



1. Survey No. CL-AS-010-026		2. Survey name: Mineral Water Resources of Excelsior Springs	
3. County: CL		4. Address (Street No.)	Street (name) Vicinity of Marietta Street Bridge, near intersection w/Caldwell Av.
5. City: Excelsior Springs	Vicinity: <input type="checkbox"/>	6. UTM: 15 S/ 394501.86E/ 4355734.75N	7. Township/Range/Section: T: 52N R: 30W S:12
8. Historic name (if known): Relief Spring pavilion (original); and Salax Spring		9. Present/other name (if known):	
10. Ownership: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public		11a. Historic use (if known): HEALTH CARE/resort facility	11b. Current use: VACANT/not in use

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

12. Construction date: Ca. 1880s; 1912	15. Architect:	18. Previously surveyed? <input type="checkbox"/> Cite survey name in box 22 cont. (page 3)
13. Significant date/period: 1881 – ca. 1917	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:	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 type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	30. Roof material: N/A	37. Windows: <input type="checkbox"/> historic <input type="checkbox"/> replacement Pane arrangement:
24. Vernacular or property type:	31. Chimney placement: N/A	38. Acreage (rural): Visible from public road? <input type="checkbox"/>
25. Architectural Style:	32. Structural system: Concrete	39. Changes (describe in box 41 cont.): <input type="checkbox"/> Addition(s) Date(s): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered Date(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Moved Date(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Other Date(s): Endangered by:
26. Plan shape: N/A	33. Exterior wall cladding: N/A	
27. No. of stories: N/A	34. Foundation material: N/A	
28. No. of bays (1 st floor): N/A	35. Basement type: N/A	40. No. of outbuildings (describe in box 40 cont.): N/A
29. Roof type: N/A	36. Front porch type/placement: N/A	41. Further description of building features and associated resources on continuation page. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

OTHER

42. Current owner/address: City of Excelsior Springs 201 E. Broadway Excelsior Springs, MO 64024-2564	43. Form prepared by (name and org.): Deon Wolfenbarger Three Gables Preservation 320 Pine Glade Road, Nederland, CO Deon@threegables.net	44. Survey date: 2012
		45. Date of revisions:

FOR SHPO USE

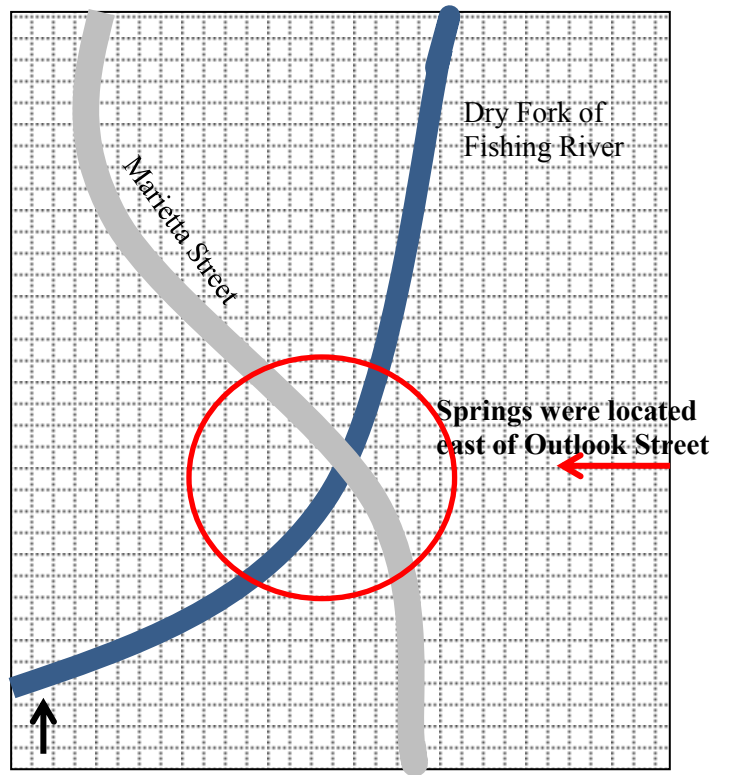
Date entered in inventory:	Level of survey <input type="checkbox"/> reconnaissance <input type="checkbox"/> intensive	Additional research needed? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
National Register Status: <input type="checkbox"/> listed <input type="checkbox"/> in listed district 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: Kerry Davis	Date: 2/29/2012	Description: (left) looking north from Marietta St. bridge up the Dry Fork of Fishing River; (right) looking northeast towards Marietta St. bridge from river bed
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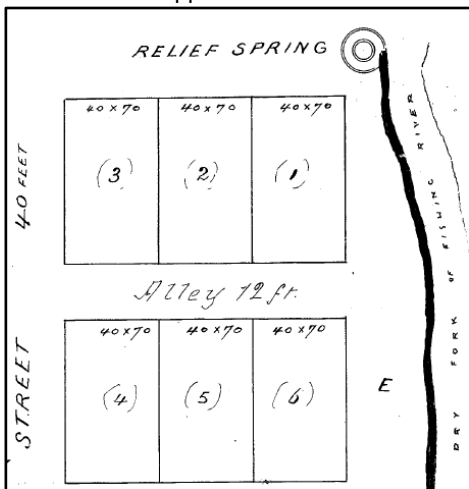


ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

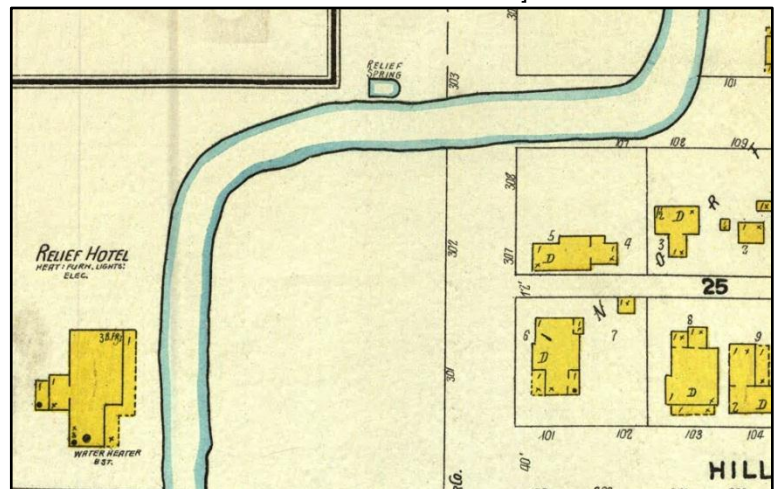
21. (cont.) History and significance. Expand box as necessary, or add continuation pages.

The Relief Spring was the third mineral water spring discovered in Excelsior Springs. It was located practically in the basin of the Dry Fork of the Fishing River, and was one of fifteen *Calcium bicarbonate (lithia)* waters that were eventually discovered in town. At first, a small basin was constructed and surrounded with a wall of cobble stones. Because of flooding issues, the well was not improved for many years. Later a pump was installed; an illustration shows a later wooden pavilion on stone blocks, while a historic photograph shows a more substantial enclosed pavilion. The water purportedly had remarkable properties: if a metal utensil was sunk into the basin overnight, it gained magnetic properties and could pick up a small object. The "Wert's Addition" was platted on May 2, 1881 by Elisabeth & A.W. Wyman, and the well is shown northwest of lot 1, block 1, and west of the river at this time. However, its location relative to the Dry Fork is very different in the 1894-1913 Sanborn Maps, where it is shown north (see below). These Sanborns nonetheless show that the river bed changed over the years, and historical records note that the Relief was prone to flooding. A 1903 map, not prepared to scale by J. W. Hyde, shows the Relief Springs at the intersection of Marietta & Boyd Streets, adjacent to the Caldwell Hotel. In the 1908 Blue Book and City Directory, the Relief Spring is listed under the list of "springs" and in the street listings at 508 Caldwell Avenue, with J. W. Gresham as proprietor. In the 1909 Sanborn, there was a walkway west of the Relief, and by 1913, a stone bridge was adjacent on the east. The waters were later sold, along with the Salax, at a nearby pavilion at 508 Caldwell Av.

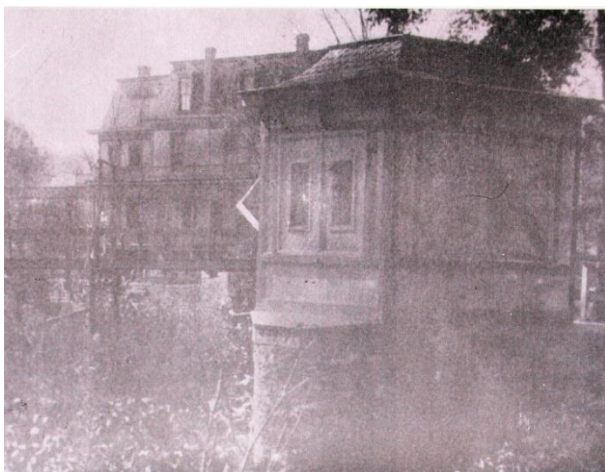
The Salax Spring well was drilled at the same location as the Relief, but at a different depth. Its waters belonged to the *Saline & Sulphur laxative* group. The Salax Spring was not listed in the 1908 Blue Book and City Directory. In 1912, an advertisement in the *Daily Call* stated that "the Salax and Relief Springs – now open to the public. SALAX, the Great Purifier, for the stomach and bowels. RELIEF water for the nerves and glandular system. Try them. New native stone pagoda located at North Marietta and Caldwell Avenue." The Relief and Salax were listed together in a list of springs in the 1912 *Souvenir Guide-Book of Excelsior Springs, MO*. In the 1917 City Directory, the Relief was no longer included in a list of wells, although the Salax was shown in the street listings at 510 Caldwell with Dr. J. T. Rice residing there as well. In the 1917 City Directory, the Salax was still included in a list of wells (although the Relief was not). Dr. Rice was still at 510 Caldwell, listed as the site of the Salax Spring although likely the address of the pavilion. By the time of the 1922 City Directory, the Salax was no longer included in a list of springs. [note: the Salax Water Company at 117 S. Main does not appear to be related to this well, as an historic advertisement lists three other mineral waters.]



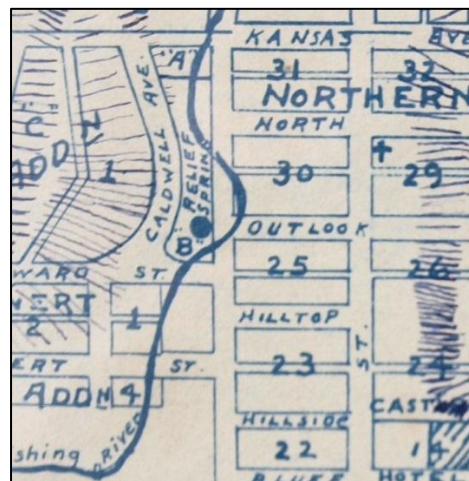
1881 Wert's Addition plat



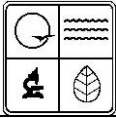
1905 Sanborn Map



Historic photograph, with Relief Hotel in background



"Map of Excelsior Springs," 1909, B. VandeGreyn



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

Clay County Assessor's Office

Clay County Recorder of Deed's Office

The Waters of Excelsior Springs: Valley of Vitality

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

Excelsior Springs Museum & Archives; "Relief Springs," folder V1.200.320; "Salax Spring," V1.200.330

1908 Excelsior Springs Blue Book

1908-1909, 1917 City Directory

"Hotel & Business Map of Excelsior Springs, Missouri," 1903, J. W. Hyde

"Map of Excelsior Springs," 1909, information and survey compiled by B. VandeGreyn, City Hall, Excelsior Springs, MO

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

There is a low lying shelf of land along the banks of the Dry Fork covered with gravel, rocks, and silt/sand, while the higher banks are lined with small deciduous trees.

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

As the course of the Dry Fork of the Fishing River has changed several times over the decades, only the general location of the two wells could be estimated. The non-historic Marietta Street Bridge is the most likely location based measurements taken from plat maps. Construction for the bridge has resulted in significant grading in this area. The bridge has poured concrete abutments, a solid concrete balustrade on the west protecting an attached pedestrian walkway on this side, and metal guard rails on the east.