

Site Number 2

County Macon

Historic Name Central Hotel
Counts Hotel (preferred)

Open to the Public: Yes No

Common Name Red Boiling Inn

Present Use hotel

Address Market Street (Highway 151)

Current Condition good

Red Boiling Springs, Tennessee

Date of Construction 1924

Owner's Name Mary B. & Gerald Torrance

Original Use hotel

Owner's Address Red Boiling Springs, TN

Information Provided By Mrs. Mary Torrance,

Acreage 2.7 Acres

Mrs. Aliene Chitwood, & Mrs. Odessa Clark

UTM Reference 16/603200/4043190 (Red Boiling Springs, TN-KY Quad)

DESCRIPTION

The Counts Hotel is a two-story building, primarily of brick laid in common bond, constructed in 1924 by John Smith, first owner of the hotel.

The original hotel plan is T-shape with a metal gable roof. Wide eaves are supported by vertical wood brackets, while wood shingles decorate the gable ends. A brick addition with a shed roof was added to the rear of the basic plan in the 1970s. A small addition constructed of concrete block was also added to the northwest elevation of the hotel at this time, and serves as a bathhouse.

The 61 foot facade faces northeast and features a full-length two story porch, with columns of brick and wood extending from the lower level to the top of the upper level. Entrance to the lobby of the hotel is through double aluminum storm doors into a glass-enclosed vestibule, added in the 1970s, when other renovations were made. At that time, aluminum storm windows and doors were installed over original 1/1 windows and wood panel doors.

There are paired windows on each side of the double leaf entranceway, and a single window at each end of the facade. Window sills are formed by a continuous row of brick headers.

The upper level of the facade features a double leaf door leading to a hallway and two single windows on each side of the double doors. One window with wood shutters is in the front gable, and is the only window with shutters.

The lobby, hallway, and dining area of the interior feature pine paneling. Wallpaper has been added over the original wet plaster. Interior doors are of yellow poplar. Accessible from the first floor hallway are eleven bedrooms with private baths, the dining room, and a bathhouse, featuring a steamer, a shower, and original claw-foot

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bathtubs used for giving sulphur water baths. One front bedroom has an external door to a brick sun porch on the southeast side.

A cherry stairway leads to the second floor hallway, which provides access to 15 guest rooms, all of which have individual bathrooms (added in the 1940s when Henry Counts added plumbing and electricity). There are no external doors to any of the upstairs guest rooms.

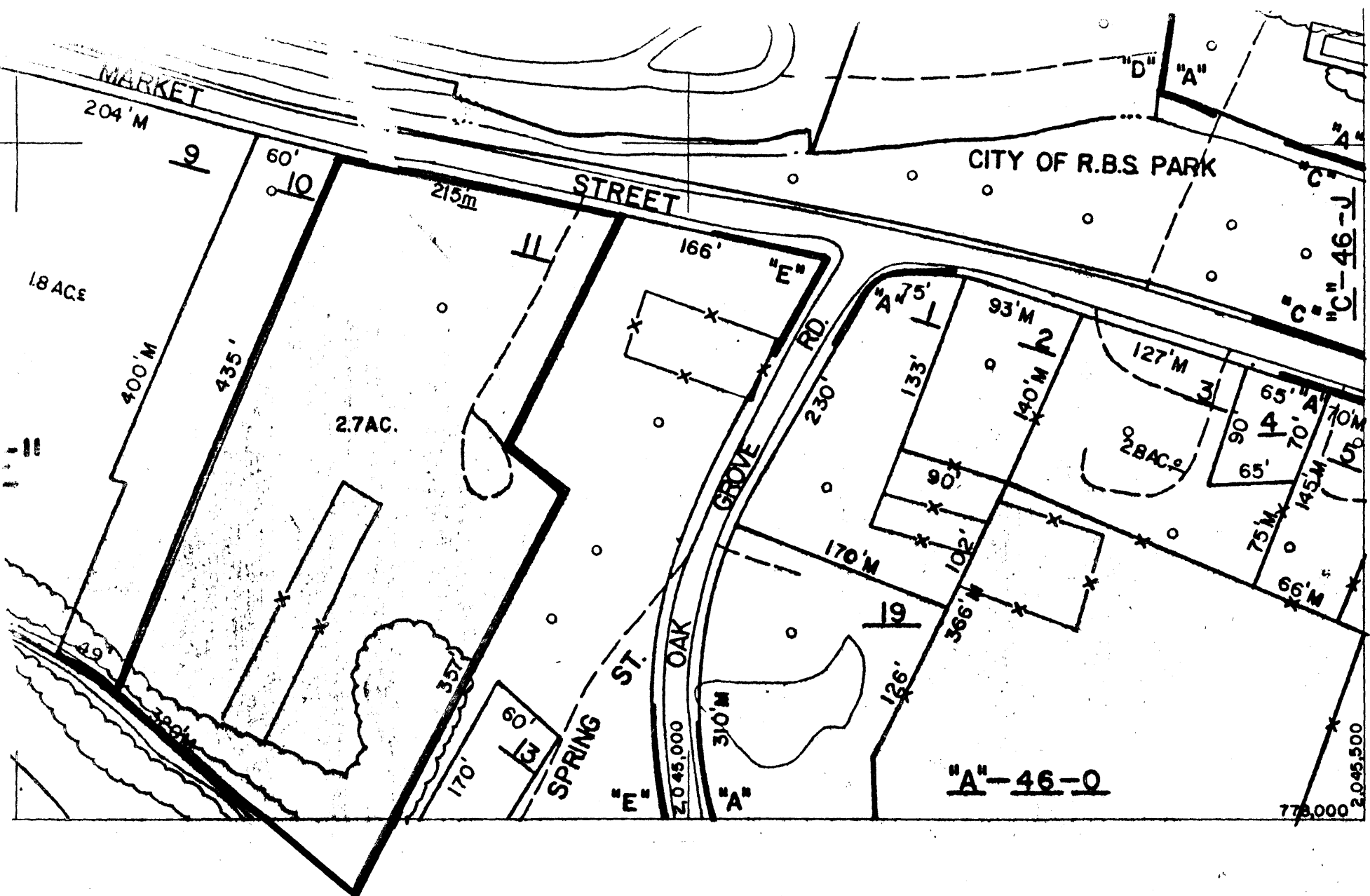
Also located on the hotel property is a small building of rough lumber with a tin roof, constructed at the rear of the hotel in the mid-1970s, and used for storage. This building does not contribute to the significance of the property.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Counts Hotel is one of three remaining resort hotels in town. It was built in 1924, during the period when this mineral springs resort was at its peak. It has been open almost continuously in some capacity since that time. Along with the Cloyd Hotel, it remained open in 1952 when all other resort hotels had closed. Today, it is the only hotel which continues to be open year-round, and is the only one which continues to offer the traditional mineral water baths. Three types of mineral water -- white, red, and black -- are located on the property.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property is approximately rectangular in shape and 2.7 acres in size. It is bounded on the north by Market Street and on the south, east, and west by adjacent property lines. (See tax map parcel E-11) This includes sufficient land to protect the historic setting and architectural integrity of the Counts Hotel.



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-REVISIONS-		
1 1-1-74	6	11
2 1/1/77	7	12
3 4/80	8	13
4 1-83	9	14
5 2/85	10	15

Early 20th Century Resort Buildings
of Red Boiling Springs
Red Boiling Springs, Macon County, TN

Counts Hotel

TAX MAP 1" = 100'

MAP N^o

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