



1. Survey No. CL-AS-010-002		2. Survey name: Mineral Water Resources of Excelsior Springs	
3. County: CL		4. Address (Street No.) 118	Street (name) W. Excelsior Street
5. City: Excelsior Springs	Vicinity: <input type="checkbox"/>	6. UTM: 15 S/394535.64 E/4355561.78 N	7. Township/Range/Section: T: 52N R: 30W S:1
8. Historic name (if known): Fowler's Magnaferro Spring at Fowler's Inn (The Inn)		9. Present/other name (if known):	
10. Ownership: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Public		11a. Historic use (if known): HEALTH CARE/resort facility; DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling	11b. Current use: DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION**

12. Construction date: c. 1890s	15. Architect:	18. Previously surveyed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cite survey name in box 22 cont. (page 3)
13. Significant date/period: c. 1890s-1950s; 1903	16. Builder/contractor:	19. On National Register? <input type="checkbox"/> individual <input type="checkbox"/> district Cite nomination name in box 22 cont. (page 3)
14. Area(s) of significance: HEALTH/MEDICINE	17. Original or significant owner: Mr. & Mrs. William Ellsworth Fowler	20. National Register eligible? <input type="checkbox"/> individually eligible <input type="checkbox"/> district potential ( <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not eligible <input type="checkbox"/> not determined
21. History and significance on continuation page. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		22. Sources of information on continuation page. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION**

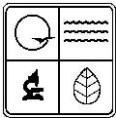
23. Category of property: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	30. Roof material: Asphalt shingles	37. Windows: <input type="checkbox"/> historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> replacement Pane arrangement: 1/1
24. Vernacular or property type:	31. Chimney placement: Center, straddle ridge	38. Acreage (rural): Visible from public road? <input type="checkbox"/>
25. Architectural Style: LATE VICTORIAN	32. Structural system: Wood frame	39. Changes (describe in box 41 cont.): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addition(s) Date(s): c. 1903, 1907 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered Date(s): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved Date(s): c. 1890 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Date(s): Endangered by:
26. Plan shape: irregular	33. Exterior wall cladding: Vinyl, stucco	
27. No. of stories: 2	34. Foundation material: limestone	
28. No. of bays (1 <sup>st</sup> floor): 4	35. Basement type: N/A	40. No. of outbuildings (describe in box 40 cont.): N/A
29. Roof type: Hipped, cross gable	36. Front porch type/placement: Open porch full	41. Further description of building features and associated resources on continuation page. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**OTHER**

42. Current owner/address: Whitacre, Robert & Kingery, Lora 118 W. Excelsior St. Excelsior Springs, MO 64024	43. Form prepared by (name and org.): Deon Wolfenbarger Three Gables Preservation 320 Pine Glade Road, Nederland, CO Deon@threegables.net	44. Survey date: 2011
		45. Date of revisions:

**FOR SHPO USE**

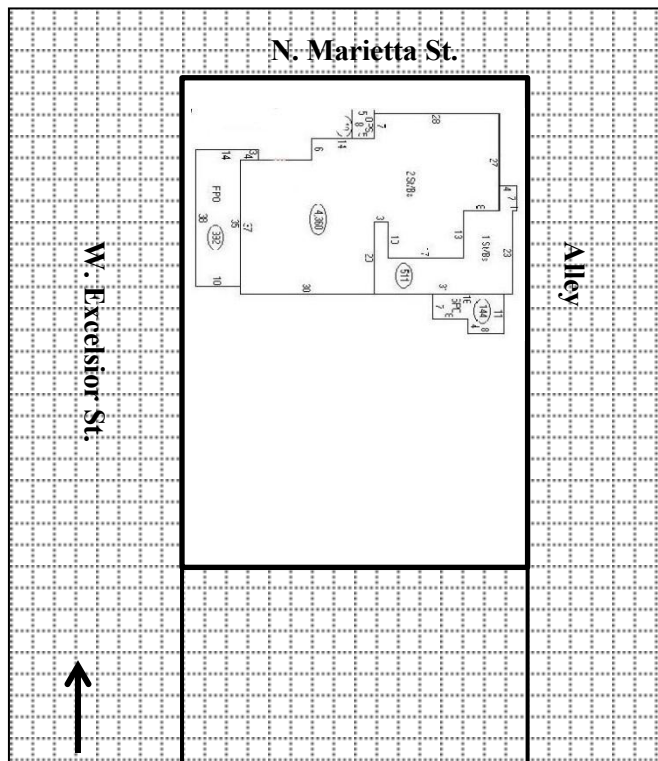
Date entered in inventory:	Level of survey <input type="checkbox"/> reconnaissance <input type="checkbox"/> intensive	Additional research needed? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
National Register Status: <input type="checkbox"/> listed <input type="checkbox"/> in listed district Name: <input type="checkbox"/> pending listing <input type="checkbox"/> eligible (individually) <input type="checkbox"/> eligible (district) <input type="checkbox"/> not eligible <input type="checkbox"/> not determined	Other:	



**LOCATION MAP (include north arrow)**



**SITE MAP/PLAN (include north arrow)**



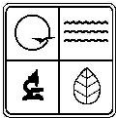
**PHOTOGRAPH**

Photographer:  
Deon Wolfenbarger

Date:  
7/29/2011

Description:  
(right) Looking northeast at south façade and west elevation; (left) looking northwest at south façade and east elevation

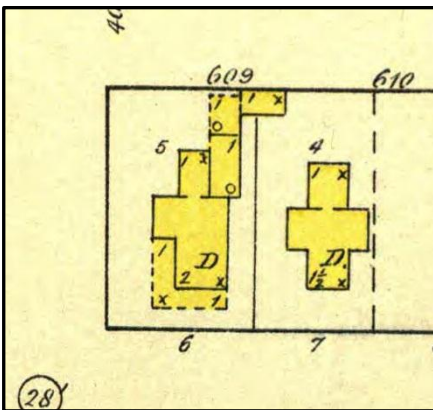




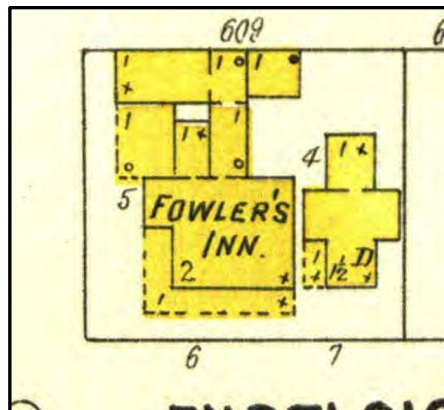
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

21. (cont.) History and significance. Expand box as necessary, or add continuation pages.  
 Fowler's Magnaferro Spring is associated with Fowler's Inn (1900s), later known simply as "The Inn" (1910s & 1920s). A previous historic resource inventory records that this building was originally moved from Kansas. By the time of the 1894 Sanborn Map, a dwelling at this location already had additions to the rear. Between 1894 and 1900, there were no external changes to the configuration of Fowler's Inn. By 1905, the front part of the building was expanded to the east; two one-story additions were added on the northwest corner of the property forming an open courtyard in the center; and a one-story northeast addition was enlarged. By 1909, a second story was added to much of the rear half of the building, with this configuration remaining through the 1942 Sanborn map update (see Sanborn Maps below). Sometime after 1942, the one-story addition near the northwest corner was expanded to two stories (compare 1913 Sanborn and historic photographs with present configuration). The owner, William Ellsworth Fowler, was a lawyer, probate judge, and author. After his death, his wife continued to operate the inn. There were twenty guest rooms, with rates in the 1920s ranging from \$2.00 to \$2.25 per day. The property remained in the family at through at least the 1960s. The well is purportedly still located within the extant building.

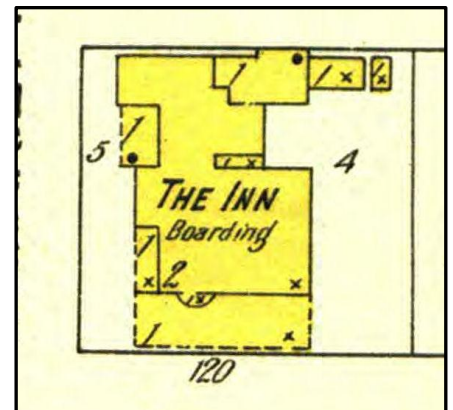
A 1903 newspaper article records that a "new spring" was discovered on the lawn of Fowler's Cottage, and that "The water is very rich in iron but is not as 'hard' as water from the other springs, which will give it a decided advantage to invalids with delicate stomachs. It is of undoubted medicinal value." When additions were made to the building, however, the well was covered and closed to the public (although possibly still available to boarders). Fowler's Magnaferro Springs was one of six identified iron manganese springs in Excelsior Springs. The chemical analysis of the water, always an important marketing tool for the various mineral and spring waters in Excelsior Springs, is listed below.



1900 Sanborn



1905 Sanborn Map

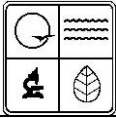


1913 Sanborn Map



Historic photograph of "The Inn"

Fowler's Analysis	Salts in Solution In Grains per Gallon
Alumina	0.561
Calcium Bicarbonate	13.090
Calcium Chloride	2.348
Calcium Sulphate	1.717
Iron Bicarbonate	4.238
Magnesium Bicarbonate	0.180
Magnesium Sulphate	2.775
Potassium Chloride	0.789
Silica	1.792
Sodium Chloride	1.612



22. (cont.) Sources of information. Expand box as necessary, or add continuation pages.

Clay County Assessor's Office

*The Waters of Excelsior Springs: Valley of Vitality*

"Excelsior Springs Historic Resources Survey Plan," July 1991

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

*The Waters of Excelsior Springs* poster

Excelsior Springs Museum & Archives; folder V1.200.127, "Fowler's"

40. (cont.) Description of environment and outbuildings. Expand box as necessary, or add continuation pages.

The house fills most of lot 5 and approximately half of lot 4, with vacant land on the east in lot 3. A wood privacy fence encloses the eastern portion of the lot, which also contains deciduous shade trees. Large deciduous shrubs border the north half of the western boundary. The northwestern quadrant of the property is the likely location of the well, as this is where the additions were built between 1900 through 1913. The property is Clay County parcel ID: 12-311-00-07-001.00, lots 3, 4, and 5, Block 2, Original Town.

41. (cont.) Further description of important architectural features. Expand box as necessary, or add continuation pages.

This 2 story house has had multiple additions over the years, resulting in an irregular floor plan and complex roof. The original L-shaped portion of the house has intersecting cross-gable roofs, with a hip roof over the eastern addition and multiple side gable roofs over the rear additions. The south façade and west elevations have new vinyl siding, while the east elevation retains its stucco cladding recorded in the 1991 survey. The full width porch wraps around the west side, and has large square stucco columns, solid stucco balustrade, and triangular arched openings; the porch roof is nearly flat. Most of the windows are 1/1 double-hung and are covered with aluminum storms. A bay window is west of the main entry on the south façade, and there are two additional entries on the west, one which features a deteriorating second story balcony porch.