

one-over-one, double-hung sash with simple stone lugsills. However, the windows at 246 E. Broadway are slightly shorter. The door here, which formerly lead to a balcony porch, has lower wood panels, a single glass pane, and glass transom. There is currently a sign here, perpendicular to the plane of the front elevation. Above each set of windows, mid-way between the cornice, is a horizontal course, with six pairs of short, narrow, vertical stone bands.

20. Description of environment and outbuildings.

244 and 246 E. Broadway are on the western edge of a short row of commercial buildings, within the downtown linear commercial district. A large community parking lot is on the west, and commercial buildings are across the street to the south.

21. History and significance

Although they present a fairly unified front, due to the design of the second story, it is possible that these two buildings were constructed separately. 246 E Broadway is shorter in length (from plan view) than its "identical" neighbor. In addition, it appears that 246 had, from the beginning, a balcony porch (thus the door on the second story). They both, however, were constructed sometime between 1905 and 1909. 244 E. Broadway, from the beginning, served as a lodge hall for the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, Aerie 3917, Excelsior Springs. In addition, through at least the 1940's, it provided public toilets and a "lounging room" (variously referred to as the city rest room and public comfort station). Also housed here were the offices for the Commercial Club and the Excelsior Springs Military Band in 1917, the American Legion in 1922, and the Clay County Relief Committee in 1940. 246 E. Broadway, on the other hand, held private offices. Dr. H.J. Clark had offices here from at least 1917 through 1940, while various people resided in the upper quarters. This building retains its integrity in the upper stories, and it is associated with various commercial and civic enterprises which are closely associated with Excelsior Springs unique history as a health resort. Much more so than other small, midwestern towns, Excelsior Springs had a high proportion of visitors. Those visitors, who came to partake of the mineral waters for their health, would follow a physician's orders for various waters. A specific well water was to be taken in the morning, a different one in mid-morning, another in the afternoon, etc. Visitors would walk from well throughout the day, and would naturally require public restrooms. These were therefore provided in Excelsior Springs at a comparatively early point in its history.

22. Sources of information.

Sanborn maps. City directories. 1940 Excelsior Springs Telephone Book.

23. Prepared by

Deon Wolfenbarger
Three Gables Preservation
9550 NE Cookingham Drive
Kansas City, MO 64157

24. Date of survey

January, 1993

25.

On National Register
Eligible for listing

Individual

✓ District

Local designation

✓ Eligible for local designation

26. Negative: roll # A

frame # 1