

GRANDFATHER'S AFRICA

A quest for the forgotten stories



Grandfathers Africa

A quest for forgotten stories.

Project

One of the possible ambitions with this project is to try compare yesterday's colonizers with today's Chinese colonising methods
Objective: publication in news media, book and or exhibition...

Background

My grandfather Clarence Lyon Was a businessman. He travelled North- and south America and Africa. Mostly he made business in Africa. He was the Portuguese consul in Gothenburg. When he was in his fifties he bought a farm from a German in Angola.

The farm's name was Chipepe and there he grew coffee and had cattle. Grandfather stayed in Angola between 1948 to 1974.

At 25, my father was invited to join in Angola. He lived and worked there for two years. He brought his pregnant eighteen year old wife. My father has been interviewed and has told many great stories from this period. The interview has been professionally filmed.

Material

Interview
C:a 3 hours. interview with Peter Lyon (2012)
Documentary
22 min. Documentary from 1927. Edited in 1995 with text and sound.

Objects for exhibition
Uncertain, check with museums in Gothenburg, as grandfather donated quite a lot of collectives to the museums.

Photos

Uncertain, check with museums in Gothenburg.
Monica Gerlach,
Witzenhausen,
Die Angola treffengruppe.

Recently accomplished

Interview with Monica Gerlach who stayed on grandfather's farm as a child.
Attended Angola treffen
Witzenhausen 2014.

Suggested following steps

Study conditions in Angola now and then. Check with the Swedish Afrika institute?

Purpose

To raise questions about "the white man" in Africa.

- Has this story really been told?
- How did we look upon Africa in earlier days?
- How do we look upon Africa today?
- Is there really a difference?
- Today's colonizers, how do they act? In terms of human rights, preserving and caring for nature and wild life etc?

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