

Mook Building

Built in the late 1890's this two part Commercial Block structure has elements of the Victorian Commercial style featured primarily at the cornice line of the roof. Recently renovated, using Historic Tax Credits, the building features historic paint colors and wooden replacement windows to replicate its original appearance as much as possible. It has housed Excelsior Springs Drug Co., Hughes Drug Co., Dr. H.H. Wallace's office, Firestone Tires and Gary's New Used and Abused. Thanks to the efforts of Ben and Amanda Mook, one of the oldest buildings on Broadway has been preserved for future generations to enjoy.



Continue East on Broadway

The Mug & Lodwick Law Office

Built in 1902, this is a two-part Commercial Block Structure with elements of the Victorian Commercial style on the second story. These three storefronts have held a furniture store, a grocery store, a drug store, a real estate office and the Bell Central Telephone offices. It's also held the Bank of Excelsior Springs, a doctor's office, and the Knox Bath House. At one time it held lecture rooms for the Ball Clinic. In the 1950's the building became home to the Lodwick Law Offices.



Crossing Broadway

Bliss

Constructed around 1905, this two-part Commercial Block building is divided into two storefronts on the ground level, but has a unified appearance on the second story. Both storefronts retain much of their original features, including galvanized iron pilasters. The recessed entries are centered in each half and feature a transom window above. There were many businesses here over the years including Wein Drug Store, Logue and Short Drug Store, Brown's Drug Store and Hanson's Shoe Repair. The second floor once served as a hotel.

Continue West on Broadway Looking Left

Hall of Waters

The Hall of Waters Building, opened in 1937, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The T-Shaped building has strong Art Deco influence with Mayan Revival Architecture, that was popular in the 1920's and 1930's. It is primarily cast-in-place concrete with an exterior of Ashlar stone, with carved limestone accents. There are five levels, with four above ground. Inside, the original "World's Longest Water Bar," and the Bath Department are virtually unchanged since 1938.



Continue West on Broadway

Excelsior Springs Museum & Archives

The former Clay County State Bank building was constructed in 1906. Designed by famed architect Louis Curtis, it is an Italian Renaissance building with a classical temple front on the north side. Flat roofed wings project from the west and east. The east wing connects to the adjoining commercial building. The Bedford Sandstone is dress-faced, laid in coursed ashlar. The bank operated in the building until 1968 at which time it was donated to house the Excelsior Springs Museum. The interior features a cylindrical vault ceiling, studded with electric light bulbs and details of foliage, shell and scroll work. The former Francis Hotel at 105 E. Broadway is a rectangular structure constructed of brick, with a red tile mansard roof. It was built on the grounds of the former Excelsior Hotel between 1917 and 1922.

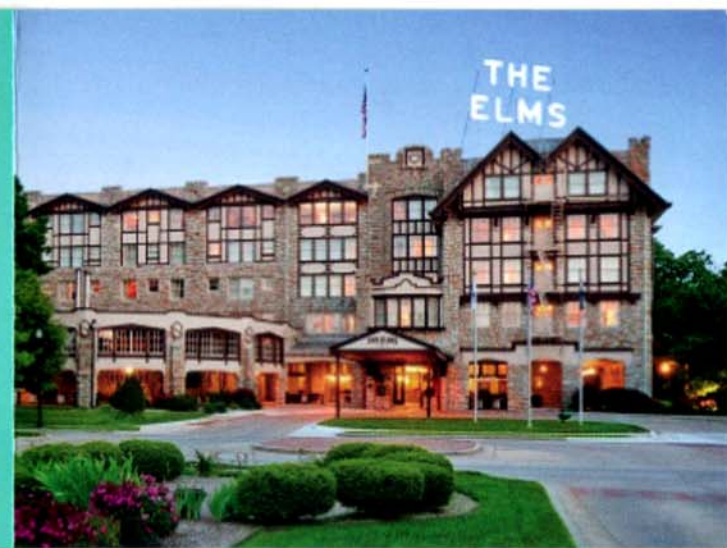
Turn Left on Main Street then Right on South Street

The Oaks Hotel

Completed in 1913 to replace the first Snapp Hotel, which was destroyed by fire in 1912, the building is an irregularly shaped, flat roofed structure with decorative parapets on the primary faces.



It is four stories on the north and five stories on the south, due to the drop in elevation from South to River Street. It is a three-part vertical Commercial Block structure and features a few uses of Spanish revival influenced details. The name of the hotel was changed from The Snapps to The Oaks. It suffered from a fire in 19912 and is now renovated as apartments for senior citizens.



Historic Building Walking Tour Downtown Excelsior Springs



www.VisitExcelsior.com

The Elms Hotel & Spa

The Elms Hotel & Spa Complex contains about 10 acres. The present structure is actually the third Elms Hotel. The first opened in 1888, but was destroyed by fire in 1898. It was located on the west side of Elms Boulevard, facing Fishing River. A second hotel opened on the current hotel's site in July of 1909, but was destroyed by fire in October of 1910. The present Elms Hotel opened in August of 1912. It was designed by Kansas City architects Jackson and McLlvain in a style similar to the preceding hotel, with steel frame and reinforced concrete construction and is virtually fireproof. The Elms is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Walk North on Elms Boulevard

Church of Christ

Originally constructed as the first post office in Clay County in 1914, it cost \$60,000 to build. In 1965 a new post office was opened and the building was sold to the Church of Christ. The façade of this Neoclassical building is symmetrically arranged with five central bays demarcated by four smooth engaged columns with ionic capitals. Centered above the entry door at the roof edge is a stone panel with decorative circular carvings. The American flag that once flew over this building was the subject of the famous painting "Our Flag" which was painted by Fred Tripp while he was a patient at the McCleary Hospital.



Looking Left

Tipton Law Office

Originally constructed as the garage for the Elms Hotel, this structure is all that remains of the McCleary Clinic. Dr. A.S. McCleary moved his medical practice to Excelsior Springs into what was the Plaza Hotel in 1925. The Elms garage adjoining the Plaza was purchased and transformed into a general clinic. Dr. McCleary's office was the corner room on the second floor. Mr. Tipton turned it into his law office because his grandmother used to work there when it was the McCleary Hospital.



Continue North to the Corner of Thompson & Concourse Avenue

Payne Jailhouse Bed & Breakfast

Originally part of the Central Park Addition platted in 1887, the south side of Concourse did not really begin to develop until the Concourse Park Addition was subdivided in 1903 by the McLain Investment Company. Only four lots north of Concourse were included, but the alignment of Concourse was altered. Previously it had formed an entire oval around the first Elm's Hotel complex. The first story of the house was built between 1900 and 1905, and the second story was added between 1905 and 1909. The rear addition was constructed around the time the first floor was built. This was the home of former Police Chief Bill Payne, who used a back room to house prisoners at night.

Continue Walking North on Thompson Avenue to Spring Street

Hope Funeral Home

Built in 1933 as the Hope Funeral Home, the H shaped structure is actually composed of two structures, connected by a one story hall. The most distinctive element of the former funeral home is the stonewall cladding. It features random ashlar quarry-faced limestone, with larger stones at the corners serving as quoins. The building has served as a church, a gift shop and a doctor's office. There is an apartment on the second floor.



Continue North & Turn Right On Broadway

Bross & Spidle Funeral Home

For many years known as the Prichard Funeral Home, this two-story building has had numerous additions to the rear and a one-story addition on the east connecting it to 209 W. Broadway. Originally constructed as a boarding house, it was built sometime before 1894. It has been known as the German House, the Foley House and the McGaugh House before becoming Prichard Funeral Home in 1940. The connecting one-part commercial building was constructed sometime after 1946.



Continue East on Broadway & Turn Left on Marietta

Slightly Off Broadway Theatre

Built between 1900 and 1905 as a Methodist Church, this simple Gothic Revival church building features a cross-gable plan in the main, original portion of the building. The building suffered from a minor fire that resulted in some alterations to the towers and the front entrance. It has served as a church for several different congregations and is now home to the Slightly Off Broadway Theatre.



Continue Back to Broadway

Ventana Gourmet Grill

This building was constructed before 1894 and was the first brick structure on Broadway. It is a two-part commercial block structure that retains no architectural features from its time of construction. At sometime, probably during the 1950's, the original façade of the building was partially removed and covered with metal sheeting. In recent years, the building has been restored and the original façade has been made to resemble historic pictures of the original appearance of the structure. Known as The Boston Store when it opened, it became the Worthmore Variety Store around 1940. It now serves as a restaurant.



Continue East on Broadway

The Flander Hall

Built circa 1903, this two-part commercial block structure has elements of Victorian Commercial style, with elaborate cornice and frieze of patterned brick at the roofline. The entry floor has white and green tiles in decorative geometric patterns with the word "Flanders" in front of each of the two entry doors. In addition to being a dry goods store, the building also housed a grocery store in 1905. It continued as Flanders Department Store until around 1986. Since that time it has been an antique store and a home furnishings store. It now serves as an event venue.

Crossing Broadway at Main Street