

*An opportunity to sojourn over night in the midst of ancient Denmark*

**D**EN DANSKE LANDSBY—The Danish Village—was built as a replica of a little medieval Danish Town or "By." In design and construction it resembles the ancient town of Ribe.

Some villages in Denmark were protected by walls, and others were built between the arms of a river, forming a moat with well guarded bridges and gates—the town built snugly within the walls.

Self preservation and protection against warring elements were the first considerations in early times. Limited space within the walls required that houses be built closely together.

The aim of the Village has been to follow truthfulness of style and detail, great age and atmosphere, as shown by the variety of doors, windows and chimneys.

Note the architectural purity of "Raadhuset" (town hall)—the picturesque, crooked streets with old lamp posts, the sagging roofs, bird houses, weather vanes, the stork, and the characteristic fountain surmounted by the statue of Niels Ebbesen, the medieval Danish hero.

"Borgerne" (citizens) are actively engaged in business as shown by the street signs. On "Borgergade (citizen)

street note Hans Chr. Andersen's book shop; Hans Jorgensen, the snedkermaster (master carpenter), the butcher, baker, barber, apothecary shop, etc.

Next to Apoteket (the apothecary shop) is Gave Butik, an actual Gift Shop in operation. Here you will find many charming Scandinavian gifts reflecting the old world atmosphere of the Village. You are cordially invited to browse around at your leisure.

The Danish Village was laid out in 1929 from architectural sketches made in Denmark. It was built by the Eastland Hotel, of Portland, Maine, as a Motel, the first of its kind in America, and the only one true in design and detail to its European original.

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The Danish Village has all the comforts of the modern Motel. Each little house has one or two rooms, twin beds, private toilets and showers. Here, in the midst of the quaint, medieval surroundings, and away from the noise of a busy highway, overnight guests can rest comfortably and quietly.

**THE LEGEND OF NIELS EBBESEN**

Niels Ebbesen, whose statue stands in the village courtyard, is one of the most popular heroes of Denmark.

Niels Ebbesen appeared on the scene when his country's fortunes were at their lowest ebb, according to the historians. King Cristoffer II had pawned all his land to the more powerful and richer warlords of the south. Count Gert, Bald (ruler) of Holstein, held most of Jutland, a peninsular extending into the North Sea. Niels and his followers refused to accept military service under the feudal lords who held power over their King.

This enraged Count Gert as noted in the ballad of that day:

"Niels Ebbesen you talk too much  
And then you speak too free  
Either you shall from Denmark roam  
Or hanged you shall be."

To which the doughty Niels replied:  
"Thieves on gallows you may hang  
For beasts and birds of prey  
But with my wife and children young  
In Denmark I will stay.

The verse staggers on a halting note but not so the valiant Niels. He had a quarrel with the Count at his castle in Fruerlund south of Randers where the original statue stands. Then on a dark and stormy night Niels came back with 47 of his men, crossed a bridge into the town, set fire to one corner of the Count's village and under cover of the smoke knocked down the castle's oaken door. In the struggle the Count, his chaplain and three pages were slain.

Niels and his warriors rushed back over the bridge pursued by a superior force of knights led by his own brother-in-law. During the battle a nephew, Svend Trost, had remained at the bridge carefully extracting every bolt that held the bridge together and as the Holsteiners dashed across on their chargers the bridge collapsed.

Niels Ebbesen lit a torch of revolt among the Danes against the feudal lords, but was killed in battle near Norring in 1340.

The statue surmounts a fountain and shows Niels with his lance looking out for his enemies.

(Source: Chicago Public Library, "Among the Danes," Author Butlin, I 10325, pages 88-94.)

## NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:

### BEACHES

- 2 miles—South—Beautiful Pine Point for excellent sea food dinners and a good bathing beach. Just beyond Snowberry's Lobster House one may purchase lobsters at the pound, or take all-day ocean excursion trips.
- 4 miles—South—Famous Old Orchard Beach.

### SCENIC DRIVES

- 3 miles—North—Prout's Neck (home of Winslow Homer), Scarborough Beach, Higgins Beach. Also a beautiful drive on Cape Elizabeth and a stop at Two Lights Harbor to see the rocky coast of Maine.

### RACING

- ½ mile—North—Scarborough Downs race track—night running races. 1 mile, Beech Ridge Speedway—stock car races.

### MOVIES

- ½ mile—North—Portland Drive-In.

### GOLF

- ¼ mile—North—Willowdale Golf Course.

### SHOPPING

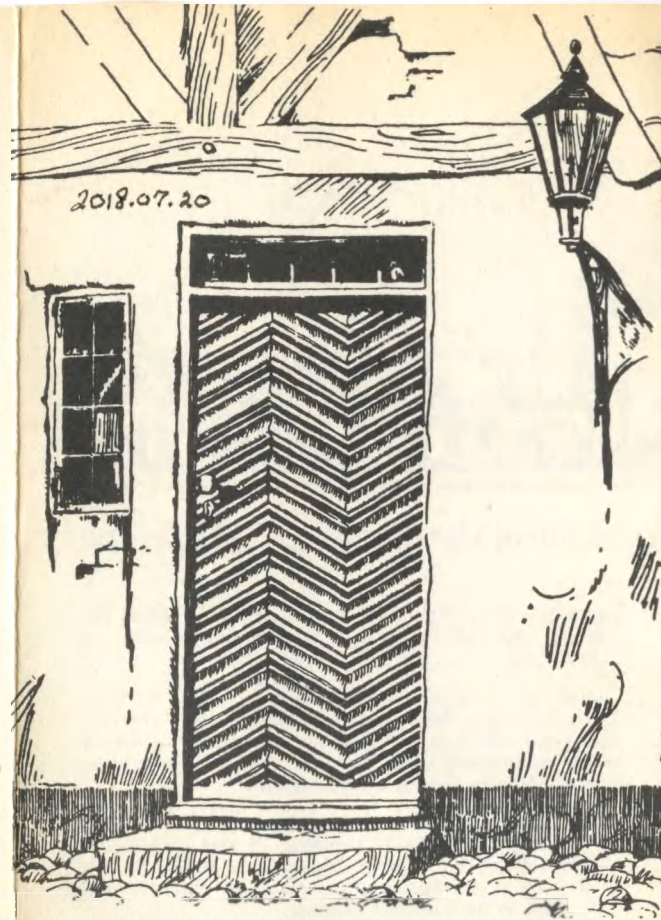
- 8 miles—North—The City of Portland—excellent shopping center. Visit Custom House Wharf, Longfellow's Home, historic Tate House. Also Casco Bay excursions, deep sea fishing and Boone's on the Wharf for famous Maine sea food.

### DANCING

- 2 miles—North—Dining and dancing if you desire.

### BOWLING

- And—within a stone's throw the State O' Maine Bowling Alleys, and a private airport where you can see the sea, the salt marshes and the rocky coast of Maine from the air.



### LOCATION:

On U. S. Highway Route 1, seven miles south of Portland, Maine; six miles north of Saco. Leave Turnpike at Saco going north.

### RATES:

\$3.00 - \$5.00 per person

### SEASON:

May 30th to October 1st  
Telephone Scarborough — TUCKER 3-6012  
Mrs. Evelyn S. Byron, Owner-Manager

Den Danske Landsby  
Welcome to



The Danish Village  
Scarboro, Maine