

VICTORIAN TIMES

The Newsletter of Prospect Place Estate

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<p>National Historic Landmark</p> <p>Editor---The Adams Center is currently working toward achieving National Historic Landmark status for the mansion. Although listed on the National Register of Historic Places the mansion is not listed as a National Historic Landmark which is the next step “up.” Recently we received the information packet from the National Park Service outlining what will need to be done to achieve the desired status. What Landmark status will do for the mansion is allow the Park Service to become more actively involved in the estate. It will also allow us to petition foundations such as the Getty for large sum donations (even brick and mortar donations) which should accelerate the restoration of the estate. This goal will not be attained over night though. The process will likely take several years to complete as many studies need to be done and funded. We will continue to apply funds from ghost hunts and other fund-raising activities to this goal as well as petitioning local foundations and the Ohio Historical Society for funding to do the needed work.</p>	<p>Ghost Investigations to be Different in 2009</p> <p>Editor---In 2009 there are going to be some significant changes to the way ghost hunts are done. We will be renting the mansion in a way similar to renting the traditional “cabin in the woods.” This will allow us not to increase fees while reducing costs. We will cut labor costs significantly as well as utilities. In these difficult times it is the best way to cut back and save while still providing the public ghost hunts and access to the estate. In order to enter the building ghost hunters will be emailed or mailed a code for a new key lock-box which is attached to the front door of the mansion.</p> <p>In addition, Prospect Place will be closed during the winter season 2009/2010. We will close on 19 December 2009 and not re-open until 1 April 2010. Sadly this will eliminate the low cost winter hunts but on the plus side not heating the building through the winter will save literally thousands of dollars per year.</p>	<p>Opening New Areas in the Mansion for Ghost Investigations</p> <p>Editor---We have recently opened the Daughter's bedroom for hunting. This is the former tool room which has never been open for hunting in the past. The tool room will be moved into the Servant's Quarters. Then after this the tool room will eventually end up in the old Upstairs Kitchen. In the end we aim to have only four rooms in the entire estate closed to the public. This means a whole lot more Prospect Place to explore and ghost hunt.</p> <p>Volunteer Saturdays Established</p> <p>Editor---At the most recent Board of Directors meeting Kay Agin, (CEO) and Veronica Burt (Treasurer) worked out a plan to have the first Saturday of each month as a volunteer work day. We would like to invite all persons interested in helping out to show up for our volunteer Saturdays. With your help we can get a lot done and more areas cleaned, safe and open. Thank you!</p>
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Refinancing in 2009 and Saving the Barn

Editor---This summer the Adams Center intends to refinance the mortgages against the mansion. Currently there are two mortgages and the combined cost is considerable. In refinancing these mortgages we hope to not only lower the monthly payment but tap into some of the mansion's potential equity in order to replace the roof of the three story horse barn. The roof of the barn , which is 19th century slate, has continued to deteriorate badly and is in a dangerous state. By adding additional money to the new mortgage we should be able to replace the roof and shore up some of the more unstable areas of the barn thus stabilizing and saving the barn.

Library Returns to Being a Library

Editor---The library at Prospect Place, once the office of former CEO Felix Spector, will be opened in 2009 as a library once more. This time the library will contain records of Prospect Place history, Adams family genealogy and local history. Other books of fact, fiction and literature will also be kept.

Guest Rooms Still Available

Editor---The guest rooms at the estate are still available to overnight guests in 2009. However there will be no laundry service and we will not do regular cleaning. So although the beds will remain guest would need to bring their own bedding and pillows and prepare to clean the room up if need be. We will not operate as a bed and breakfast at all in 2009 or in the foreseeable future.

Special Event

Editor--The group "Southern Ohio Paranormal Researchers" have contracted with the Adams Center to have a special event at Prospect Place on 15 April. This group is very familiar with the estate as they have hunted Prospect Place for years. They are well respected in the paranormal community as a professional and scientific group capable of helping persons new to ghost hunting understand and learn about the paranormal. We hope many supporters of the mansion can come out and join us for a great hunt and a good time. Information is available on our website.

Nightwatch Radio

Editor—"Nightwatch Radio" will be at Prospect Place this summer, 11 July, for a special event. Join Todd Sheets from Nightwatch Radio for an evening of ghost hunting and paranormal discussion from historic Prospect Place mansion. The Nightwatch radio program is widely heard across the internet and has a wide following elsewhere as well. Join in the fun and excitement of a radio program for one night only at the mansion. Details are available on our website.

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