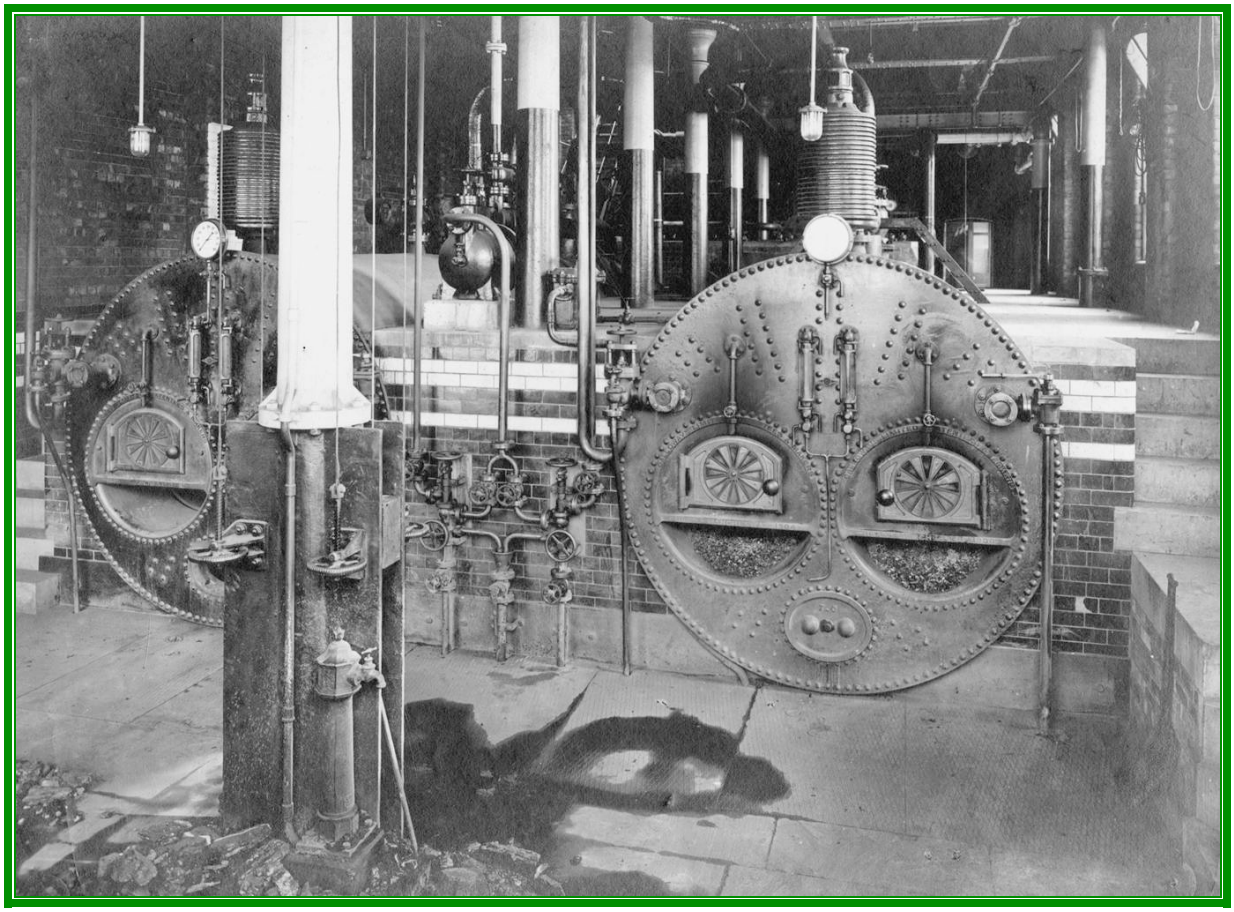
Illustrations of PLUMBING

Victoria Baths, Manchester, 1906 by City Architect Henry Price [HGC]
Comprised 3 swimming pools, a Turkish bath and a laundry
Winner BBC "Restoration" TV programme 2003

Illustrations of PLUMBING



Victoria Baths, Manchester [HGC]
Boiler plant (top) “Super Wash” Filtration plant (bottom)

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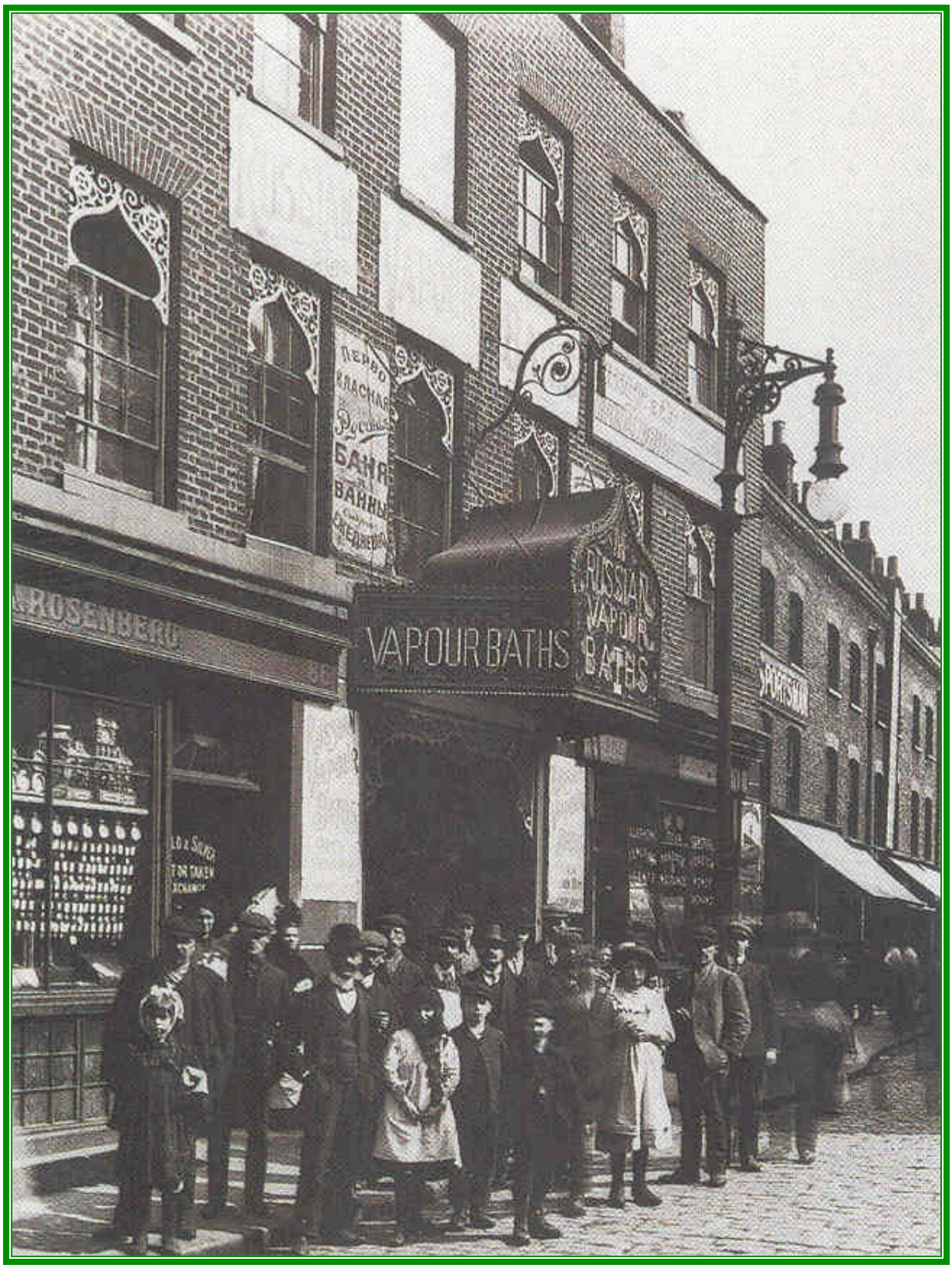

The Vapour Baths in Brick Lane, London [BOB, p.57]

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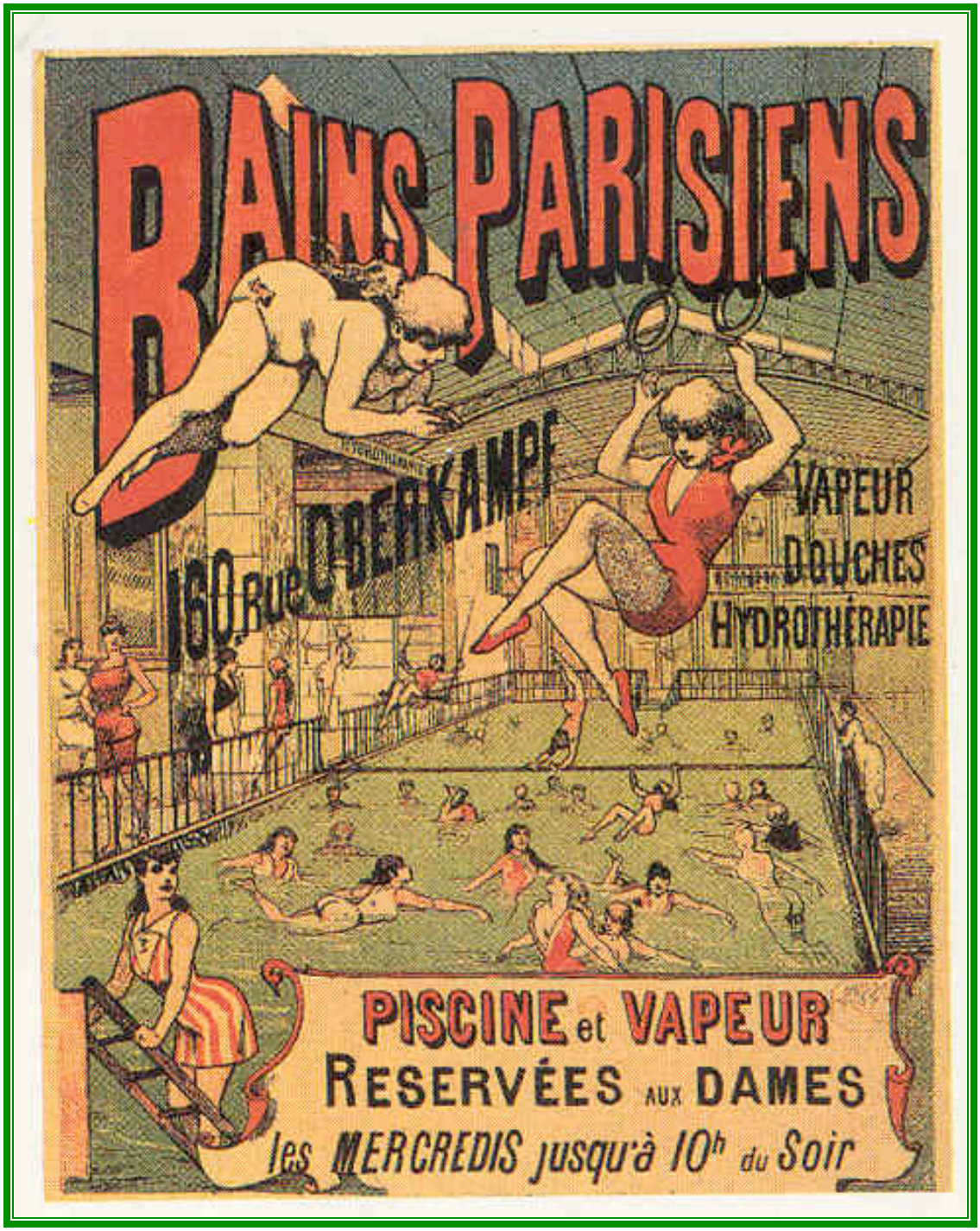

French Swimming Pool & Vapour Baths for Ladies, Paris, c.1900 [BOB, p.58]

Illustrations of PLUMBING

Pier Approach Baths, Bournemouth, 1937 [HGC]
The installation by G N Haden & Sons Ltd used off-peak electricity at night to heat 40,000 gallons of water stored in four large insulated vessels to 240 deg. F, which was passed through heat exchangers during the day to maintain the pool water temperature.

Illustrations of PLUMBING

In 1881 Adolph Sutro bought most of the western headlands of San Francisco. Five years later the Sutro Baths, spread over three acres, opened to a dazzled public. The artistic detail and engineering ingenuity of the bathhouse was impressive. A classic Greek portal opened onto a massive glass enclosure containing one freshwater tank, five saltwater tanks at various temperatures, and a large saltwater tank at ocean temperature. Its three restaurants could seat one thousand people at a time. Its galleries exhibited art from all over the world and its amphitheater, seating 3,700, presented a variety of performances. The Sutro Baths could accommodate 25,000 people a day and it cost ten cents to get in.

When the popularity of public baths waned in the twentieth century, the baths were converted into an ice-skating rink that was destroyed by fire in 1966.

The Sutro Salt-water Baths, San Francisco, 1886 [TW, p.159]