

THE FIRST 50 YEARS OF THE ROTORUA BATH HOUSE

Grand dream or nightmare?

Auckland House, Arawa
Street, Rotorua, circa 1910.
Rotorua Museum Te Whare
Taonga o Te Arawa, OP-832.

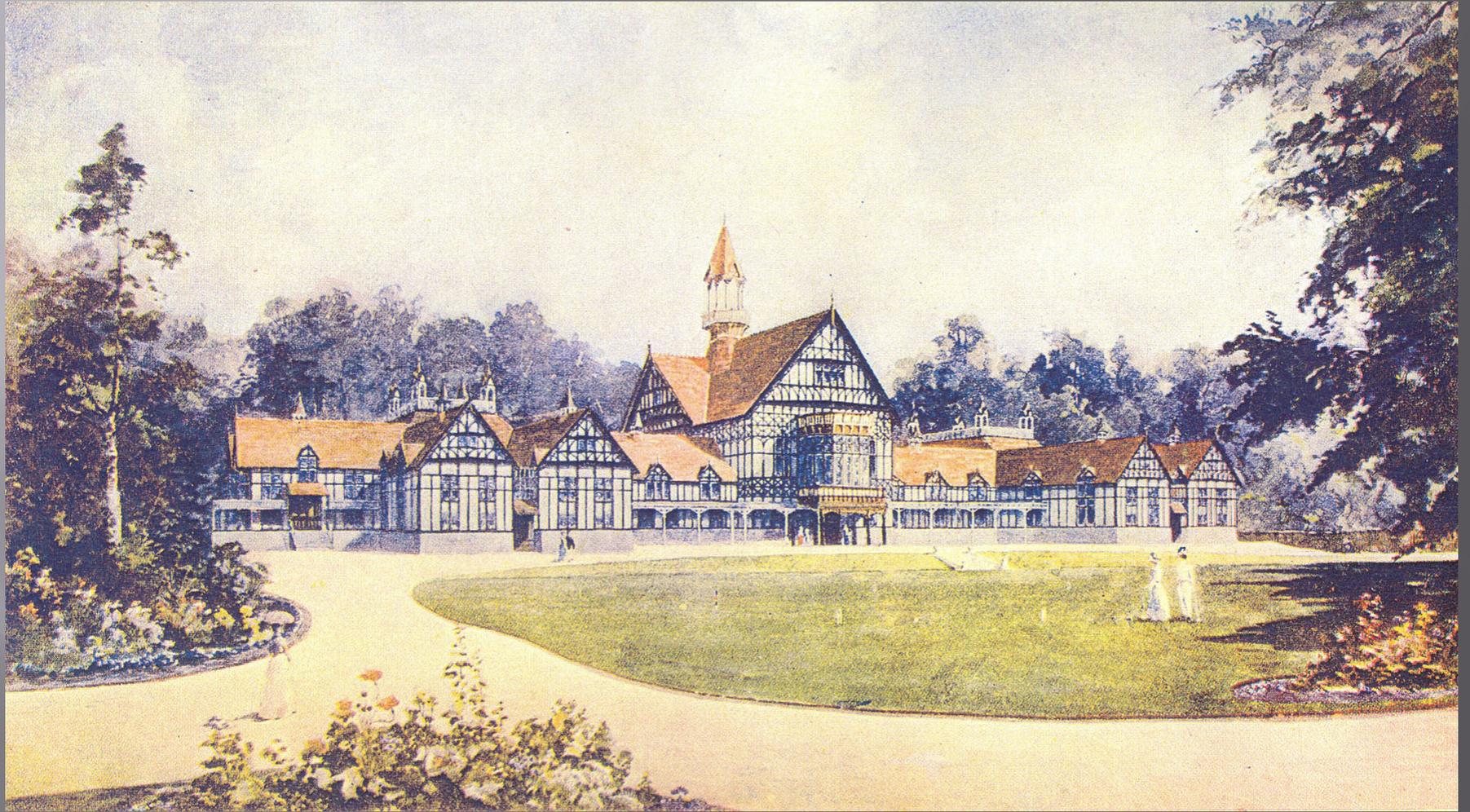




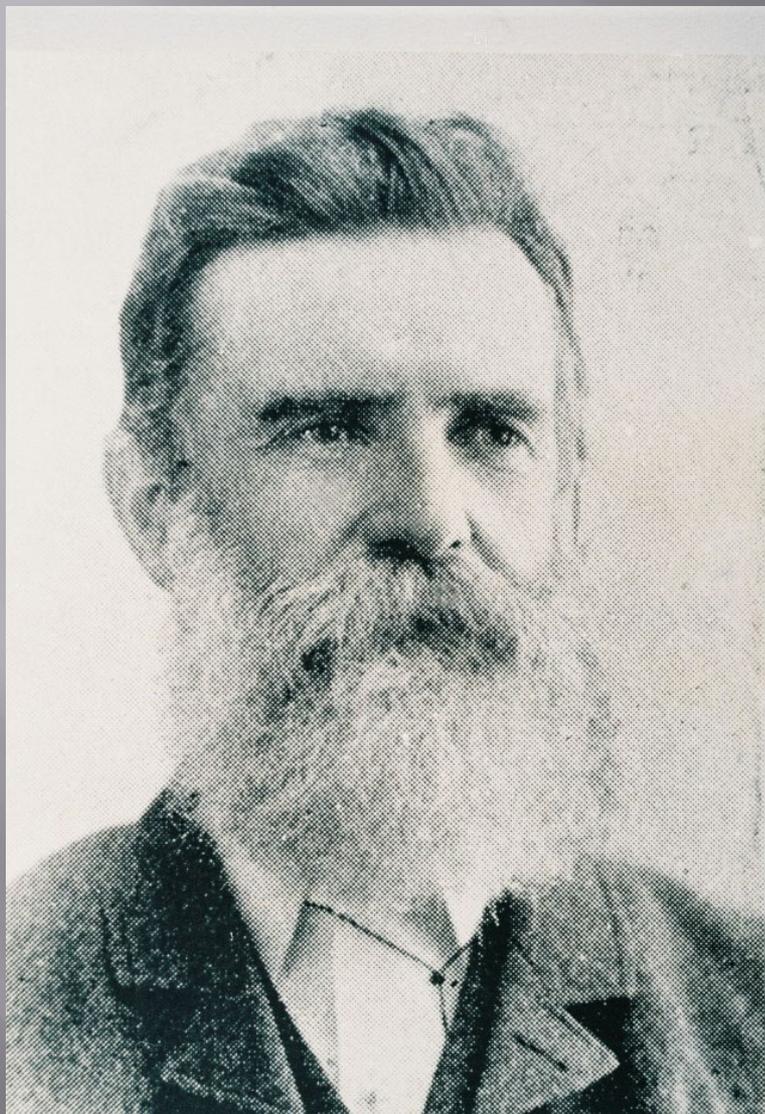
A south east view of the Rotorua township from Pukeroa hill, Rotorua, circa 1905. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, OP-819.



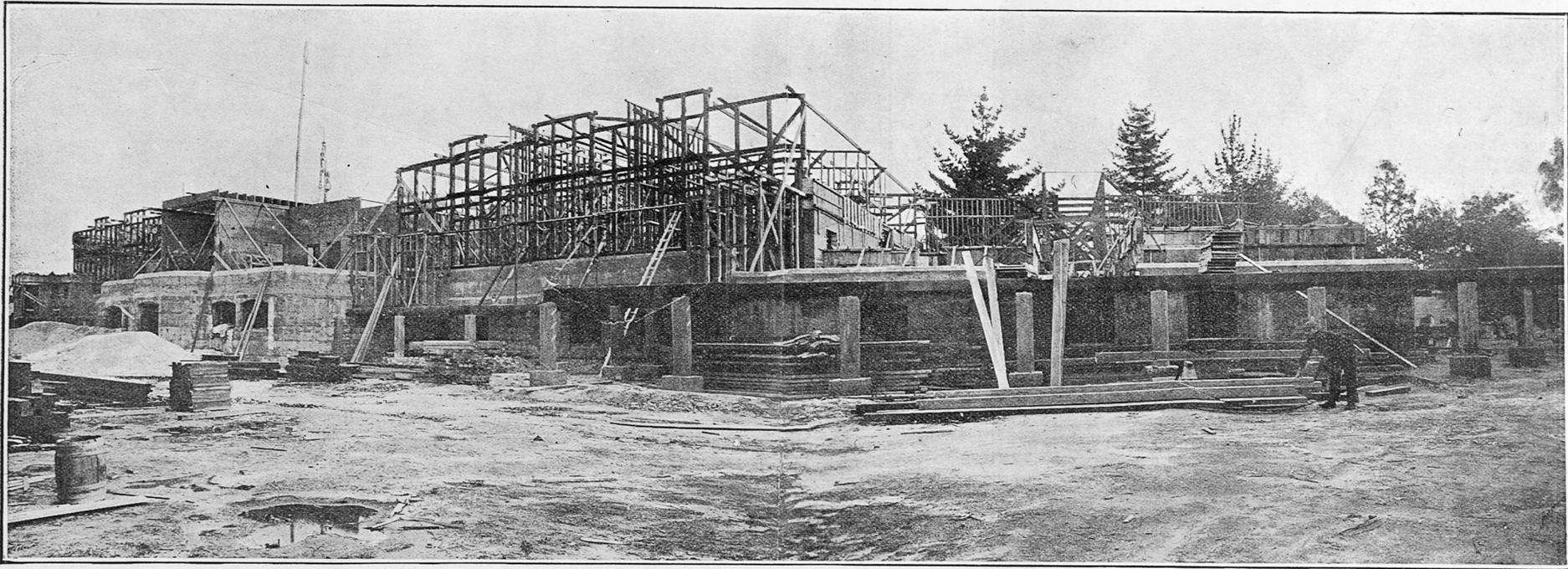
Dr Arthur S Wohlmann (later Herbert), 1902.
Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare
Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-1054.



Envisioned Bath House, circa 1903. Painted by Arthur S. Wohlmann (d.1944), courtesy of Archives New Zealand, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, 2011.8.6.



*Mr B S Corlett, date unknown. Photographer unknown,
Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-1044.*



ROTORUA SANATORIUM IMPROVEMENTS: THE NEW BATH-HOUSE IN COURSE OF ERECTION.

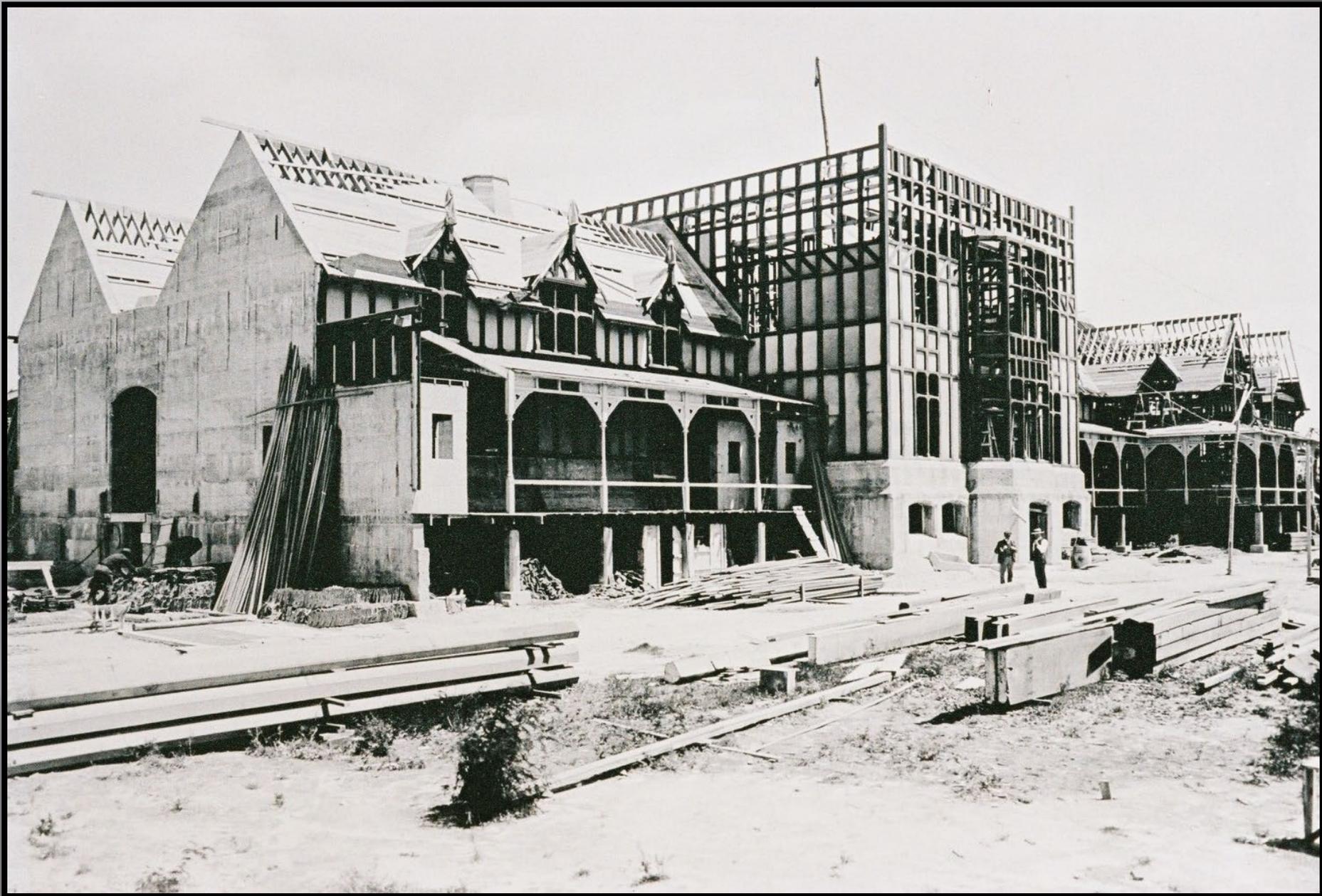
IMG AWNS_19060902_15_2 - *Rotorua Sanatorium improvements : the new Bath-House in course of erection.* Auckland Weekly News. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries (AWNS-19060802-15-2)



Log for Bath Building, circa 1905. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-2476.



Construction of the Bath-House, circa 1907. Photograph by Thomas William May, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-33.



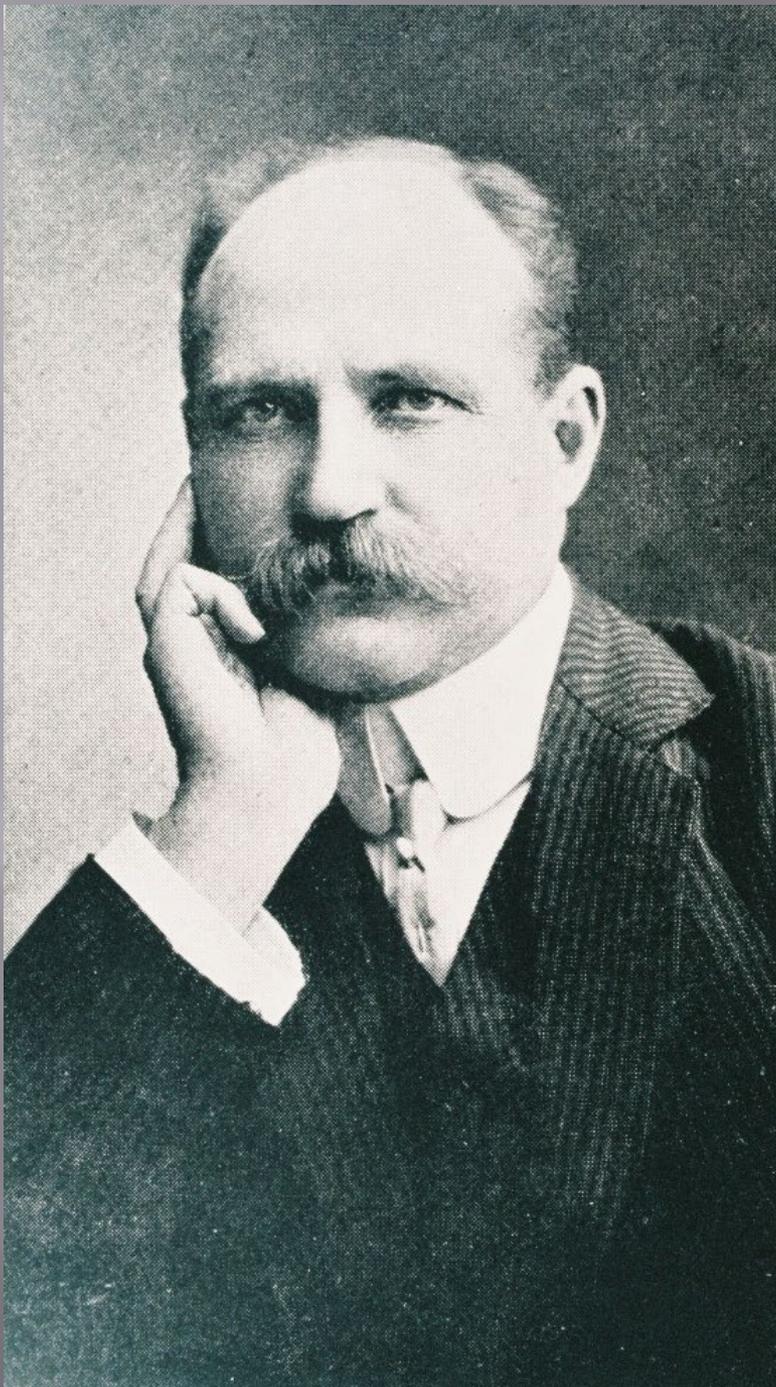
Construction of the Bath-House, circa 1907. Photograph by Thomas William May, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-32.



The Bath House, 1909. Photograph by Muir & Moodie (1898-1916), Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-236.

Official opening of Bath House, 13 August 1908. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-2412.





Thomas E. Donne, head of Department of Health & Tourist Resorts, date unknown. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-1043.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1905

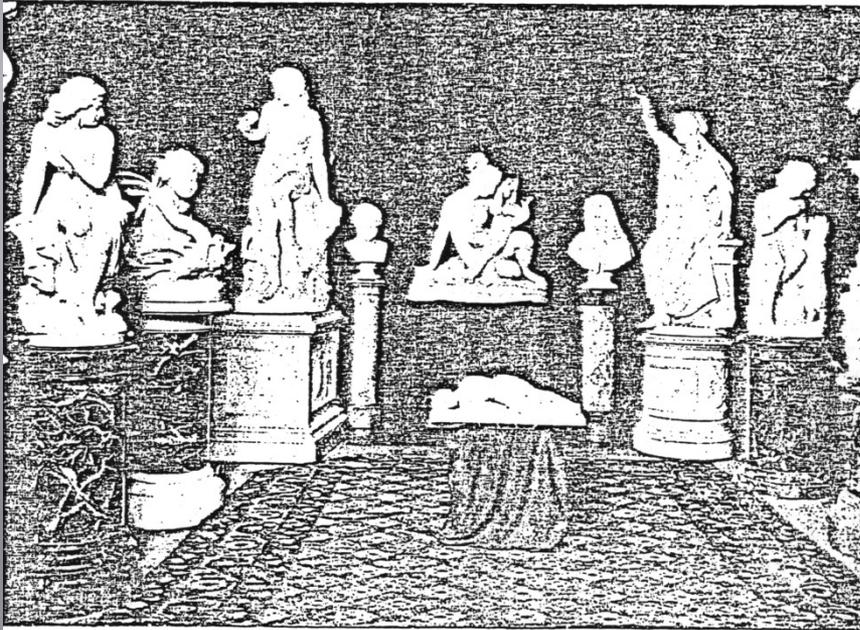
AT THREE O'CLOCK.

At the Studio, Jolimont Terrace, facing Melbourne Cricket Ground
JOLIMONT.

Important Auction Sale of...

Superb Statuary,

Sculptured in the Finest Marble at his Studio, Via Margutta, ROME, by
CHARLES F. SUMMERS.



GRAHAM & STYLES,

Fine Art Salesmen and Appraisers,

28 & 30 ELIZABETH STREET, MELBOURNE.



Foyer of the Bath House, circa 1910.
Photograph by William Haughton, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, OP-6106.





Bath house statuary, Charles Summers – Deborah, date unknown. Photograph by Jack Lang (1915-1986), Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, OP-2951.



Photo courtesy of Rotorua Museum



Photo courtesy of Rotorua Museum



Entrance Hall Bath House Rotorua. F.G.R. 3713.



Looking east to Bath House from Queen's Drive, showing a woman pushing an empty wheelchair in Government Gardens while the patient walks alongside, circa 1930. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-285.



Arthur White, Physiotherapist, Bath House, 1915-1957 in High Frequency Room, date unknown. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, 1996.39.13.



X-ray Photograph of Arthur L Whites Hand, 1917. Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, 2010.104.1.

Schnee multipolar electric bath, Sanatorium, Rotorua. Ref: PA1-f-051-29-4. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.



Rotorua



Thermal Waters

Health and Recreation

Nature's Cure

FULL INFORMATION FROM—

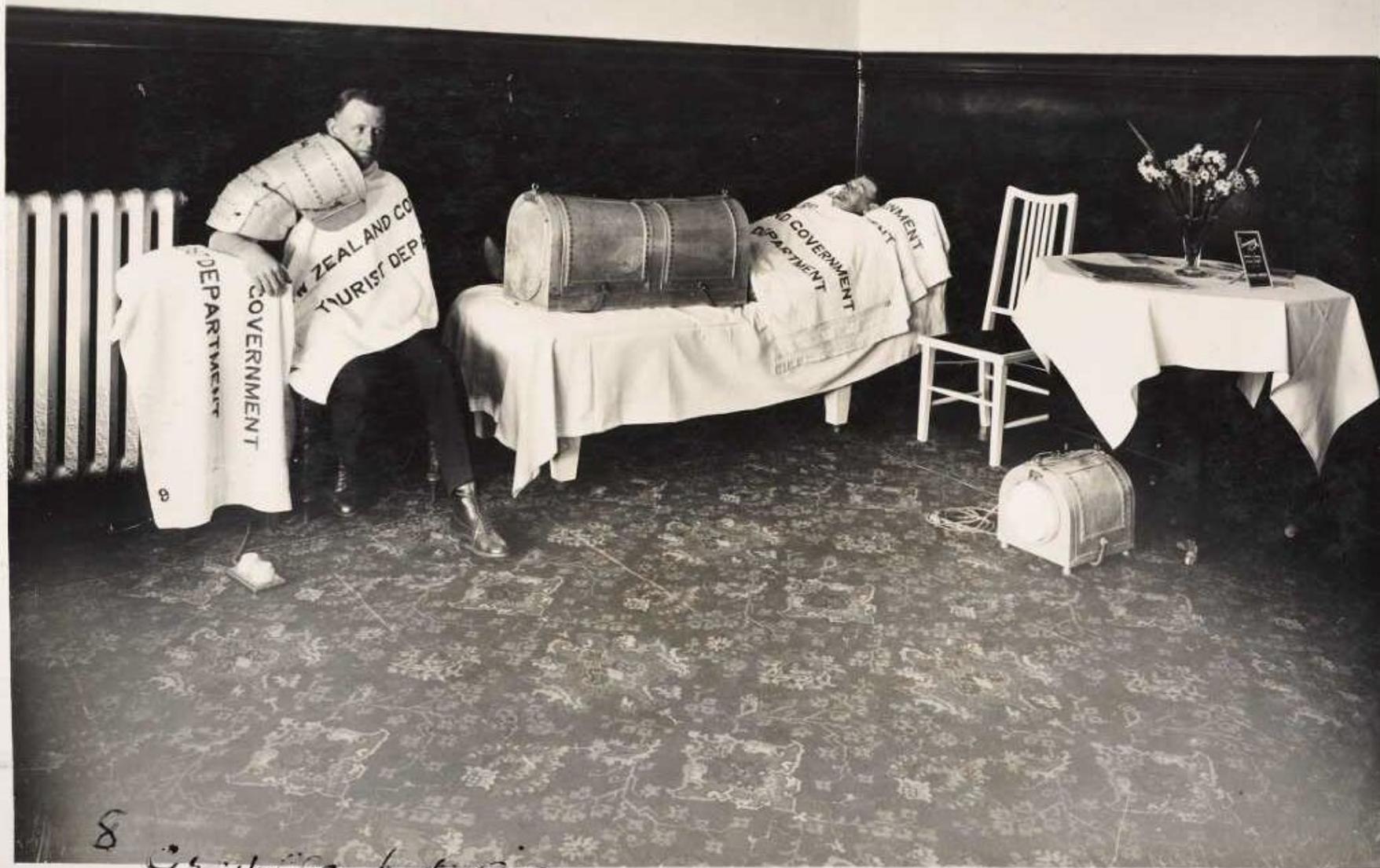
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|--|--------------------------------------|
| The High Commissioner for New Zealand | 415 The Strand, LONDON, W.C. 2 |
| New Zealand Trade and Tourist Commissioner | 320 Bay Street, TORONTO, Canada |
| New Zealand Trade and Tourist Commissioner | Martin Place, SYDNEY, Australia |
| New Zealand Government Agent | 59 William St., MELBOURNE, Australia |
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AND ALL TRAVEL AGENCIES

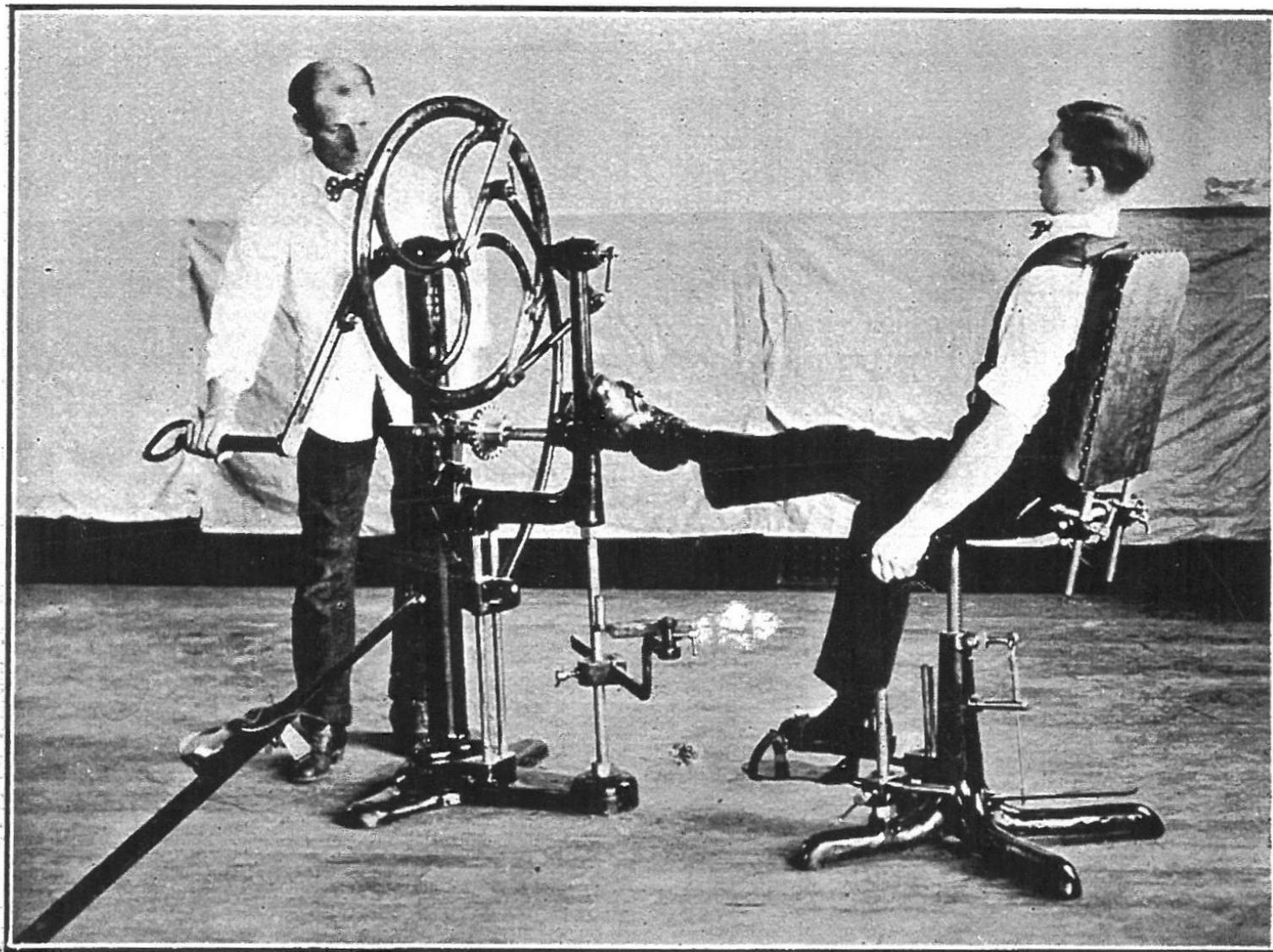
NEW ZEALAND

Nature's Cure Rotorua New Zealand poster, circa 1932. Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, 2014.3.

Men being treated with Greville hot air baths at the Government Sanatorium and Baths in Rotorua. Ref: PA1-f-051-27-3. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.



ORTHOPÆDIC APPARATUS, ROTORUA.



Orthopaedic apparatus, Rotorua, from 'The mineral waters and spas of New Zealand' by A. S. Wohlmann, 1914, p. 47.



Nurses on Bath House back verandah, circa 1910. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-2902.



Staff outside front entrance to Bath House, circa 1942. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-4777.



Men swimming in a pool at the Bath House, circa 1960. Photographer unknown, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, CP-291.



Tap from the Bath House, 1908-1920. Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, 2017.19.5.



FRAGMENTS

This collection of fragments from the past help to tell the story of the building. Many of the objects are suffering from the effects of the hydrogen sulphide laden atmosphere, some have only recently been excavated.

A number of the broken bottles on display once contained mineral waters, offered as a part of the cure. In 1911 a water-secreting machine was set under the back verandah to bottle Te Aroha water. For a period before World War I, Radium-imregnated water was offered for the treatment of gonorrhoea, diabetes, and for the lightening of faces.

Among the great photographs inside the Bath House is that of W. H. Richardson, and Russian Tom May. Also pictured are the excavator, the various glass bottles and their contents and the Bath, Mangle, Bunkies and Engine. Photograph courtesy Anne Beckett.

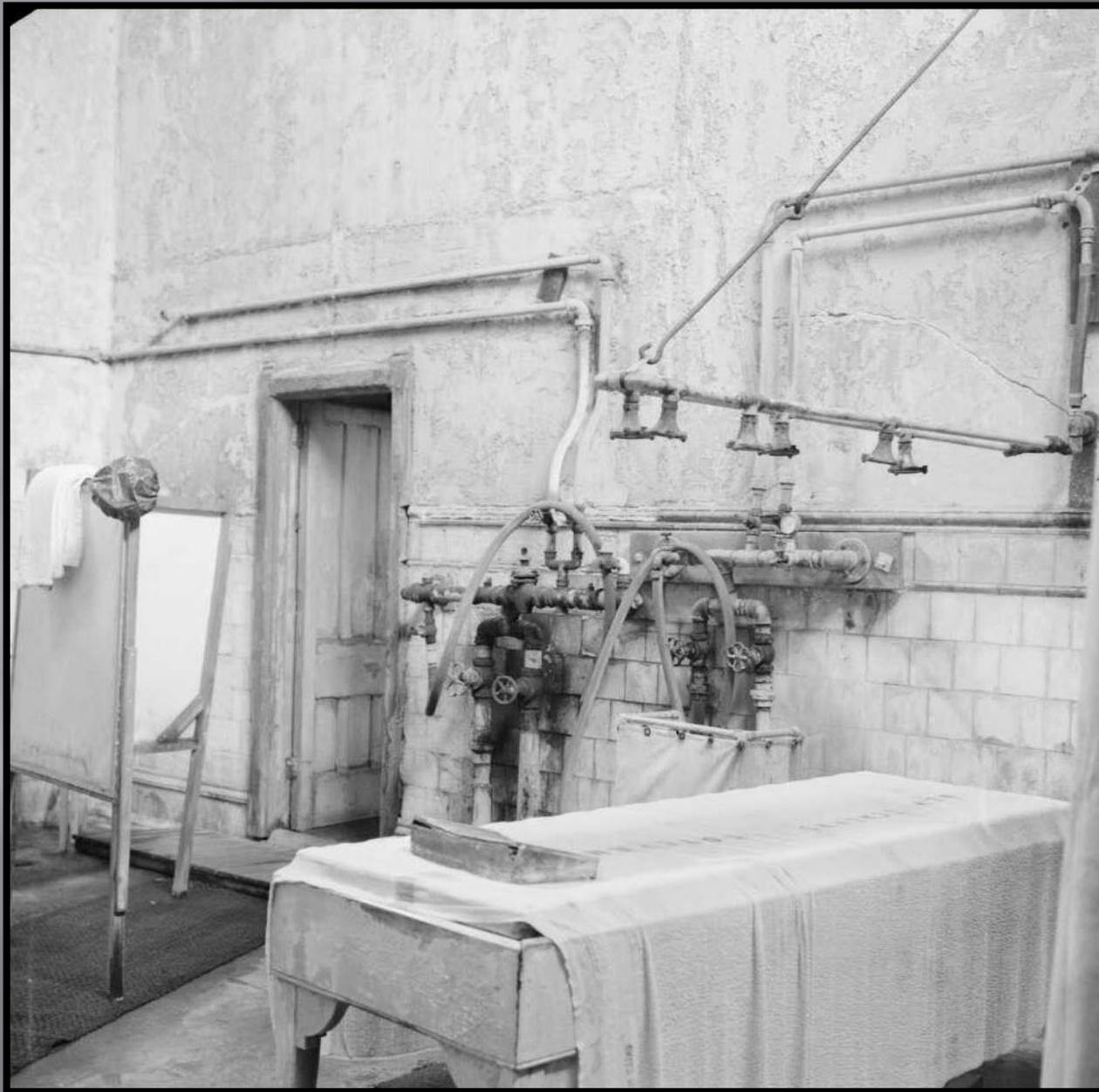
Railway track

The profile of a piece of railway track can be clearly seen in the case of this sample taken in 2003 from the main foundations of the Bath House. The track was added by the contractor, W. Hutchinson, in 1903 to make provisions for the pre-cast concrete 'rooms' pressed on the surface of the site - despite the government architect's concerns.

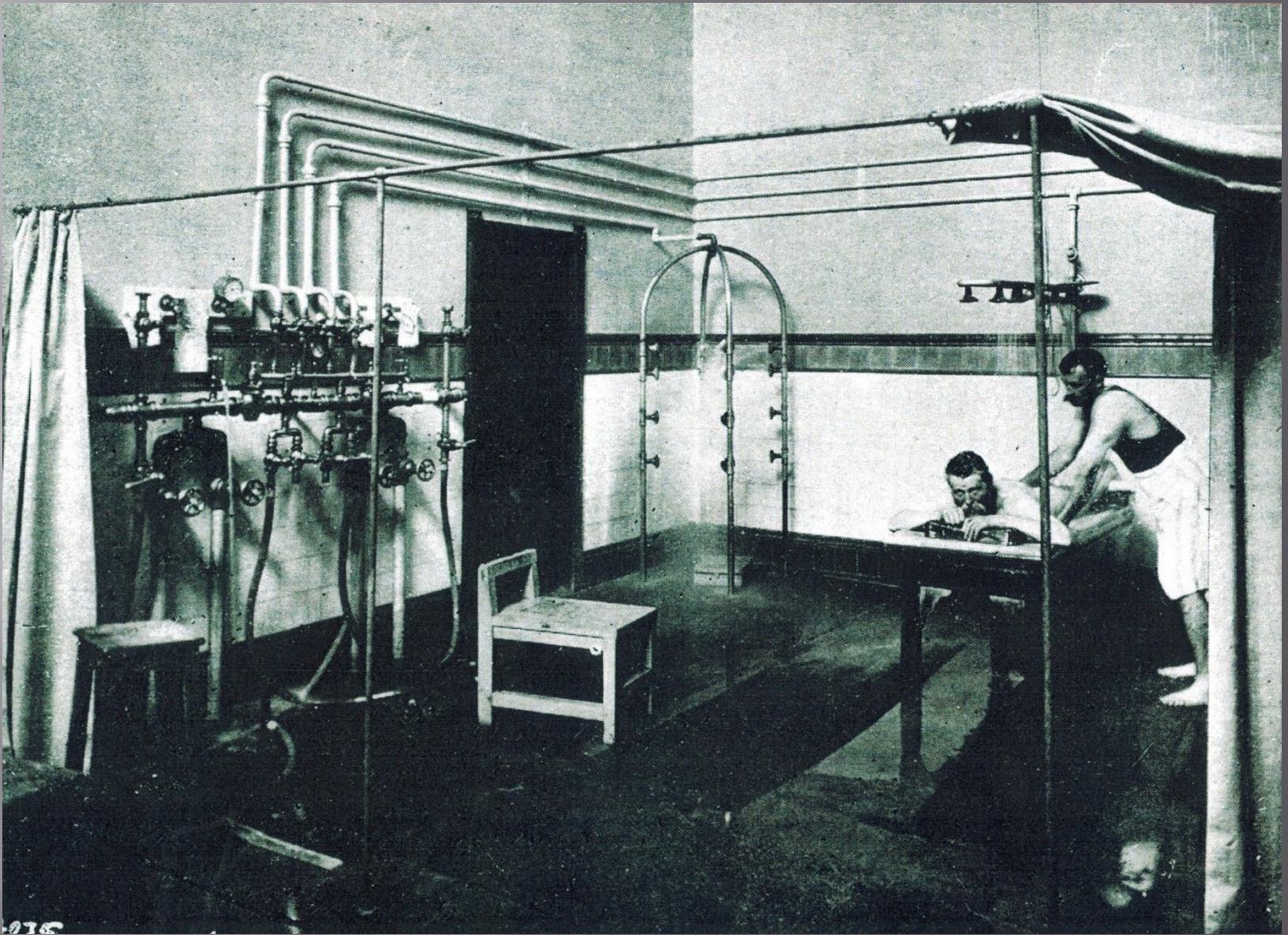
Taking the Cure exhibition. Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa.



Interior view of dilapidated walls within Rotorua Bath House with bath and shower, Bay of Plenty Region. Dominion post (Newspaper): Photographic negatives and prints of the Evening Post and Dominion newspapers. Ref: EP/1960/0090-F. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.



Rotorua Bath House, interior dilapidated view of massage table with body shower, Rotorua, Bay of Plenty Region. Dominion post (Newspaper): Photographic negatives and prints of the Evening Post and Dominion newspapers. Ref: EP/1960/0086-F. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.



The Vichy Douche and Circular Needle Douche, Rotorua, photograph by Parkerson, from 'The mineral waters and health resorts of New Zealand' by A. S. Wohlmann, 1914, p.41.



Rotorua Bath House, interior dilapidated view of massage table with body shower, Rotorua, Bay of Plenty Region. Dominion post (Newspaper): Photographic negatives and prints of the Evening Post and Dominion newspapers. Ref: EP/1960/0086-F. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.

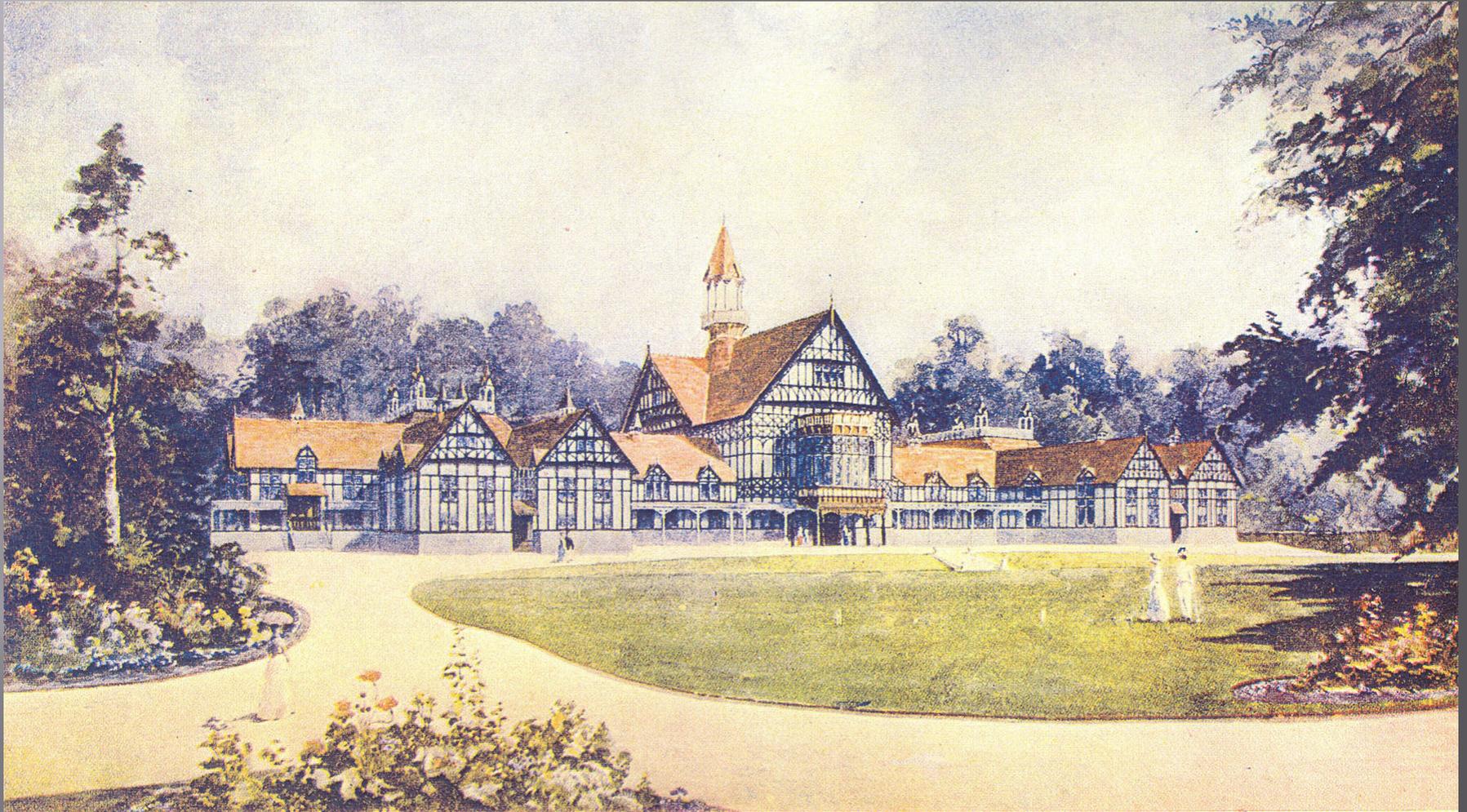


John Perry in the Bath House basement. Photograph courtesy of the Rotorua Daily Post.



Rotorua Bath House. Photograph by Adrian Hodge.

Remember the dream



Envisioned Bath House, circa 1903. Painted by Arthur S. Wohlmann (d.1944), courtesy of Archives New Zealand, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa, 2011.8.6.

Acknowledgements

- ▣ Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa
- ▣ Rosemary Deane