

Investigator's Report

Investigators: Richard and Barbara Barker;
Also present: J. M., K. G., J. N., and R. A.
Date and Time of Investigation: March 6, 2007, 6:00 pm for approximately 2 hours
Contact Name: J. M.
Address: Dubuque, IA
Phone:

Place of Investigation: J. M. home

Interviews: According to J. M., there are several resident spirits in the house. She showed us a photo taken the day before that featured a probable orb near the stairway in the hall.

Method: First, I set up one digital recorder on the piano downstairs, and left it there for the entire investigation. Second, I carried a digital recorder with me for the entire investigation. Barbara and I sat quietly on a couch in the living room for approximately half an hour. K. G. sat with us. We spoke occasionally, asking for responses from anyone with us. Barbara and I both took occasional, random digital photos, most without flash. Then the three of us moved to an upstairs bedroom, trading places with the others, and sat on the bed repeating the same procedure.

Results: No EVP, and no anomalies were apparent in the photographs. No other abnormalities were apparent. Barbara reported sensations, but could not identify their sources.

Conclusion and recommendations: Our results did not indicate spiritual activity, and are inconclusive. Further investigation is recommended.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: April 12, 2007

Investigator's Report

Investigator: Richard Barker

Also present: J. N., K. G., C. P., S. W., J. M., & M. G.

Date and Time of Investigation: May 1, 2007, 8:00 pm for about 2 hours

Contact Name: NA

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: old mill B&B, NE Iowa

Interviews: According to J. N., K. G., & J. M., there are many spirits of mill workers there

Method: We were paired up, and each pair was supposed to concentrate on a separate floor and switch after 20 minutes. I was paired with C.P. We began in the basement, spent about 20 minutes, and moved to the next floor for 20 minutes and continued in that way until we reached the top floor. I set up a digital recorder in the basement, and left it there for the entire investigation. I carried a second recorder with me for the entire investigation. I took random digital photos, and made random sweeps with a CellSensor EMF meter. C. P. and I both occasionally asked spirits present to reveal themselves. We held informal conversations for a good deal of the time. Most of the people present had congregated on the fourth floor by the time we made it to that level.

Results: No EVPs were recorded. EMF readings were consistent with electrical wiring with the following exception: I detected an EMF in the center of the dance area on the first floor, midway between the large screen TV and the bar, and about five feet away from the wall. This EMF was global in shape, about two and a half feet in diameter, and ranged from about four to six and a half feet off the floor. The EMF was measured at about 3-4 mG for about two minutes, and then it disappeared. Out of 79 digital photos, 6 showed anomalies--#1 in the basement shows an anomaly near the first intake water pipe. #2 on the first floor in the bar area shows a hexagonal anomaly hovering near the corner of the big screen TV. The EMF was detected in the fore ground, about four feet behind C. P.'s back in the picture. #3 from the third floor dining area shows an anomaly hovering under the window. #4 in the fourth floor common area shows a hexagonal anomaly hovering above the couch. #5 in a fourth floor bedroom shows a hexagonal anomaly near the light fixture in the upper right corner. #6 in a fourth floor bedroom shows three anomalies, one near the corner of the bed, one midway between the bed and the ceiling in the white area, and one hovering in front of the ceiling rafter. Also in #6 are four or five anomalies that are probably dust particles--one, a faint image, can be seen near the foot of the bed against the carpet. Most areas pictured were photographed twice, with the duplicates showing no anomalies.

Conclusions and recommendations: There is some evidence of paranormal activity. Further investigation would be needed before concluding definitively that ---- is haunted.

Attached: six photos

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: May 19, 2007

Investigator's Report

Investigator: Richard Barker

Also present: J. M.

Date and Time of Investigation: May 22, 2007, from 6 pm to 8 pm

Contact Name: NA

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: Four Mounds Estate, Dubuque, IA

Interviews: According to J. M., there were native American spirits all over the place. She relayed a number of questions directed to me from a male spirit--who she claimed would only speak to her--and I gave answers. During the exchange, I took a photograph. Then J. M. informed me that the spirit departed because he did not like what I did. I saw no evidence of spiritual activity apart from J. M.'s reports; the photograph showed no anomalies.

Method: I took a series of digital photos, both inside the cabin, and outside on the grounds. I made periodic sweeps of the cabin with an EMF meter. I set up one digital recorder on the mantle in the cabin, and carried another around with me. I was alone in the cabin most of the time I was there.

Results: There were no EMF readings out of the ordinary, and no EVP recorded. Out of 47 photos taken, 17 showed anomalies. Some of the anomalies were so faint that prints did not register them. These were probably dust particles. Nineteen prints are included--three of them have no anomalies in them, and are included as controls. Each print has an explanation of what is visible on the back. The most dramatic of the prints are two photos taken of the woods on the path to the cabin. The first (#1) shows no anomalies. The second (#2), taken about 50 feet away, and about three minutes later shows 27 or more anomalies, at least 21 of which can be seen in the print.

Conclusions and recommendations: From the evidence, Four Mounds cannot be said to be haunted, though there is some evidence of paranormal activity. Further investigation is necessary.

Attached: 19 Photos

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: June 23, 2007

Investigation Report

Date and Time of Investigation: Monday, September 10, 2007, 7-9 pm
Contact Name: Bethany Golombeski, owner & Zac Hedstrom, GM
Address: Capt. Merry, 399 Sinsinawa Ave, East Dubuque, IL
Phone: 815-747-3626 877-797-3644

Preliminary Interview: Monday, August 20, 2007 at 7 pm
Gerry, Rob, Mekala, & Richard of BMGH met with Bethany, Zac, Molly, JoLynn, Carrie, Deb, Yag, Katherine, & Nicole of Capt. Merry, and interested parties Erin & Lyndy. Those present reported the following incidents:

1. sightings of a woman in a black dress sitting at a dressing table in an upstairs bedroom
2. sightings of a woman in a long black dress near the dining room
3. someone seen walking by the upper office doorway when no one else was in the building
4. someone seen entering theater room when no one else was there
5. voices heard down stairs where jail cells were thought to have been located
6. guests reporting clothing moved during the night
7. mediums reporting presence of spirits in several locations including downstairs tunnel and second floor bathroom

Place of Investigation: Capt. Merry Inn and Spa, East Dubuque, IL

Investigators: Richard Barker from BMGH and Zachary Hedstrom, Bethany Golombeski, Katherine Hedstrom, Carrie Garside, Leslie Lange, Gwen Kose, & Renae G. from Capt. Merry

Environmental data: inside temp. 69.3 degrees F, 47% RH, barometer raising, overcast with clear skies in short term prediction, new moon

Method: The initial six participants broke into 3 teams of 2 persons. Each team had a digital recorder. In addition, one team had a thermometer and a digital camera, one had a digital video recorder, and one had an EMF meter. Teams fanned out through the building, changing positions periodically.

Results: Of 41 digital photos taken, three showed anomalies that are not likely to be dust, insects, or refracted light. The photos showing anomalies orbs were taken in three different rooms where activities had been reported. A warm spot was detected in an area identified by a medium as having activity, and another warm spot was detected in the tunnel. These warm spots were localized increases of 3-5 degrees F that dissipated after a short time. No EVP were recorded. No unusual EMF were reported.. Nothing unusual was recorded on the video camera.

Conclusions and recommendations: There is not enough evidence to draw any specific conclusions at this time. Another investigation is recommended with fewer investigators and more focused data gathering.

Attached: 4 photos, one is a duplication taken immediately after the first intended to test the anomaly. Since the anomaly does not appear in the test photo, it is not a refraction.

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: Sept. 15, 2007

Big Muddy Ghost Hunters ! P.O. Box 3002 ! Dubuque, IA 52004 ! www.bigmuddyghosthunters.org

Investigator's Report

Investigator: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker

Also present: owners

Date and Time of Investigation: May 10, 2008, 10 pm for 2 hrs.

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: old house B&B, southern Wisconsin

Interviews: Owners claim that the apparition of a woman has been seen on the second floor stair landing. House has reputation as being haunted.

Method: The house was swept for EMFs, digital recorders were left running all night, video recorders were set in strategic locations, and numerous digital photos were taken. Recorders left running all night.

Results: No unexplainable EMFs detected, no video evidence recorded, no EVPs, and no anomalies apparent in photos.

Conclusions and recommendations: No evidence of paranormal activity.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: 5/21/08

Big Muddy Ghost Hunters ! P.O. Box 3002 ! Dubuque, IA 52004 ! www.bigmuddyghosthunters.org

Investigator's Report

Investigator: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker
Also present: owner, customers
Date and Time of Investigation: July 13, 2008, 10 pm for 2 hrs.
Contact Name:
Address:
Phone:

Place of Investigation: Copper Queen Hotel, AZ

Interviews: Owners claim that the apparition of a tall, dark man has been seen on the second and third floors, that items have been moved on nightstands, and that covers have been pulled off men's feet while sleeping. Hotel documents claim the presence of three ghosts--a woman who killed herself as a result of a failed love affair, a tall dark, unknown man, and a child named Billy who is never seen but plays with objects left out. The hotel has a reputation as being haunted.

Method: Digital recorders were carried throughout the investigation and left running all night, video cameras were used, EMF readings were taken, and numerous digital photos were taken. Recorders left running all night.

Results: No unexplained EMFs were recorded, and no anomalies were apparent in videos or photos. An EVP of a child's voice uttering four unintelligible syllables was picked up about 10:26 pm in our room.

Conclusions and recommendations: Evidence of paranormal activity was discovered that was consistent with reports.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: 7/30/08

Big Muddy Ghost Hunters ! P.O. Box 3002 ! Dubuque, IA 52004 ! www.bigmuddyghosthunters.org

Investigator's Report

Investigator: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker

Also present: owner, customers

Date and Time of Investigation: July 14, 2008, 4 pm for 2 hrs.

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: Bird Cage Theater, Tombstone, AZ

Interviews: Owners claim that the apparitions have been seen backstage and in the downstairs gambling area, strange noises have been heard, and the unexpected smell of perfume has been detected. Theater has reputation as being haunted.

Method: Digital recorders were carried throughout the investigation, and numerous digital photos were taken.

Results: No EVPs were recorded. Five of the 68 photographs showed anomalies.

Conclusions and recommendations: Other than possible orbs, no evidence of paranormal activity was discovered. A later investigation after closing might be more fruitful.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: 7/30/08

Big Muddy Ghost Hunters ! P.O. Box 3002 ! Dubuque, IA 52004 ! www.bigmuddyghosthunters.org

Investigator's Report

Investigator: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker

Also present: owner, guests

Date and Time of Investigation: Aug. 16, 2008, 10 pm

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: Thayer House, Annandale, MN

Interviews: Owner claims that the house contains a vortex that introduces all sorts of spirit activity.

Method: Use of EMF meter, use of digital recorders, numerous digital photos. Recorders left running all night.

Results: The house is one large EMF, and the meter had readings almost everywhere. The house is also heavily wired with electric fireplaces in every room, and an electric sauna on the third floor. After I swept the whole house, I placed the meter next to a recorder on the mantle of the electric fireplace in our room--one of the few places with no standing EMF readings. During the night, the meter registered low level EMF readings that were not consistent over time--indicating a moving EMF. At one point, when the meter began to register, I asked for a repeat, and there was a response in the form of beeping from the meter. Other than that, no anomalies were apparent in videos or in photos.

Conclusions and recommendations: The house seems to have some paranormal activity, but nothing conclusive.

Attached:

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: Aug. 21, 2008

Big Muddy Ghost Hunters ! P.O. Box 3002 ! Dubuque, IA 52004 ! www.bigmuddyghosthunters.org

Investigator's Report

Investigators: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker

Also present: owners, guests

Date and Time of Investigation: Aug. 2, 2008, 9 pm on

Contact Name: Chuck and Joy Hanson

Address: Bentonsport, IA

Phone:

Place of Investigation: Mason House Inn, Bentonsport, IA

Interviews: Owners claim the existence of a vortex in the house that stimulates spirit activity. A medium is used to conduct ghost hunting classes, and claims spirit communication with a device only he can use. These communications are said to have been instrumental in locating hidden underground structures on the property. Photograph of a local student group includes an image of someone who was not a member of the group. Owners promote the house as a haunted location.

Method: Used EMF meters, digital recorders, infrared cameras, video cameras, and digital cameras. Recorders left running all night.

Results: No unexplained evidence of paranormal activity was found.

Conclusions and recommendations: No conclusions can be reached.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: Aug. 14, 2008

Big Muddy Ghost Hunters ! P.O. Box 3002 ! Dubuque, IA 52004 ! www.bigmuddyghosthunters.org

Investigator's Report

Investigators: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker

Also present: owner, guests

Date and Time of Investigation: Sept. 6, 2008, 9 pm for three hours

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: old mill, B&B, NE Iowa, 2nd investigation

Interviews: Owners make no claims of paranormal activity, and tend to discourage characterization of place as haunted. Reputation of building as haunted persists in the community. First investigation, conducted on May 1, 2007, yielded some evidence.

Method: Used video cameras, EMF meters, digital voice recorders, and digital camera. Systematic coverage of four floors. Recorders left running all night.

Results: No evidence of paranormal activity was discovered.

Conclusions and recommendations: The first investigation included self-proclaimed mediums. It is possible that the circumstances of the first investigation stimulated activity, while subsequent business and personal circumstances of the owners and the facility changed the outcome. No conclusions can be drawn.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: Sept. 14, 2008

Investigator's Report

Investigators: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker

Also present: owners, guests

Date and Time of Investigation: Sept. 27, 2008, 10 pm for 3 hours

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: old house, B&B, NE Iowa

Interviews: Owners claim to have heard footsteps. There are reports of seeing apparitions. House has reputation of being haunted.

Method: Used EMF meters, digital camera, video recorders, digital recorders. Confined investigation to the two floors of the original structure. Recorders left running all night.

Results: No paranormal evidence was uncovered.

Conclusions and recommendations: No conclusions can be drawn.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: Oct. 11, 2008

Investigator's Report

Investigators: Richard Barker & Barbara Barker

Also present: owner & guests for 1st half of investigation

Date and Time of Investigation: Nov. 8, 2008, 9 pm for 6 hours

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: Restaurant in Galena, IL, old brick building

Interviews: Owner related reports of sightings of apparitions on the staircase and on the third floor, and of strange noises including footsteps. Owner has displayed an impressive photo of ectoplasm taken by a cook outside in the rear of the building. Entire town has reputation for paranormal activity.

Method: Used digital recorders, EMF meters, digital camera, and video cameras to systematically investigate all three floors. Recorders left running all night.

Results: A few photos had anomalies that were probably dust. Otherwise, no evidence of the paranormal was uncovered.

Conclusions and recommendations: No conclusions can be drawn at this time. Another investigation is planned.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: Dec. 21, 2008

Confidential Investigator's Report

Investigator: Richard Barker

Also present: owner, family

Date and Time of Investigation: 12/27/08, 10 pm for 2 hrs.

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone:

Place of Investigation: burned and rebuilt old house, B&B, NE Iowa

Interviews: Original house had reputation of being haunted. Owner makes no claims, but implies activity in marketing literature.

Method: Used digital camera, EMF meter, and digital voice recorders, recorders left running all night.

Results: No paranormal activity was discovered.

Conclusions and recommendations: There is no basis for continued investigations of this location.

Attached: NA

Submitted by Richard A. Barker Date: 12/31/08
