



**Investigation Findings
&
Analysis**

**“Murphy Inn Investigation”
June 4th 2009**



Murphy Inn Investigation
“Final Report”
Submitted by: Chris Forsythe

Location:
St. Clair, MI

Date:
June 4th 2009

Source:
Manager / Owner

Investigation Duration:
6.5 Hours (00:00-06:30)

Investigators Present:
Wayne – Operations / Lead Investigator
Chris C. – Technical Manager
Erin - Investigator
Mike - Investigator
Kathy - Investigator
Jo - Investigator

Case History – Consultation Notes

Original Consultation / Investigation Date: 5/03/09

MPI Representative: Mike M.

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

Supposed Activity:

Voices, Disappearing Object Phenomena (DOP), Full Bodied Apparitions

Notes: The activity in this location has been noted as ‘sporadic’ and has no set time or path according to those individuals interviewed at the initial consultation.

Location Condition:

Restored early 19th century boarding house / saloon with full dining compliment, full service bar and seven guest rooms. The location itself is two stories with a service basement / cellar. New up fit on most if not all utilities and wireless devices were present at this location.

Area History:

Notes: Further area documentation available with the original case file documentation.

The origins of this area are rich with history as it was (and still is) a central hub for not only the original native American tribes that settled there, but for the commercial trade and traffic that was afforded by the waterways that border this community. The settlement of St. Clair began in 1764 when the British army sent Lt. Patrick Sinclair to build a fortified position along the Pine River. Its main function was to protect the supply routes between the settlement of Detroit and Fort Michilimackinac. It is noted that the name “St. Clair” was derived from the name of Lt. Patrick Sinclair. In 1820 the county seat was located in St. Clair, and for the next thirty years the lumber, trade, and shipbuilding trades were prevalent throughout the period. In 1850 the village of St. Clair was incorporated and within the next eight years it was established as a city (1858).

Many Native American tribes also called this land home, such as the Chippewa, Foxes (Sauk), Huron, Kickapoo, and Potawatame tribes. The landscape was noted by early settlers to be home to many burial mounds; this was common in many lake regions and to the state itself.

Location History:

Notes: Further location documentation available with the original case file documentation.

The Murphy Inn was originally named the “Farmers Hotel / Union Brewery” and was founded in 1836 by Conrad Elpass, originally from Holland. It was named as such for the farmers that would visit town to sell their goods and acquire shipment of their produce on Lake St. Clair; it was also known for the loggers and local dignitaries and travelers that stayed there. Located across the street were the local fairgrounds and market which brought many people through the doors of this establishment. It was noted that prior to 1878 the rear section of the building was destroyed by fire to be rebuilt again in 1878. On February 17th, 1879 the Port Huron Daily reported “The Saloon and dwelling of Conrad Elpass at St. Clair, was destroyed by fire Saturday noon. Loss \$800.00”

From 1901 to 1957 the hotel was called the “Scheafer’s Hotel” as it was owned by Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Scheafer. During this period several renovations were made including the installation of a New Brunswick bar and more serving space. In 1957 the Hotel was sold once again to the Larry Murphy, and it was run until 1985 under the name of “The Larry Murphy Inn”. At last in 1985 the hotel was sold once more to two families who retained the “Murphy Inn” name; it was at this point extensive renovation efforts were begun which resulted in bringing the location to its current state. To date it is the oldest operating business in St. Clair, and one of Michigan’s oldest hotels.

Location Weather:

Upon our arrival it was cool, with a slight breeze to the west. It had been cloudy all day and continued after the initial setup was complete. After midnight a low fog and cloud ceiling was noted by the investigative staff.

Location Weather Cont.:

Readings Taken: Continuous

Moon Phase: Full

Solar X-Rays: Normal

Geomagnetic Field: Quiet

Temperature: 74 F Avg.

Feels Like: 68 F

Visibility: 8 Miles

Pressure: 30.12 In. (Sea Level)

Dew Point: 35 F

Humidity: 69 % Avg. (100% Max)

UV Index: 0.18 % Low

Wind: 8 Mph. SW Avg.

Events: Fog / Low Ceiling / Cloudy

Actual Time: 5:52 AM EDT - 9:04 PM EDT

Length of Visible Light: 16 Hrs. 21 Mins.

Length of Day: 15 Hrs. 12 Mins.

Equipment on Hand:

Digital Cameras
Digital Voice Recorders
External Microphones
CCTV DVR System (8 Cameras) IR Capability / Lorex
Flashlights
2 Way Radios
Mobile Video Units
DIN Cables – 950 Ft. Apprx.

Team Rally Point & Monitoring Station

Main Hallway / Foyer
Operations / Technician – Chris C.

Notes: Monitoring station visible on camera #4 at all times.

Team Assignments:

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

Location Key:

During the investigation process only one team was on any level of the location at any time to avoid audio / video contamination. Each team performed one hour rotations with entire area coverage.

Alpha – Wayne, Mike, Guests (Entire Area Coverage)

Bravo – Erin, Kathy (Entire Area Coverage)

Team Rotation:

00:00 – 01:45 – Setup / Briefing

02:00 – 03:00 – Rotation #1

03:15 – 04:15 – Rotation #2

04:30 – 05:30 – Rotation #3

05:30 – 06:30 – Equipment Breakdown & Recovery

Notes: This investigation was started late due to the location remaining active with patrons / guests.

Equipment Placement “Video”:

DVR Camera #1 – Basement / Lorex / Audio / 250 ft.

DVR Camera #2 – Dining Room / Lorex / Audio / 100 ft.

DVR Camera #3 – Upper Hallway / Lorex / Audio / 100 ft.

DVR Camera #4 – Main Lobby / Lorex / Audio / 100 ft.

DVR Camera #5 – Room #206 / Lorex / No Audio / 100 ft.

DVR Camera #6 – Room #207 / Lorex / No Audio / 100 ft.

DVR Camera #7 – Broom Closet / Lorex / No Audio / 100 ft.

DVR Camera #8 – Bar / Lorex / No Audio / 100 ft.

Equipment Placement “Audio”:

Mobile Audio Units – Each investigative team had at least one mobile recording unit on hand during each investigation rotation and area.

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

Stationary Audio Unit(s) – No stationary units were used during the investigation duration.

DVR “Camera” Audio – Channels #1 through #4 are equipped with direct feed audio to the DVR hard drive and will act as a stationary device for each camera position.

Equipment Notes / Checks:

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.

Evidence Review & Findings:

EMF:

Minor fluctuations from baseline were noted in the bar / upstairs area, upon testing we believe this could be caused by wiring in the ceiling and wireless internet signals in those areas.

Photographs (Digital / Film):

No anomalous photographs were noted for this 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.

Mobile Units (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: Digital

Make / Model: Olympus VN

Conversion Software: Wavepad ME V2.01

Area Taken: 2nd Floor Guest Room

Investigators Present: Wayne, Mike

Segment Length: 0:00:36.17

Capture Area: 0:00:04.98 - 0:00:05.98

Description: While investigating the second floor guest rooms Mike and Wayne are discussing trigger objects when a distinguishable voice is heard within the conversation, saying “Help Me”.

Evidence Review & Findings Cont.:

Video:

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DVR Camera #8 - 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)

Wayne – No personal experiences to report.

Erin – No personal experiences to report.

Mike - No personal experiences to report.

Kathy - No personal experiences to report.

Final:

This case was rich in history. The team performed extensive research on the history and stories of the related activity at the location. After a thorough review of all of the submitted data we were unable to substantiate the claims of paranormal activity at this location. However, we were able to capture a segment of audio that cannot be explained at this time (See page 7 – Sample #1 of this report for description). We hope to return to this location to further document any activity that may present itself and collect further data. We would also like to take this time to thank the Murphy Inn for allowing us the opportunity to investigate a cherished section of St. Clair history. We will be meeting with the client within the next few weeks to present this report and its findings.

**Compiled & Submitted,
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