related materials, because they were interested in the Ingrian culture, not only from the perspective of folklore and language affinity, but that of the Greater Finland concept.

Materials related to Ingria and Ingrians are stored at various locations of the National Archives. A majority of the material relates to the activities of associations and congregations which were active in Ingria and people who were active in the Ingrian freedom movement. The collections also include materials related to displaced Ingrians and the management of the affairs of Ingrian refugees.

**The Ingrian archive (Inkeriläisten arkisto)**

The roll-out of AHAA, a directory service for national archives, also allows for the creation of a virtual Ingrian archive. Following this, everyone has access to centralised information on where to find Ingrian archives and on the different types of Ingrian archives available.

If you are interested in donating material related to Ingria and Ingrians, want to be interviewed or know someone who could be interviewed, do contact us!

The project is coordinated by SKS’s Senior Archivist Maiju Putkonen, maiju.putkonen@finlit.fi, +358 40 538 5296.
**Instructions for donors of material**

- Material may be donated by any private individual or association.
- Please arrange beforehand with the staff of the archive regarding delivery or collection of material.
- We prefer and accept primarily original materials, instead of photocopies, for example.
- We draw up donation agreements for donated material, where such things as the terms of donation and any possible restrictions in its use are specified.
- The use of the material is governed by legislation, which includes provisions on publication, data protection and copyright.
- The archive reserves the right to screen the material. We offer to return screened material to the donor.
- You can sort the material preliminarily according to theme (such as correspondence, photographs), but it is not a requirement.

**Examples of material**

**Texts**

- The materials of private individuals and associations: documents describing personal histories, association documents, correspondence, diaries, manuscripts, drafts, speeches, presentations and drawings.
- Folklorical material: stories, beliefs, games, jokes, songs, proverbs and riddles, descriptions of celebrations and the everyday lives of people.

**Pictures, audio and video recordings**

- Family photographs and photo albums.
- Material filmed or recorded by you. Please attach information on when the recording was made, the situation and the subjects (people, places, etc.)
- If you want to do the interview yourself, contact the archives for advice and a recording device.

**Newspaper cuttings and printed material**

- Self-published works, printed products and small publications, articles and newspaper cuttings to the extent that they are not already available in libraries and archives.
More information regarding the donation of material to the SKS archive and the National Archives of Finland:

**SKS archive**  

**The National Archives of Finland**  
[www.arkisto.fi/contact](http://www.arkisto.fi/contact)

*Photo: Collection of Antti Hämäläinen. The Suomi vessel brings Ingrian refugees to the harbour of Hanko in 1943. (SKS)*