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20. Description of environment and outbuildings.

The building is situated close to the street, and the adjacent church building on the east. A vacant lot is on the east, with some deciduous trees. Deciduous hedges flank either side of the concrete steps leading from E. Excelsior to the front porch.

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21. History and significance

Formerly part of the site of the adjacent Christian Union Chapel, this building was constructed between 1905 and 1909. It was in a block which contained a variety of buildings - boarding houses, apartments, a church, and the Excelsior Springs Sanitarium, which was at one time adjacent to the west. Right after its construction, it was shown at first in the Sanborn Maps as a dwelling. However, by at least 1917, it was known as the Hamilton Apartments (although the city directories show only members of the Hamilton family living here at that time). Rates shown in a Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railway pamphlet (ca. 1928) are listed at \$8.00 and up per week. Mr. A.F. Bergman was the proprietor at this time. However, a decade later the rates were only \$5.00 per week, in a pamphlet which listed the Hamilton as having six rooms. This was probably due to the Depression, which hit the smaller proprietors harder than the larger hotels and the clinics. In 1957, it was purchased by the adjacent Christian Union Church for use as an educational building. It has undergone some alterations over the years, particularly in the siding material (as has many other Excelsior Springs buildings) and the first story porch. It nonetheless represents the varied types of housing provided to the visitors of Excelsior Springs.

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22. Sources of information.

City directories, Sanborn maps, miscellaneous files on city history at the Excelsior Springs Museum.

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23. Prepared by

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

January, 1993

25.

On National Register  
Eligible for listing  
Individual  
District  
Local designation  
 Eligible for local designation

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26. Negative: roll #

frame #

