Form 10-300
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

1. NAME
COMMON: Warm Springs Bath Houses
AND/OR HISTORIC: Warm Springs Bath Houses

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER: W side of Rt. 220, SW corner of intersection of Rt. 220 and Rt. 39.
CITY OR TOWN: Bath
STATE: Virginia
CODE (COUNTY): 45 | Bath

3. CLASSIFICATION
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public \ Public Acquisition:</td>
<td>Occupied \ Yes:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>\ Private \ In Process \ Unoccupied \ Restricted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>\ Bath \ Being Considered \ Unoccupied \ Unrestricted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Object</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
Agricultural Government Park
Commercial Industrial Private Residence Other
Educational Military Religious
Entertainment Museum Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNERS NAME: Homestead Hotel
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Bath
STATE: Virginia
CODE 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Bath County Court House
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Bath
STATE: Virginia
CODE 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #08-7, 08-8
DATE OF SURVEY: 1967
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond
STATE: Virginia
CODE 45
The men's bath house at Warm Springs is a very simple frame one-story octagonal structure. Its design is purely functional, having little or no architectural decoration. The two entrances with their overhanging gables appear to be part of the original design while the remaining projections containing the bathers' dressing rooms are later additions.

The later women's bath house is a larger, twenty-sided structure. Unlike the men's bath house, the women's is covered with vertical siding and is surrounded by an enclosed gallery covered by a shed roof which contains the individual dressing booths.

Each of the pools is thirty-five feet in diameter and is fed by the spring through loose cobbles at the bottom of the pools. The temperature of the water varies only a degree or two from its usual 96°, a comfortable temperature enhanced by the fact that the roof of each bath house is a truncated octagonal pyramid with an opening for ventilation.
The Warm Springs traditionally served as the starting point for the annual tours of the Virginia springs, a social custom observed by the aristocrats from all over the South escaping the intense summer heat of the lowlands to relax at the mountain pools and enjoy the company of their peers. While the springs first became known for their curative powers and continued to be visited by invalids searching for health, the real popularity of the springs was founded upon their serving as fashionable resorts.

The springs were apparently popular during the last third of the eighteenth century when the men's bath house was built, and they flourished during the first half of the nineteenth century as the tide of settlement pushed the Indians further west.

Both of the bath houses are in an excellent state of repair and have undergone very little alteration. Still used for their original purpose and maintained by the Homestead Hotel, a world famous resort, the Warm Springs Bath Houses are "excellent examples of the simplicity in public accommodations" in early Virginia and testify to a bygone era of our social history.
McAllister, Joseph Thompson, Historical Sketches of Virginia, Hot Springs, Warm Sulphur Springs and Bath County, Virginia, Salem, Virginia: 1908.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>38° 03' 15&quot;</td>
<td>79° 46' 50&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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</table>

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE:         |
STATE:         |
STATE:         |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director
ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
STREET AND NUMBER: Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond
STATE: Virginia
CODE: 45

12. STATE LIASON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

[ ] National [ ] State [ ] Local

Name: Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman
Title: Virginia Historic Landmarks Comm.
Date: June 2, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8/1969

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Date: 10/8/1969