

HEALING WATERS

at the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort



THEN AND NOW



Feel 10 Years Younger



HISTORY OF THE HEALING WATERS &

Prior to 1800

The land around the natural springs was neutral ground between Native American tribes (Cheyenne, Ute and Arapaho), who frequented this area to soak in the healing waters. They called it the "place of magic waters".

Late 1870's

Explorers, trappers, fur traders and early settlers arrive in search of a hot bath from the mineral hot springs.

1884

Town of Warm Springs renamed Saratoga with the hopes of creating a smaller version of the famed New York spa town, Saratoga Springs.

The 2-story Saratoga House, later known as the Hot Springs Hotel, is completed in the spring.

1902

The Sartoga Hot Springs Hotel catches fire and burns to the ground. Other hotels, including the Geis Hotel--owned by buffalo hunter Lewis Geis, are constructed and operated over the next several years.

1921

The State of Wyoming purchases the 420-acre site to establish a mineral hot springs bath house and state park known as the "Saratoga Hot Springs State Reserve".

1877

The Hugus and Chatterton log store becomes the first building to occupy what is now the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort.

1907

First iron horse arrives in Saratoga on first 20 miles of S&E Railway line being laid between Walcott Junction and Grand Encampment.

1800

1850

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

THE SARATOGA HOT SPRINGS RESORT

1949

The State leases 404 acres of the Hot Springs Reserve to Bill Walker and his investors for 99 years. Construction of the Saratoga Inn begins.

16 acres go to the Town of Saratoga that include the Hobo Pool and Veterans Island, under a lease from the State.

1950

The Saratoga Inn opens to the public on June 15, 1950.

1956

The Saratoga Golf Course holes number 1 and 9 are built, with the balance of the course completed in 1958.

1958

The State sells 404 acres of the Hot Springs Reserve to Bill Walker and his investors for \$18,000, plus \$20,000 in back taxes. (The remaining 16 acres are given to the Town of Saratoga so that they remain open and free forever, under transfer of deed.)

Ownership of the Saratoga Inn is transferred several times over the next decades.

1994

Renovations are made to include five new hot mineral baths, three river rock fireplaces, remodeling of the swimming hot pool, converting the old State Bath House into the Healing Waters Spa, new roofs, installing central air conditioning, and new microbrewery.

2008

The International Resort Properties (Janssen Family) acquires the Saratoga Inn and transitions it into a four season Wyoming resort: The Saratoga Resort and Spa.

During the next several years, more resources are invested in the Resort than in the entire history of the Resort.

1950

1960

1970


1980

1990

2000

2010

2020



Welcome to the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort. The following pages outline the history of the Healing Waters at the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort and pay tribute to those who valued their healing benefits.

Take time to note the history of this unique and special western resort. Although the resort has undergone extensive remodeling from the early years, many aspects of the original plan and construction remain, including the original gneiss rock wall in the lobby and banquet rooms and the barn wood throughout the main lodge originating from the old rodeo grounds. With the exception of the seven luxury suites, the lodge rooms remain their original size and are furnished for maximum comfort and warm decor. Guests frequently comment about the quaintness of the lodge rooms and the level of intimate comfort they provide. Welcome to one of the west's oldest and most prized treasures!

Special thanks to Dick Perue of Historical Reproductions by Perue for photographs and historical content used throughout this publication.

The Hugus and Chatterton log store, the first building in Warm Springs, Wyoming, originally occupied the place that is now the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort. Built in 1877, it was the first post office, community center, general store, saloon, gambling hall, watering hole, and the best place to get a hot bath with mineral water from the springs.



This early 1880s photograph is the only known picture which shows the name of "Warm Springs", which appears above the open door. The log structure was later burned to the ground in 1950 to make room for the Saratoga Inn Saloon.

In the spring of 1884 ,the Saratoga House, later know as the Saratoga Hot Springs Hotel, was built by owners William H. Cadwell and Judge M.E. Hooker. Overlooking the Upper North Platte River, the 2-story hotel boasted a large 60-person dining room, hotel office, barbershop, billiard room, drug store and a ladies reception room. A wide hall and stairway, with exquisite black walnut banisters, led to sleeping rooms furnished in the style of the era.



The large rock to the left is now the No. 1 golf tee. The log store is shown on the far right.

Visitors, military officers from nearby Fort Steele, local ranch families and sportsmen from the east coast and Great Britain traveled to Saratoga to experience the renowned therapeutic hot mineral waters. The hotel operated successfully until April 1902, when it caught fire and burned to the ground.

The first railroad locomotive arrived in Saratoga on May 19, 1907. At that time, passenger fare to ride in a boxcar from Walcott to Saratoga was \$1.25 and the minimum freight charge was 50 cents. According the Saratoga Sun newspaper, 35 to 50 passengers rode the train “each way every day.”

Passengers at the Saratoga depot of the Saratoga & Encampment Railway Company.

The depot was built in 1915. It was moved in the 1970's by the Saratoga Historical & Cultural Association and now houses as the Saratoga Museum. Museum visitors will find the structure filled with “Slow & Easy” railroad treasures and a wealth of area history and memorabilia.



After the unfortunate demise of the Saratoga Hot Springs Hotel, several other structures were erected around the the mineral hot springs. In 1921, the State of Wyoming purchased the 420-acre site and established the "Saratoga Hot Springs State Reserve". The State Bath House, which is now houses the Healing Waters Spa, was constructed, along with swimming pools on each side of the bath house. Use of the private State Baths was offered to travelers for 50 cents for a dip in the hot mineral water. Also offered to those weary travelers were sweat baths and Swedish massage. The mineral springs were hailed as a Fountain of Health.



The brick bath house (right) was built by the State of Wyoming in 1923 as the first improvement to the Saratoga State Park. Early bath tubs were constructed of lumber, which were later replaced by stone tubs. When porcelain tubs were installed, the bath house became ultra-modern. Apartments to house park visitors and personnel are on the left. Two cottages remain today as private homes while the third was moved to a local ranch.



This 1940's aerial photo by Saratoga Sun editor and publisher Bob Martin shows the famous mineral hot springs and Saratoga State Park property. The facility included the brick bath house, two swimming pools—left and right of bath house—four living quarters and several maintenance shops.

The Fountain Of Health

MINERAL
BATHS



L. H. Bailey
Mgr.

State Bath House, Saratoga

MANY PEOPLE have been brought back to health and vigor by a course of Hot Mineral Baths at
THE SARATOGA HOT SPRINGS . .

On Highway 130 21 Miles South of Lincoln Highway (30) SARATOGA, WYO

"Health and pleasure seekers will find the Saratoga Hot Springs a most desirable place for an outing or a restful vacation, as well as a real Fountain of Health, for those afflicted with rheumatism, neuritis, blood and skin diseases, and kindred ailments", expounds a 1930's advertisement for the State Bath House in the Saratoga Hot Springs State Park.

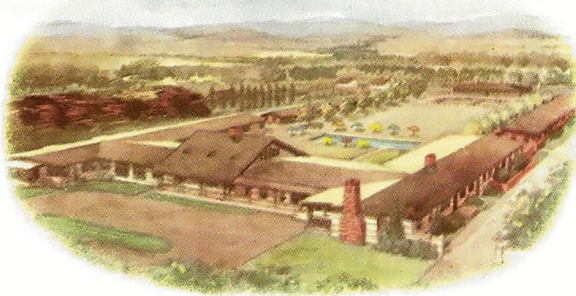
This is the architect's drawing of the Saratoga Inn as it would appear when the extensive development project by the Saratoga Hotel Company is completed and the resort is ready for full-scale operation.

The plan includes a new hotel, swimming pool, sunken garden and 9-hole golf course.

The state cottages and bath house are to remain in use, all built around the famous mineral hot springs.

FEEL 10 YEARS YOUNGER.


SWIMMING POOL FILLS
WONDERFUL



EXECUTIVE
CHARLES
MAN

The Saratoga Inn

Saratoga, Wyoming




In 1949, visionary Bill Walker, of the Saratoga Hotel Company, leased 404 acres of the Saratoga Hot Springs Reserve, under a 99-year lease.

“This place has everything, hot springs (to heal) close to anything that ails you, fishing, hunting, duck and pheasant shooting, one of the most colorful cow towns anywhere, red desert, timber and mountain country all in one,” noted Bill Walker.

That summer, the Saratoga Hotel Company completed construction of the Saratoga Inn a modern one-story resort, which featured a main entrance with lobby, dining room, kitchen, east and west wings with several sleeping rooms, modern suites, a barber and beauty shop space, a swimming pool and sunken gardens in the center courtyard. The bar was built just steps outside the Reserve as a liquor license could not be acquired on State property.

The allure of the Wild West and the desire to be pampered at the luxurious Saratoga Inn drew the wealthy from near and far.





Shown is the Saratoga Inn shortly after its opening June 15, 1950. Of modern one-story construction, the Inn contained 23 individual outside sleeping rooms and several two and four-room suites in the main lodge. All are luxuriously furnished with fully carpeted floors and twin beds, individual showers and baths. It cost \$200,000 to build, according to "The Saratoga Sun" weekly newspaper.

The 9-hole golf course at the Inn crosses the Upper North Platte River twice and the Cadwell Slough once as shown in photo from No. 1 tee box (right.). Trees now obscure big rock in photo at left. Holes number 1 and 9 at the course were built in 1955, with rest of course completed in 1958.





According to an early brochure, "The purpose of the Inn is to provide the valley with . . . a glass enclosed swimming pool heated with waters of mineral hot springs, . . ."



In February of 1968 the local newspaper reported that stone native to Wyoming and weathered wood from the American Legion rodeo grounds are being combined to give the Saratoga Inn lobby and dining room a new rustic look.



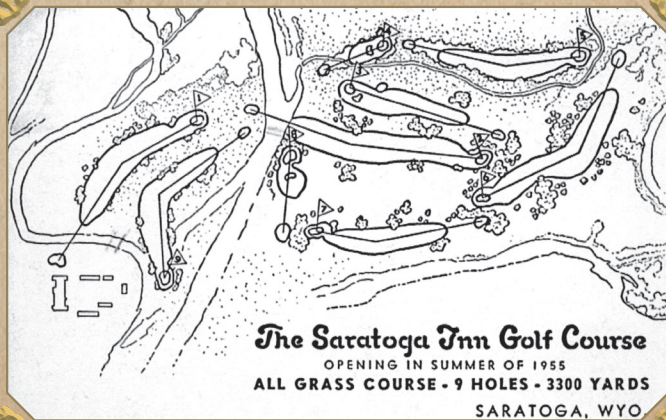
In 1968 the original grandstand, built in the early 1900's, at Carbon County Fair grounds east of Saratoga was torn down and the weathered wood used to line the interior walls of the Saratoga Inn.




In 1956 "Pic" Walker, brother of Bill Walker, had the Snowy Range Hwy. 130 bridge moved intact from Cow Creek landing to North Platte River crossing at No. 2 tee box at the Saratoga Inn. It was transported 10 miles north along railroad tracks. See plaques on bridge.



In the spring of 1959, the huge 30-year-old spruce trees in front of the Inn were relocated to clear needed space for the Inn's golf driving range. The trees were originally planted as seedlings on the State Park property in 1928.





After a lengthy court dispute with the County in 1958, it was determined that taxes cannot be collected on improvements made on State-leased property. The State then sells 404 acres to Bill Walker and his investors for \$18,000, plus \$20,000 in back taxes.

In the years that follow, the Saratoga Inn transfers ownership among each of the following owners to sustain its growth:

Investors from Phoenix

Charlie O'Toole and associates from Colorado and Wyoming (1964)

Cotter Ferguson

Norm Palm and a group of local ranchers and businessmen (late 1970's)

Bill White & Bill Seaburg, realtors from Denver (1985-1989)

Jim Maxwell (1989 to 1992)

John Hamilton (1992-2002)


Major renovations during this time include five new hot mineral baths, three river rock fireplaces, remodeling of the swimming pool, converting the old State Bath House into the Healing Waters Spa, new roofs, installing central air conditioning, and a new microbrewery.

David Schumaker (2002-2008)

International Resort Properties (2008 to present).



Aerial view of the Saratoga Inn taken by Dick Perue in the 1960's which shows the hotel and units, swimming pool, bath house, state cottages, part of holes number one and nine of the golf course, driving range, private homes and building sites, and surrounding land.



In December of 2008, the International Resort Properties (the Janssen Family) acquired the Saratoga Inn and transitioned it into a Wyoming four season resort: The Saratoga Hot Springs Resort.

During the next ten years, more resources are invested in the Resort than in the entire history of the Resort. Renovations and additions include:

Upgraded Irrigation System for the Golf Course and Driving Range

Reopening & Expansion of the Snowy Mountain Brewery

Addition of the Saratoga Biergartens

Room & Common Area Renovations & Updates

Adding & Remodeling Additional Rental Properties

Remodeling the Healing Waters Spa to Include a Fitness Center

Updates to the Sports Court and the Addition of a Sports Center

Becoming First Non-Smoking Lodging/Dining Establishment in Saratoga

Offering ATV, Jeep and Snowmobile Rentals

Adding a Wedding Gazebo and Outdoor Terrace to the Courtyard

New Flooring, Lighting and a Breakfast Bar in Silver Saddle Restaurant

Housing for Employees

Maintenance Shop

Dog Kennels for Guests Traveling with Pets

Decks Resurfaced Around Teepees to Include Fire Ring with Benches

We hope the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort, with its Healing Waters, will become a special place for each of our guests as we continue to write its history.

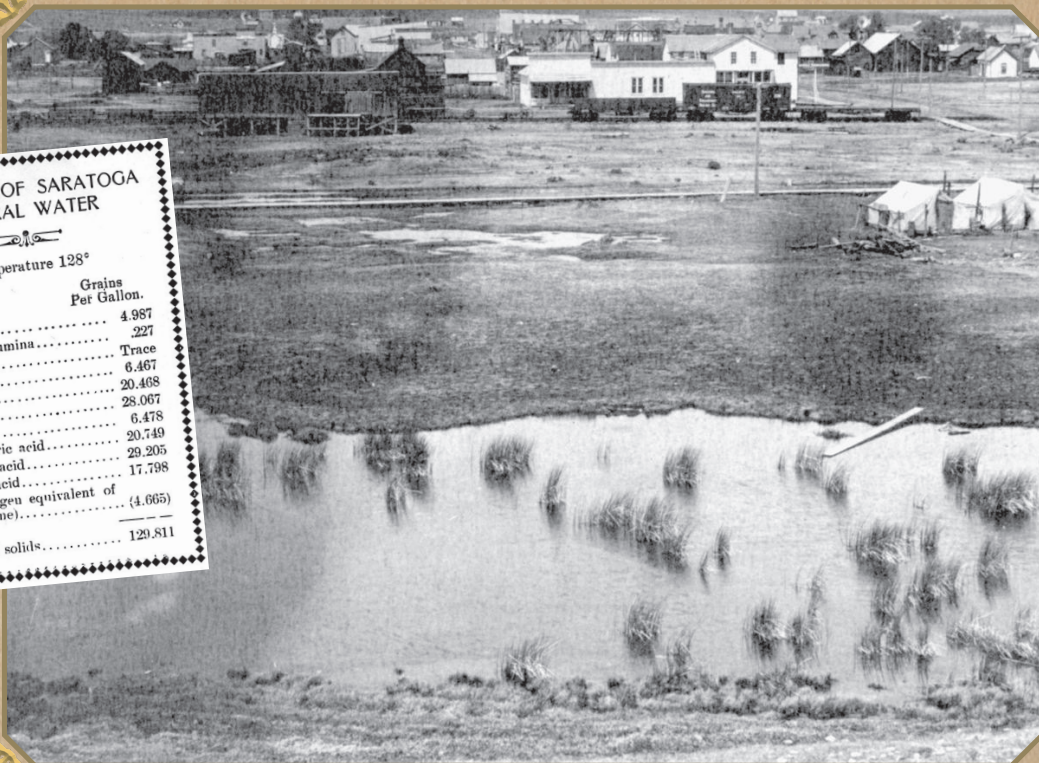


**ANALYSIS OF SARATOGA
MINERAL WATER**

Temperature 128°

Grains
Per Gallon.

Silica.....	4.987
Iron and Alumina.....	227
Lithia.....	Trace
Potash.....	6.467
Soda.....	20.468
Lime.....	28.067
Magnesia.....	6.478
Hydrochloric acid.....	20.749
Sulphuric acid.....	29.205
Carbonic acid.....	17.798
(Less oxygen equivalent of chlorine).....	(4.665)
Total solids.....	129.811




Original "Indian Bath Tubs", which utilized the mineral hot water, with the town of Saratoga in the background. Insert shown is a 1904 analysis of Saratoga Hot Spring Mineral Water.



MEDICAL BENEFITS OF THE HEALING WATERS AT THE SARATOGA HOT SPRINGS RESORT

Balneotherapy is the treatment of medical conditions by bathing in naturally occurring heated mineral water. It is an ancient practice that has been used throughout history for the treatment of many diseases. Although contemporary medicine has been slow to establish the scientific basis for the benefits of submersion in mineral-rich hot springs water, a long history of use strongly suggests medicinal benefits. It is widely recognized that a tranquil hot springs soak provides relief from the pain of stressed muscles and tired joints. The complex effects of hot springs minerals on the skins glands and blood vessels is the likely explanation for the numerous subtle benefits that are reported by those in tune with the hot springs way of life.

Modern balneotherapy is most often used for muscle and skeletal disorders, including osteoarthritis, joint pain, psoriasis (including associated psoriatic arthritis), and swollen spine. Balneotherapy has also been suggested to improve conditions associated with heart disease, fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, depression, insomnia, headache, muscle soreness, injury, low back pain, spinal cord injury, muscle spasms, stroke, acne, dermatitis, eczema, and many other conditions.



Sulfur: 191 mg/L

Skin Disorders

Saratoga natural hot springs contains sulfur at the concentration of 191 mg/L. Sulfur, at this concentration, has been effective in the treatment of psoriasis, eczema, dandruff, folliculitis (infected hair follicles), warts, and pityriasis versicolor, a long-lasting skin disorder characterized by patches of skin that are a different color from the usual skin tone.

Arthritis

Well-designed studies, most conducted in Israel, suggest that balneotherapy can help treat several different kinds of arthritis, including osteoarthritis (OA), rheumatoid arthritis (RA), and psoriatic arthritis. People who took sulfur baths and other spa therapies improved strength, had less morning stiffness, had better walking ability, and less inflammation, swelling, and pain in joints, particularly in the neck and back. Mud packs and Dead Sea salts dissolved in a regular bath tub also improved symptoms of arthritis, but not as effectively as soaking in the Dead Sea itself.

Sulfur contributes to the formation of the proteins that make up our connective tissues, skin, nails and hair. The pain-relieving properties of sulfur may come from its ability to slow the conduction of pain signals through the nervous system.

Silica: 57 mg/L

Silica has been shown to contribute to certain enzyme activities that are necessary for normal collagen formation. Collagen is the most abundant human protein and is found in skin, ligaments, and tendons. Proper collagen formation is essential for maintaining tight, wrinkle-free skin, so silica can also be beneficial for slowing down the signs of skin aging. Silica is essential for maintaining the health of connective tissues due to its interaction with the formation of glycosaminoglycans which are structural building blocks of these types of tissue. One well-known glycosaminoglycan important for skin health is hyaluronic acid, which has been shown to promote skin cell proliferation and increase the presence of retinoic acid, improving the skin's hydration.

Silica is believed to restore health to aging skin, hair and nails.

Sulfate: 576 mg/L

Sulfates play an important role in the formation of brain tissue, joint proteins and the proteins that line the walls of the digestive tract. They stimulate the pancreas to generate digestive enzymes and are thought to help detoxify the body of medicines and environmental contaminants.


THE SIX ESSENTIAL MINERALS THAT YOUR BODY NEEDS EVERY DAY

Calcium: 121 mg/L

Calcium, the most abundant mineral in your body, is required for developing and maintaining strong bones and teeth, according to the University of Maryland Medical Center. About 99 percent of the calcium in your body is stored in your bones and teeth. Calcium requires the presence of phosphorus, magnesium (Saratoga concentrations: 8.8 and 0.5 mg/L respectively) and vitamins D and K for adequate absorption. If you have a calcium deficit, it may cause or contribute to conditions such as osteoporosis, hypertension, elevated cholesterol and rickets.

Magnesium: 8.8 mg/L

Magnesium helps build bones, enables proper nerve and muscle function, and is essential to the production of energy from food. Magnesium is also necessary for proper enzymatic function. Magnesium has been shown to have therapeutic value in treating conditions such as headaches, chronic pain, asthma, and sleep disorders. In a recent large scale study, magnesium has been linked to a reduced incidence of conditions such as heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes.



Chloride: 547 mg/L

Chloride is an electrolyte that works with sodium, potassium and carbon dioxide to maintain the acid-base balance in your body and to keep the proper balance of body fluids.

Phosphorus: 0.5 mg/L


Phosphorus, the second most abundant mineral in your body, helps build strong teeth and bones, filters out waste in the kidneys and helps your body store and use energy. Phosphorus plays an active role in tissue and cell growth and repair.

Potassium: 21.8 mg/L

Potassium is active in muscle-nerve communications and in moving nutrients into cells while moving wastes out of the cells.

Sodium: 472 mg/L

Sodium is essential for your body to maintain the proper fluid balance, transmit nerve impulses and assist in muscle contraction and relaxation.



SOAK IN THE HEALING WATERS
AND FEEL TEN YEARS YOUNGER



Healing Waters at the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort

Hot Springs Chemistry Analysis

Matt Fete, PhD: Chemist Regis University

Test	Result	Test	Result
Boron, total	1.25 mg/L	Zinc, total	0.77mg/L
Calcium, total	121	Bacteria, E. coli	Negative
mg/L		Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	70 mg/L
Copper, total	0.09 mg/L	Bicarbonate (as CaCO ₃)	70 mg/L
Lead, total	0.018 mg/L	Bromide	1.65 mg/L
Lithium, total	1.06 mg/L	Carbonate (as CaCO ₃)	0.46 mg/L
Magnesium, total	8.8 mg/L	Chloride	547 mg/L
Manganese, total	0.030 mg/L	Conductivity	2740 micromhos/cm
Nickel, total	0.03 mg/L	Corrosivity,	0.0 S.U.
Phosphorus,	<0.5 mg/L	Corrosivity, Ryznar Index	7.9 S.U.
Potassium, total	21.8 mg/L	Fluoride	6.20 mg/L
Silver, total	<0.005 mg/L	Hardness (as CaCO ₃)	338 mg/L
Sodium, total	472 mg/L	Hardness (gpg)	19.7grains/gallon
Strontium, total	2.67 mg/L	Nitrogen, nitrate	<0.5 mg/L
Sulfur, total,	191 mg/L	Nitrogen, nitrite	<0.5 mg/L
Thorium, total	<0.02 mg/L	PH	7.8 S.U.
Tin, total	<0.1 mg/L	Salinity (as KCl)	1390 ppm
Tungsten, total	<0.05 mg/L	Silica	56.8 mg/L
Uranium, total	<0.02 mg/L	Sulfate	576 mg/L

Total distilled solids, estimated 1840 mg/L



601 E. PIC PIKE RD., SARATOGA, WY 82331

307-326-5261

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