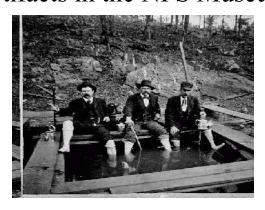
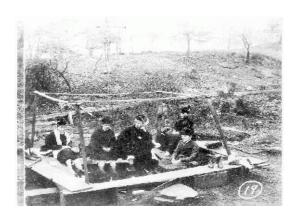
Artifacts in the NPS Museum Collections







The American Spa: Hot Springs National Park

The Hot Springs National Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas attracted people from all over the US because the naturally "hot" springs in the area were thought to bring healing to one's body. These springs brought such great success to the bathing industry that Hot Springs soon became known as the "American Spa." Review the http://www.nps.gov/HOSP/index.htm) and the <a href="https://www.nps.gov/ParkPagedet.aspx?rID=HOSP%20%20%20%20%20%20%201%26db%3Dobjects%26dir%3DPARKS). Try to answer these questions by exploring the web collection.

- Part 1: At several of the bathhouses customers had access to exercise machines. Browse the web collection for 3-5 machines related to strength building (browse: machine, under T&E for Science on the park page). Imagine these items in an exhibit and write a 3-5 sentence exhibit paragraph summarizing these items. Be sure to explain what muscles these machines were designed to strengthen. In addition, design an advertisement that encourages customers to use one of these machines. Explain how the machine works and what muscles will get stronger and how this will make the user feel/look to themselves and others. Use modern advertisements and commercials as examples.
- Part 2: Review HOSP 3663. What is liniment? What was it used for? Does it have more than one function? Who used it? After studying this object, why do you think many people came to the hot springs and the bathhouses? How does this liniment compare to similar items (e.g., icy hot) we use today? Do they treat the same ailments/illnesses?
- Part 3: Search for collapsible cups (official term: cup, collapsible) in the web collection. Read their labels and exhibit labels. What were they made to hold? What did people expect to happen when they drunk this liquid? Could blacks and whites use the same cups? What do these cups tell you about segregation in the bath houses and society during the late 19th and early 20th century? Does this segregation still exist in bathhouses and spas today? Create a new 2-3 sentence exhibit label for HOSP 2196 in light of what you now know about collapsible cups.
- Bonus: What can you learn about electrotherapy from studying artifacts in the web collection and the park website? Is electrotherapy still used today? Why or why not?

Visit us online from your home or school at http://museum.nps.gov National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

The American Spa: Hot Springs National Park: Answer Sheet

Name:	Date:	Class:
Part 1:		
ratti.		
Part 2:		
Part 3:		
Bonus:		