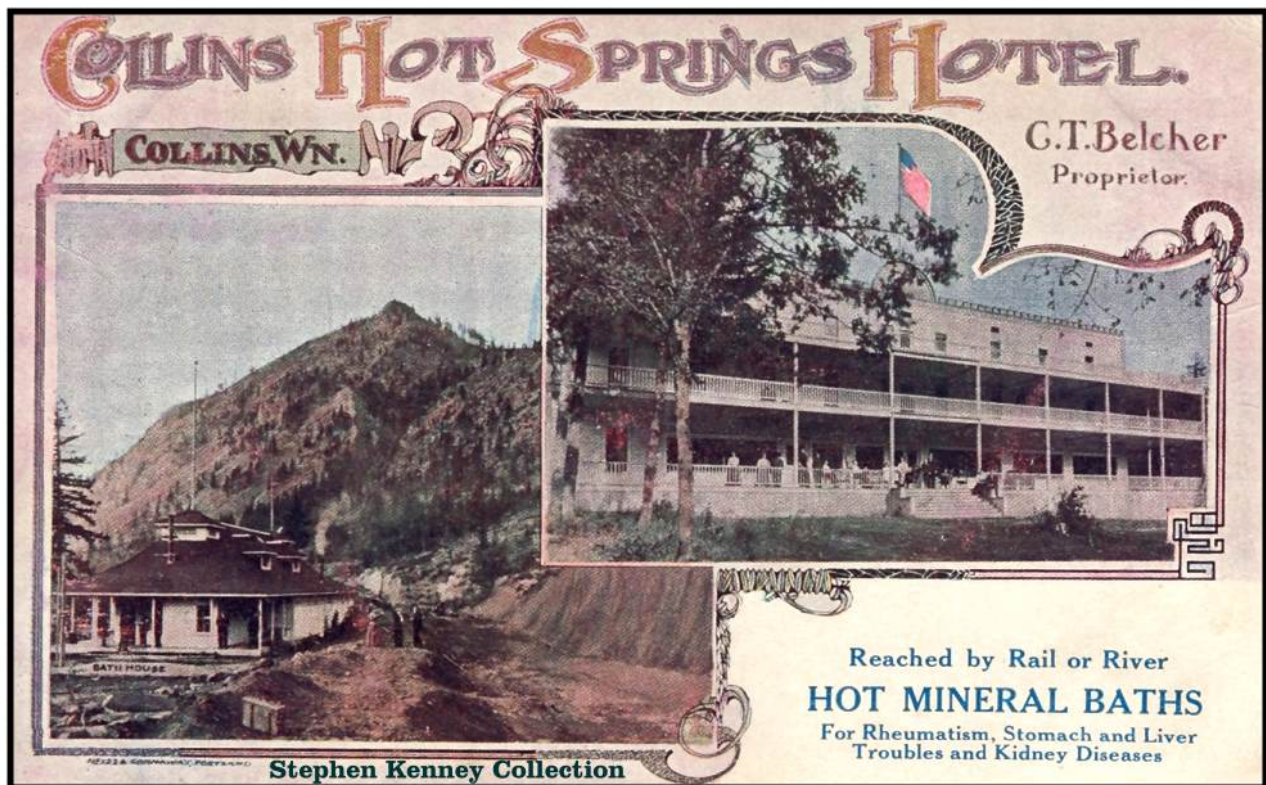




WEBFOOTER EXTRA

June 2019

Columbia River Resort Towns Collins Hot Springs



WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB

PO Box 17240

Portland OR 97217-0240



www.thewebfooters.com

Collins, Washington -- Columbia River Resort Town



Collins Hot Mineral Springs Hotel, Collins, Washington, circa 1910 by Charles S. Reeves.

The Collins Hot Spring and the site of the Collins Hot Springs Resort were located near Collins Point, Washington. The resort boasted spring waters of 120°F. Collins, Collins Creek, Collins Landing, and Collins Point were all named for William Collins who settled in the area in the 1870s. Later, he became a Skamania County Judge.

The 1870 Federal Census for Skamania County, Washington Territory, lists William Collins, occupation: "Farmer," age 55, from New Hampshire, Mary Collins, occupation: "Keeping house," age 54, from Massachusetts, and Abby Collins, age 20, from New Jersey.

Ten years later the 1880 Federal Census for Skamania County, Washington Territory, lists William Collins, occupation: "Probate Judge Skamania County, W. T.," age 67, from New Hampshire, and his wife, Mary F. Collins, occupation: "keeping house," age 65, from Massachusetts.

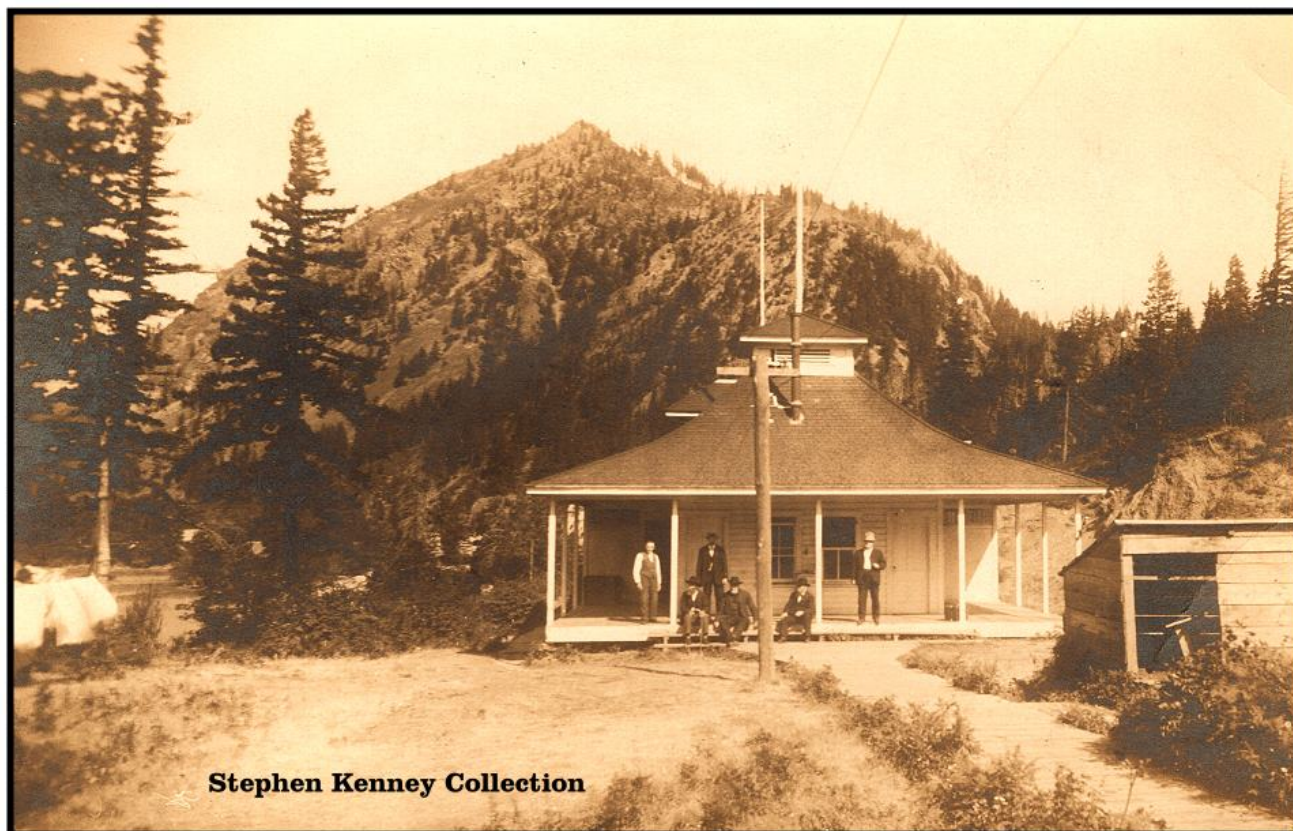
A post office was established at Collins Hot Springs on November 16, 1900 and it lasted until January 15, 1918 after the fire.

"C.T. Belcher, who at one time was interested with the St. Charles people in developing a hot spring on the old Woodard place on Nelson Creek, has secured a 15-year lease from the O.R. & N. company, contingent upon finding within 90 days the vein of hot water at the Collins Springs above high water mark. This Mr. Belcher is trying to do. If he succeeds he intends to put up a \$15,000 hotel and bath house. -- Pioneer." (Source: "Hood River Glacier", Hood River, Oregon, February 6, 1903.)

The Great Northern Railway and Northern Pacific Railroad, competitors in the transcontinental business, launched the Seattle Portland & Seattle Railway in 1905 and built a line along the north side of the Columbia River. This line was known as "The North Bank Road," "The North Bank Railroad," "Columbia River Scenic Route," and "The Northwest's Own Railway." The tracks were started in October 1905 and completed in February 1908, with a celebration being held on March 11th at Sheridan Point upstream of the Fort Rains Blockhouse location. On March 19th, regular passenger service between Vancouver and Pasco was begun. The journey took eight hours.



North Bank Depot at Collins Hot Springs, Washington, circa 1910.



Bath house at Collins Hot Springs, Washington.



Artesian Well at Collins Hot Springs in Collins, Washington.

"Marked improvements have been made at Collins Springs on the Columbia River, in Skamania County, Wash., and the management has more attractions to offer the vacationist this season than in previous years. A three-story annex to the hotel has been completed and is fitted with all modern conveniences, nearly all the rooms being equipped with private baths.

The entire hotel has been remodeled and refurnished ... New bathhouses have been constructed and are supplied with every feature for the convenience of patrons.

The resort is situated a few hundred feet from the Columbia River and in addition to the boating facilities on the river, aquatic sports and fishing are enjoyed on the three small lakes above the springs. A gasoline launch has been placed in commission and rides up and down the river are provided. The North Bank road passes through the property, the station being but two blocks from the hotel.

The waters of Collins Springs have medicinal qualities which, in addition to the restful surroundings, make the resort attractive. The estate is equipped with an electric lighting plant and at night the place is illuminated like the business district of the city. ..." (Source: "The Oregonian," Portland, Oregon, June 11, 1911.)



Hotel and Trout Pond at Collins Hot Springs, Washington.



View of Guests on the Veranda at Collins Hot Springs Hotel. The Hotel burned in 1918.



Pavillion and Store at Collins Hot Springs in Collins, Washington.