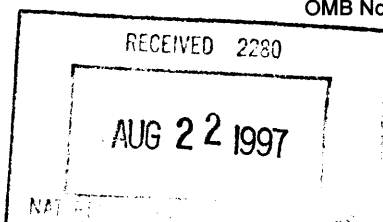


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number various

N/A not for publication

city or town White Springs

N/A vicinity

state FLORIDA

code _____

FL

county Hamilton

code _____

047

zip code 32096

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

George W. Perry
Signature of certifying official/Title

8/8/97
Date

Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Mary M. Woy

9/19/97

White Springs Historic District
Name of Property

Hamilton/Columbia Co., FL
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
81	3.5	buildings
1	0	sites
2	0	structures
1	0	objects
85	3.5	total

Name of related multiple property listings

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

"N/A"

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling
DOMESTIC: hotel
COMMERCE: general store
COMMERCE: filling station
SOCIAL: meeting hall
EDUCATION: school
(see continuation sheet)

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling
DOMESTIC: hotel
COMMERCE: vacant
COMMERCE: restaurant
COMMERCE: business
SOCIAL: meeting hall
(see continuation sheet)

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival
Queen Anne
(see continuation sheet)

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls WOOD
BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other GLASS

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 important 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
 - previously listed in the National Register
 - previously determined eligible by the National Register
 - designated a National Historic Landmark
 - recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1840-1957

Significant Dates

1840

1911

1957

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown architects

Bynum, A.J., builder

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of Repository

White Springs Historic District
Name of Property

Hamilton/Columbia Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 120 acres

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	3	2	9	8	6	0	3	3	5	7	1	8	0	
Zone	Easting			Northing												
2	1	7	3	3	0	7	6	0	3	3	5	7	8	0	0	

3	1	7	3	3	1	5	6	0	3	3	5	6	4	4	0	
Zone	Easting			Northing												
4	1	7	3	2	9	9	0	0	3	3	5	6	0	0	0	

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Murray Laurie/Robert O. Jones, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date August 1997

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name various

street & number various telephone various

city or town White Springs state FL zip code 32096

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 2,6,7 Page 1

**WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON/COLUMBIA
CO., FL**

2. Location county Columbia code 023

6. Function or use

Historic Functions

Current Functions

RELIGION: religious facility
RECREATION/CULTURE: museum
RECREATION/CULTURE: outdoor recreation

EDUCATION: school
RELIGION: religious facility
RECREATION/CULTURE: museum
RECREATION/CULTURE: outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Late Gothic Revival
OTHER: vernacular
Bungalow/Craftsman
Mediterranean Revival

Materials

foundation CONCRETE
walls STONE
CONCRETE
STUCCO
METAL
roof METAL
CERAMIC TILE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The White Springs Historic District is within the town of White Springs, Hamilton County, Florida, and contains 85 contributing resources, consisting of 81 buildings, 2 structures, 1 site, and 1 object. The district contains 34 noncontributing buildings. Three contributing buildings are less than 50 years old. The district covers approximately 120 acres. The district contains the Stephen Foster Memorial State Park, currently known as the Stephen Foster Cultural Center. The southern boundary of the park is within Columbia County. The district contains the historic downtown which is primarily residential, with commercial activity centered at the intersection of Bridge and Spring Streets. The district includes three mid-19th century residences, excellent examples of nationally popularized styles, and the sulfur springs and its retaining walls for which the city is named. One historic hotel remains from when the city was a tourist resort. The park contains a tower which houses a 97 tubular bell carillon.

PRESENT AND ORIGINAL APPEARANCE

Setting

White Springs is situated on a bend of the Suwannee River in the southwest sector of Hamilton County. The town is thirty-two miles south of the Georgia border and twelve miles north of Lake City. The famous White Springs is just one of more than fifty springs along the banks of the Suwannee River. The boundaries of White Springs have remained fairly constant in this century, only recently extending east to the Ed Scott Bridge. The district boundary is irregular, and within the park goes through some woods (Photos #1-5). The residential neighborhoods contain a mix of large and small, old and new detached houses, aligned with the street, and shaded by large trees (Photo #6). The rolling, wooded land surrounding the town is comprised of hardwood forests, low land hammocks, and sandy pine uplands. A deep ravine cuts through the town connecting to the river adjacent to the springs. Unless the Suwannee is at flood stage, White Springs is situated on a high bluff overlooking the river.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDASection number 7 Page 2**Architecture of the District**

The majority of the buildings in the district, including noncontributing buildings, are single family residences, and their styles reflect national trends. There are many variants of vernacular domestic architecture in keeping with building trends in other parts of North Florida. The majority of the contributing domestic buildings are wood frame vernacular, with typical alterations or additions such as enclosed porches, extensions to the rear or side, or siding applied over the original fabric of the structure. Contributing buildings other than houses in the White Springs historic district are three churches, two schools, five commercial structures, one hotel, a community center, and several buildings within the Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center.

RESIDENTIAL**Vernacular**

Vernacular refers to those buildings constructed of local materials according to the skill and taste of the builder, who may be the owner, a carpenter, or a contractor. They are not derived from architectural drawings and do not rely on any academic style.

Most of the frame vernacular houses of White Springs are built on raised piers, and have gable and/or hip roofs.

The railroad provided easy access to supply houses, catalogue ordered building materials, hardware, windows and doors. The result was that easy-to-build balloon framing became widely used throughout the United States after the 1860s.

Most of the frame vernacular homes in White Springs are either double pile (two rooms deep), or irregularly massed (with a complex floor plan). Main roofs may be front or side gable, cross-gable, hip, or a hip-and-gable arrangement. Most porches have separate roofs, either gable, hip, or shed. The exterior fabric of the frame vernacular houses consists of horizontal boards, such as the Feagle-McClurg House on River Street (Photo #7); shingles; or board-and-batten, such as the c1912 Freeman House on Kendrick Street (Photo #8). Some houses have a combination of cladding materials. Windows are double hung wood sash, simply framed, with a variety of arrangements of panes of glass. Porches were an essential feature in Florida, and often the focus of decorative

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDASection number 7 Page 3

details such as carved brackets, balustrades and wood columns, such as those on the c1905 Knight-Riley House (Photo #9) and c1905 Kendrick-McKenzie House (Photo #10), on Spring Streets. For purposes of ventilation, most wood frame homes are elevated from the ground piers foundations. Virtually all of the older frame vernacular homes in White Springs have been altered in some manner in response to the need for additional living space, changing fashion, or an increase in family affluence.

Queen Anne

Nineteenth century English architects promoted the Queen Anne style, somewhat inappropriately named for the reign of Queen Anne (1702-1714) which was characterized by more formal and classical architecture. The American variant Queen Anne houses instead are inclined to have steeply pitched roofs, irregular shapes, and elaborate decorative detailing. The style became popular throughout the United States in the 1880s and remained popular until around 1910. Just east of the bridge on River Street is the c1893 Sophia Jane Adams House, which occupies a bluff overlooking the Suwannee River (Photo #11). It is a closely massed L-shaped, two-story wood frame structure with cross gabled roofs. In keeping with the style's use of lavish decoration, verandahs with railings and balusters in different patterns adorn the north and east facades, and the principal gable on the north facade tops a two-story bay and has shingled infill and an inset star-shaped design. The interior features carved wood mantles, a central stairway with turned balustrade, plastered walls and ceilings, wainscoting of beaded paneling.

Another of the region's finest examples of Queen Anne architecture was built in 1907, by lumberman B. F. Camp (Photo #12). The Camp House, on Camp Avenue, is a large wood-frame house with a low hip roof, cross gables, and a pavilion projecting from the main facade topped by the principal gable. The roof of the wide porch surrounding the house on three sides is carried on slender Ionic columns. A hexagonal turret with bell-shaped roof is the dominant feature of the northwest corner of the building. The main entrance on the north facade is a carved oak door with rounded arched light above set into framing pilasters. Double hung sash windows are set into plain surrounds. The fine wrought iron fence

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

surrounding the property was made in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Classical Revival

Several of the older homes in White Springs reveal some of the characteristics of the Classical Revival style. One type is the Georgian house, the dominant style of the early colonies, which appeared in the cities of New England and on southern plantations. A centered doorway with classical elements is a distinguishing feature, as are enclosed cornices, dentil molding, and a symmetrical arrangement of windows and doors. Windows with small panes in a six-over-six or nine-over-nine arrangement are common on these simple box-like houses. In warmer climates, a front porch might be added, and side lights and transom often frame the paneled front door. A good example is the c1850 Edwards-Sutty House, on Bridge Street, which is also the second oldest house in the district (Photo #13).

This rebirth of the architectural styles of the early American colonies did not reproduce the original style but mixed various elements such as formal facades, symmetrical fenestration, side and fan lights around entrance doors, multi-paned windows, columns and pilasters, and low hip roofs. Within the district, examples of the Colonial Revival are most prominent within the Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center. The one-story brick building at the South Park Entrance, constructed in 1949, has small lunette windows and two bay windows with copper canopies (Photo #14). The Museum Building, completed in 1950, strongly suggests a Southern plantation house, in keeping with the theme of paying homage to the music of Stephen Foster which was steeped in the nostalgia for the Old South (Photo #15). The 200-foot Carillon Tower, containing 97 tubular bells, also displays classical influences (Photo #16). It is capped with a small cupola supported by columns. The upper third of the tower is composed of carved stone, and includes large recessed Roman arch with doublet openings containing louvers. The area above the openings is filled with carving in a Federal style pattern. The interior on the ground floor is open to the public and is finished in polished, colored marbles. The tower is 200 feet high and can be seen from many locations in the surrounding area, making it the community's most prominent man-made landmark. Although these buildings are not yet fifty years old, they possess significance as an ensemble whose creation was inspired by

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDASection number 7 Page 5

widespread appreciation for the music of Stephen Foster. The Stephen Foster melody, "Old Folks at Home," is Florida's state song, and its refrain, "Way Down upon the Suwannee River," has been included in promotional material for White Springs since the 1880s.

The Carillon Tower houses a unique engineering accomplishment, a 97 tubular bell carillon, built in 1957 and installed in 1958. The carillon was manufactured by the J.C. Deagan Company of Chicago, who also made xylophones, marimbas, and orchestra bells. Tunable metal tubes, or chimes, rather than conventional bells, were invented in 1885 in England. Durfee Company of St. Louis were the only other American manufacturer of carillons. The Deagan Company was the largest company, and the Stephen Foster 97 tubular bell carillon was their largest, and last creation. The conventional carillon consists of 32 or fewer chimes. The three sets of chimes give the Stephen Foster carillon an exceptionally wide, and complex musical range. The chimes, their electronic strikers and dampers, are suspended within a huge wooden rack 21 feet high, 11 feet wide, and 15 feet long. It weighs 27 tons. The Stephen Foster carillon is among the world's largest musical instruments.

Craftsman/Bungalow

The Arts and Crafts movement at the turn of the twentieth century inspired the spread of the Craftsman/Bungalow style featuring a low-pitched gable or hip roof with wide overhanging eaves, exposed roof rafters, and tapered square columns on pedestals supporting the porch roof. The c1916 Johnson-Daniels House on River Street exhibits most of these features (Photo #17). Magazines and builder's pattern books educated the public to the many variations possible within the style. A number of the one-story houses in White Springs feature some of the hallmarks of the Craftsman style--the battered columns on brick piers supporting a front porch roof, or exposed roof beams, low-pitched roofs--but most do not possess the overall architectural design of this influential American style. The variety of Craftsman styling in White Springs can be seen by comparing the Johnson-Daniels House and the c1930 Spencer-Hillhouse House on Wesson Street (Photo #18).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 6WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**Mediterranean Revival**

The Mediterranean Revival style, which was popularized in the 1920s by Addison Mizner in Palm Beach, was a radical break from earlier architectural approaches in Florida, although it did have some precedents in the indigenous colonial buildings and the 1885 Ponce de Leon Hotel in St. Augustine. The use of masonry, usually stuccoed; arched openings for doors and windows; flat roofs with parapets; and wrought iron and tile decorative elements were hallmarks of the Mediterranean Revival style. Only one house in White Springs adopted this style, the McCallum House on Spring Street, built in 1925 (Photo #19).

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS

Three wood frame churches are included in the district. The United Methodist Church on Spring Street (built in 1890) has a square tower offset to the north side of the main gable-fronted facade. Stained glass windows with triangular pointed tops are set in the front and side walls (Photo #20). The church has been covered with aluminum siding, and was moved in 1947 from the adjacent block to the north. On Spring Street, the 1907 Presbyterian Church, also has a bell tower set off to one side of the front facade, which has fine Gothic-styled windows with plain glass. The gabled side entrance has chamfered posts with Classic styled capitals (Photo #21). The 1898 White Springs Baptist Church, on Camp Street also has an offset square bell tower. Its portico was added in the 1990's.

There are two historic schools in the district. The oldest school building in town is the small, one-room Camp Schoolhouse across from the Camp house on Camp Avenue (Photo #22). The frame structure was built around 1906 by B. F. Camp for his children. Before the school was built, a private tutor taught the children in the family home. The vernacular building has subtle detailing in the cut shingles in the front gable, turned post on the porch, and paneling beneath the windows. The South Hamilton County Elementary School occupies a large tract on Spring Street and is the oldest public school in town (Photo #23). The school was built in the 1930s, with a later addition on the rear. A large arched entrance has a recessed porch, four doors and arched transom window.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDASection number 7 Page 7

COMMERCIAL AND CIVIC BUILDINGS

The 1892 Adams Store is the most prominent commercial structure and one of the most architecturally distinctive for its varied surface treatments in the Queen Anne style (Photo #24). Two-story, wooden, merchandise stores from the late 1800s are rare in Florida. Behind the store is the district's one object, the cotton scale. It is described under "Structures, Object and Site."

The landmark Telford Hotel on River Street, is White Spring's only resort hotel built during the town's golden age of tourism (Photo #25). The three-story masonry building, a combination of brick and limestone, was built in 1902 by W. B. Telford and became the seventh hotel in White Springs when it opened in the summer of 1903. J. W. Bynum, who also built the Presbyterian Church and other buildings in town, was the contractor. The Telford featured its own acetylene powered lighting system and water plant. A broad porch with square tapered columns extends across the front facade which replaced the original two-story verandah. The centered, glass and paneled door, leads into the main lobby. Gable dormers are set in the mansard roof which is faced with patterned metal shingles.

The c1914 Delegal Service Station on Roberts Street (Photo #26), represents the early age of automobile travel and Florida's efforts to promote good roads and service to the motoring public.

Like most other towns in Florida, White Springs received Federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) funding during the Depression of the 1930s. One legacy of the program is the White Springs Woman's Club Building on Roberts Street, now owned by the city and the center of civic affairs (Photo #27). Constructed of limestone on land donated to the Woman's Club, the west facade fronting on Roberts Avenue is unadorned, with two single doors leading into the main hall. The rectangular building has a large screened porch on the east elevation. The porch overlooks a wooded area with stone benches and stone barbecue grill.

STRUCTURES, OBJECT, AND SITE

The original springs retaining wall, located on the south side of the main curve in Roberts Street, is all that remains from the Spring House that was built between 1901 and 1904, and demolished

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDASection number 7 Page 8

in 1973 (Photos #28,29). The present walkway atop the wall surrounding the spring was constructed by the State of Florida to replicate one of the historic walkways. The two-foot thick wall of poured concrete with granite aggregate was built to protect the clear sulfur spring from the rising, tannin-dark river water. Water gates could be set at various levels to allow spring water to flow into the river, but keep the waters of the Suwannee River out of the spring pool. It is three stories in height, the third level being level with the street. On the interior were three tiers of balustraded walkways. Holes in the remaining masonry wall where the wood frame structure was attached can still be seen, as well as the base of the elevator, which lifted more infirm bathers in and out of the water. There were two separate wings, supported by wooden pilings, on either side of the spring enclosure, connected by the interior piazza. A fine cupola marked the main entrance to the building, leading to the foyer, dressing rooms, massage and therapy rooms, and a concession area. Through neglect, the building fell into an unsafe state and efforts to restore the building were not considered feasible in the 1970s when the property was deeded to the state. As a result, the wooden structure including the water gate, was removed. The level of the spring has dropped and it is no longer used for swimming. The walkway built on top of the masonry wall by the State of Florida still gives visitors a view of the Suwannee River and a sense of what visitors to the Spring House experienced earlier in the century.

Located in the middle of a block, directly south of Spring Street, the city's water tower was built in 1924 (Photo #30). The steel tower and tank has a small, circular, brick reservoir directly under it from which the water is pumped into the tank.

The district's one object, the cotton scale, was associated with the commercial operations at the Adam's store, and was accessed from Spring Street. The scale was used to weigh bales of cotton brought by farmers to sell or exchange for credit (Photo #31). The manufacturer's name, "Fairbanks Scale, Atlanta" is still present on the scale. The scale is protected by a metal roof supported on posts.

The Stephen Foster Memorial State Park boundaries have changed during the historic and non-historic period. The park is primarily north of the Suwannee River with a portion south of the river within Columbia County. The district boundary includes the portion

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 9

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

of the early park that has always been publicly used (Photo #32). The park consists of gently rolling land, with many areas of tended grass. Mature trees and scrubs of many varieties are distributed over the entire area. Several public areas overlook the river. The park encompasses seven of the contributing resources, most prominent being the carillon tower.

NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

Within the boundaries of the district are 33 buildings that do not contribute to the historic district because they were built later than the historic period or have been significantly altered.

Among the new buildings are several residences (Photo #33), the post office (Photo #34), fire station, a bank, and several small stores. However, in scale, materials, and setting these buildings are compatible with the contributing resources. The public recreational nature of the park has necessitated many contemporary buildings including the 1986 Gazebo which overlooks the river (Photo #35). Only one historic residence on Mill Street has been altered to a degree that it loses its historic character.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES WITHIN WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT

85 Resources (81 buildings, 1 site, 2 structures, 1 object)

Street numbers are not posted in the town so resources have been assigned numbers.

#	Name	Address	Style	Date
1	Stephen Foster State Cultural Center	Park	site	1941
2	Carillon Tower	Park	Neo-Colonial	1957--
3	Museum	Park	Neo-Colonial	1950--
4	South Park Entrance	Park	Neo-Colonial	1949--
5	Spring House	Park	structure	1900
6	Delegal Service Station	Park	vernacular	c1914
7	Suwannee River Court	Bridge St.	Neo-Colonial	1943
8	First Baptist Church	Camp Ave.	vernacular	1898
9	McDonald-Sistrunk -Smith House	Broad St.	Georgian	c1840
10	Camp House	Camp Ave.	Queen Anne	c1907
11	Camp School	Camp Ave.	vernacular	c1907
12	Wiggins-Nye- Dunnaway House	Roberts St.	Georgian	c1915
13	Ammons-Filyaw House	Roberts St.	vernacular	c1915
13a	garage		vernacular	c1915
14	Fenn-Fillyaw House	Roberts St.	Georgian	c1915
15	Women's Club	Roberts St.	vernacular	c1940
16	Smith House	Roberts St.	Georgian	c1910
17	Pritchard's Tea Room	Spring St.	vernacular	c1910
18	Bullock's Service Station	Spring St.	vernacular	c1935
19	Moore-Kendrick House	Bridge St.	vernacular	c1900
20	Edward's-Suty- Little House	Bridge St.	vernacular	c1900
21	Edward' Suty House	Bridge St.	Georgian	c1850
22	Stormant-Suty House	Wesson Ave.	vernacular	c1900
23	Beauchamp-Green House	Wesson Ave.	vernacular	c1900
24	Carver House	Wesson Ave.	vernacular	c1905
25	Wiggins-Morgan House	Wesson Ave.	vernacular	c1905
26	Feagle House	Wesson St.	vernacular	c1900

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

27	Kendrick-Waters House	Wesson St.	vernacular	1910
28	McLeod-High House	Mill St.	vernacular	1908
29	Robert House	Mill St.	Bungalow	c1910
30	Hiers-Davis House	Mill St.	vernacular	c1915
31	Thomas House	Mill St.	vernacular	c1910
32	Hammock-Baxter House	Mill St.	Bungalow	c1910
33	Scarborough House	First St.	vernacular	c1900
34	Kendrick-Lindsey House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1905
35	Kendrick-Waldron House	Spring St.	Bungalow	c1905
36	Kendrick-McKenzie House	Spring St.	Bungalow	c1905
37	Perkins-Griffin House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1905
38	Knight-Riley House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1905
39	Mattair Boarding - Kendrick House	Kendrick St.	vernacular	1900
40	Knowles-Dezendorf House	Wesson St.	Queen Anne	1906
41	Beauchamp-Sistrunk House	Mill St.	vernacular	c1930
42	Freeman House	Kendrick St.	vernacular	c1912
43	Dr. Cone House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1930
44	Godwin-Norwood House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1945
45	Cate-Wiggins House	Spring St.	Bungalow	c1920
46	Hardware Store	Bridge St.	vernacular	c1900
47	Millinery Store	Bridge St.	vernacular	c1900
48	metal garage	Wesson Ave.	vernacular	c1910
49	White Spring Town Hall	Wesson Ave.	vernacular	c1912
50	United Methodist Church	Wesson Ave.	vernacular	1890
51	Adams Brother Store	Bridge St.	Queen Anne	c1892
52	Adams Cotton Scale	Spring St.	object	c1900
53	Robert's Garage	Spring St.	vernacular	c1910
54	Hometown Restaurant	Spring St.	vernacular	c1910
55	Old Post Office	Spring St.	vernacular	c1940
56	Paxton-Sanders House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1900
57	apartment	Bridge St.	vernacular	c1910
58	Johnson-Daniels House	River St.	Bungalow	c1916
59	Robarts-Barnett House	River St.	Queen Anne	c1903

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

60	Johnson-Neill House	River St.	vernacular	c1900
61	Methodist Parsonage- Larson House	River St.	vernacular	c1898
62	Wambolt-Barnett- Phillips House	River St.	Bungalow	c1910
63	Spencer-Hillhouse House	Wesson St.	vernacular	c1930
64	McCallum House	Spring St.	Mediterranean Rev.	c1925
64a	garage	-	-	c1925
65	Sperry-Phillips House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1910
66	Spencer-Hyde House	Wesson St.	vernacular	c1930
67	Gildersleeve-Lee House	River St.	vernacular	c1925
68	Water tower-reservoir	middle of blk.	structure	1924
69	Presbyterian Church	Spring St.	Gothic Revival	1907
70	Carter-Wiggins House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1905
71	McLeod House	Spring St.	vernacular	c1890
72	Waldron House- Methodist Parsonage	Spring St.	vernacular	c1860
73	Carver-Ruffing House	Kendrick St.	vernacular	c1900
74	South Hamilton Elementary School	Spring St.	vernacular	1937
75	Sophia Adams House	River St.	Queen Anne	c1893
75a	carriage house	River St.	Queen Anne	c1893
76	Telford Hotel	River St.	vernacular	c1902
77	Adams-Sanders House	River St.	vernacular	c1920
78	Feagle-McClurg House	River St.	vernacular	c1918
79	Grant House	River St.	vernacular	c1918
80	Johnson House	River St.	vernacular	c1918
110A	garage	River St.	vernacular	c 1910
110B	outbuilding	River St.	vernacular	c 1910

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 13

**WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA**

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES WITH WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
35 non-contributing buildings

34A	Kendrick-Lindsey House outbuilding	Kendrick St.
81	Northern gate house	Park
82	Craft Center	Park
82A	Craft interpretation shelter	Park
82B	Craft interpretation shelter	Park
82C	Craft interpretation shelter	Park
83	Nelly Blys Kitchen	Park
84	Administration building	Park
85	Stage	Park
86	Gazebo	Park
87	Concession shelter	Park
88	Baptist assembly hall	Camp Ave.
89	Baptist assembly hall	Camp Ave.
90	House	Camp Ave.
91	House	Camp Ave.
92	Store	Roberts Rd.
93	Concession shelter	Roberts Rd.
94	House	Roberts Rd.
95	Motel	Spring St.
96	Telephone shed	Wesson Ave.
97	Methodist assembly hall	Wesson Ave.
98	Store	Spring St.
99	Fire station	Spring St.
100	Mobile home	Wesson St.
101	House, historic, altered	Mill St.
102	House	Spring St.
103	Office	Spring St.
104	Post Office	Spring St.
105	Store, historic, moved	Bridge St.
106	House	Kendrick St.
107	House	River St.
108	House	River St.
109	House	River St.
110	House	River St.
111	South Hamilton Elementary gym	Spring St.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA**SUMMARY**

The White Springs Historic District is locally significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Early Settlement, Commerce, and Recreation/Entertainment, as one of the earliest settlement and trade centers of Hamilton County, dating from the 1820s, and later as an early twentieth century health spa and tourism center associated with a sulfur spring and park. It is also significant under Criterion C as a fine collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture. The district's period of significance of 1840-1957 meets Criterion Consideration G because the park facilities built in the 1950s add to the significance of the community of White Springs and its association with the park.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

During the State's Territorial Period families from Georgia and the Carolinas arrived in the White Springs area. Hamilton County, bounded on the west and south by the Suwannee River, was surveyed in 1825 and the county was created in 1827. It was the 15th county and named for Alexander Hamilton. Those passing through the county remarked on the flooded land and difficulty of travel, and numerous ferry crossings were soon established along the river banks.

In the 1830s-1850s, the right soil and climate for the cultivation of Sea Island cotton brought the first white settlers to the White Springs area. In 1835 Bryant Sheffield of Camden County, Georgia, purchased 1,000 acres at a bend in the Suwannee River for a cotton plantation. A sulfur spring that had been frequented since prehistoric times was included in this acreage. Sheffield, aware of the popular perception of the spring's medicinal character, capitalized on it by building a hotel of logs near the Spring. News of the lodging and the adjacent spring with its health-giving properties spread, and a town grew to eventually occupy two-thirds of Sheffield's original tract.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The budding resort was accessible to visitors by stagecoach on the mail route between Jacksonville and Tallahassee in the 1840s,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

and by hack service to the railroad depot at Wellborn, ten miles to the south, after 1858. The White Springs post office was established in April of 1842. Visitors to the area in the 1850s recorded appreciative comments about the hospitality and accommodations in White Springs, which became a well-known health spa, a vacation retreat that was the forerunner of many of the state's famous resort hotels. In the 1850s the booming plantation economy enabled many planters and their families to take extended vacations. The southern gentry in north central Florida flocked to White Springs to take the waters, and to enjoy a spirited social life of parties and dances and the excellent hunting and fishing afforded by the forest and river. Surrounding the village were farms which produced the staple crops of the South: corn, rice, peas and beans, sweet potatoes, and sugar cane--and the cash crop, long staple Sea Island cotton. The total population of sparsely settled Hamilton County in 1850 was 2,511 (1,817 whites, 685 slaves, and 9 free Negroes).

The citizens of White Springs heartily supported the Confederacy in the American Civil War which severely impacted the town's development. Many of the residents of the coastal towns fled inland for safety to avoid an expected Yankee invasion. A number of these refugees came to White Springs, which was known as the "Rebel Refuge." The closest engagement of the War was the Battle of Olustee, which took place in February of 1864, to the south in Baker County. The War ended in April of that year and those who could returned to town. Census records indicate drastic reductions in the personal worth of many planters, but some managed to thrive in the post-war economy.

One example is Robert W. Adams, a Confederate captain who opened the Adams General Store near the Spring in 1865. His sons continued to operate the store and in 1892 built the present Adams Store on the corner of Bridge and Spring Streets (Photo 16). Frank Adams later built a store in Jasper, Bob Adams built one in Lake City, and Nat Adams operated the store in White Springs until his death in 1936. Adams Store regularly extended credit to farmers or sold goods in trade for bales of cotton. The cotton scale in the rear of the Adams Store on Spring Street is a survivor of this exchange system. Wagons would roll on to the Fairbanks Morse scale and the store manager would tally the weight and quality of the load, and enter the amount in the store ledger for debit or credit.

Lumber merchants, land developers, railroad tycoons, and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDASection number 8 Page 3

northern tourists flocked to Florida in the last decades of the 19th century. To encourage visitors, journalists spread out over the state to record its natural wonders and unique attractions. The poet Sidney Lanier stopped by White Springs on a swing through Florida in 1876 and succinctly noted the white sulfur spring was "Locally resorted to for cure of rheumatism, gout, and kindred diseases."

Life in White Springs revolved around the spring and the social life it promoted. The Sheffield family sold the spring property and the hotel to George A. Wright (or Wight) and John A. Powell of Thomas County, Georgia, for \$8,000 in 1882, and in 1890 Wright built the first spring house of heart pine. In 1898 the eight acres containing the Spring were sold to Mrs. Minnie Mosher Jackson. A photograph in a promotional booklet published around 1903 shows a small "bath house" at the Spring and Mrs. Jackson's plans for the elegant new Spring House. It was she who had a two-foot-thick concrete wall built. This protected the clear waters of the Spring, which was thirty feet deep, from the dark, tannin-rich river waters in the periodic flood seasons. Designed by architects McClures and Holmes of Jacksonville, the spring house built atop this wall and spreading to either side became a popular health spa and the social center of the town. A wooden boardwalk, which also passed two picture shows, a bowling alley and a skating rink, led directly from what is now Spring Street to the top floor of the building. The entrance sported a flared cupola, and the foyer opened onto the verandahs around the pool, a concession area, refreshment stand, dressing rooms for bathers, and a "clinic." An elevator lifted bathers up and down from the waters; the brick base of the elevator can still be seen. Mrs. Jackson even bottled the spring water, emphasizing its curative powers. There was a sanitarium where semi-invalids who came to take the baths and drink the water could be lodged close to the Spring. Guide books in the 1930s and 1940s described the medicinal spring as flowing from a rock hollow, protected by the walls of the bath house from floods that could raise the level of the river as much as forty feet. The spring changed hands several more times, and in 1941 it was sold to the Saunders family of White Springs. The spring was purchased by the State of Florida in 1973 and has become part of the Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center.

By 1885 the population of White Springs was 350, services were being held at the Methodist Church, and there were two private

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

schools and a weekly newspaper. The state's first teacher's, Normal School, founded in 1883, was located on College Street (now River Street). C.F. Cone's sawmill, started in 1880, kept up with the demand for lumber and shingles, farmers hauled their corn to be ground at his grist mill, and from August to December wagons of Sea Island cotton lumbered up to the cotton gin. In addition to cotton, area farmers grew oranges, grains, and a variety of vegetable crops. White Springs was incorporated in 1885 with a population of 350 people. Early plat maps indicate that the town's layout and size has changed little, though some streets and sections were never developed as platted.

The Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad reached White Springs in the late 1880s. The depot (no longer standing) was a substantial one-story building located on Suwannee Street, not far from the cotton gin. The railroad brought tourists from Georgia and as far away as Palatka. Because the Suwannee River is too shallow at this location for commerce or travel, and roads were merely trails through the forest well into the 20th century, the railroad was a most vital transportation link for White Springs. Four trains a day stopped at the station in 1909, and it took four agents to handle the freight and the passenger baggage.

Although the 1890s brought the great freeze that destroyed the area's citrus groves forever, and a tornado mowed down hundreds of acres of virgin timber, other factors offset these disasters. The Suwannee River Bank opened and two newspapers were launched. In these times of prosperity, the hospitality business flourished and several new hotels and boarding houses were built.

Vast forests of virgin pine and great cypress trees in the swampy areas provided the first building materials for White Springs. C.F. Cone had built the first saw mill in the area, but this resource seems not to have been exploited on a large commercial scale until Dr. Benjamin Franklin Camp and his brother Robert Judson Camp established the Camp Lumber and Basket Mill about 1898. This operation provided hundreds of jobs for White Springs men, and became the town's largest employer. Huge rafts of lumber were floated down the Suwannee to Branford, and the Camps built a railroad line to Wellborn in order to get their lumber directly to the port in Jacksonville without having to ship it through Georgia on the existing railroad. The mill was located 1 3/4 miles northwest of town, near the river. The lumber plant burned in 1905, but was apparently rebuilt. The 1908 Sanborn map

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

shows a saw mill, a planing mill, storage for dressed lumber, a foundry and machine shop, a cypress mill at another location and a commissary. With its own electric plant, it was the most modern and well-equipped operation in the state. However, financial difficulties beset the Camps, the seemingly endless supply of timber was running out, and, after another fire at the mill, the operation ceased around 1909.

Several newspaper accounts from 1903 refer to White Springs as a "beautiful little town" and "the coming resort of the South." The New Telford House was noted for its "excellent standard," the Hamilton Hotel was described as "palatial," and the Kendrick was "quite a favorite with the traveling public." The hotels and rooming houses were full of contented guests and visitors on "jolly picnic excursions" from Tifton, Georgia, who were enjoying the scenic attractions of the town. By 1910 there were at least thirteen hotels and boarding houses in White Springs. It is evident that by this date White Springs was indeed "the coming resort of the South."

The only historic hotel that has survived to this day is the Telford Hotel (Photo 17). On February 24, 1911, while most of the men were out in the woods enjoying the last day of the hunting season, a fire swept through the town's commercial district and, whipped by high winds, destroyed over thirty structures, including several large homes, the high school, livery stable, four hotels, a cotton warehouse, and a number of other store buildings. There was no fire department and the town had recently voted down a bond issue for a town waterworks; the hastily arranged bucket brigade had no effect on the raging fire.

White Springs continued to attract tourists, and other hotels and motels were built. However, leisure patterns changed in America; new resorts drew people to the east coast and south Florida. Major highways bypassed White Springs, and it never reclaimed its eminence or the population it had before the fire of 1911, as the figures below show.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Population</u>
1885	350
1900	690
1910	1,177
1920	984
1930	618

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDASection number 8 Page 6

1940	600
1950	700
1960	633

The dependence of local farmers on cotton created economic havoc when the boll weevil infested the cotton crops in 1916 and 1917. By 1920, King Cotton was dethroned. While some turned to other crops, many farms were abandoned.

White Springs had elementary and high schools for both white and black students, and some teachers were paid by the town. Black students attended a small private school operated by Noah Bennett, and a school, funded in part by the Julius Rosenwald Fund, a Philadelphia philanthropic organization. Noah Bennett, a prominent member of the Black community, was a podiatrist, a barber, and the county's first Black agricultural extension agent. A high school for white students was built on the former Normal College site (since demolished), which had been the state's first teacher's college, founded in 1883.

The financial investment and rapid change in the built environment that occurred in south Florida during the Boom of the 1920s scarcely caused a ripple in White Springs, yet the town seemed to be prospering. The Suwannee River Bank listed capital of \$20,000. There were three garages, seven general stores, two drug stores, seven hotels, and a telephone company. However, the Depression that followed in the late 1920s and 1930s was as devastating to the hopes and aspirations of this town as it was to the rest of the state. The Suwannee State Bank failed, never to open again. In 1934 there were plans to build an airport, but this never materialized. The current brick school on Spring Street was built in 1937, with the lunch room added in 1950. It served all grades for the white students in town until integration occurred in 1965, when junior and senior high students of both races were bussed to Jasper. Carver School merged its elementary classes and faculty with South Hamilton Elementary School in 1970. In 1939 the land on which the White Springs Community Center stands was purchased for \$200 by the White Springs Woman's Club and deeded to the town so that the W.P.A. could build a limestone clubhouse on the site. This project provided jobs and a substantial public benefit for the community. It is now the White Springs Community Center (Photo 19).

With the coming of World War II, a German Prisoner of War camp

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

just north of the town was established. The men lived in tent-like structures on a plot of land north of the Camp House, leased to the government by the Camp family. The POWs worked on farms in the area and in Valdosta, Georgia. On a regular basis, the spring was closed to the public, and the Germans were marched down to enjoy the water.

Stephen Foster Memorial Park

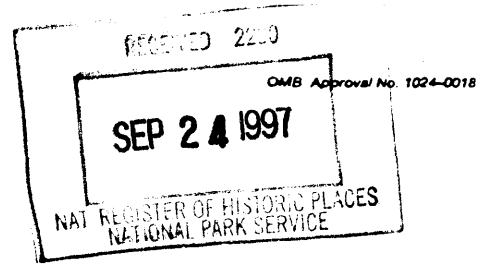
White Springs is the location of the Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center, a Florida State Park, which began in the 1930s as the Stephen Foster Memorial. A brochure produced by the Florida Park Service relates that in 1931 a memorial to Stephen Foster was suggested by Josiah K. Lilly, the pharmaceutical manufacturer, and the song "Old Folks at Home" was adopted as the official state song in 1935. In 1937 the White Springs Woman's Club discussed the possibility of creating an amphitheater on the banks of the Suwannee River at White Springs where musicians could perform Foster's songs and other lyrical music for the public, thus also promoting the town's dwindling tourist industry. This concept was taken up by the Florida Federation of Music Clubs, with the strong support of the local community. Five acres of privately owned land along the River and 100 acres owned by the Town of White Springs were donated for the Memorial Park in 1938, which incorporated and sought state funding.

Thanks to the support of Governor Fred Cone, whose family has close ties to the area, the legislature appropriated \$25,000 in 1939 and \$200,000 in 1940. The land was deeded to the state as the Stephen Foster Memorial, and opened to the public in October of 1950. At that time the Colonial Revival style south gatehouse and the museum, which contains dioramas depicting some of Foster's best-known works, had been constructed. In 1957 the 200-foot high carillon tower, with its 97 tubular bells, was completed. The first Florida Folk Festival was held 1953, an annual gathering of musicians, dancers, storytellers, and crafts persons which draws thousands of visitors to White Springs over the Memorial Day Weekend. In 1979 the historic park came under the management of the Florida Park Service and is now called the Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center.

Just outside the south gatehouse of the Memorial Park was the Colonial Hotel, famous for its accommodations and dining, and the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 8WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

Spring House. Both were purchased by the State in the early 1970s, and, because both buildings were in an advanced state of deterioration, they were demolished in 1973. All that remains of the Colonial Hotel are some of the concrete footings visible in the grass among the chickees built for display in the Seminole Indian area of the Park. The concrete retaining wall surrounding the spring remains of the Spring House (Photo 20). Before the Spring House was torn down, measured drawings were made by architectural students of Professor Blair Reeves from the University of Florida for the Historic American Building Survey to preserve the details of the unique turn-of-the-century recreational structure which had played such a central role in the development and growth of White Springs.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

Section number 8 Page 9

The Park's Relationship to the Town

The White Springs Historic District, which includes most of the historic parts of the town, is fairly small, encompassing only 120 acres and spanning only one and one-tenth mile from east to west. The Stephen Foster Memorial Park is an integral part of the district because of its location within confines of the town limits and its historic and commercial associations with the development of the community.

State Road 41, which runs north to Jasper and south to Lake City, runs in front of the main entrance to the park, and from the road, the park gatehouse and broad lawn are prominent features. SR 41 has been, and continues to be, the major commercial thoroughfare in the town. The 1912 Colonial Hotel (demolished 1972), located well back on the park entrance lawn, was the most picturesque and luxurious of the historic tourist hotels. The historic old Spring House structure, the Suwannee River Court Motel, and the Delegal Service Station, all located on SR 41, are within the bounds of the park. Commercial development on this roadway continues, as demonstrated by the newly renovated Smith House, on the corner of Suwannee Street and SR 41, which is being used as a restaurant /candy store. White Springs residential neighborhoods continue to develop, bounding the park on the north; several contemporary homes front onto Camp Avenue, and from the bend onto Jackson Street, along SR 25A as far as the northern gatehouse, is a large neighborhood of modern homes.

The Stephen Foster Memorial Park was developed by local residents in an attempt to revive their town's economy, and even though it is now a state park, the residents of White Springs continue to regard it as their park. The park is a favored location for weddings and large family reunions. The annual Christmas Festival of Lights is a local Christmas party, parade, and charity fund raiser held in the park. An annual class reunion for graduates of the old White Springs high school draws hundreds to the park. The Florida Folk Festival, the oldest continuous folk festival in the United States, held since 1952, is a major event for the residents of White Springs. Food vending at the festival is the largest fund raiser for all the area churches, including those within the district. The Folk Festival also includes elementary students in a May Pole dance, and all local school and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

Section number 8 Page 10

church choirs participate in the festival. As a school function, all elementary students attend either the Folk Festival in May, or the Rural Folk Life Days fair in November.

In these ways, therefore, geographically, historically, commercially, and culturally, the Stephen Foster Memorial Park is a coherent part of the Town of White Springs.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.,
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Adams Store, White Springs. Ledgers, 1892, 1893, 1911. In the possession of Watkins Saunders, White Springs.
- Bacon, Franklin Camp, compiler. Annie, 1856-1928: A Lifetime of Letters. Manuscript, 1990.
- Barr, Melanie. "A Preservation Plan for Jasper, Florida". Master's thesis, University of Florida, 1979.
- Billinger, Robert D., Jr. "The Other Side Now: What Blanding Prisoners of War Told the Wehrmacht." Florida Historical Quarterly. Vol 73 (1), 1994, pp. 62-78.
- Bizzell, Donald. "Proposed Reclamation of the White Sulphur Springs." Architectural project, #265, Architecture and Fine Arts Library, University of Florida, Gainesville, 1973.
- Cash, W. T. The Story of Florida. New York: American Historical Society, 1938.
- Catalog, Florida Normal School and Business College. Boston: Frank Hodges, 1892. Booklet, P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Gainesville.
- Cresson, Richard. "Wardlow Smith House and White Springs Bath House: Architectural Preservation, A Proposal." Architectural project. #264, Architecture and Fine Arts Library, University of Florida, Gainesville, 1973.
- Dovell, J. E. Florida: Historic, Dramatic, Contemporary. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1952.
- Federal Writers' Project. Florida: A Guide to the Southernmost State. New York: Oxford University Press, 1939.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 9 Page 2WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.,
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

- Haase, Ronald, W. Classic Cracker: Florida's Wood-Frame Vernacular Architecture. Sarasota, FL: Pineapple Press, 1992.
- Hamilton County, Office of the Clerk of the Court, Plat maps, Deed books. Jasper: Hamilton County Courthouse.
- Hamilton County, Florida. Pamphlet issued by Chamber of Commerce, 1924.
- Hinton, Cora, compiler. An Early History of Hamilton County, Florida. 2nd Edition. Jasper, FL: Hamilton County Bicentennial Committee, 1983.
- Jasper News, May 29, 1903.
- Kaucher, Dorothy. The Suwannee. Lake Wales: Author, 1972.
- McAlester, Virginia, and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.
- Polk, R. L. and Co. Florida Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1911-1912. Jacksonville: R. L. Polk and Co., 1912.
- Puckett, Catherine. "The Course of Time." The Forum: The Magazine of the Florida Humanities Council. Spring/Summer, 1993, p.18-23.
- Richards, John R. Florida State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1886-87. New York: The South Publishing Company, 1987.
- Sanborn Map Company, White Springs, 1908, 1920. Pelham, NY: Sanborn Map and Publishing Company.
- Scott, J. Irvine. The Education of Black People in Florida. Philadelphia: Dorrance & Co., 1974.
- Stephen Foster Memorial Commission. Florida's Memorial to Stephen Collins Foster. 1951. Booklet, P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Gainesville.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 3

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON CO.,
/COLUMBIA CO., FLORIDA

Stephen Foster Music Club of White Springs. A Brief History of White Springs, Florida. White Springs: Author, 1950.

Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center. Brochure. ca 1993.

Tebeau, Charlton W. A History of Florida. Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, 1971.

Town of White Springs. Official Records. In storage in White Springs Community Center.

Tyson, W. H. [Tison] 1848-49 White Springs Store Ledger. Ledger #92. P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Gainesville.

United States Census. Hamilton County, 1840, 1850. 1860. 1870. 1880. Microfilm.

White Springs, Florida. ca1904. Brochure. P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Gainesville.

White Springs Herald, February 27, 1903. Microfilm. P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Gainesville.

White Springs on the Old Suwannee. ca1903. Brochure. P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Gainesville.

"World's Fair Souvenir" Edition, Florida Times Union, 1904. P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Gainesville.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT,
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The White Springs Historic District boundary is indicated on the scaled boundary map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Boundaries were selected to encompass the greatest concentration of contributing buildings and sites within the town of White Springs. Boundaries followed lot lines indicated on the Town's plat map. The district boundary of the park includes only the portion of the original land that has been publicly used and contained contributing buildings. A portion of park land west of the boundary and north of State Road 25A were excluded for this reason.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page 1

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

PHOTOGRAPH LIST

1. White Springs Historic District
White Springs
2. Hamilton County, Florida
3. Murray Laurie
4. 1995
5. Murray Laurie
6. Park boundary marker south of the Suwannee River, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #1 of 35

Information for items 1-5 is the same for the following photographs.

6. Western boundary in park following power line path, camera facing south
7. Photo #2 of 35
6. Boundary at bend in Jackson Street and Camp Avenue, camera facing south
7. Photo #3 of 35
6. Boundary at intersection of Bridge Street and Swanee Street, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #4 of 35
6. Boundary at intersection of River Street and Kendrick Street, camera facing east
7. Photo #5 of 35
6. River Street from the corner of Bridge Street, camera facing east
7. Photo #6 of 35
6. Feagle-McClurg House on River Street, camera facing south
7. Photo #7 of 35

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page 2

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

- 6. Freeman House on Kendrick Street, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #8 of 35

- 6. Knight-Riley House on Spring Street, camera facing north
- 7. Photo #9 of 35

- 6. Kendrick-McKenzie House on Spring Street, camera facing north
- 7. Photo #10 of 35

- 6. Sophia Adams House on River Street, camera facing southeast
- 7. Photo #11 of 35

- 6. Camp House on Camp Avenue, camera facing north
- 7. Photo #12 of 35

- 6. Edwards-Suty House on Bridge Street, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #13 of 35

- 6. South Park Entrance, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #14 of 35

- 6. Museum building, camera facing southwest
- 7. Photo #15 of 35

- 6. Carilloon Tower, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #16 of 35

- 6. Johnson-Daniels House of River Street, camera facing north
- 7. Photo #17 of 35

- 6. Spencer-Hillhouse House on Wesson Street, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #18 of 35

- 6. McCallum House on Spring Street, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #19 of 35

- 6. Methodist Church on Spring Street, camera facing north
- 7. Photo #20 of 35

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number ^{Photographs} Page 3

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

- 6. Presbyterian Church on Spring Street, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #21 of 35

- 6. Camp Schoolhouse on Camp Avenue, camera facing southeast
- 7. Photo #22 of 35

- 6. South Hamilton County Elementary School on Spring Street, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #23 of 35

- 6. Adams Store on Bridge Street, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #24 of 35

- 6. Telford Hotel on River Street, camera facing southeast
- 7. Photo #25 of 35

- 6. Delegal Service Station on Bridge Street, camera facing northwest
- 7. Photo #26 of 35

- 6. White Springs Woman's Club on Bridge Street, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #27 of 35

- 6. Retaining wall of sulfur springs within park, camera facing southwest
- 7. Photo #28 of 35

- 6. Spring and retaining wall showing water gates, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #29 of 35

- 6. Water tower south of Spring Street, camera facing northeast
- 7. Photo #30 of 35

- 6. Cotton scale off of Spring Street, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #31 of 35

- 6. Park grounds leading to main, south entrance, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #32 of 35

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

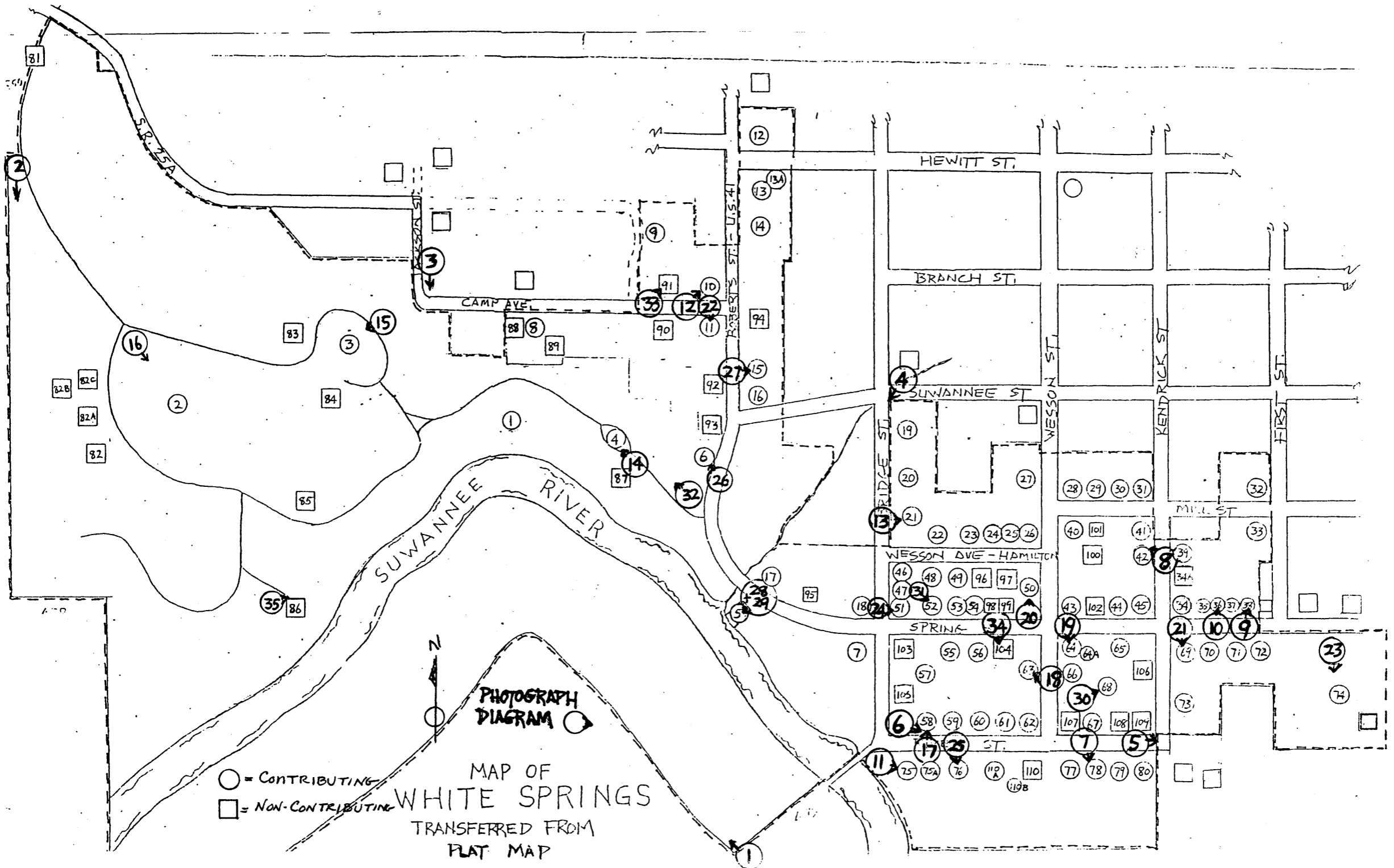
Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page 4

WHITE SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT
WHITE SPRINGS, HAMILTON COUNTY
/COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

- 6. Non-contributing residence on Camp Avenue, camera facing northeast
- 7. Photo #33 of 35

- 6. Post Office on Spring Street, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #34 of 35

- 6. Gazebo within park, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #35 of 35



- = CONTRIBUTING
- = NON-CONTRIBUTING

MAP OF
 WHITE SPRINGS
 TRANSFERRED FROM
 FLAT MAP