



**Investigation Findings  
&  
Analysis**

**“Olivet College Investigation”  
December 13<sup>th</sup> 2008**



Olivet College Investigation  
“Final Report”  
Submitted by: Chris Forsythe

**Location:**  
Olivet, MI

**Date:**  
December 13<sup>th</sup> 2008

**Source:**  
Administration / Staff / Iota Kappa Omicron Society

**Investigation Duration:**  
17:00 – 02:00 (7 Hrs.)

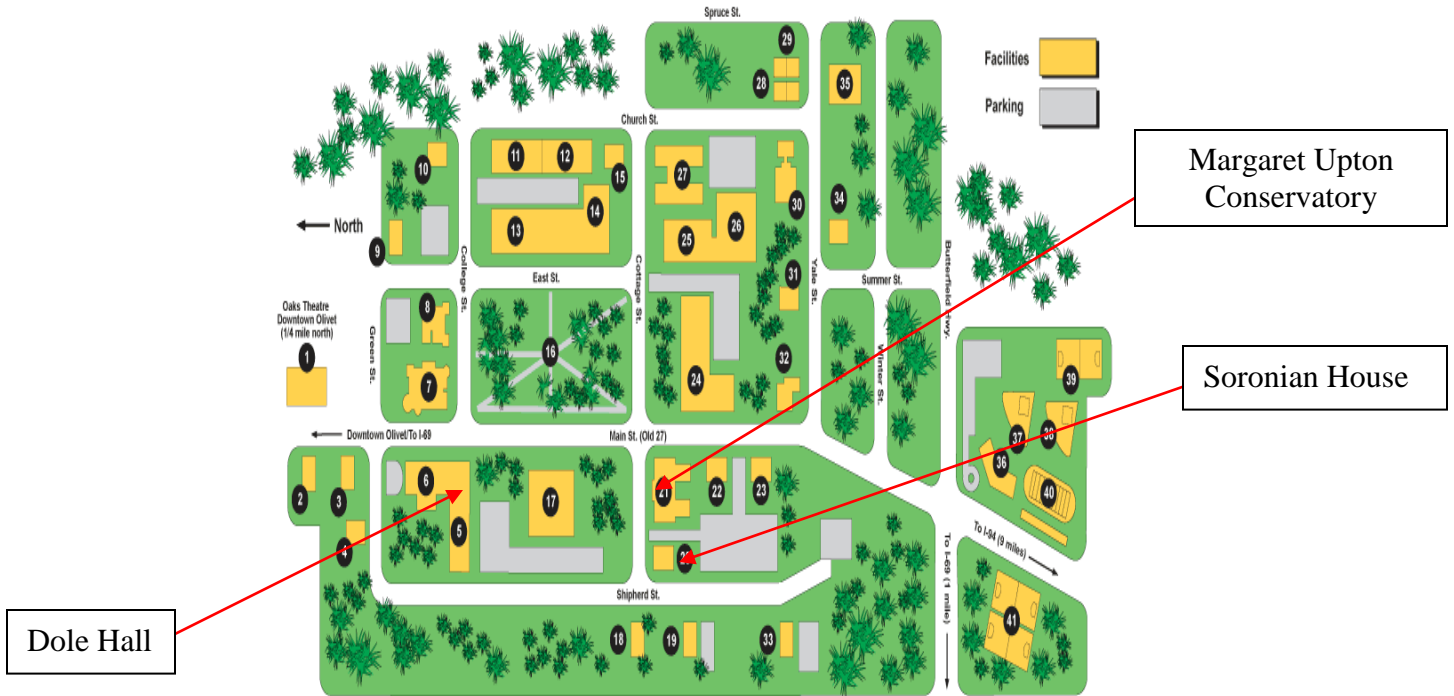
**Investigators Present:**  
Jo G. – Investigator / Case Manager  
Russ G. – Investigator / Assistant Technical Advisor  
Chris F. – Lead Investigator / Operations Supervisor  
Wendy F. - Investigator  
Chris C. – Technical Manager  
Erin C. - Investigator  
Wayne M. – Lead Investigator / Operations Supervisor  
Deana M. – Investigator / Medical Specialist  
Sandy A. – Investigator / Historical Research  
Matt A. – Investigator / Historical Research  
Kevin J. – Investigator / Legal Advisor  
Kristie J. - Investigator

**Location Condition:**

Large campus Liberal Arts College located in the city of Olivet Michigan, the current geographical data shows 41 buildings along with parking listed. The campus itself has both recent build and original structures dating back to and prior to 1844. The buildings within the campus structure serve as fraternities, sororities, study areas, student common areas, and administrative and maintenance facilities. At least one of the original structures was destroyed by fire; several were noted however no documentation was available for this report.



Long / Lat. GPS coordinates of N 42.44198 and W -84.92499  
(Maps taken from USGS survey data Michigan / Centered from Olivet campus Quad)



Map taken from: [http://www.olivetcollege.edu/about/pop\\_up\\_pages/int\\_camp\\_map.htm](http://www.olivetcollege.edu/about/pop_up_pages/int_camp_map.htm)

**Location Condition Cont.:**

**Notes:** Most of the students had left for holiday / winter break leaving most of the investigation areas unoccupied. Some students remained in Dole Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> floor which could result in audio contamination / interference.

At the time of the investigation we were granted access to 3 of the campus locations / buildings:

**Dole Hall** – (Basement / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor) Built in 1931 this 3 story “L” shaped building with all brick and concrete construction provides both female student lodging and administrative areas. Construction is typical of the period residential / dormitory unit with all of the amenities needed for support and care. A cemetery was rumored to be on the exact spot of this location which was moved a short distance away. Long hallways on the upper floors with sharp corners and large open areas on all floors were noted during the baseline and setup phase. Room size varies upon occupancy guidelines and sound was noted to travel through the rooms / walls very easily.

Radiant / water heating units were also noted in several areas of this location which could result in knocking or unknown sounds from pipe venting and brace. No unusual EMF readings were noted at baseline in the upper floors; however, baseline readings in basement were high due to exposed pipe and wiring configurations running the length of the ceiling in the main hallway. The basement area was noted to possess reflective tile flooring which may result in cast shadows and lighting anomalies; also within the same area water could be heard moving through the pipes during the entire investigation timeline. This building in all areas was heated and no unusual temperature variations were noted at baseline.

**Margaret Upton Conservatory** – (Entire Area Coverage) Large open area location, with second floor and attic area. The first floor houses several large open recital areas for practice and performance. Sound was noted to travel within this floor from any area. Also noted was an engineering section with noisy machinery during startup and normal running. The second floor, which consists of many practice rooms and studios, was also noted to have acoustic properties allowing sounds to travel freely. Also noted were several electronic devices that would make noises at different intervals throughout the investigation (see following). The third floor attic area consisted of only two areas with large air venting and conditioning units, normal operational noise expected. Within this location no unusual EMF or temperature readings were noted at baseline.

While setting up on the second floor of the conservatory the technical staff noted that a Carillon sound system was present in one of the studios on the second floor. This device is noted for automatic and timed sounds or uploaded MIDI files that could possibly be the cause for sounds being heard by staff and students.

**Location Condition Cont.:**

**Soronian House** – (Entire Area Coverage) Typical 2 story home with basement, this location was converted from a residential unit to house a campus sorority belonging to the Iota Kappa Omicron Society. The home at the time was closed due to a faulty furnace; the residence was not heated so no accurate temperature readings could be obtained. During both initial setup and baseline floating dust and drafts were noted by the technical staff. Also noted were many loose windows and doors and close foliage / trees that could contact the house and produce unexplained noises in high winds.

**Location History:**

Founded in 1844 by Rev. John J. Shipherd (the founder of Oberlin College in Ohio) with the assistance of a group of congregational missionaries, the goal was to build an establishment of higher learning in what was then known as the frontier of Michigan. The college itself shares its name in reference to the biblical Mount of Olives (Mt 21:1; Mk 11:1) and was and is to be noted as a “harmonious Christian community.”

The college within its founding doctrines and charter held a very progressive stance on personal freedom, democratic practices, economic indifference, and the right to all races and genders to be able to have the chance to gain an education that at the time was typical of only the economic elite. This practice still in place today was very controversial and it would only add to the college’s colorful history.

Olivet did face many challenges within its early days. Within its first year it had already lost a building to fire and was being faced with many instances of social hostility. The college’s deep commitment to the antislavery movement did not bode well with many within the state - even to the levels of the legislature, which regarded the practice as “strange”. However, being true to its original mission the founders stayed their course which resulted in the state of Michigan granting a full charter over 13 years later.

Throughout its history up to the present day the college has experienced strife in one form or another. This is not unlike any institution of higher learning; instances with both students and staff alike have only made this institution’s mission stronger. To date, one thing stands true: it is that wisdom gained while attending Olivet has produced some of the countries finest and most respected academic leaders and alumni.

**Case History – Consultation Notes:**

**Consultation / Investigation Date:** November 14<sup>th</sup> 2008

**MPI Representative:** Jo & Russ Gifford / Wayne Miracle

**Note:** All permission and investigation request documentation reviewed and signed by client at the date of consultation / investigation.

### **Case History – Consultation Notes Cont.:**

Upon the date of the original consultation, the team representatives present were able to tour at least one of the locations and gather preliminary information of supposed activity as well as essential setup and mapping data. We were unable at this time to gain access to the other locations of this report, however on the date of the investigation all necessary data will be gathered for supplement.

### **Supposed Activity:**

Apparitions (Child / Adult), Shadows, Voices, Kinetic Movement, Physical Contact, Music Heard (Piano), Disappearing Object Phenomena

### **Location Weather:**

Upon our arrival at the location a high wind was noted from the south west at 21 mph., with temperatures above 30 degrees; snow / ice pellet showers with falling temperatures were forecast for the evening throughout the early morning.

Moon Phase: Full

Solar X-Rays: Normal

Geomagnetic Field: Quiet

Temperature: 24°F

Feels Like: 28 °F

Visibility: 10.00 Miles

Pressure: 30.12 In. (Sea Level)

Dew Point: 13 °F

Humidity: 85% (Average)

UV Index: 0 Low

Wind: South / Gusty 36 Mph.

Length of visible light: 10hrs. 09mins.

Length of day: 9hrs. 05mins.

### **Equipment on Hand:**

Digital Cameras

Digital Voice Recorders

Digital Video Recorders (W / Night Shot)

Mini DV Recorders “Disc” (W / Night Shot)

Hi – 8 Camcorder (W / Night Shot)

Micro Cassette Recorders

External Microphones

Laptops (2)

CCTV DVR System (8 Cameras) IR Capability

IR Headlamps

External Black Light Mounts (Camera)

Flashlights

2 Way Radios

**Note:**

All recording equipment was loaded with both fresh batteries and recording media as is MPI investigation protocol, and voice checks were performed for recognition and recording quality. All media transferred to digital file for review upon completion of the investigation.

**Team Rally Point & Monitoring Station**

Conservatory (main hallway)

Operations / Technician(s): Chris C. - Russ

**Team Assignments:**

<b>Alpha:</b>	<b>Bravo:</b>	<b>Charlie:</b>	<b>Delta:</b>	<b>Echo:</b>
Wayne	Deana	Kevin	Kristie	Matt
Chris F.	Jo	Wendy	Erin	Sandy

**Team Rotation:**

**Notes:** All teams were broken down and divided amongst five sections of the location; all teams spent an hour in each location with a 15 minute break in between each round for refit and reload of equipment.

**17:00 – 19:00** – Setup / Briefing

**19:00 – 20:00:** Rotation #1

**20:15 – 21:15:** Rotation #2

**21:30 - 22:30:** Rotation #3

**22:45 – 23:45:** Rotation #4

**00:00 – 01:00:** Rotation #5

**01:15 – 02:15:** Rotation #6

**02:30 – 04:00:** Equipment Recovery / Breakdown

**Equipment Placement - Video:**

**DVR Camera #1** – Conservatory / Main Floor Hallway

**DVR Camera #2** – Conservatory / 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Main Long Hallway

**DVR Camera #3** – Conservatory / 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Short Hallway

**DVR Camera #4** – Conservatory / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor East Maintenance Area

**DVR Camera #5** – Soronian House / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Bedroom

**DVR Camera #6** – Soronian House / 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hallway

**DVR Camera #7** – Soronian House / 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Ballroom

**DVR Camera #8** – Soronian House / Basement

**Digital Video** – Dole Hall / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor East Room#1

**Mini DV** – Dole Hall / Basement Long Hallway

**Hi – 8** – Dole Hall / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor East Room #2

**Mobile Video** – Entire Area Coverage

**Note:** All cameras were hard mounted to tripods and checked prior to the start of the investigation; all cord lines were taped and marked to eliminate false camera movement.

**Notes:** Mobile video units were used throughout the entire location during the entire investigation process.

**Equipment Placement - Audio:**

**Mobile Units** – Each investigative team had at least one mobile recording unit (digital / analog) on hand during each investigation rotation and area.

**Notes:** DVR cameras #1 through #4 equipped with on-board audio capture, DVR cameras #4 through #8 equipped with stationary devices.

**Notes:** All ‘mobile’ units were outfitted with external microphones to limit possible contamination of audio evidence.

## Evidence Review & Findings

**Note:** Any and all data marked / noted within this case file as submitted audio, video, or photographic evidence sample is available on digital media (disc / drive) attached to the client copy of this report. All original reports, segments, or files are to be retained at MPI headquarters for filing / storage.

### **Photographs:**

**Notes:** Due to falling temperatures and light snow fall and blowing, all outdoor pictures and some interior pictures contained evidence of contamination from physical / environmental factors.

As is MPI protocol, multiple photographs were taken during the duration of the investigation period. Upon review of all submitted photographic material no anomalous activity was captured on film at this location for report.

### **EVP / Audio Analysis (All):**

**Camera #1A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Camera #2A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Camera #3A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Camera #4A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Camera #5A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Camera #6A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Camera #7A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Camera #8A Audio (Stationary)** – No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Mobile Units / Audio (All):**

**Notes:** All analog devices were outfitted with external microphones to avoid internal machine noise and stands were used during the recording sessions to avoid handling noise.

**Sample #1**

**Device:** Recorder - Digital

**Time / Rotation:** 1<sup>st</sup> Rotation – 19:30 PM to 19:37 PM

**Area Taken:** Dole Hall / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Investigators Present:** Matt, Wendy, Kevin

**Segment Length:** 0:00:27.96

**Capture Area:** 0:00:19.71 - 0:00:20.37

**Description:** While investigating the main corridor of the third floor the investigators present stopped to take several pictures; a camera goes off and on the device a short female whisper saying what we believe is the word “here” is heard.

**Sample #2**

**Device:** Recorder - Digital

**Time / Rotation:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Rotation – 20:42 PM to 21:45 PM

**Area Taken:** Soronian / Basement

**Investigators Present:** Jo, Deana

**Segment Length:** 0:00:07.78

**Capture Area:** 0:00:01.28 to 0:00:01.85

**Description:** While doing an EVP session in the basement of the sorority house Deana is heard going to a corner where some activity has been noted and a male voice is heard saying “hi”. No male investigators were present in this location at the time of the recording.

**Sample #3**

**Device:** Recorder – Micro Cassette

**Time / Rotation:** 21:06 PM to 21:09 PM

**Area Taken:** Conservatory / 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor / Main Hallway

**Investigators Present:** Wayne, Chris F.

**Segment Length:** 0:00:13:39

**Capture Area:** 0:00:04.16 to 0:00:06.03

**Description:** In the clip Chris can be heard saying “we know that you are here, we hope that you are here” and shortly after this comment a whisper can be heard on the tape. We believe it is saying “I’ve been around”.

**Mobile Units / Audio (All) Cont.:**

**Notes:** All analog devices were outfitted with external microphones to avoid internal machine noise and stands were used during the recording sessions to avoid handling noise.

**Sample #4**

**Device:** Recorder - Digital

**Time / Rotation:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Rotation – 20:43 PM to 21:06 PM

**Area Taken:** Conservatory / Practice Hall / Room #146

**Investigators Present:** Wayne, Chris F.

**Segment Length:** 0:00:13.50

**Capture Area:** 0:00:03.03 to 0:00:03.54

**Description:** In this clip Wayne is asking if any of the doors in this area can be opened by any unseen force, approximately 1.12 seconds after this question was asked the mechanism on the front entrance doors can be heard engaging. The other investigator present also heard this and reacted in the clip, this was heard several times throughout the investigation by different teams in the same location.

**Sample #5**

**Device:** Recorder - Digital

**Time / Rotation:** 4<sup>th</sup> Rotation – 00:32 PM to 00:38 PM

**Area Taken:** Dole Hall / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Investigators Present:** Wayne, Chris F., Matt

**Segment Length:** 0:00:41.31

**Capture Area:** 0:00:29.17 to 0:00:30.68

**Description:** During a walk around session of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor the recorder picked up an anomalous hiss / growl sound that could not be explained by the investigative staff upon review. We cannot verify at this time that the sound is paranormal in nature.

**Video Analysis (All):**

**DVR Camera #1** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**DVR Camera #2** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**DVR Camera #3** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**DVR Camera #4** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Video Analysis (All) Cont.:**

**DVR Camera #5** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**DVR Camera #6** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**DVR Camera #7** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**DVR Camera #8** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Digital Video** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Mini DV** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Hi – 8** – No physical evidence captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Mobile Video (All)** - No physical evidence was captured on this device at the time of the investigation.

**Investigator Feeling / Personal Experiences:**

**(Note: Personal experiences cannot in itself determine paranormal activity in a location, unless documented by video or audio equipment)**

**Jo** – In the conservatory I thought I heard what sounded like low vocals or voices coming from room #206, this happened at 7:29 PM. While Deana, Sandy and I were in the large hall room #146 we all heard the door rattle like somebody was pushing it to get in.

**Russ** – No personal experiences to report.

**Chris C.** – No personal experiences to report.

**Erin** – No personal experiences to report.

**Chris F.** – While in the sorority house on the first floor, Wayne, Matt and I heard several footsteps directly above us on the second floor. Also while in the main hall in the conservatory room #146 we heard what sounded like the door closing. We had made sure that the door was closed and latched when we entered the room.

### **Investigator Feeling / Personal Experiences Cont.:**

**Wendy** – While on the second floor of the sorority house at 7:43 PM I saw what looked like a shadow / mist near the floor in the main hallway, it disappeared after a few seconds. No other experiences.

**Kevin** – No personal experiences to report.

**Kristie** – No personal experiences to report.

**Matt** – When we were in the sorority house doing an EVP session the three of us heard footsteps coming from above us on the second floor.

**Sandy** – As we were making our way up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the sorority house it felt like my hair was lightly pulled as I entered the doorway of one of the bedrooms. Also while in the large hall room #146 in the conservatory with Jo and Deana we all heard the entrance door latch rattle like somebody was trying to open the door.

**Deana** – In Room #146 in the conservatory we all heard the door rattle like someone was trying to get in. All of us heard this very clearly.

**Wayne** – Matt , Chris, and I were on the first floor of the sorority house and while we were there we heard several footsteps above us on the second floor, While in room #146 of the conservatory we heard what sounded like the door opening; at the time there were no other investigators in that area.

### **Final:**

The investigation at Olivet was an interesting case indeed; from the very beginning stages of our preliminary research of this location and its supposed activity we found this location and all of its areas to have a long and rich history. Upon reviewing the consultation data, we took extra care to try and verify some of the reports of supposed activity as well as gather much needed accurate historical data as possible on this location. As with any preliminary investigation research we found solid facts as well as stories that could not be verified, thus making the review of the investigation data even more critical to try and verify the reports of this campus being haunted. Many hours of physical research and thorough investigation did yield some interesting audio clips (see pages #10 and #11 / Samples #1 through #5 for description and time data), with both whispers and anomalous sounds to verify several of the personal experiences had by the investigative team.

**Final Cont.:**

Unfortunately, after reviewing all of the submitted photographs and video data we were unable to capture any anomalous activity on these devices to further substantiate the claims of a haunting. We at this point cannot conclusively say that Olivet is haunted; however we can say that it does warrant further research and investigation. We at MPI would also like to take time to thank everyone that made this investigation possible. It was an honor and privilege to be able to have the opportunity to investigate such a historic location. We hope to return to Olivet to investigate further and look into more of the claims of paranormal activity that surround this campus.

**Compiled & Submitted,**

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