## Nyhavn: return to the past

NYHAVN is Copenhagen's old-lest and most notonous harbour Few places in Denmark have been more fiercely loved or more stubbornly desested than Nyhavn, It was always a "world unto itselt", whether maligned as Copenhagen's brawling "gheno" or praised as a mixing bowl where writers and artists rubbed shoulders with tough factory workers and win scanien.

For some 200 years it was the uncontested center of Copenhagen's non-stop night life. Before World War II, Nyhavn's 42 bars, restaurants and dance halls were always choked with a great menagene of people. Few would deny that Nyhavo had an exotic, international atmosphere.

During the daylight hours. Nyhavn's wharf was bustling with commercial activity. Thousands of tons of goods moved in and out of its warehouses and shops. Many plied the coastal waters between Copenhagen and Jutland as well as the 100 inhabited islands that comprise the Danish archipelago. Others sailed to Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Russia and even as far as North America.

In 1662, when King Frederik III ordered plans to be drawn up for a Ny Kobenhavn (New Copenhagen). the city was rapidly becoming an important commercial center. In the coming years, Denmark would be Europe's "bridge" into Scan-

Although original plans called for a Ny Kanal rather than a Ny Havn, the royal treasury was drained following the Danish-Swedish War of 1657-60 (which the Dane , lost). So the canal became a harbour. Army engineers began the project in 1671, and by October 1673 Nyhavn was completed.

The west side (now known as the quiet "good" side) was reserved for the Royal Navy and Ulrik Christian Gyldenlove, the illegitimate son of King Christian IV. The King carved up the east side and handed out the choice morsels to his land-hungry anstocracy, who in turn sold their chunks to the burgeoning merchant class and a cross section of the bourgeoisse.

Despite this, its bohemian "anything goes" atmosphere began to Christian Andersen had three different flats in Nyhavn. In the early 1900's one of Denmark's must celebrated actresses. Anna Larssen, lived there with her lover, Johannes Poulsen, another reknowned actor. Artist, Asger Jam, one of the country's most famous "abstractionists", used to paint the walls of the courtyard at Skipper Kruen (Nyhavn 27) to pay his beer bills!

portance began to shrivel. Denmark an to replace the coastal schoon ers, could not get into Nyhavn. Times were changing too fast. Containers, huge cranes, fork lifts and making small harbours obsolete.

breathing. Only a few worden ships

needed a scrubbing.

Sundae, Sunday

notes how sundae got its

name: Selling ice cream

sodas on Sunday was out-

lawed in some parts of the

United States in the 1980's.

National Geographic

anymore, but are a pleasant reminder of the past.

Nyhavn harbour, although still in need of work, is starting to get back some of its old world charm. The ships are not in working order

"All my antiques are authentic", affirms Loystad. "I can smell if

something is new. And what better

place to have a nautical antique shop

Over the years there have been at

least 7 major attempts to get rid of

Nyhavn. One architect in 1910.

wanted to turn Nyhavn into an elec-

trified tunnel for streetcars! No one

bothered to ask where the tunnel

Nyhavn developed into a high class,

expensive section. The Nyhavn

Committee strongly opposes this

move. Claims Stephensen, "We

don't want Nyhavn turned into

another rich, sterile area. We don't

want to create a graveyard here -

but instead a living museum, a

breathing harbour. "Wait and see",

he concludes, "We'll make Nyhavn

into a real haven for old wooden

sailing ships. Perhaps we can turn

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to be slopped up, closed and conveyed is shown on a Plan of

Survey registered as Plan 64 of the Village of Norval, now a part of the Town of Hallon Hills, in the Registry Office at

Millon. A copy of the Plan of Survey is available for inspection at the Municipal offices for the Town of Halton

Hills located on the 7th Line of this former Township of

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THIS NOTICE was first published on the 19th day of

K.R. RICHARDSON

Clerk Administrator

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Georgetown, Hallon Hills, Ontario

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b! 7.30 p.m. o'clock.

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trip let Roos Travel Agency make the arrangements.

the clock back 50 years!"

Now, some city planners want

than Nyhavn?

would lead.

the harbour was sparked. Three years ago, the Nyhavn Committee was formed and now consists of about 200 "contributing" mem-

However, the committee is spearheaded by three people. 'Curly' Hilma Johansen, who inmated the Nyhavn Committee, is the proprietor of Nyhavn 13 - a shop known for its bargain priced cold weather wear. Architect Peter Stephensen, who has an other in Nyhavn, was elected chairman of the committee. And Jan Uhre, a member of the Adventurer's Club of Denmark (the club is headquartered in Nyhavn) is a civil engineer and

the man who discovered the sunken Viking ships in the Roskilde Fjord in 1950. These three people and the other committee members have one thing in common - they are all united in their determination to salvage Nyhavn.

Peter Stephensen outlined the committee's three basic goals: "first, turn Nyhavn into a refuge for old wooden sailing ships, second, rid Nyhavo of its parking lot image by banning all cars from the quay, and third, clean up the harbour. We hope that these measures will bring back some of the old atmosphere".

The basic plan was approved at the end of August, 1976 and on Sentember 17th. Ny havn was officially inaugurated as a sanctuary for old wooden sailing ships.

But the committee's work is not over. After all, there is much in Nyhavn worth preserving. The history of each building in Nyhavn would probably fill a book. Nyhavn 9 is a case in point. The founding date, 1681, can still be seen - set in large iron numbers near its gabled

The exquisitely carved nautical "coat of arms" over the entrance to Nyhavn 65 dates from 1737. The sign reads: "P. Berg - Sail, Flag and Compass Maker".

Because of the changing atmosphere, Nyhavn is attracting a new type of bohemian. They're young, hard-working, and committed to changing Nyhavn by turning back the clock. Typical of these young entrepreneurs is 29-year-old Svend Laystad, owner of Mantime Antiques, Besides his passion for unique, rare handcrafted ship's models - including two versions of Lord Nelson's flagship, the HMS Victory - he has ship's wheels, engine room telegraphs, sextants, copper ship's lamps and running lights, antique figure heads, brass portholes and diving helmets.

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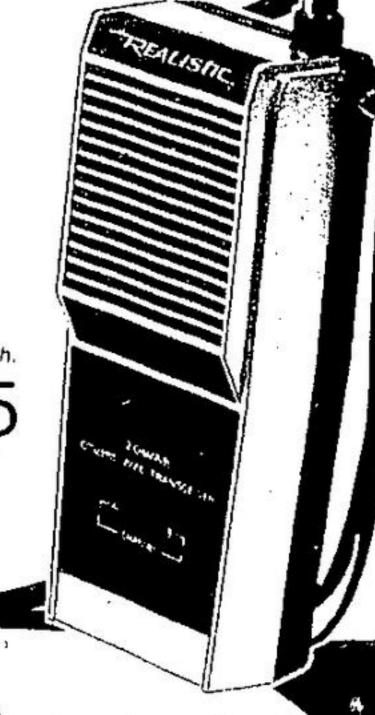
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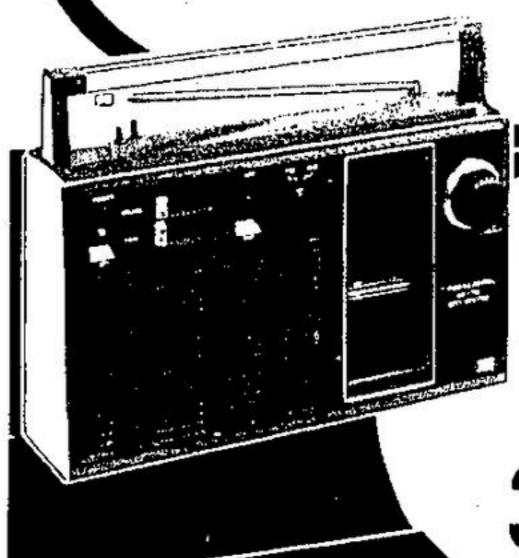
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altract a core of intellectuals. The list of celebrities that have lived in Nyhavn reads like a Who's Who in Denmark, During his lifetime, Hans

Following WW II, Nyhavn's imwas industrializing at an explosive rate. Larger cargo ships that rapidly other forms of mechanization were

By 1965, Nyhavn was just barely bothered to dock there. Around 1970, some of the merchants and residents decided that Nyhavn

When the city celebrated Nyhavn's 300-year anniversary in October, 1973, renewed interest in

> According to the legend, an unknown person of the day put ice cream in a dish, added flavoring but no soda water and came up with ice cream sunday, or sundae.

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