



REPORT

ABO MISSION RUINS

INVESTIGATION



*Abo
New Mexico*

NM058

SOUTHWEST GHOST HUNTERS ASSOCIATION



SOLVED

2002

COMPL
STANDARDS

WWW.SGHA.NET



Forward

The word “investigation” is defined as
“a searching inquiry for ascertaining facts; detailed or careful examination.”

The key word here is “facts”. Do ghosts exist? No, it has not been proven.
Therefore are no facts to investigate.

What we do have is the testimony of the witnesses and this is where an investigational process will work. Investigations are often viewed as a skeptical activity because the main goal is trying to determine what the witness actually saw. Is it explainable or not? This is done through critical thinking and an event replication process developed by SGHA. This is an important concept because what defines a haunting or ghost sighting is “Multiple witnesses reporting unusual phenomena over a period of time”. If these phenomena can be explained, the witness reports are no longer validating paranormal activity as a cause and thus there is no ghost or haunting. Additionally historical research may be done in an attempt to validate facts.

It is important to understand that the goal of an investigation is not to find evidence of the paranormal but to attempt to identify any natural or manmade causes of the reported phenomena

Definition of Terms

Investigation Status: Unsolved investigations will have either an open or closed status. An investigation is given an “Open” status if:

The investigators were unable to replicate all of the witness events. Something significant remains that is still unsolved.

It is important to understand that an “open” investigation does not mean that the unsolved facts are paranormal in nature. It simply means that we have exhausted our resources and cannot solve the “open” items/events.

A “Closed” status indicates that there is insufficient data or confounding variables that prevents replication or identifying possible explanations. This often occurs when investigators do not have direct access to witnesses or some other environmental change has occurred that creates confounding variables.

Confidentiality Notice

Many of the witnesses interviewed have wished to remain anonymous in exchange for presenting their accounts of paranormal experiences. We honor that request and thus witnesses will often be identified by aliases. Any coincidence between aliases and actual persons is unintentional.

Contents

Part 1: Location Information.....	4
Part 2: Location History	4
Part 3: Reported Phenomenon.....	5
Part 4: Investigation.....	5
Part 5: Conclusion.....	5
Part 6: Photographs.....	5

Part 1: Location Information

Abo Mission Ruins

Mountainair, NM

Part 2: Location History

Abo State Monument. Ruins left by former tompiros division of the Pito Indians, on Arroyo Empedradillo. First mentioned in 1598 by Juan de Oñate. Became seat of Mission of San Gregorio, founded 1629 by Fray Francisco de Acevedo, who erected a large church and monastery, the walls of which are still standing. Abo is shown on L'Atlas Cirieux (1700).



Population during early mission days was probably two thousand. Prior to the Pueblo Rebellion of 1680, the village was abandoned because of Apache raids. The ruins have been excavated by the Museum of New Mexico and were declared a state monument on August 30, 1939. Abo is

said to have been dedicated to San Gregorio, patron saint of the old city of Abo, Finland, but the name is a Piro Indian word used for the pueblo in 1598, whereas the mission was not established until thirty years afterward.

The chanting of voices and the ringing of the mission bell once echoed through this hushed valley. For over five hundred years, beginning in the early twelfth century, Tompiro speaking Pueblo Indians prospered here.

From 1622 to 1673 Franciscan priests also lived and worshipped here as they struggled to "civilize" and Christianize the Indians of this remote northern frontier of the Spanish Empire. Abo was a refuge for the priests of the locale area as well. especially those from Quarai, where the Spanish Inquisition had established it's foothold in New Mexico.

Part 3: Reported Phenomenon

Mysterious glowing balls of light have been seen floating about the ruins of the mission. Some claim that they are lantern lights from a previous caretaker while others suggest that they are the phantom torches carried by the ghosts of the Spanish missionaries.

Part 4: Investigation

Observation teams were stationed around the ruins in an attempt to identify any unusual lights that could be mistaken for paranormal activity.

When we interviewed the caretaker we discovered that he often had to chase people out of the area who were there after opening hours (the ruins are closed at sunset). This often involved carrying a flashlight and moving around the ruins to search for trespassers. This is consistent with the activity in the witness accounts that were reported to us.

Part 5: Conclusion

The lanterns are not from the lantern of the previous caretaker but that of the present day caretaker.

Part 6: Photographs





