



1. Survey No. CL-AS-010-011		2. Survey name: Mineral Water Resources of Excelsior Springs	
3. County: CL		4. Address (Street No.)	Street (name) Approximately 80' SW of intersection of Roosevelt & Superior Sts.
5. City: Excelsior Springs	Vicinity: <input type="checkbox"/>	6. UTM: 15 S/395180.51 E/4355066.22 N	7. Township/Range/Section: T: 52N R: 30W S:1
8. Historic name (if known): Superior No. 1 Spring Pagoda		9. Present/other name (if known): Superior Well and Pagoda	
10. Ownership: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public		11a. Historic use (if known): HEALTH CARE/resort facility	11b. Current use: RECREATION & CULTURE/outdoor recreation

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

12. Construction date: 1912/ca. 1950s	15. Architect:	18. Previously surveyed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cite survey name in box 22 cont. (page 3)
13. Significant date/period: 1912/ca. 1950s	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: J. C. Isley family	20. National Register eligible? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> individually eligible <input type="checkbox"/> district potential (<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC) <input 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 type="checkbox"/> site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	30. Roof material: wood	37. Windows: <input type="checkbox"/> historic <input type="checkbox"/> replacement Pane arrangement:
24. Vernacular or property type: Well pagoda	31. Chimney placement: N/A	38. Acreage (rural): Visible from public road? <input type="checkbox"/>
25. Architectural Style:	32. Structural system: masonry	39. Changes (describe in box 41 cont.): <input type="checkbox"/> Addition(s) Date(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Altered Date(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Moved Date(s): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Date(s): Endangered by:
26. Plan shape: circular	33. Exterior wall cladding: limestone	
27. No. of stories: two	34. Foundation material: limestone	
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: conical	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 St. 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: 2011
		45. Date of revisions:

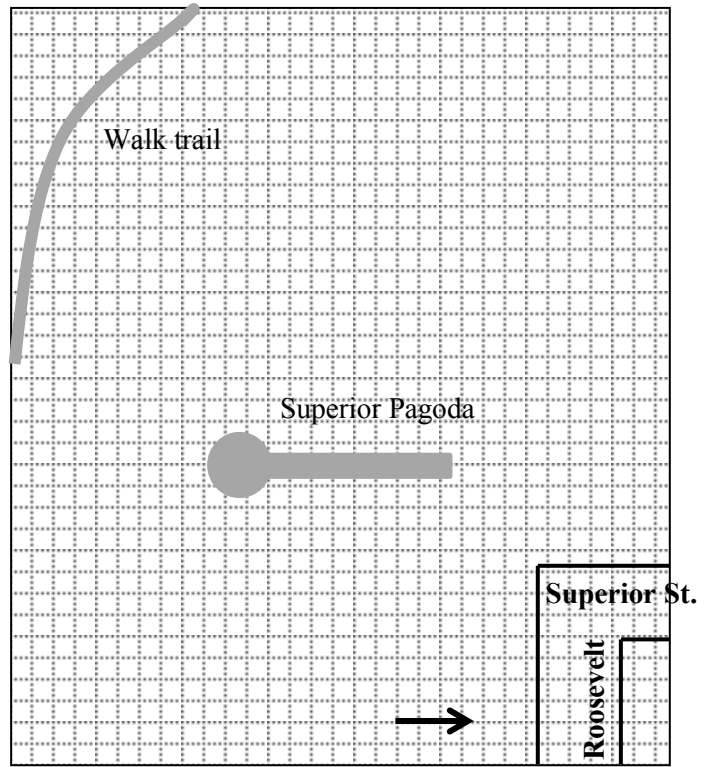
FOR SHPO USE

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)



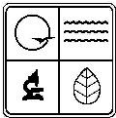
PHOTOGRAPH

Photographer:
Deon Wolfenbarger

Date:
7/29/2011

Description:
(left) Looking northeast at south & west elevations; (right) looking south onto pagoda deck near corner of Superior & Roosevelt streets



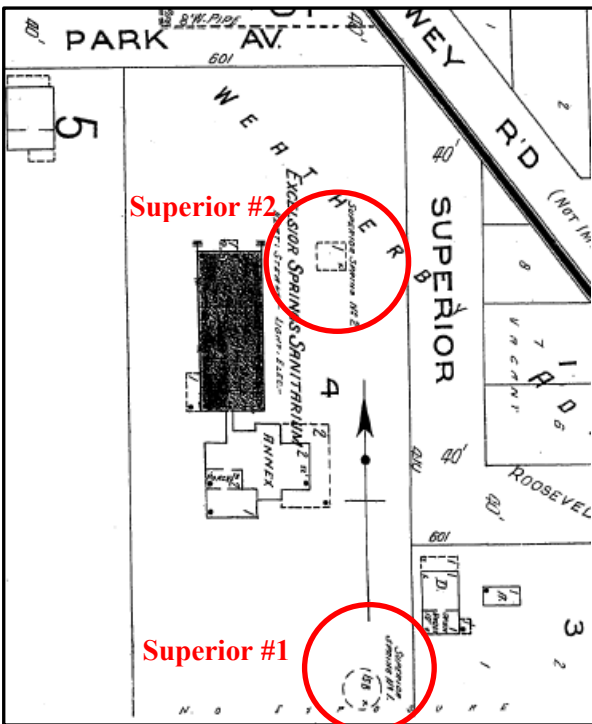


ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

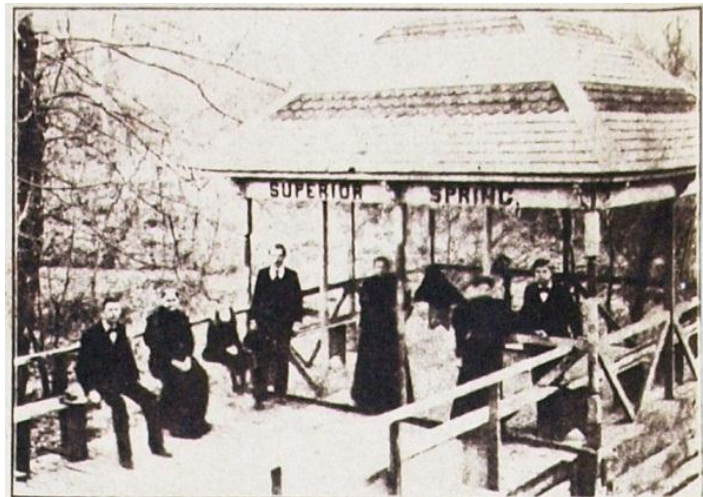
21. (cont.) History and significance. Expand box as necessary, or add continuation pages.

There were two springs or wells with the name "Superior" in Excelsior Springs; they were usually distinguished as either Superior or Superior No. 1, and Superior No. 2. Because they were in the same general location, the two springs have been confused over the years although they produced different waters. For this survey, the numbers assigned in the Sanborn maps will be used; accordingly, this spring (Superior, or Superior No. 1) was located on the north bank of the East Fork Fishing River, while Superior #2 was located a short distance to the north on the grounds of the Excelsior Springs Sanitarium (see Sanborn map below). *The Waters of Excelsior Springs* lists Superior No. 1 as a saline & sulphur laxative mineral water (with #2 as an iron manganese well), but historical records in the "Superior" folder at the Excelsior Springs Museum & Archives provide a different chemical analysis for both Superior springs waters. Early advertising material for the Superior states that "A beautiful park surrounds it and it is becoming very popular with visitors who are able to take a morning or evening stroll, as the place is really very charming. . . All water is diuretic but Superior is distinctly so. . . By systematic use of the Superior, with other waters, crutches will be laid aside and the step becomes elastic."

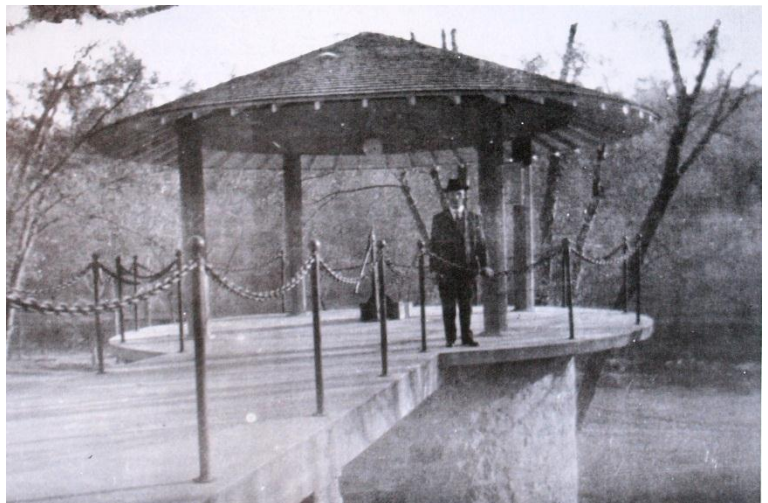
There are conflicting historical records for the original owner. One source states this spring was located on property purchased by the J. C. Isley family in 1880 for \$150. Known as Reed Park, the Isleys built a wood pagoda structure around 1901 for the Superior Spring, with a walkway and deck extending out to the pagoda which featured benches (see historic photo). In 1902, Dr. William A. Bell purchased several properties in Excelsior Springs, including the park property. Bell's son, Maj. William A. J. Bell, began working with landscape architect George Kessler in 1907 on developing a park system. Siloam Spring Park, as it was called then, extended over a mile through town along both banks of the river. At the Superior Spring, a stone pagoda replaced the wood one in 1912; it was altered again in the early 1950s. City directories and other sources, however, show Lillie White as the owner and operator. A single "Superior Spring" is listed in the 1908 Blue Book but by 1917, both Superior and Superior No. 2 are listed in the City Directory with Lillie White, proprietor. The property is now part of Fishing River Linear park and is owned by the City of Excelsior Springs; it was designated a local landmark in 1982 as the only extant and intact spring pagoda in the city.



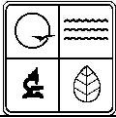
1926 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map



Historic photograph, original wood pagoda



Historic photograph of present pagoda structure



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

Missouri Architectural/Historic Inventory Form, "Excelsior Springs Park & Driveway System Survey", 1994

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

The Waters of Excelsior Springs poster

Excelsior Springs Museum & Archives; V1.200.430

"Superior Pagoda in East Valley Park," *The Idle Hour*, accessed 15 September 2011 <http://theidlehour.com/superiorpagoda.html>

City Directories – 1908, 1917

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

The Superior Spring No. 1 pagoda is located in Fishing River Linear Park, just southwest of the intersection of Roosevelt and Superior Streets. The park is located north of Fishing River on low lying land. There is a concrete trail following the curve of Fishing River. The land is grassed up to the base of the pagoda, while the steep slopes on the north side of the park are covered with thick plantings of primarily native deciduous trees. This section of the park has Clay County parcel ID: 12-312-00-28-012.01.

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

The Superior Spring No. 1 Pagoda has a tall, two-story circular stone base with a concrete deck above. The deck is covered with a conical wood frame roof with wood shingles and exposed wood rafter tails. The roof is supported by four concrete columns. The deck is reached by a concrete walkway, and both the walkway and deck are surrounding with an iron balustrade. The walkway is supported by a freestanding stone pier, and a stone retaining wall built against the hillside. The two-story circular stone base is approximately fifteen feet tall, seventeen feet diameter, and features seventeen inch thick walls constructed of roughly coursed, quarry-faced limestone. The lower half of the circular stone base features masonry with close joints, while the upper half has widely spaced mortar joints. A small metal panel closes an opening on the south side. Purportedly the interior of the structure houses a brick and cement line well, approximately twelve feet in diameter. This inner structure contains the pump works. Also inside the stone walls, approximately seven feet up, is a wood walkway built into the inner brick wall, possibly the floor of the original wood pagoda.