

IN 1845 THE NEW MANTRA FOR THE COPENHAGEN BOURGEOISIE WAS HYDRO SANATORIUMS. SPRING WATER WAS SAID TO HAVE EXTRAORDINARY MEDICINAL POWERS, AND HEALTH SPAS BEGAN TO POP UP THROUGHOUT EUROPE. THE BELLEVUE SITE, WITH THE NEAR-BY NATURAL SPRINGS AND FOREST BACKDROP, WAS A PERFECT PLACE FOR A SANATORIUM. THE SITE CORRESPONDED VERY WELL WITH THE 19TH CENTURY ROMANTIC PERCEPTION OF THE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN MAN AND NATURE IN A FORMALIZED LANDSCAPE. THE DISTINGUISHED ARCHITECT M.G. BINDESBØLL (1800-1856) WAS GIVEN THE TASK OF RENDERING A PLAN FOR A SPA BATH. HE APPENDED THE AREA WITH 15 COTTAGES, EACH ONE UNIQUE. THE VARIOUS COTTAGES HOUSED RESTAURANTS, A PATISSERIE, WATER, CIGAR AND FRUIT STANDS, ACCOMMODATIONS, SHOWERS AND A LARGE BALLROOM. THE BALLROOM WAS THE CENTRE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT AND WAS ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE COTTAGE PARK FROM A STRICTLY MEDICINAL SPA TO A RECREATIONAL AREA. FOR MANY YEARS IT WAS A GREAT ATTRACTION FOR THE VIVID PHILANDERING OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE BOURGEOISIE. BUT, AS ALWAYS, PEOPLE ARE FRIVOLOUS, TIMES CHANGE AND FORMER PATRONS FOUND OTHER PLACES TO AMUSE THEMSELVES. GRADUAL BUILDING DECAY FINALLY LED TO THE DEMOLITION OF THE COTTAGE PARK ESTABLISHMENT IN 1937.



THE BALLROOM, 1895 (ENGRAVING O. BACHES).



A COTTAGE PARK COTTAGE, 1910.



THE GATEHOUSE KNOWN AS THE "YELLOW COTTAGE".



AERIAL VIEW OF THE COTTAGE PARK, ENGRAVING 1880.

THE COTTAGE PARK