



Formerly known as Rosemeade

Victoria – August 2017

Our stay at the English Inn was incredibly interesting and almost one of those moments where 'you had to be there.' As we wandered the halls of the inn after getting settled in our rooms we were given an odd, impromptu tour by one of the staff. He was rather new but was eager to tell us about the history of the building as he attempted to decipher an old family crest on the wall and told us about some of the artwork. It's truly unfortunate that the out buildings and parts of the inn have now been demolished as modern day is inevitably catching up to the beautiful 1900's building. Originally the English Inn was known as Rosemeade and was built by Samuel Maclure in 1909 but renamed in 2001. The Anne Hathaway Cottage, a replica of the original thatched house in England, was built on the grounds in 1959 along with various other buildings over several years which, at one time, spanned the sprawling grounds. The staff member told us that during one of his daily rounds of doing cleaning at the inn he discovered a small door which was situated in a strange tucked away section of the building. He opened the door to discover some tiny carved miniature figures inside. He was about to take us there when a manager or other staff member called him away.

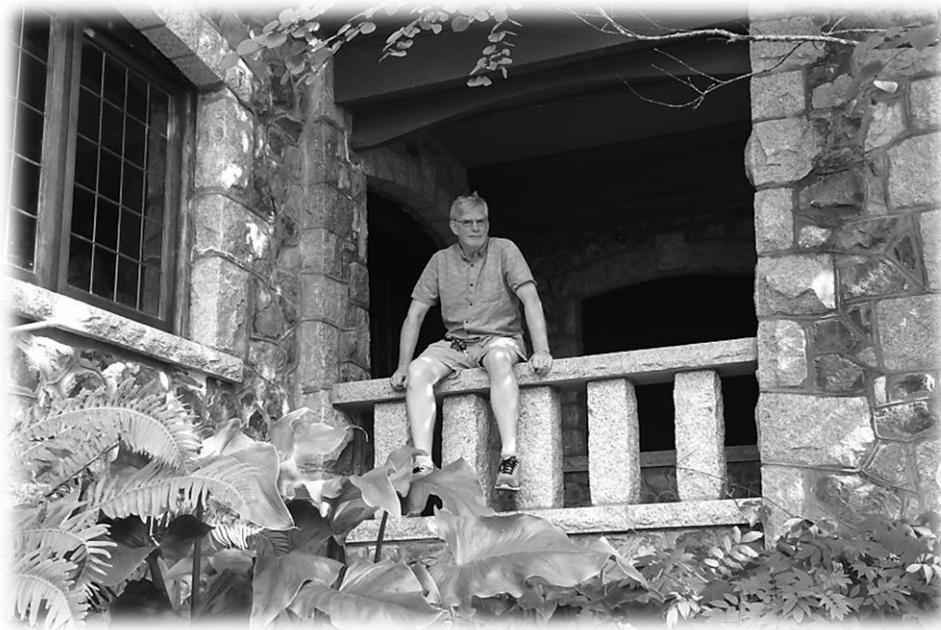
After dark the thing many heritage buildings have in common is that they are abundant with many small dark nooks, odd exits and entrances. Many of these older homes give off the right ambience if you're in the mood for a ghost hunt as they offer up many dimly lit twists and turns, dark staircases, doors that creak and ornate woodwork which surrounds you and takes you back in time.

On this trip we did something we have never done and will never do again. We brought a Ouija board. It was mostly for fun and added to the atmosphere. We asked our questions, waited for a while and then suddenly the planchette began to move...we got some answers! We went into this session somewhat as skeptics and no doubt, we were all suspicious of each other wondering if one of us was moving the planchette as a joke though the answers were fluid with no interruptions and quite detailed. The entity we were communicating with seemed to be that of a young woman. She came across not necessarily hostile but the energy in the room felt agitated and there was a tense feeling of something left unresolved. We were given clues to suggest that there was supposed to be a wedding which didn't happen but we weren't sure if it was to be her wedding. It was an amazing experience. We wrapped up our session with adrenaline running so we went down to the bar looking forward to being in the company of other guests at the Inn. Wishful thinking, our visit at the bar was brief as there were no other guests occupying the bar at the time. Some minutes after we decided to call it a night.



Next morning, Gina and her husband William confessed they had a restless night. They heard a distinct creak from the corner of their room and in the dark they witnessed the closet door slowly opening. Now, yes, it is an old building so they dismissed it assuming it just wasn't closed all the way. Closets by nature freak most people out as they housed countless boogeymen and monsters when we were kids so anytime a closet door swings open, even as an adult, your heart is left racing.

On our final day at the Inn as we finished packing our bags and conducted final inventory of our rooms making sure we hadn't left anything behind, another strange thing happened. A crystal piece fell from the chandelier above the couch in Gina and William's room. There were no vibrations which would cause such a thing to happen and stranger still was the fact that there wasn't an opening on the piece of wire which would've allowed for it to have somehow come loose. Was it the same spirit we tried to communicate with using the Ouija? We did conduct our Ouija session in that room! As mentioned earlier, we didn't have anything negative happen but we decided that our Ouija days are over. Since then we've read several books about odd occurrences and dark energies after individuals used Ouija boards. We are by no means experts on this subject, but some believe the Ouija, improperly used, can create a portal and potentially unleash something evil. From our one experience we can't say anything one way or another but at the same time why tempt fate?



William exploring the grounds