



4/4. Three window openings on the west have been covered with fiberglass. The arched window surrounds have a projecting brick course, which is connected to the adjacent window surround on the south elevation, or which returns horizontally to the engaged pilasters in a decorative pattern. At the roof cornice, the brick pilasters are corbelled and feature a recessed cross. The cornice is corbelled as well, and has a highly decorative relief pattern of brick. The 1st story of the west elevation has two arched windows and an entry which was formerly the width of one bay which has been closed down. A two-story concrete block rear addition has a door on the west elevation.

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20. Description of environment and outbuildings.

104-106 E. Broadway is part of a continuous block of historic, two-part commercial blocks. It is on the main traffic street through the historic commercial center of town.

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21. History and significance

Between 1894 and 1900, this two-story brick commercial structure was constructed on the corner of Broadway and Main. Of the extant buildings on the north side of the block between Main and Elizabeth, it was the first one to be built. The first floor has always served as two businesses, and offices were on the 2nd floor. A 1917 City Director referred to the upper stories of the structure as the "Wintermute Building". In 1900, the Excelsior Springs Drug Company was located in 102 E. Broadway; after 1906, it was the Hughes Drug Co. In 1905, 104 E. Broadway contained a men's furnishings store; in 1909, the S.R. Rice Hardware store; in 1917, it was Miller & Woods hardware. By this time, 102 E. Broadway was now the office of Dr. H.H. Wallace. In 1922, Dr. J.A. Hodam was in 102, and 104 was not just Woods Hardware Co. Upstairs, Dr. D.T. Polk had offices, as did various other business enterprises. When 102 E. Broadway was converted into doctor's offices, it appears that additional commercial ventures (requiring little space) were added on the first story, with addresses of 103-105 N. Main. The Rex Barber Shop was at 105 N. Main in 1922. By 1940, 102 E. Broadway was the Owl Sandwich Shop. It was later known as the Owl Cafe, and it remained in the same location for decades. A 1958 photograph reveals that 104 E. Broadway was a Firestone store.

102-104 E. Broadway retains its architectural integrity on the second story, and part of the first story retains the basic design elements which reflect the traditional storefront appearance. It is in a key corner location among a block of historic commercial structures. The types of commercial enterprises contained within, such as the drug stores and doctors' offices, are reflective of the basis of Excelsior Springs' economy -- the health industry. For this association, it would be a contributing building within a potential National Register district, as well as a local historic district.

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22. Sources of information.

Sanborn maps. City directories. Historic photographs, Excelsior Springs Historical Museum.

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23. Prepared by

Deon Wolfenbarger  
Three Gables Preservation  
9550 NE Cookingham Drive  
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24. Date of survey

July, 1991

25.

On National Register  
Eligible for listing

Individual

✓ District

Local designation

✓ Eligible for local designation

26. Negative: roll #

frame #

