

## Information Sheet

**R 870**      **Riverside Inn (Elk Springs, Mo.).  
Brochure, ca. 1910.  
One folder.**

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This is a brochure for the Riverside Inn on the Elk River near Elk Springs in McDonald County, Missouri. It includes four photographs of the resort and descriptive text.

According to descendants and an account written by subsequent owners of the property and published in a centennial history of Noel, Missouri (1987), the Riverside Farm Inn was established “about 1905” by William Henry Fleming. It was located on the south bank of the Elk River between Noel and Pineville, with a post office address of Elk Springs. This brochure’s text dates the resort as “beginning five years ago,” and Elk Springs was a post office from 1907 to 1935, so the otherwise undated brochure has been tentatively dated around 1910.

There are photographic views of “the old Riverside Inn farmhouse,” “the cottages among the treetops,” “eating time at Inn,” and “river scene in front of the Inn.” The last view shows a long “swinging” footbridge across the river and a horse-and-buggy fording the stream. The front cover shows “catches made by our guests,” and includes two photographic views of successful fishermen and a happy fisherwoman. There are no automobiles visible in any of the scenes, and the brochure boasts that “the main building, porches and hill have been equipped with Acetylene system,” indicating that the property had no electrical service at the time. Rates were \$1.50 per day or \$9.50 per week.

W. H. Fleming is not named in the brochure, but he is known to have been the proprietor at that time.

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*28 April 2003*

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