



MWATERCOLOUR RENDERING BY M.G. BINDESBØLL, APPROX. 1845. (THE ROYAL DANISH ACADEMY)

THE BALLROOM WAS THE MOST PROMINENT SPACE IN THE COTTAGE PARK. BUILT IN 1845, BY THE ARCHITECT M.G. BINDESBØLL, IT WAS AN EXTRAORDINARILY ELEGANT STRUCTURE BUILT ENTIRELY OF WOOD, AND SPANNING AN IMPRESSIVE SINGLE SPACE OF 320 M². IT WAS A COMBINATION OF A SQUARE AND AN OCTAGON. THE DANCE FLOOR WAS QUADRATIC IN PLAN, ABOVE THE DANCE FLOOR AND BAR WAS AN OCTAGONAL BALCONY, WHICH ALSO SEATED THE ORCHESTRA. THE BALCONY WAS ELEVATED ON EIGHT POLES, FURTHER SUPPORTING A PYRAMIDAL ROOF, WHICH WAS TIPPED WITH A CRYSTALLINE GLASS LANTERN. WHILE THE EXTERIOR GEOMETRY OF THE SQUARE AND PYRAMID MIGHT HAVE APPEARED VOLUMINOUS, THE POLES AND THE STRIPED FABRICS OF THE INTERIOR SUGGESTED A LIGHT, CHROMATIC, TENT-LIKE STRUCTURE. THE CROWNING SKYLIGHT OF THE PYRAMID ROOF STRUCTURE EMITTED NATURAL LIGHT, FILTERING THROUGH THE CANVAS-DRAPED SPACE. THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE BALLROOM WAS LADEN WITH POETIC MEANING AND TRADITION, THE WOOD STRUCTURE, THATCHED ROOF AND TENT INTERIOR WAS REMINISCENT OF THE ROMANTIC IDEAL OF THE PRIMITIVE HUT, TRADITIONAL NORDIC TIMBER CONSTRUCTION, AND THE TENTS WHICH TRADITIONALLY GRACED "DYREHAVEN", THE NEIGHBORING FOREST HUNTING GROUNDS. THE BALLROOM BECAME DERELICT AND WAS FINALLY DEMOLISHED IN 1923.



TENT LINING OF THE ROMAN BATHS IN CHARLOTTENHOF, POTSDAM.



THE BALLROOM FROM THE SOUTHEAST (PHOTO: THE ROYAL DANISH ACADEMY).

THE BALLROOM