

INVESTIGATION REPORT – Team 1



Investigation Site	Houghton House
Investigation Date	1 st May 2009
Report By	Andrew Fazekas
Team Members	Andy F, Roy, Brenda, Richard

General

Weather: Cloudy

Visibility: Good

Ambient Sounds: There was a small group of teenagers at the location when we arrived at the site and who stayed throughout most of the first vigil. Further to this, at the gateway to the site, a second large group of teenagers also arrived towards the end of the first vigil and came down the driveway behind Team 1.

There was also the sound of distant traffic and aircraft overhead.

Equipment used

Sony DVD Camcorder

Digital Sound Recorder

Digital Camera

EMF meter

Temperature Gauge

Pre-vigil

Prior to the investigation starting Roy informed me that he had been down in the area where the kitchens would have been and had felt a presence in that area. Andy went down to check for himself with an EMF meter but had no readings. While he was there Dee informed him that she had felt a presence in this area. Dee was unaware that Roy had identified the same area just minutes earlier. Roy also informed Andy prior to the first vigil that he could sense coaches.

Richard's Report: We arrived on the site a little later than planned, but the vigils started almost directly on the hour, after some disturbances from teenagers present on the site before we arrived.

Roy's Report: Roy reports that Houghton house is a lovely ruined building set in its own grounds, accessible by foot down a tree-lined avenue. The house was gutted to provide materials for another house, but is still impressive. During his initial walk around the house it revealed a number of areas where there appeared to be clear vibrations. The walk down to the house along the avenue there was clear impressions and sensations of horse drawn carriages, although it had the feeling of not being the main approach but the first part was possibly a work access.

The entrance is welcoming although it is a sad house, turning right and descending the open stairs leads to a cleared area with a smaller building to the right, which was interesting and very depressive, there were sensations of loss and death but of normal causes not murder. Climbing the stairs and walking across the entrance lobby leads to into a wing turning left leading towards the front of the building there is the impression of an office area and sitting room where business took place. Again just sad and depressing with the presence of a middle-aged old style country gentleman with a greenish waistcoat.

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The other areas were disrupted by a group of teenagers, whilst they were friendly and interested it disrupted the atmosphere. To the rear of the house is a viewing area which, whilst grassed, now gives an impression of another coach area where coaches arrived possibly for summer events. It seems like there may have been another coach access down the hill.

Vigil 1

For a plan of the team members' locations during the vigil see the end of this document.

21:00 When this vigil was starting, it took some time to pick a spot of interest to sit down and conduct the investigation, but we sat the furthest away from the house, higher up the driveway on the right hand side.

21:05 Richard had a cold shiver in his left shoulder, and flowing through his bicep. At this time he had the impression of a wheel or small cog turning.

21:13 The EVP experiment was reset due to teenagers talking loudly passing Andy's voice recorder.

21:15 Andy and Richard hear a sound that appears to come from behind the team approximately halfway up the drive. Richard describes this as a shuffle/clicking/creaking sound like something moving along the gravel, and only lasted a split second, and he was unsure at the time where the sound had actually originated from and Andy is also sure he has heard something. Richard notes that not long after this after spotting torch lights at the top of the hill, lots of people arrived and made the investigation impossible to continue.

Brenda was sat on the right hand side of the drive as you looked at the house, on the grass, just off the gravel, by the 2nd tree (from the house end of the drive). She felt peaceful and had the feeling of a woman sitting there writing poetry.

Roy's Report: The first vigil took place approximate 30 yards directly in front of the main entrance and carriage turning circle. There was the sensation of horses and leather with some varying usage. As mentioned this may have been an area where coaches parked and included an access road where the main avenue is now located. Please note that this was not an original tree lined avenue but trees across the area with an access route through.

Clear impressions were of 2 different coaches a dark red and a blue coach coming down the access road (not the main road) possible a doctors attending what could have been a birth (which had problems) and awaited by a butler and maid servant with a person (dad?) looking out of the windows on the left hand side and another a woman from the top floor window.

There were other sensations of a man being attacked and kicked to the ground into the mud by 2 others and being watched from the coach turning circle by a butler or similar as a pay back for something. But the person died and there was a sensation of cloth over the face. The next sensation was of another coach approaching wishing not to be seen and involved in the civil war period clear sensations of being on the losing side and being told to flee or hide. It was clear that this was a really traumatic time and involved the owners and family. It may have been slightly later as payback from the actions of the family after the king was deposed and they were getting paid back for their loyalty to Cromwell.

Sitting facing the house there was a person to the left hand side a worker on the site/farm who was watching the house. Further across the lawn there was a group of foot soldiers again in civil war times formed up and apparently garrisoned here?

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Around the LHS of the building looking down the avenue toward the house there was another dark shadow which walks around the outside.

There were more sensations of something a horse or wagon moving down the access road and of a mist form. This mist increased and there was the feeling of the mist being above the head which coincided with the current trees, but this developed into a sensation of fog and winter which included the doctors coach (like a more detailed rerun).

Overall this was not a happy house, they had problems with having children and got on the losing sides in the civil war and afterwards. I suspect that they had family who actually had to leave or never returned.

The vigil was disrupted by another group of older teenagers who led to the group curtailing the visit early. The sensations on the road further up the road on the fields on the rights there were lights but these were torches reflected from things in the fields. I don't know where the real main access road turned off but the current avenue was for staff.

Post Vigil

Sound equipment used by Andy has recorded a sound heard during vigil one. However this sounds like a stone hitting onto wood. Richard also reported that he could see a dark figure at the gate at the top of the path. This was debunked when Andy investigated his and found two teenagers one dressed in black at the entrance.

The sound heard by Andy and Richard can also be debunked as it could be a natural sound of the wooden fence moving in the wind or something hitting wood such as a stone being thrown at a tree possibly by the same people encountered at the entrance. Almost all of Team 1 sound recordings taken during this vigil are contaminated by the sounds of nearby young people and are thereby not included in this report.

Richard reports that at various points during the investigation the sound of laughter and screaming came from the teenagers around the back of the house, and the sound carried badly for the majority of the vigil.

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