



## INVESTIGATION REPORT

### El Dorado Chamber of Commerce

<b>DATE OF INVESTIGATION:</b>	<u>10/20/2007</u>	<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<u>542 Main Street</u> <u>Placerville</u>
<b>NAME OF LOCATION:</b>	<u>El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce</u>		
<b>CONTACT:</b>	<u>Jamie – Saturday Employee</u>	<b>PHONE #</b>	<u>530-621-5885</u>
<b>CONTACT EMAIL:</b>	_____		
<b>CONTACT ADDRESS:</b>	<u>Same</u>		
<b>Time of day for investigation:</b>	<u>11 am</u>		
<b>Weather Conditions:</b>	<u>Sunny/Partly Cloudy</u>		
<b>DATE OF INITIAL CONTACT:</b>	<u>9/15/2007</u>	<b>WHO?</b>	<u>Ellen Vaughn, Chamber Employee</u>
<b>INVESTIGATOR(S) PRESENT:</b>	<u>Christine B.; Lori Paul and Alex G.</u>		
	<u>Lee Anne, Colin &amp; Nathan M.; (Late Arrival)</u>		
	<u>Carol &amp; Aimee A.</u>		
	<u>Jessica H. (Late Arrival)</u>		
<b>EQUIPMENT READINGS</b>			
<i>Ask occupants to turn off all electronic &amp; electrical devises</i>			
<b>ELECTROMAGNETIC READINGS</b>			
<b>EMF Base:</b>	<u>2.0</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>Wall on side of building</u>
<b>EMF Reading:</b>	<u>8-10</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>On Stairs outside of building</u>
<b>EMF Reading:</b>	<u>4</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>Linda's Office</u>
<b>EMF Reading:</b>	<u>6-7</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>Bottom of stairway to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</u>
<b>EMF Reading:</b>	<u>10+</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>Top of staircase on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</u>
<b>EMF Reading:</b>	<u>10+</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>In various areas of conference room on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. (some might have been electrical wires)</u>
<b>EMF Reading:</b>	<u>9-10+</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>Thomas Kinkade painting &amp; on wall above fireplace. (no wiring in area)</u>
<b>EMF Reading:</b>	<u>2-4</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>Attic Room (Former Balcony)</u>
<b>TEMPERATURE READINGS</b>			
<b>IR Temp Rding:</b>	<u>64-67</u>	<b>Taken:</b>	<u>No drastic fluctuations</u>

**CHECKLIST OF OCCURANCES WHILE AT LOCATION**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ORBS	Where?	Linda's office & 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor conference room
<input type="checkbox"/>	VORTEX	Where?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	ECTOPLASM	Where?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPARITION	Where:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Of What/Whom?:		_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	COLD SPOT	Where?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	ODORS	Where?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Of What/Whom?:		_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Batteries losing Charge	Where?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seeing something out of the corner or your eye.	Where?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Of What/Whom?:		_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling of being watched.	Where?	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Atmospheric changes	Where?	Linda's office and on staircase
<input type="checkbox"/>	Equipment Failure	Explain:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Levitating Objects	What: _____	Where? _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Animals reacting Strangely:	Where?	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other – Explain	Door locking by itself in Conference Room	

**Personal Experience**

From Ellen Vaughn: employee of the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce:

I was the first one in the office one morning about two years ago. As you come into the second set of French doors into the chamber office from the lobby, there are some professionally framed and mounted movie posters hanging on the wall to the left. Again, these are professionally framed, with the wire strung across the back for hanging. These pictures are hung on the wall with the hook-style nails. Anyway, on this morning a picture had come off the wall with such force as to break the glass and leave a shard of glass about 4 inches long stuck vertically into the wood floor. The nail/hook remained in the wall. In my opinion, there is no way any sort of street noise, construction banging, etc., could have caused that picture to come up off that hook, short of a 6 pt magnitude earthquake. It definitely gave me the creeps. Other than that, I've always made it a habit to close the door to the conference room upstairs as I'm passing by to go to the ladies room. And the next time it's always open! We've started just propping it all the way open with a chair.

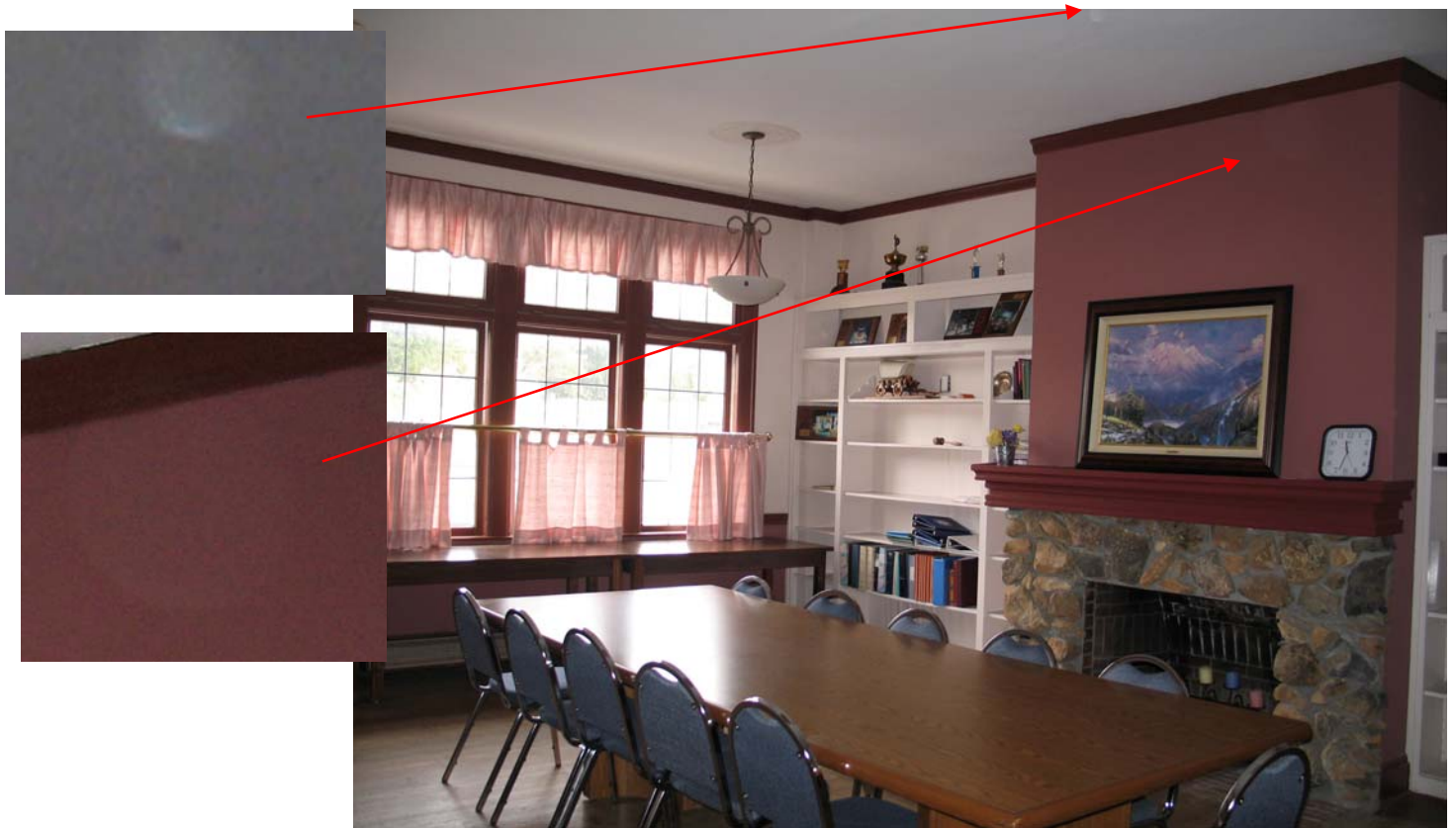
The history of the building is on a brass plaque outside by the front door. It's my understanding that it actually burnt down in the early 1900's, I believe, and was rebuilt on the original foundation.

Jamie is our Saturday gal and she is here 10am to 2pm. She's excitedly expecting you! She just hosted a ghost hunting group being followed by a Democrat Reporter this past weekend. I won't share with you what they said 'cause I wouldn't want to bias your study.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF LOCATION



Linda's Office. All investigators felt an atmospheric "pressure" difference and uneasiness in this room and particularly in this corner



### **INVESTIGATOR'S SUMMARY OF EVENTS:**

The first unusual event took place while we were gathering on the front stairs at the entrance to the building. The Gauss meter readings were 9-10. Also, when Lori held the meter it emitted a low grade "whine" sound. I took the meter from her, and the sound immediately stopped. When I handed the meter back to her, the sound returned. Lori did not hit the buttons and this didn't happen with anyone else in the group.

All investigators felt an atmospheric change in Linda's office. Lori and I felt light headed and dizzy while standing in the south east corner of that room. This is the exact place where Christine captured the orb.

Many of us felt strange in the stairway to the second floor. The same atmospheric closeness that we felt in Linda's office was present in this location.

The Gauss meter went off the charts in the conference room on the second floor. All readings in that room were between 9 and 10+. Jamie, the Chamber employee who showed us around the building, told us that there are electrical wires under the flooring, but we were taking readings way above the floor and into the wall above the fireplace.

Carol stayed in the room taking video when we all left. Jamie was telling us how they can never keep the French Doors to that room closed because every time they close the door, it opens on its own again. I asked her to show me how the door fits in the closed position, and discovered that it is a very tight fit. There is no way that door could open on its own. When Jamie attempted to open the door again she couldn't do it. It had locked from the inside.

**INVESTIGATOR'S SUMMARY OF EVENTS: (cont'd)**

This panicked us a bit, since Carol was still in that room. Carol went up to the door and unlocked it, and the door opened. We tried to close that door so it would latch while the lock was engaged, but it could not lock from the outside. The only way that door can be locked without a key is from the inside. Carol was on the other side of the room from the door when we closed the door.

Jamie told us that people on the street have often reported seeing a man with a top hat looking out of the windows on the second floor. The man seems so real that they call the police. The police have come to the building on many occasions to investigate for an intruder, but could never find anyone in the building when the man was reportedly seen.

There is a white cat named Mason, who "appeared" at the building one day and has decided to stay. Jamie told us that the cat often acts strangely, as if it can see something the staff cannot.

Carol thinks she has captured some orbs on her video, but these have not been studied as yet. Report will be updated after this information has been reviewed.

**Conclusion: This building is haunted!**

**History of the Building**

The site where the building now stands was once one of the two places where they hung "outlaws" in the 1800s. We were told by Jamie that the place where the hangings took place was in the area of Linda's office, where we all felt the atmospheric disturbances.

In 1852 Phillip Platt erected a log building here for the lodging of the miners. The name of the hotel was the Kossuth House. Dr. Platt Died in 1853. His widow sold the property to Anna Clark for \$200.00. She was still the owner of record on the town site map dated 1872.

In 1923 the County of El Dorado purchased the property from Marcus Bennett, who was a superior court judge. The American Legion or Veterans Building was built later that year. It served as a community center where meetings, dances and plays were held. There are still two bathrooms and a shower upstairs where the actors used to prepare for their roles. The balcony is now hidden by a drop ceiling.

The building has been occupied by the Chamber of Commerce since 1972.

Psychic, Nancy Bradley claims to have spoken with one of the spirits in the building. He has communicated to her that he was the one of the official hangmen. The man died of influenza and heart problems. He stays at this location because before the town was built up, there was a good breeze that went through there and he found it easier for him to breathe while in the vicinity of the tree.

### History of the Building

**Chamber of Commerce Building** The ghost of a bearded man wearing a black top-hat has been spotted on the mezzanine of this old landmark. Employees summoned police many times over the last fifteen years in attempts to rid the building of his presence. They say he resembles descriptions of the town's funeral director and official hangman, seen in old pictures taken when the town was known as "Hangtown." Nearly 150 years ago, most of the hangings took place on the property where the Chamber of Commerce is now located. (Placerville is east of Sacramento, on U. S. Hwy 50 in El Dorado County. The Chamber of Commerce Building is at 542 Main Street, Placerville, CA 95667. Phone: 916-621-5885)

### Photograph Taken by Paul G.



Paul took this photo in the main part of the building. The orb seems to be hovering above our group, perhaps listening to what we have to say about the spirit activity in the building!