

# BRÆNDEKILDE – CULTURAL VILLAGE

## THE CAVALRY SCHOOL

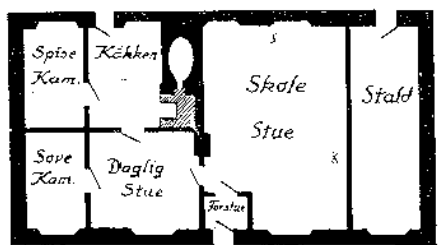
### Historical starting point

The Cavalry School in Brændekilde was established in the years after 1721, and along with it came other cavalry schools in different villages on Funen, as well as cavalry schools in 11 other cavalry districts in Denmark.

All cavalry schools were founded on orders by King Frederik IV (1671-1730), whose purpose was two-fold: to provide horsemen for the army, and proper schooling for the children of the districts.

### The buildings

All schools were constructed after the same pattern: ground floors measuring the length of 42 feet (13.1 meters), 24 feet (7.5 meters) across, and 9-foot-high ceilings (2.82 meters).



<http://www.thorshoj.dk/rytterskolerne.htm>

Many cavalry schools were extended after some time; in Brændekilde the school was extended towards south.

At all cavalry schools sandstone plaques were put on the walls with Latin as well as Danish inscriptions:

The inscription in Latin reads as follows:

*Hanc Scolam, Hujusq ad instar Ducentas Quadraginta in Circulis ad perpetuo alendas duodecim Cohortes Equestris, a institutis fundavi.*

In translation:

This school, and 240 others alike, We, King Frederik the Fourth, have established in the year 1721, in all the districts established by us to uphold 12 cavalry squadrons.



Source: Rasmus Rask-skolen (foto, august 2021)

The inscription in Danish reads as follows:

*God the Almighty has granted me life for full 50 years. Neither ailments, wars nor plagues have struck me. I thus pay my thanks to Thee by spreading Thy name and establishing schools for the poor.*

*Oh Lord,*

*Let thus Thy heavenly Grace reach out;*

*Let these schools persevere to the end of time;*

*Let eternally on the throne be heirs of mine who will worship*

*Thee and let these schools prosper.*

Today the plaque from the Brændekilde cavalry school has been installed on the surface of the Rasmus Rask School, which was established in 1962.

### The time after 1910

The cavalry school in Brændekilde operated as a school until 1910, after which the building to the right on the picture below took over, and

the original school became a teacher's lodge.

Today it is private property.



Source: Arkiv.dk (computer colouring)

