

# Spirits Continue to Reside at The Old Hotel



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For many years, haunted mysteries have lingered around one of the oldest buildings in Scribner, Nebraska; The Harder Hotel, or as we know it, The Old Hotel.

The Harder Hotel dates back into the turn of the century when it was completed in 1901. The construction of the building features three main levels. The Harder Hotel served its purpose as a hotel on the second and third floor with a restaurant to enjoy on the main floor for many years.

In the early 1900's the Harder Hotel was considered very modern with its upscale, brick Victorian style architecture which was used to provide a luxurious stay for the passing businessmen traveling through Scribner by railroad.

Due to the prominence of the Harder Hotel throughout the twentieth century, it was declared a historical landmark in 1989.

Today, the Harder Hotel is known as The Old Hotel and serves the community as a restaurant and saloon while the upper floors remain vacant. Not only is The Old Hotel remembered for its important past, but it is also notorious for being labeled as "haunted."

Three suppository deaths occurred in The Old Hotel's previous years when it still provided hotel accommodations. One man and one woman were found dead in separate hotel rooms, and rumors of a man who died of self-inflicted



**The Old Hotel was built in 1901. It is one of the most modern buildings during its time. Photo by Makayla Nemecek**

causes were also alleged.

Although the bodies may have left the building, their spirits still inhabit it. Many individuals, including the owners, have claimed to have personal, yet unexplainable experiences at The Old Hotel.

Mr. Ralph Weatherly, the present owner of The Old Hotel, said, "One day, my wife was sitting at a table in the restaurant when she saw a lady, who was wearing a red dress, walk into the bar. Lana got up to help who she thought was a customer. When she entered the bar area, there was no one to be found."

Mr. Weatherly, along with a few common customers, have also claimed to hearing piano

music play throughout the building.

"Sometimes the instances are as small as the coffee pot filter popping out, or finding items that you set in one spot end up in another... when you're the only one in the building," Mr. Weatherly said.

Due to the roaming suspicions of the Old Hotel, David Rodriguez and his P.R.I.S.M (Paranormal Research and Investigative Studies Midwest) team contacted owners Ralph and Lana Weatherly to request an investigation.

P.R.I.S.M. is a non-profit paranormal research team whose goal is to help those who are having problems with

paranormal phenomena while gathering as much evidence as possible while investigating.

P.R.I.S.M. got their feel for The Old Hotel on October 24, 2005 while touring the century old building. The initial investigation took place on November 11, 2005. Throughout that investigation, many P.R.I.S.M. investigators felt as if they were being touched. There was one instance where one of the investigators was shoved, and he fell to the ground.

Upon investigating, there were also instances where the EMF (Electromagnetic Field) readings spiked. EMF readings are taken during paranormal investigations, such as

this one, because it is believed that ghosts are made of such an energy in which would cause a change in the electromagnetic field.

David Rodriguez, the founder of the Omaha P.R.I.S.M., said, "It was pretty crazy in there that night. Definitely haunted."

The P.R.I.S.M. Team returned to The Old Hotel the following April, where again, many of the investigators felt as if they were being touched.

After many photos, videos, audios, and personal encounters, the P.R.I.S.M. team concluded that The Old Hotel still has spirits of the past living within.