

Magram Castle, Port Talbot

Friday 8th August 2008

Built on the site of an ancient Iron Age settlement, stands the hulking, dominating presence of Margam Castle. A striking piece of Gothic architecture, the previous incarnation of the castle had been mysteriously levelled 53 years beforehand and replaced with an orange grove. Over the ten years taken to complete the building it is thought that there were several cases of experienced masons falling to their death from scaffolding around the castle walls. After the war the Castle fell into disrepair and was acquired and restored by Glamorgan Council during the 1970's. Today the Castle can be visited all year round as a tourist attraction run by a dedicated staff, many of whom have bore witness to some truly terrifying encounters.

The team comprised (left to right): Kevin Hynes, Damian Haydon, Francesca Haydon, Jason Higgs, Becky Andrews, Georgia Blight and Stuart Andrews.

The Investigation

At the beginning of the investigation one female team member saw the image of a young female staring out of one of the upstairs windows. This was later discovered to be the nursery room which was sealed off to the public.

Noises were heard coming from the dining room and a trigger object (small wooden cross) moved approximately 2mm. This was re set and when later inspected it was found to have moved again. Unfortunately, nothing was captured on camcorder.

The team heard a window rattling in the West Wing which was strange because there was no draught that night and no other explanation could be found.

During a short break the team heard another loud bang coming from the dining room - it sounded like a heavy footstep - and no explanation could be found for this.

The team used a mixture of dowsing techniques and psychic impressions to discover presences in the building. Here is a short synopsis of what was found in each of the areas:

Dining room: Male from the armed forces

Staircase: A pregnant female who fell down the stairs
A male who is related to the above female
Residual energy of shouting and arguments in this area
Children running up and down the stairs
A religious man
1st World War soldiers
2nd World War fire or bombing
Female in a white gown

Upstairs: Young boy crying
 Young girl near a window
 Female in nurse/ nanny uniform (Victorian)
 Male who took a child from the nursery
 Male who stabbed and raped a woman

Ground floor rooms: Noble lady from Prussia
 Banqueting and parties occurring in the area
 Group of males in the dining room
 Elderly gentleman

Strange temperature readings were recorded on the 1st floor and flashes of light and orbs were seen by some of the team.

Light anomalies were caught on night vision camcorder and on digital camera, although it should be noted that there was a lot of moisture and dust in the building, plus bats flying around in some areas.

Later in the night the atmosphere in the South Wing seemed to change and all the investigators picked up on this oppressive feeling. Towards the end of the night as the team went to leave the first floor rooms, they heard what was described as 'a marble being rolled across the floor'. No marble could be found and although the team tried hard to recreate the noise with other objects - no explanation could be found. Interestingly, one investigator actually asked for this to happen earlier in the night - had he got his reply?

Everyone on the team thoroughly enjoyed investigating this location and they felt that it deserves a return visit in the near future.

C Buckland
10th Oct 2008