CAPITALISTS, PEASANTS AND LANDLESS

THE DIFFERENT SOCIAL MODELS OF EARLY MODERN SCHLESWIG MARSHLAND

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KEY TERMS

- **Property rights regime**
  - Relation to land
  - Usage rights
  - Transfer rights
  - Other

- **Social stratification**
  - Based on landholding
MARSHLANDS AND GEEST
The Property rights regime:

- Common field villages
- Overlapping usage rights
- Rights as shares of the village total
- Some kind of lordship
Quite regular classes:
- Full farms
- Half farms
- Landed cottages
- Landless cottage
THE DEEP MARSH VS. THE EDGE
THE DEEP MARSH - PROPERTY RIGHTS REGIME

- A Peasant commune
- Fully individual usage rights over each plot
- Frealy alienable land

Wiedingharde
Pellworm
Eiderstedt
DEEP MARSH - LAND DISTRIBUTION

Land distribution in Kating Parish 1760
LIBERAL RIGHTS – SOCIAL REALITIES

Proportion of holders

Proportion of land

- 60+
- 30-60
- 20-30
- 10-20
- 2-10
- 0-2

Husum NH  Kating  Pellwom  Wiedingh

Husum NH  Kating  Pellwom  Wiedingh
THE NORTH FRISIAN ISLANDS

- Property rights like Husum Norder Harde
  - Settlement in villages
  - Largely liberal and individual rights
  - Some common land
- Social reality;
  - Extreme subdivision > tiny plots
**MIXED SYSTEMS AT THE EDGE**

- Often combined systems
- Regulated geest villages with liberally owned marshlands
THE BALLUM MARSHES

- Undiked till the 20th century
- Largely property rights like in the hinterland
- The marsh: a sort of commons
- Marginal effects on property rights and social order
CAPITALIST REBUILDING: NORDSTRAND
NORDSTRAND – EXTREME CONCENTRATION

![Bar chart showing concentration levels]

- Owners:
  - > 500: 70%
  - 250-500: 10%
  - 100-250: 10%
  - 50-100: 10%
  - 20-50: 10%
  - < 20: 10%

- Users:
  - > 500: 70%
  - 250-500: 10%
  - 100-250: 10%
  - 50-100: 10%
  - 20-50: 10%
  - < 20: 10%
EXPLANATIONS

- Functional – the usage of marshland, the system of dykes and ditches
- Economic – right of land as a consequence of dyke investment
- Cultural – the Frisians
- Political - the peasant commune
- Timing - ?