



Investigation Summary Report

Hotel Bentley
Alexandria, La



HISTORY

Built 1907

Opened 8/10/1908. (113 yrs old)

Added to NRHP 11/15/79

Remodeling in 80's and 2012

Built by Joseph Bentley who was a logger from Pennsylvania along with Mr. Zimmerman. (How Bentley and Zimmerman got their names in towns is because they landed there). The building is built from clay and limestone from the red river. Mr. Bentley also owned a generator that powered the apartment and the mirror room, the rest of the hotel did not have a/c instead the windows opened and the afternoons when the wind would come off the river the guests would open the windows to feel the breeze off of the river.

Mr. Bentley never married but instead called the hotel his wife and was the FIRST person to own a car in town.

Mr. Bentley lived and died in the hotel in the apt on the 2nd floor in 1938

Architect George R Mann built the building that consisted of only 5 stories then later added on an additional 3 stories totaling 80 rooms and 8 stories.

In 1960 Bentley closed for nearly a decade and in the 1980's Buddy Tudor (son to Tudor that built the building) bought it and had it remodeled and opened for 15 yrs where he then sold it to a group in NOLA (getting a name shortly) before they then sold it to a Bob Dean.

Bob Dean owned many nursing homes and originally wanted to turn the hotel into a nursing home and went through the city to do so but was turned down. He then wanted to tear down the Bentley and was again denied which is when the hotel was put on the NRHP.

Mr. Michael Jenkins now owns the hotel and the hotel now consists of 92-94 rooms. Some of which has been modified to handicap accessible.

Special guests at the hotel include:

John Wayne

Roy Rodgers

Dwight Eisenhower

George S. Patton

Omar Bradley

Henry Kissinger

EXPERIENCES

Strange happenings:

A little girl 7yrs old fell to her death in an elevator shaft and is known for pulling at pants legs and tugging and touching

The smell of smoke from a pipe or a cigar where people who do not smoke call down to the front desk and tell them they haven't been smoking please do not charge the \$250 smoking fee
People coming into the rooms or walking in their rooms

Brent j Maia 8/22/19

"I stayed in the bridal suite upstairs upon entering the room I lied my cell phone on the table it flew across the room onto the floor then it kept turning the Jacuzzi on and off I could feel that the place is so haunted."

Kathryn 8/1/2017

“I worked at the hotel in the late 1990s. We all know that there was inhabited with spirits. The owner he likes visiting the dining room I would straighten the photos in the hallway going to the restroom and each time they would be put back crooked. I used to joke with him about it that he was just like to play jokes. We would always have just called the front desk about someone coming into the room or someone walking down the hallway, I cannot remember which room we were just small when the customers for To tell us of these things because we all knew. It was a wonderful place to work because there is so much history there you could sometimes feel the spirit and see the people of the past.”

Recent activities include:

The elevator door starting to close and then opening like someone was getting on for the staff elevator and no one be there to get on.

People also report walking up and down the hallway and coming out of rooms. Reports of sounds like someone is coming into occupied rooms in the night.

Investigators Reports

Location: Hotel Bentley Alexandria, LA

Date: 10/31/2020

Investigators: Grady, Brianna, Christey, Harv

Equipment used: Mel Meter, K2 meters, Night vision Video Camera, UV digital still camera, SB7 Spirit Box, Digital Voice Recorders

We started our investigation off in the basement area near the laundry room. There are reports of a little girl that likes to play with the employees in this area. We captured a fast-moving anomaly that can be seen in the video evidence. We also capture some spikes on the Mel meter which was seen on the camera. We also got a response on one of our K2 meters to a direct question to the little girl. We also capture and unexplained screeching or screaming sound on audio.

The second part of our investigation took place up on the 6th floor in the condo are, which is still under renovation and is not open to the public. We did receive some interesting spikes on the K2 meters but unfortunately this was not captured on video. We did capture and interesting anomaly on video that can be seen in the evidence. It comes in from left side of frame and floats to center bottom but twist and fades in and out.

Attached Files

EVP's: Screech/Scream Sound Attached

K2/Mel Meter: Interesting Spikes all during the investigation Attached videos

Video: 2 anomalies Attached

CONCLUSION

Louisiana Spirits has pioneered so many reportedly active locations in the state. By not simply going off of haunted tales, we treat any historic location as the next potential haunting. In some cases, we walk out empty-handed, other times we don't.

In regards to the Hotel Bentley, we strongly feel activity is prevalent here and we believe that with the help of a follow-up investigation, we will be able to get more evidence!