

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse
 other names/site number ED-117
 Related Multiple Property NA

2. Location

street & number 2327 Chalybeate Road

NA
X

 not for publication
 city or town Smiths Grove vicinity
 state _____
Kentucky code KY county Edmonson code 061 zip code 42171

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
 I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
 In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 ___ national ___ statewide X local
 Applicable National Register Criteria:
X A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title Craig Potts/SHPO Date _____
Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office
 State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
 Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____
 Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
 ___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register
 ___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register
 ___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

NA

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

DOMESTIC/hotel

HEALTH CARE/resort

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: _____

walls: Stone

roof: Wood

other: _____

Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse (ED-117) is located at 2327 Chalybeate Road in Edmonson County, Kentucky. Sulphur Road forms the north boundary of the site and Chalybeate Road forms the east side of the property. The springhouse stands in the community of Chalybeate Springs, so named for the iron-rich mineral spring that runs through the site of the hotel. The springhouse is one of two extant buildings associated with the hotel and constructed over the spring. Its exact construction date is unknown. A hotel was at the site as early as circa 1830, and a historic building survey placed construction of the springhouse circa 1875-1899. The springhouse is a one-story side-gable building constructed of fieldstone, with a wood-shingled roof. The springhouse is the only wholly original building remaining on the grounds of the hotel, one of many rural mineral spring resorts that were popular social and health locations in Kentucky in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The area proposed for listing is 6.5 acres, which includes the springhouse and two non-contributing buildings—a non-historic frame springhouse and a modern residence.



Aerial of 2327 Chalybeate Rd. property (outlined in light blue), southwest of Sulphur Rd./Chalybeate Rd. junction, with area of springhouse circled in purple. Aerial supplied by Edmonson County Property Valuation Administrator.

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Character of the Property and History of Ownership

The Chalybeate Springs Hotel springhouse stands behind (southwest of) a modern house on a 6.5-acre property to the southwest of the intersection of Sulphur and Chalybeate Roads. The property proposed for nomination covers the site of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel, which was to the northwest of the springhouse.

Chalybeate Spring runs through two springhouses that are extant on the property. The spring exits in the southeast corner of the stone springhouse to join a creek running at the southern boundary of the property. The area here is grassy with some trees, and the present owners have landscaped in a roughly 2-foot perimeter around the buildings, using rocks from the creek and plants that may have been used for similar purposes in the late-nineteenth century. Other modern houses are visible across the creek and to the west of the property.

During the Period of Significance for this site, c.1830-1940, the resort consisted of a large central hotel building, the springhouses, a bowling alley, and a two-story dining room and dance hall. A race track, cottages, a farm, and other outbuildings were also located on the original 100-acre property. The site of the hotel is first clearly referred to as the “Chalybeate Spring tract” in 1858, when A.G. Mitchell purchased a 100-acre piece of property from Aaron and Mary A. Tibbs/Tebbs (Edmonson County deed book G:358). A.G. and Jennie Mitchell then sold the same property to N.T. and Claude W. Eaton in 1904 (1:11-2). In 1910, the Eatons sold the tract to S.H. and J.N. Pence (8:457-8). M.T. and Mary H. Davis purchased the property in 1915 “at the Judicial Sale in the chancery suit of Eaton vs. Pence,” reselling it in 1919 (28:197). Its purchasers, “Sallie A. Pence, widow, J.D. Pence, Alice R.B. Pence, his wife, S.H. Pence, single, G.L. Pence, single, Nellie K. Pence, unmarried, Bessie S. Carter and O.C. Carter, her husband, being the widow and all the heirs of A.P. Pence, deceased,” sold the tracts to George Claypool in 1926 (30:464-5). Claypool and his wife Lottie soon after sold 2/3 interest in the land to H.L. Parks and T.B. Callis (30:467-8).

In 1938, the Claypools, Parks, and T.B. and Mary P. Callis sold the property once more. Property records indicate the land was subdivided into several tracts and sold to at least five different individuals. At this time, Mayme Francis purchased two tracts of land, including the tract with the site of the hotel, for a total of 12.7 acres (Edmonson County deed book 41:141-2, 42:242). Francis then sold this land to Dr. J.A. Hill in May 1941 (43:9-10). In August 1960, the Hills sold 6.5 acres – what in 2017 remains the current property boundaries of the hotel site – to Dr. Dale and Sarah M. Gray (59:582-3). The property was sold to its current owner, Alicia Jenkins Graham, in October 2014 (223:395-7).

Exterior Description of Springhouse (contributing building)

The entrance to the springhouse is on the west wall. There is about a foot of space between the north wall of the springhouse and the south wall of a second springhouse, reconstructed of frame and lattice on the nineteenth-century stone foundation of a similar frame springhouse.

The stone springhouse is constructed of fieldstones and mortar. A wood door, painted white, is in the center of the west wall, providing the only opening into the building that has not been sealed. A wooden plate runs the length of the west and east walls, over which is constructed the wood-shingled roof. The south and north sides are gabled with wood planks. The south end has evidence of a walled-up doorway, which the current property owner believes led to a third building, possibly a grist mill, which was also over the spring. The east wall has two small rectangular windows covered with horizontal wooden bars. Chalybeate Spring enters the springhouse in the northeast corner and exits in the southeast corner.

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Views of the West side of the Springhouse



Southwest corner of Springhouse



South side of Springhouse



East side of the Springhouse



East side of Historic Springhouse and Frame Springhouse

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Interior Description of Springhouse

The interior of the springhouse is one room. The stone walls are left uncovered, and the wooden rafters and roof are left exposed. The floor is concrete and elevated in the southwest corner. The two windows in the east wall, evident from the exterior, are sealed on the interior with rock and concrete, though their upper wooden sills are still visible. The doorway in the south wall is sealed with fieldstones, and the upper sill is also visible, supported by three vertical planks that rest on stones. A concrete trough runs north-south next to the east wall, directing the spring through the building.



Interior view of Springhouse

Description of Frame Springhouse (non-contributing building)

The frame springhouse is located immediately to the north of the stone springhouse, separated by about a foot of space. Its stone foundation is original, while the walls and roof are a reconstruction done by former property owner Dr. Dale Gray in the 1960s. This reconstruction is a wood frame covered on the outside with wood latticework. There are gables on the north and south ends, covered with planks. The roof is of shake shingles, with dental trim on all four sides. There is a single opening, on the north side of the springhouse, consisting of a slightly off-center doorway with a wire gate. The interior floor is concrete. The Chalybeate Spring issues up through a circular hole in the northeast corner of the floor and flows to the south and between the springhouses, staining the concrete floor red.



Frame Springhouse



Interior of Frame Springhouse

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Description of Modern Residence (non-contributing building)

The modern residence was constructed to the northeast of the springhouses by Dr. Dale Gray around 1969. A circular paved driveway extends south to it from Sulphur Road. The residence is a one-story brick-and-wood ranch-style house with a front façade facing east, toward Chalybeate Road. An attached garage to the northwest is two stories.

Change to the Property Since the Period of Significance

The property was divided in 1938 and the resort closed then or sometime in the next few years. The main hotel building was presumably still present for the 1941 sale of the property by Francis, because Hill was “to carry insurance on building in the sum of \$1500.00” (Edmonson County deed book 43:9-10). At some point after this, the hotel was torn down, its wood repurposed to construct other buildings in the area, and any associated cottages, outbuildings, and other constructions, with the exception of the two springhouses, are no longer extant. The tract of land was reduced to its current boundaries of 6.5 acres in 1960. Dr. Gray constructed a modern residence (non-contributing building) on the site around 1969, incorporating remnants of the hotel building into construction (Hudepohl 2016a). Also in the 1960s, Dr. Gray cleaned out the then-little-used spring, so that it could once again run through the springhouse buildings (Hudepohl 2016a), and he reconstructed the frame springhouse on its original foundation (Sarah Gray, personal communication).

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded or is likely to yield, information in prehistory or history

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

HEALTH/MEDICINE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1830-1940

Significant Dates

1905

1938

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Period of Significance (justification)

The span of time, 1830-1940, is when this property was an important facility operating as a mineral spring resort popular both as a fashionable hotel and as part of a widespread effort to give relief to people suffering from various ailments. This period is when the springhouse was an important element of the property, housing the waters that guests came to drink and bathe in.

Criteria Considerations **NA**

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Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

The Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse (ED-117) meets National Register Criterion A and is significant within the context “Mineral Springs Tourism in the Pennyriple Region of Kentucky, c. 1830-1940.” The period of significance is the approximate time during which this hotel operated and also corresponds to the years in which mineral springs were popular resort destinations across the eastern United States. People visited mineral spring hotels both for health reasons and for the social atmosphere provided there, and the resorts also employed local workers and purchased local products.

Historical Context: Mineral Springs Tourism in the Pennyriple Region of Kentucky, c. 1830-1940

American travelers frequented mineral spring resorts in the eastern United States beginning in the mid- and late eighteenth century. By the early nineteenth century, more formal hotels along the models of fashionable British spas began to be constructed by enterprising individuals and companies. Not only did these springs supposedly offer health benefits from drinking and bathing in the waters – containing sulfur, iron (for which the term “chalybeate” is used), alum, and a variety of other minerals – but the hotels provided a range of social and recreational activities for their elite, and, eventually, middle-class guests. With heydays in both the antebellum years and again around the turn of the century, mineral spring hotels capitalized on medical fads, offered an escape from summer heat and disease in urban areas, and created unique spaces for America’s wealthier citizens to come together to flirt, court, and otherwise amuse themselves (Chambers 2002).

Though many of the most famous mineral spring resorts were located further east in states such as New York and Virginia, Kentucky was also home to dozens of these hotels over the course of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Most research on Kentucky spring hotels has focused on those in the Bluegrass region. That scope is too narrow, as the karst geology of the Pennyriple region is also conducive to the natural formation of springs, and recent archival surveys of resorts in the area demonstrate that most counties in south-central Kentucky had at least one major mineral spring resort in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Pinkston 2014:36-9). In a 27-county area surveyed in western and west-central Kentucky, 27 mineral spring resorts were identified through documentary evidence (Darlene Applegate, personal communication).

Though bathing in and drinking the waters from mineral springs were supposed to be beneficial for people suffering from a wide variety of health issues, those visitors who came to the resorts for leisure and social reasons also partook of the waters. Each morning began with drinking large amounts of water—a recommended 4-6 glasses, though sometimes visitors would compete to drink as many as 12—either directly at the springs or brought up to the hotel. Afterwards, hotel guests quickly ate breakfast, and the rest of the day was taken up with recreational activities, meals, and other social events (Chambers 2002:90). At Chalybeate Springs, as seems common from other spring resort accounts, guests often all drank out of a shared gourd dipper at the springhouse (Houchins 2016). The springhouses at Chalybeate Springs likely served two separate but related purposes: the frame building was used for accessing drinking water, the stone one as a bathhouse (Jenkins and Meyer 2016; Hudepohl 2016b).

Most mineral spring hotels, despite their historic prevalence, have left a scant surviving architectural record. Most of the hotels closed between the late 1920s and the 1940s, and almost all of the buildings – typically constructed of wood and

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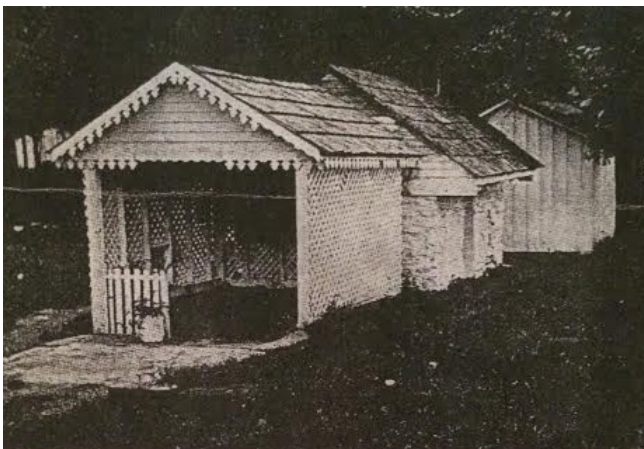
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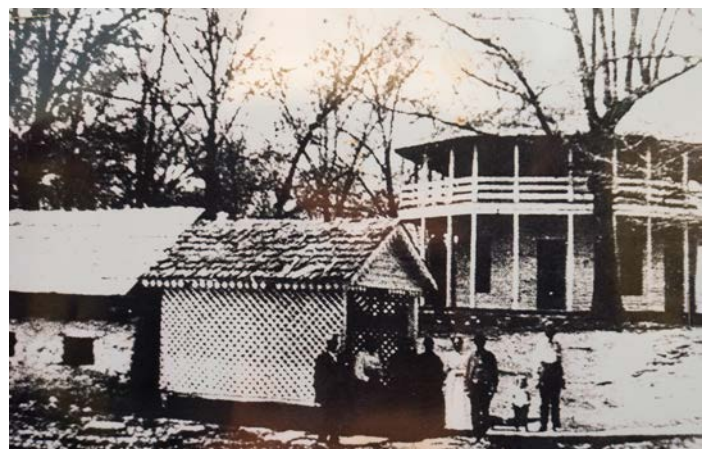
built cheaply rather than to last – have burned or been torn down in the decades since (Pinkston 2014:30-2). For example, of Kentucky spring hotels on the National Register of Historic Places, Grayson Springs (NRIS 78001334) in Grayson County has but a heavily altered portion of the original hotel building extant. Tatham Springs Hotel (88003399) in Washington County burned in 2006. Three other Kentucky National Register listings are related to mineral spring resorts. Dawson Springs Historic District (88002710, increased by 98000934) in Hopkins County consists of ten downtown commercial buildings. Keene Springs Hotel (NRIS 84001636) in Jessamine County is most well-known as a retreat for Lexingtonians during the cholera epidemics of 1833 and 1849. The Darby House (NRIS 97000871) is in Hopkins County, also in Dawson Springs. At these mineral spring hotel sites, associated springhouses do not survive.

The architecture associated with mineral spring resorts varied. In the Pennyrile region, resort owners tended to construct stone springhouses, erect ephemeral frame pavilion structures, or simply leave the area around the spring open. The latter treatment appears to have been chosen at springs situated in areas with other significant natural features, such as rock formations, as if to preserve the natural setting of the spring (for example, Diamond Springs [Turner and Anderson 2006:120-1] and Massey Springs [Pinkston 2014:46-7, 50]). Open pavilions were common at Dawson Springs (Turner and Anderson 2006:110), similar to ones found in other areas of the country, such as at the resorts of White Sulphur Springs in West Virginia (Chambers 2002:67) and All Healing Springs Spa in North Carolina (May 2002:79). At Chalybeate Springs, nearby Chameleon Springs, and Tioga Springs (Mills 2012), however, springhouses were constructed of stone. In some cases, the hotels were located some distance from their spring(s) rather than in close proximity. At Cerulean Springs, for example, if guests did not want to make the walk down to the spring, there was a cable line that could be used to bring buckets of water from the spring directly to the hotel's back porch (Turner and Anderson 2006:16, 19, 44).

With the exception of Chalybeate Springs, none of the original springhouses have survived intact. Chalybeate Springs also appears unique in having multiple adjacent springhouses (one stone and one frame, and at some point another frame building possibly serving as a third springhouse), with the caveat that most research and documentation has focused on the main hotel structures to the relative exclusion of their surrounding landscapes and other buildings, so the true representativeness of this springhouse arrangement is currently unknown.



Undated photos of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel springhouses (courtesy of Alicia Jenkins).



Undated photo of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel springhouses and dining hall/dance hall (courtesy of Ethnographic Overview and Assessment of Mammoth Cave National Park Project).

The Chalybeate Springs Hotel

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Documentary evidence for the history of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel is relatively scant. The Edmonson County Clerk's office has deed records for the property going back to at least as far as 1858, though these primarily deal with property boundaries and ownership only, and all but one are from the twentieth century. Searching the collections of the Kentucky Museum and Western Kentucky University Special Collections, as well as the online catalogs of the Kentucky and Filson Historical Societies, yielded only a few isolated brochures, postcards, and newspaper mentions, primarily from the twentieth century. Members of the local community—including the present property owner and those who worked on a successful historical marker nomination for the Chalybeate and Chameleon Springs hotels—and researchers at Western Kentucky University have also collected a small number of postcards, photographs, and newspaper articles, again primarily twentieth century. Oral history interviews and other fieldwork (see Jenkins and Meyer 2016; Houchins 2016; Hudepohl 2016a, 2016b; Alicia Jenkins and Jeffrey Houchins, personal communications) demonstrate the importance of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel and its neighbor, the Chameleon Springs Hotel, in local memory. But from the standpoint of property and architectural history going back into the nineteenth century, these histories do not provide much concrete information.



Undated postcard of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel (courtesy of Joe Hays and Darlene Applegate).



Undated postcard of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel yard, including the springhouses, left hand area of shot (courtesy of WKU Special Collections).

Chalybeate Springs was given its name, derived from a French term, because of its iron content, marking it as one of multiple chalybeate springs in Kentucky. Brochures and oral history maintain that the spring was first discovered by Dr. William Ford in the early nineteenth century and that Andrew Jackson often visited in the years after he was President, so a hotel existed at the springs before 1845 (“Chalybeate Springs”; Hudepohl 2016a). As mentioned above, the site of the hotel is first clearly referred to as the “Chalybeate Spring tract” in 1858, when A.G. Mitchell purchased the 100-acre piece of property from Aaron and Mary A. Tibbs/Tebbs (Edmonson County deed book G:358).

It is unclear how many times the hotel may have been rebuilt in various forms, and there is no documentation for when its associated buildings were constructed. Many of the early spring resorts began simply as several cabins grouped together, without a main hotel building (Pinkston 2014:102). Often, multiple hotels were constructed successively at the same springs, as owners decided to improve their facilities or the original buildings caught fire and burned to the ground. Local resident Webb Wingfield recounted in 1947 that both Chalybeate and Chameleon Springs Hotels were started by Henry Mitchell around 1860 (Hardaway 1947:53). As both springs were apparently in use as resort locations before that time, it is possible that what Mitchell was

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doing around 1860 was constructing larger, more formal hotel buildings than what had previously existed on the properties.

As reported in the Nashville-based *Tennessean*, Louisville *Courier-Journal*, Berea *Citizen*, *Owingsville Outlook*, *Paducah Sun-Democrat*, and *Hopkinsville Kentuckian*, the Chalybeate Springs Hotel did indeed burn, around September 20, 1905. According to these brief articles, about 20 guests were at the hotel at the time; they reported one major personal loss: a \$2000 set of pearls. The owners of the hotel, at that time N.T. and Claude W. Eaton, sustained a much greater loss: according to the *Hopkinsville Kentuckian* and *Paducah Sun-Democrat*, “Two acres of buildings will be entirely lost,” and the owners carried, if anything, only minimal insurance.

The hotel building of surviving postcards and descriptions—most, if not all, are of the hotel rebuilt after 1905—is similar in form to that of other Kentucky spring hotels (see Pinkston 2014; Turner and Anderson 2006). It was two stories, constructed of wood frame, with surrounding verandas on both stories. Newspaper articles and brochures indicate it had at least forty rooms for guests. A guest who had stayed at the hotel around 1935 later complained about the thin walls between rooms, “made of red rosin-sized building paper tacked on each side of the 2½-by-6-inch studs” (Trout 1962). Other facilities on the site or nearby included a bowling alley, a horse racetrack, and a 28’ x 70’ dance hall constructed over a dining hall of equal size. As with other Southern spring resorts built along the “plantation model” of a centralized main hotel building with surrounding cabins (Chambers 2002:27), its twentieth-century iteration may also have had some cottages on the grounds in which guests could stay (Jeffrey Houchins, personal communication).

Activities such as bicycling, horseback riding, croquet, ten pins, bowling, tennis, fox hunting, and miniature golf were also advertised over the years (Gossom and Mitchell [1901]; “Chalybeate Will Be Opened Soon”; Claypool and Callis [1931]). Additionally, there was a farm on the hotel property to help support its operation. For at least part of its history, the resort had an on-site doctor: an 1874 advertisement notes Dr. N.M. Drake as being in practice at the hotel for the season so “invalids can therefore have prompt and trustworthy medical attention” (“Chalybeate Springs, Season of 1874”).

Following the fiery destruction of the hotel building in 1905, the hotel ran ads in the Louisville *Courier-Journal* announcing the new hotel. Other advertisements spoke highly of the resort’s popularity, but by the early twentieth century Chalybeate Springs Hotel was struggling. The resort changed hands from the Eatons to S.H. and J.N. Pence in 1910 (Edmonson County deed book 8:457-8). It then closed in 1912. The property was purchased by M.T. and Mary H. Davis after a chancery suit in 1915, and in 1919 the Davises sold the 100-acre tract back to a branch of the Pence family (28:197).

The Pence family in turn sold the tract to George Claypool in May 1926, and in 1927 the resort was re-opened under the management of two sisters from Bowling Green, Kentucky: Lottie Claypool (wife of George) and Mary P. Callis (“Chalybeate Springs Hotel”). Dates for its final closure differ, but the last advertisements for the hotel are from the 1937 season. Advertisements in the Louisville *Courier-Journal* and Nashville *Tennessean* for the 1938 auction of the hotel and its furnishings describe the hotel as still open and receiving guests, but according to oral history, the resort hotel closed for good around World War II.

Oral history speaks of the importance of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel not only to guests from elsewhere, but also for local people. Townspeople attended dances and other events hosted at the hotel. The business also provided employment, hiring people for such jobs as cleaning the building, caring for horses, driving visitors in

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from the train station, and supplying food (Houchins 2016; Hudepohl 2016a). Water from the spring was bottled and sold in Bowling Green for healing purposes (Jenkins and Meyer 2016). Even after the closure of the hotel, its grounds were conveniently located near the Chalybeate United Baptist Church, who used the land for a large community Easter egg hunt each year (Houchins 2016; Hudepohl 2016b).

Of additional consideration is the possible archaeological value of the site. The exact location of the hotel is known by people in the community and should be discernible from photographs, and it is possibly marked by the two sealed wells that are still present on the property (Hudepohl 2016b). Archaeological investigations at other mineral spring hotel sites in the Southeast have revealed additional information about architectural plans, construction dates, and material culture at the resorts (see, for example, May 2002; Mills 2012; Pinkston 2014), and there is current interest among several Western Kentucky University faculty in a large-scale research project on the mineral spring hotels of south-central Kentucky.

Evaluation of the Significance of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse within the context Mineral Springs Tourism in the Pennyriple Region of Kentucky, c. 1830-1940

The Chalybeate Springs Hotel springhouse is significant as a meaningful remnant of the highly popular mineral spring resorts once found across the eastern United States in general, and in this case, the Pennyriple region of Kentucky in the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. These hotels were important for several reasons: they were social hubs that brought urban visitors out to rural areas; they played into medical fads of the day; and they often provided employment for local people and were supplied by local goods.

The springhouse is also significant in that it is a surviving outbuilding associated with one of these hotels. As it housed the source of the hotel's namesake waters, the springhouse itself was an important feature on the hotel's landscape and would once have been a center of activity as guests came out each day from the nearby hotel building to drink and bathe in the waters. As outbuildings were often neglected and left to deteriorate after the main buildings with which they were associated fell into disuse, that the original stone portion of the springhouse is extant and currently in well-maintained condition is striking. The stone springhouse at nearby Chameleon Springs, as a counterexample, has fallen down in recent years, and at the sites of other hotels, only cisterns remain to mark the places where visitors once gained access to the springs (May 2002:79; Pinkston 2014:55-6). The Chalybeate Springs Hotel springhouse is a rare surviving example of one of the architectural forms used for mineral spring resort springhouses, once common across the region and central to the operations of these resorts but not documented in any depth before their destruction.

Evaluation of Integrity of the Significance of the Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse in Light of its Current Physical Condition

The Chalybeate Springs Hotel springhouse has integrity of **location**. It is on its original site, located just south of where Chalybeate Spring emerges from the ground and placed where the spring can be directed through the trough in the east side of the building and then flow into the creek to the south of the springhouse. This positioning of the springhouse also retains integrity of **setting**. The area around the site of the hotel remains rural. Though several modern homes have been constructed on surrounding properties, the immediate space around the spring remains open, as it was in hotel photographs from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These two integrity factors are important because they help confirm the identity of the historic Chalybeate Springs Hotel mineral springs complex.

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The springhouse also possesses integrity of **design** and of **materials**. With the exception of the sealed south door, its exterior appearance has not been significantly altered. The stone construction and interior flooring are original. While the shingle roof is likely a replacement, the shake shingles used are in keeping with the period in which the springhouse was built and used by the hotel. The retention of design and material integrity give the feature its authenticity.

The stone springhouse has integrity of **feeling**, with the red chalybeate spring that once drew visitors still running through the building as it did when the site was a social hub. This integrity is aided by the reconstruction of the wooden springhouse to the immediate north of it. This second springhouse protects Chalybeate Spring where it emerges from the ground, conducting the flow of water from the southeast corner of the wooden building to the northeast corner of the stone building and through the springhouse's trough. The reconstruction of the lattice-covered frame springhouse is fairly accurate to photographs of the historic structure, adding to the sense of what the paired springhouses would have looked like in the heyday of the resort. Taken together, these buildings represent a primary architectural feature of mineral spring hotels' landscapes – the springhouses which housed the waters that gave the hotels their popularity – that typically has not survived elsewhere.

As the springhouse possesses integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and feeling, it can be said to have integrity of **association**. Unlike other mineral spring resort sites in the region, at Chalybeate Springs one can get a sense of the built environment around the spring itself, as resort visitors would have once seen and used the mineral waters for drinking and bathing during their stay at the hotel. One can see first-hand how the area immediately around a spring was developed to accommodate visitors, a small building yet at the same time vital in the operation and daily activities of the resort. This integrity of association allows it to be eligible for the National Register.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- n.d. Chalybeate Springs: Southern Kentucky's Friendly Summer Hotel and Mineral Springs. Brochure, Springs: Newspaper Articles and Accounts Vertical File, Library Special Collections, Western Kentucky University.
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Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University

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____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____ ED-117 _____

10. Geographical Data

Acree of Property 6.5 acres

Coordinate Values:

Latitude: 37.126201 Longitude: -86.237163

UTM References According to NAD 1927

1	<u>16</u>	<u>567 738</u>	<u>4108 976</u>	3	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property is bounded to the north by Sulphur Road and to the east by Chalybeate Road. The western and southern boundaries are the edges of the 2327 Chalybeate Road property as currently owned, roughly marked by tree lines (see aerial photograph).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the current 2327 Chalybeate Road property roughly correspond to part of the part of the land most directly used by the Chalybeate Springs Hotel when it was operational and include the site of the main hotel building and the location of the springhouses.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Susanna Pyatt, graduate student
organization: Department of Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University
street & number: 702 E. 12th Ave. Apt. 3
city or town: Bowling Green state: KY zip code: 42101
e-mail: Susanna.E.Pyatt-1@ou.edu
telephone: (704) 460-6203

Photographs:

Photo Log

Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse

Edmonson County, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: Chalybeate Springs Hotel springhouse
City or Vicinity: Chalybeate Springs
County: Edmonson
State: Kentucky
Photographer: Susanna Pyatt
Date Photographed: 28 November 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photo 1 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_01)
Exterior of stone springhouse, west wall.

Photo 2 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_02)
Exterior of stone and reconstructed frame springhouses, west walls.

Photo 3 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_03)
Exterior of stone springhouse with spring flowing from south end of springhouse to creek.

Photo 4 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_04)
Exterior of stone springhouse, showing side gable and sealed doorway, south wall.

Photo 5 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_05)
Exterior of stone springhouse, east wall.

Photo 6 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_06)
Exterior of stone and reconstructed frame springhouses, east walls.

Photo 7 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_07)
Exterior of stone and reconstructed frame springhouses, north end.

Photo 8 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_08)
Interior of reconstructed frame springhouse, showing spring emerging from well in the floor and flowing to the south.

Photo 9 of 9 (KY_Edmonson County_Chalybeate springhouse_09)
Interior of stone springhouse, showing trough in floor, on east side of the building, through which spring runs.

Property Owner:

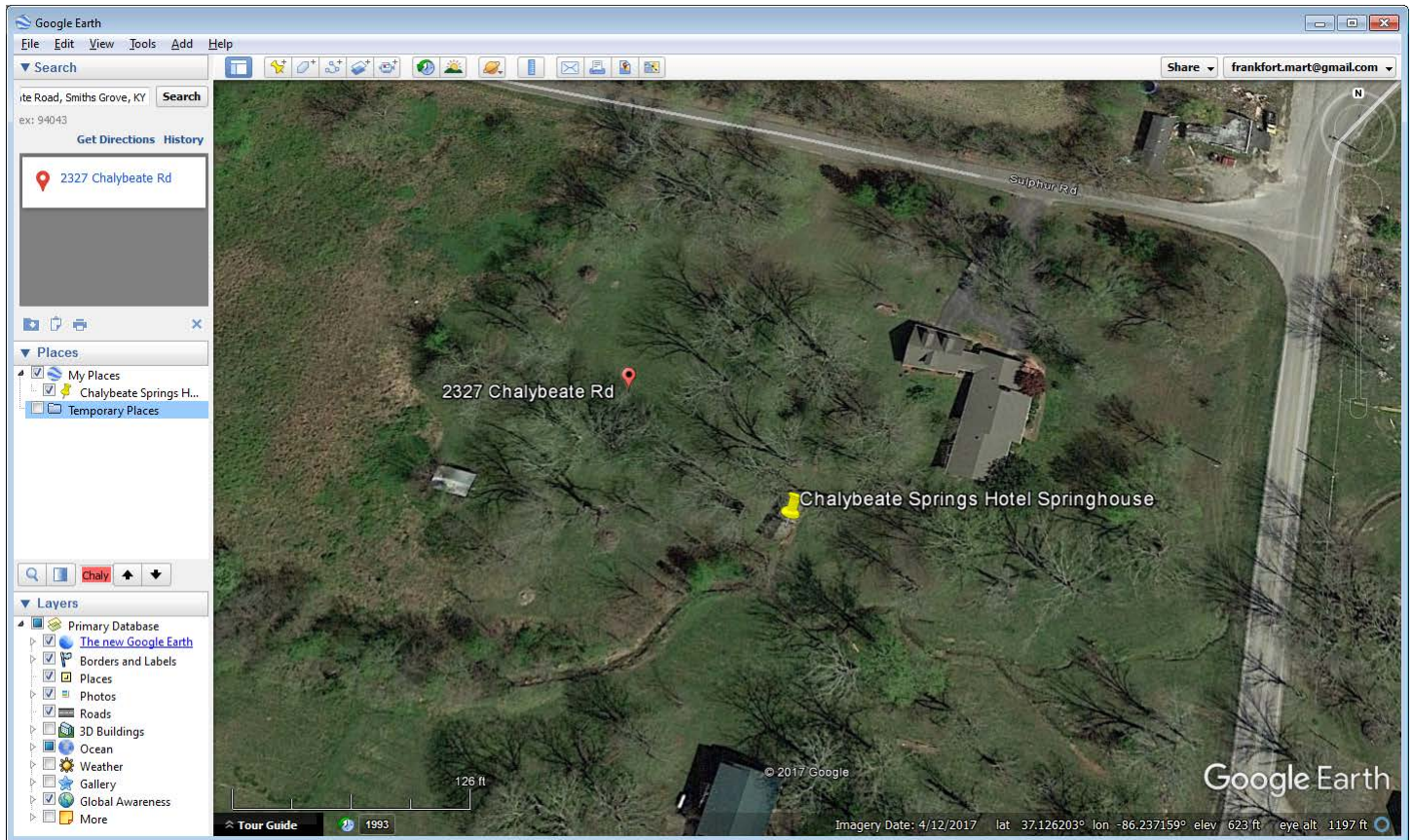
name Alicia Jenkins Graham
street & number 2327 Chalybeate Road telephone (251) 747-2370
city or town Smiths Grove state KY zip code 42171

Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse

Edmonson County, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State

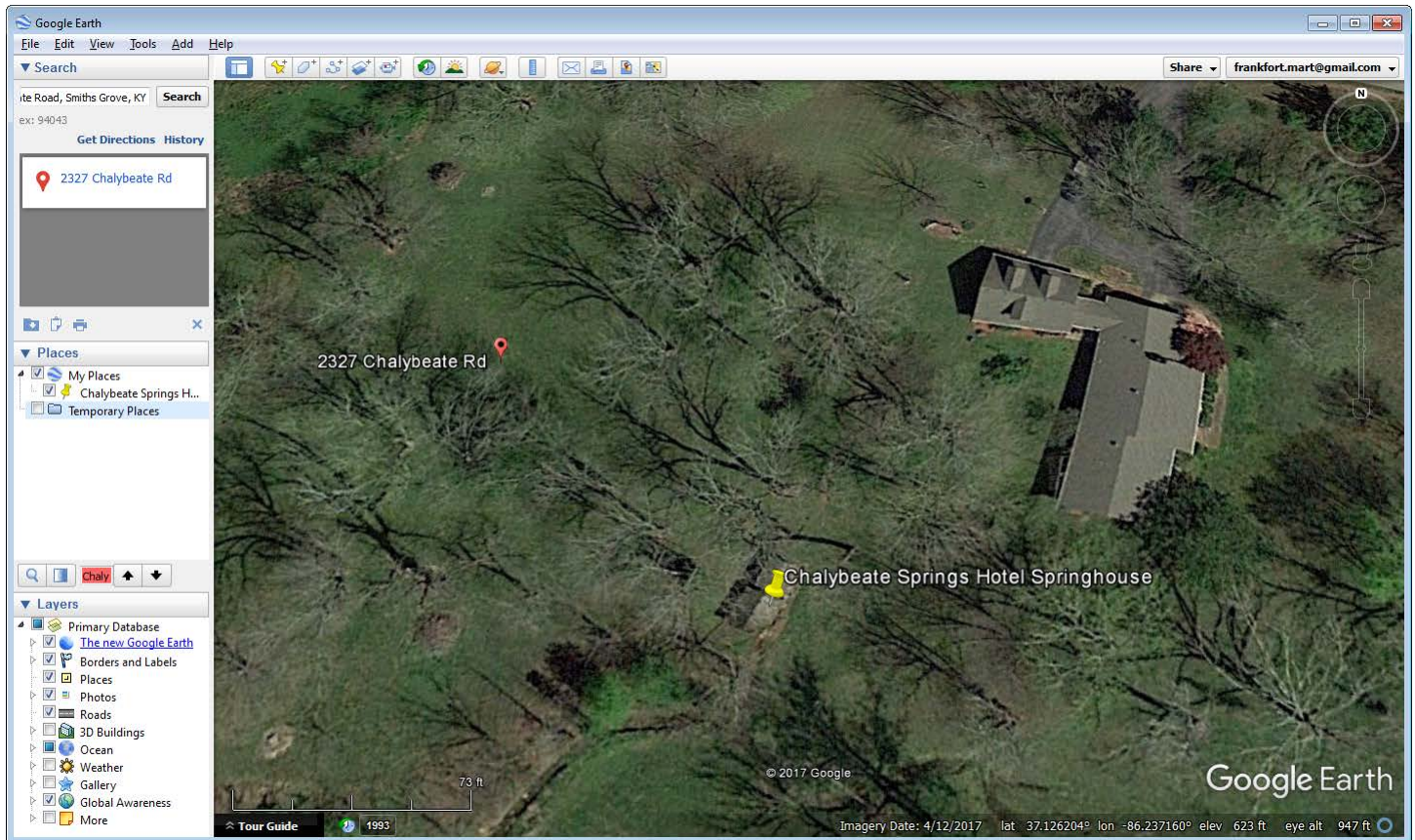


Latitude: 37.126201

Longitude: -86.237163

Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse
Name of Property

Edmonson County, Kentucky
County and State

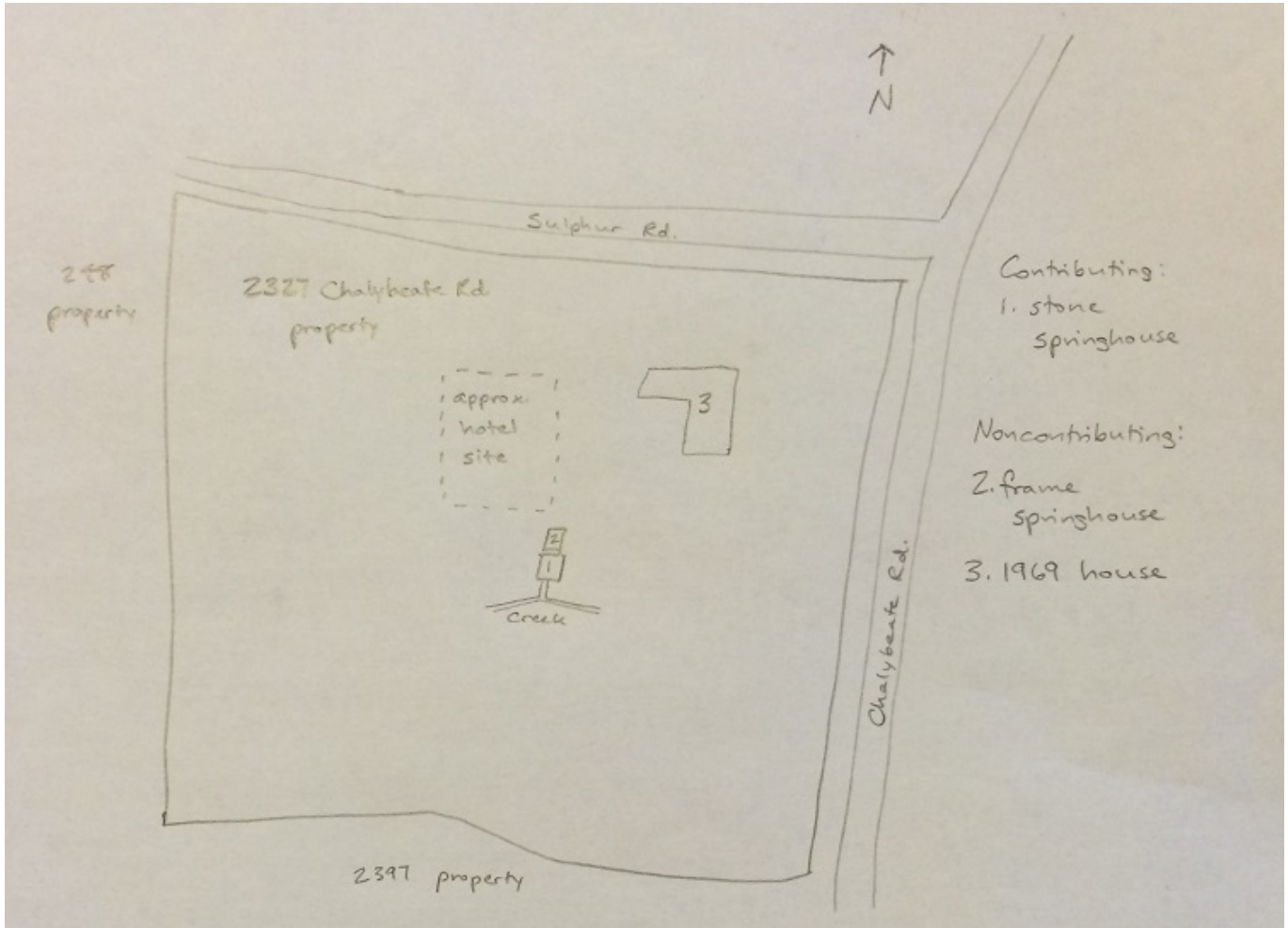


Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse

Name of Property

Edmonson County, Kentucky

County and State



Chalybeate Springs Hotel Springhouse: Sketch Map