

Sandstone Ranch Charity Benefit Investigation

February 1st-2nd, 2014

Weather: significant snow throughout the day and into the evening

The Sandstone Ranch visitor center is located close to Highway 119 in Longmont, Colorado. BCPRS and representatives of several peer teams were asked to escort several paying members of the public on an "investigation" (I use the term loosely), the proceeds of which would benefit victims of the 2013 flooding.

Pioneer Morse Coffin first homesteaded the Sandstone Ranch site in 1860, having relocated to the St. Vrain Valley when he was 22 in 1859, from Boon's County, Illinois as part of the Gold Rush. He built the house that currently stands on the site in the early 1880s. The house has been added to over the years, but the original structure still remains. Coffin also founded the first rural public school with David Irwin and Robert Hauck. The house (current Visitors Center) and property are on State and National Historic Registers. Longmont also designated the house as a local landmark in September 2000.

Source: http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/parks/park_list/overview/sandstone.htm

Having assembled downstairs and been introduced to our companions for the evening, we were given a brief tour of the building. The history of the home is fascinating, and reported paranormal activity involves the alleged spirit of a woman (Etta, a daughter of the Coffin family) who was imprisoned in a room upstairs. All stories surrounding the property are relatively vague and nondescript.

The following events occurred throughout the evening, as recorded verbatim in the log:

19:45 Five witnesses report seeing two lights in the command center go out and then come back on, at different times. Tests reveal that the lights are on different circuits, tested by turning each bank off and on. (Electrical problem with the wiring were confirmed by employing EMF detectors to assess the output of all light switches in the room – those controlling the affected lights proved to be prone to surges and brownouts, thus explaining the apparently bizarre activity with their lights).

19:55 In Etta's room, Bob Foster felt cold chill up his spine while we were taking baseline readings. (Due to the fact that no anomalous readings were recording on any monitoring equipment, this remains in the realm of the subjective, rather than constituting verifiable evidence).

20:32 – 20:52 EVP session #1, three groups

Etta's room – Group 1 (Seth)

No Activity.

XCam – Group 2 (Bob)

Tim experienced a buzzing sound like a fly by his left ear while sitting by the double doors when we had asked if there was someone here could they let us know they were here.

Taxidermy - Group 3 – (Jason)

At approx.. 20:33 Ovilus said “rabbit”, and upon looking, a rabbit was outside the rear window. Shortly after (approx. 2036) we heard three knocks in the room opposite us.

At **20:43** the REM POD went off to the green light for approx. 5 seconds...

21:27 – 21:46 EVP session #2, three groups

Etta’s Room – Group 3

XCam Room – Group 1

Xcam group 1 felt someone in the attic room went inside looked as if someone's black shadow was crouching at top of attic stairs. Laser grid was used after and saw 2 laser points move.

Written by Sam from Spooks Inc:

(No photographic recording was made of this incident, so it cannot be proven or entered as evidence)
Taxidermy room - Group 2 (Bob) – Taxidermy heard Ovilus say “rabbit”, “Emma”, “officer” and “Jim.”
Emaline was a Coffin family member, we had a Jim in our group and we also had a former officer in our group. (It is to be left to the reader’s personal opinion as to whether this constitutes supportive evidence, or coincidence).

In the main bedroom we had our K2 responding to questions in the bathroom closet. We then put the Rem Pod into the closet and just before we left the pod went off with 2 lights at approx. 21:45.

Group SCI – Digital recorder starting flashing less than 1 minute into the recording session and then shut off. Batteries were changed out with new ones prior to this investigation. This occurred in the master bedroom. (The draining of factory-fresh batteries is a common occurrence on paranormal investigations, and often takes place at the same time at which paranormal activity is reported).

21:40 muffled sound of snow crunching on the roof or attic, heard from Xbox room during EVP. (No way to verify the source)

22:31 – 22:51 Third EVP session, three groups.

Group 3 – Xcam Room

Group 2 – East Bedroom

SCI – Etta’s Room

Group 1 left during intermission. Seth & Sean are going to the Taxidermy room. At 22:30 both Seth

and Sean saw the outside spot lot on the NW corner go off and back on twice. Joey found the switch in the main entrance way and confirmed that nobody had been near it during the time period in question. Joey, Seth, and Sean verified that the light switch was operating normally. No immediate conclusions could be drawn. (We were unable to replicate the turning off of this external light without physically manipulating the switch. The switch was in plain sight of Group 1 throughout this incident. We have no explanation for how this occurred).

23:15 – 23:50 Final EVP session, five groups.

Group 1 is in Etta's room

Group 2 is attic space

Group 3 is Creepy Doll Room (CDR)

Group 4 is Equipment room

Group 5 is going to Master Bed

Strong rf source (resume rotation at 11:24). After Richard left, Joey's audio recorder with 28 seconds of fresh batteries died. This happened exactly the same time as his flashlight died. After examining the batteries during the break, Joey noted they were still fresh. He flipped the "hold" button back and forth and tried again and it work. It appears the hold button was toggled just enough to prevent the unit (in the dark) from starting. (Was the hold button accidentally caught on something, toggling it just enough to prevent the unit from starting up?)

With our members of the public rapidly fading (paranormal investigation seems so much more exciting on TV), we called it a night shortly after 01:00.

On a personal note, I would like to thank our friends and colleagues from the various local paranormal research teams who volunteered their time, efforts, and expertise in order to make this charity evening happen.

I must be clear about the fact that I do not consider much of this evening's data to be reliable. The audio recordings are frequently contaminated by the laughter and antics of several extremely vocal guests (the public guests, not investigators) who served to undermine the quality of work carried out at Sandstone Ranch. As such, I must leave the last word to my colleague Joey Stanford:

"As to be expected with public events with untrained investigators and self-styled psychics, raucous socializing contaminated the majority of our EVP sessions."

Richard Estep
Director, BCPRS

About

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