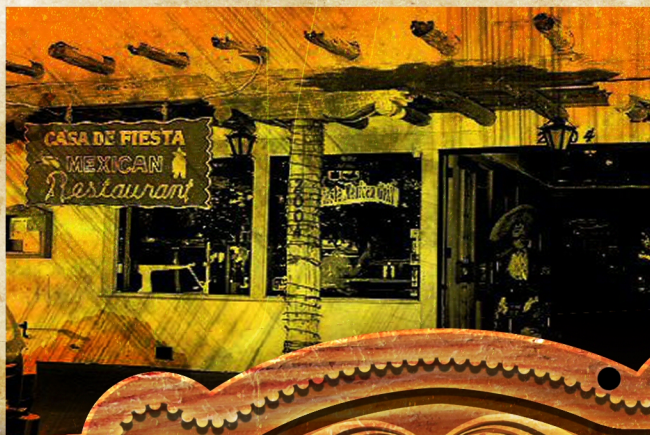




REPORT

CASA DE FIESTA RESTAURANT

INVESTIGATION



*Albuquerque
New Mexico*

NM019

SOUTHWEST GHOST HUNTERS ASSOCIATION



SOLVED

2001
2004

COMPLAINTS
STANDARD

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 have 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.

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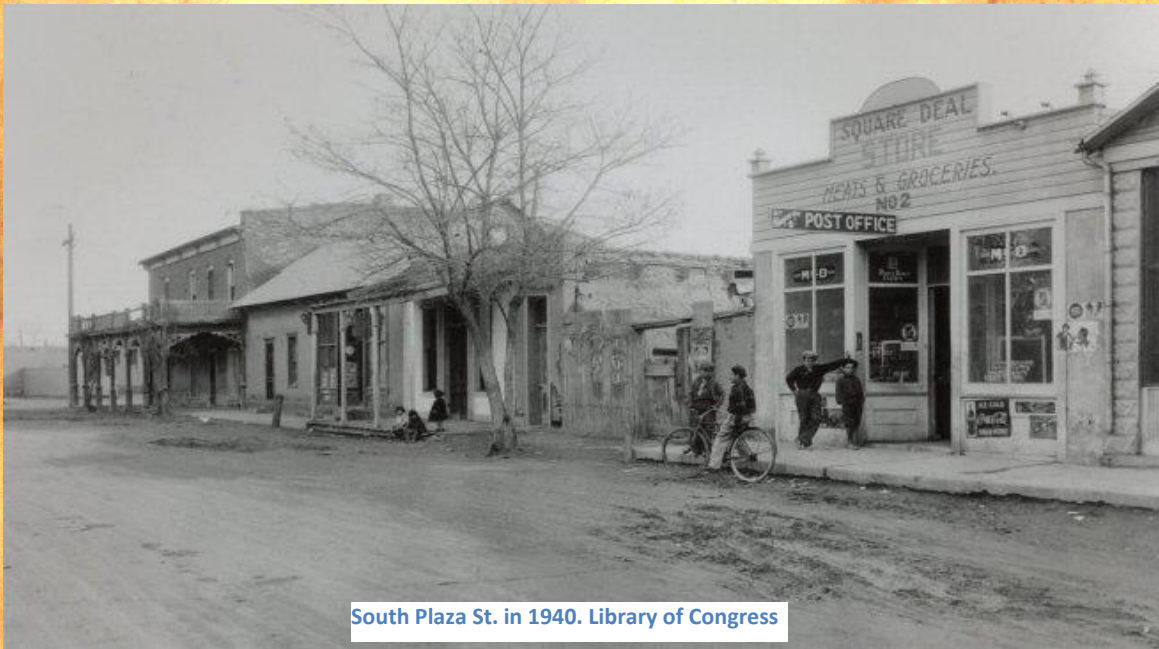
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Part 1: Location Information

Casa de Fiesta restaurant

2004 S Plaza St NW, Albuquerque, NM

Part 2: Location History:



South Plaza St. in 1940. Library of Congress

This historic house is thought to have been built in 1840 by the Zamora family. Originally the exterior was done to look like brick; the more modern work was completed by Florencio L. Chavez after World War 2. At the time of its construction, all of the present day amenities were included. A small basement contains a boiler and small trenches were dug to accommodate piping and ventilation ducting.

During the Civil war, the building was used to house some of the Confederate soldiers that remained in Albuquerque during Sibley's march to the north. Historically, the site has also been used as a butcher shop, jewelry store, a general store and eventually as a restaurant. Before the construction of the

house, members of the Armijo family had a house constructed near the same location.

Previous ghost hunts or investigations at this location:

3 investigations have been performed at this site. The first was in 2001 with follow up investigations in 2002 and 2004.

Part 3: Reported Phenomena (General)

Employees of the restaurant believe that they may have a ghost. Their typical otherworldly encounters fall include; Disembodied voices are often heard in the rear dining room and in the restrooms, kitchen items seeming turn on by themselves and are often found in places where they were not left, there are often sudden, strong changes in temperature in the dining areas and the unexplainable noises coming from the trap door in the main dining room.

Part 5: Investigation, Hypotheses

We noticed that the ventilation ducts could easily transmit noise from one location of the building to another. The duct work, which is quite visible, extends out of the kitchen and follows the hall back towards the bathrooms, ending in the women's restroom. Branch lines of the duct lead off to the rear dining room and the men's restroom. The hypothesis was tested with Bob making noises in the kitchen. The noises could be easily heard in the bathrooms and the rear dining room, although the sounds were slightly different in each location due to the transmission through the duct work.

From here we moved into the main dining room. We inquired if the trap door had ever been opened and examined to see if a cause of the odd noises was ever investigated. We were told "no". The trap door had been waxed over several times and it appeared to be stuck. So after acquiring a pry bar and allot of effort, we were finally able to open the trap door. The area below was a large crawlspace, about three feet in width and four feet high, and could probably be

more accurately described as a tunnel. After several minutes of looking into the space with flashlights, Cody entered the tunnel to investigate.



The tunnel itself had several inches of lime on the floor and extended northward towards the front of the building for approximately 15 feet. At this point it turned and headed east. As Cody traveled down the east section, the floor began to rise until the crawlspace was impassable. It was in this location that Cody

found huge deposits of bones covering the floor, at least a foot in depth. As he backed out of the tunnel, he noticed several water pipes secured to the floor above with banding material that was extremely loose. Several times on the way out, he accidentally bumped into one of the pipes, causing it to bang on the floor above.

Upon exiting the tunnel, Cody was informed that the group above had heard the noises that the customers and staff experienced. I told them about the loose pipes and the bones. After several minutes, Cody reentered the tunnel with a zip lock baggie and a screwdriver. The loose screws were tightened and samples of the bones were taken for a professional analysis. The bones were determined to be goat bones, approximately 200 years old. That could confirm the fact that the location was once a butcher shop but we have no clue why they would have thrown the bones into the crawlspace.

The "whispering noises" were determined to be caused by the ventilation ducting. Someone in the bathroom, talking in a normal tone, can easily be heard in parts of the kitchen. It is more obvious when the restaurant is closed and equipment is shut off. The sounds are always there but they are just more obscured when everything is on in the kitchen and the staff is busy.

The noises coming from under the trap door were discovered to be loose pipes.

Part 6: Conclusion

SGHA was able to replicate all of the reported activity at this location. There is no evidence to suggest that this location is haunted.

Part 7: Photographs





The building in 1940



Conducting interviews with the employees



Measuring the decibel levels of sound coming out of the ventilation system

