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Caledonia Springs

Excerpt from *"History, Rise, and Progress of The Caledonia Springs, Canada West: With Analyses of the Waters, and Certificates of the Efficacy."*

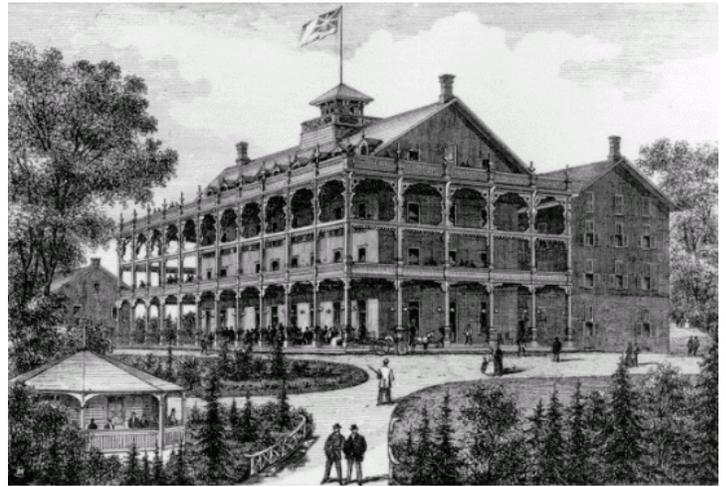
William Parker, 1844.

...A combination of healing influences so singularly blended, an union which gathers the afflicted to one spot, where they have the advantages of four remedial agents, marks out the site of the Caledonia Springs, as the destined Spa of Canada, around which it is highly probable, we shall see at no very distant day, the wild grandeur of the rugged forest giving place to the mansion and the cottage and a great city gradually arising to compete with those, its brethren in the Eastern Hemisphere. Already have the Caledonia Springs become the fashionable resort of Canada; it is there alone that her people congregate in search of health and amusement. Already has the celebrity of their waters spread over the whole continent, and the North and the South, the East and the West have sent forth their sick, to seek their aid and spread their fame yet wider through the world. A solid sure foundation has been laid, and every coming year will add something to a superstructure, which it needs no very sanguine temperament to imagine may become, both as the tomb of disease., and a source of profit, of no inconsiderable importance to the Province...



Caledonia Springs Bottled Water

Photo Source: Les Productions Vic Pelletier inc.



Caledonia Springs Hotel, 1872

Photo Source: Library and Archives , Canada Photo

Caledonia Springs Bath House

Source: www.ontarioabandonedplaces.com

This Caledonia Springs Bath House is the sole remaining structure of a large resort complex originally consisting of a large "Grand" Hotel, a smaller Hotel, several Inns and Rooming Houses, two stores, a Post Office, Churches and a Train Station. The Caledonia Springs Resort complex served its patrons as a Spa and Sanatorium from approximately 1835 to 1915 where guests could relax and enjoy the water from several local springs said to have great recuperative powers. The Grand Hotel itself was a massive 3 story structure having almost 100 rooms as well as dining and bathing and recreation facilities. After closing in 1915, The Grand Hotel was demolished and the other facilities were gradually abandoned and removed over the first half of the 20th century, leaving the decaying Bath House as one of the only remaining signs of the once popular vacation spot.

The Bath House shown in these images contains tiled baths fed by two separate springs; one sulphurous and one saline, each claimed to have had its own restorative qualities. Surprisingly, the springs continue to run today.