1. **Beaumont Tower:**
   1. Archaeology & History
      1. Welcome to the Apparitions and Archaeology tour! This area of campus has a long history. Right where we are standing was the location of the first building on campus, College Hall. It was erected in 1856 and was the first structure in America that was dedicated to the instruction of scientific agriculture.
      2. College Hall was plagued with problems from the start, but it was not until the early 1900s, when the College began to transform the building into a student union, that the extent of poor construction became clear. On August 12, 1918, a portion of College Hall came crashing down as the band played the national anthem at a war trainees’ retreat. In October of 1918, the College decided to build an artillery garage on the foundations of College Hall. An alum was upset that such a structure stood where the original college building was located, and in 1928 paid for a memorial structure which became known as Beaumont Tower.
      3. The tower itself was constructed where the northeast corner of College Hall once stood. Some of the foundation walls for the original building still exist underneath the sidewalks here. In the fall of 2009, Campus Archaeology Program tested areas north and south of Beaumont Tower once old sidewalks were removed, and discovered the foundation of College Hall. In addition to the College Hall foundation, cinder pathways used by students in the early days of MSU were revealed in the test units.
   2. **Apparitions:** 
      1. **The campus green area by Beaumont Tower is known for specters of couples in old-fashioned dress holding hands and walking slowly by on foggy mornings. In particular, on very dark nights, there have been multiple sightings of a man in tails and a stovepipe hat wandering around the tower.**
      2. **One superstition is that if a couple is able to kiss under the tower while the bells are ringing, they will be together forever. There is a ghost of a student from the past that was killed in WWII that haunts the tower. Legend claims he is searching for his lost college love, and many students have claimed to hear the bell towers ringing by themselves.**
      3. **Within the tower are special carillon bells that are played by experienced musicians throughout the day. However, there have been accounts of the bells playing music at night when we know the tower is unoccupied.**
2. **Saints’ Rest:** 
   1. Archaeology:
      1. Saints’ Rest was the first dormitory on campus. Constructed in 1857, it allowed students to live close to both their classes and fellow classmates. The building was constructed to house 56 students, but with increasing enrollment over the years, eventually over 80 young men were crammed into its rooms. The lack of funds meant that structural upkeep lagged behind, leaving the building in poor condition as the years went on. In the winter of 1876, while students were on break, the building burned down. The foundation was filled in with the debris, and its location marked only by a small stone plaque.
      2. In summer 2005, the Saints Rest dormitory underwent extensive excavation as part of a field school conducted by the MSU Department of Anthropology. The extensive excavations uncovered several building walls and a myriad of artifacts, including hardware such as stoves, hinges and doorknobs. During the excavation, archaeologists determined that the fire likely started in the basement, where construction tools were found burned in place, suggesting that an unattended lamp or heater may have been to blame for the blaze. Perhaps most importantly, this project prompted the establishment of the Campus Archaeology Program.
      3. In 2015, a privy associated with the Saints’ Rest dormitory was discovered and excavated by CAP. Not only was this the bathroom for the students, but also served as a dumping ground for illicit items--such as smoking pipes and alcohol bottles--that students wished to hide forever. But also discovered in the historic privy was the head of a porcelain doll, who came to be known as Mabel. Why someone living in Saints’ Rest, an all-male dormitory, was seeking to get rid of a doll remains a mystery.
   2. **Apparitions:** 
      1. **Although there were no reported deaths in the fire, there have been numerous sightings of ghostly students in 19th century clothing wandering through this space, looking for their lost dorm building. Another figure wearing overalls and work boots has been spotted, suggesting that perhaps the spirit of a steward or maintenance worker lingers nearby, attempting to put out the lamp that started the disastrous blaze and rectify his costly mistake. Or, just maybe, there was a fatality in the fire afterall…**
      2. **Furthermore, ever since Mabel the Doll was brought back to the Campus Archaeology Lab, odd things have been happening. Objects have been found out of their place, and some people have described feeling uncomfortable in her presence. Her former owner may have thrown her into the privy for a very good reason.**
      3. **Investigation**
         1. **A flashlight flickered while on the ground where the Saint’s Rest sign is located when asking if there were any spirits that wanted to communicate with us. Flickering of the flashlight stopped when it was picked up. When a different flashlight was put on the ground, no flickering occurred.**
3. **Mary Mayo:** 
   1. Archaeology:
      1. The area where we’re standing was once known as “Faculty Row.” This was where the first faculty homes were built on campus. Building began in 1857, two years after the college was founded. Cowles House was one of the first four houses built. By 1885 there were 11 houses in total. Each building housed professors and their families. Some of the most famous residents of Faculty Row include President Abbott, Dr. Beal, and Dr. Kedzie. The houses were built to look like 19th century farm houses with big front porches, backyards and even small horse barns. By 1970 all of these buildings had been repurposed, moved or demolished. The only Faculty Row building still here today is Cowles House, which is the oldest standing structure on the MSU campus. Today it serves as a special events center and meeting place for the President.
      2. This area is now known as North Neighborhood, and is home to numerous undergraduate students. Construction on the dormitories began in the 1940’s. Each dorm is named after a prominent woman from MSU’s history including Louise Campbell, Maude Gilchrist, Linda Landon, Mary Mayo, Sarah Williams & Elida Yakeley.
      3. In 2008, Campus Archaeology excavated Faculty Row in the area between Landon and Campbell Halls. During these excavations CAP found early construction materials including wood plumbing pipes and bricks made of clay sourced from the Red Cedar River and fired on campus. This shows that members of MACs population relied on local materials to construct the earliest buildings.
   2. **Apparitions:**
      1. **Mary Mayo is supposedly one of the most haunted buildings on campus. Several strange occurrences have been reported. A woman’s figure has been seen near the piano in the West Lounge and sometimes the piano plays all by itself.**
      2. **The most infamous stories from Mary Mayo Hall surround the Red Room on the 4th floor of the building. It is rumored that at some point early in the building’s history the room was painted bright red and was used for satanic rituals. Some even say a young woman died in this room. The entire floor is now closed off to students, but unexplained lights and figures are often seen through the windows of the 4th floor.**
      3. **One of our own campus archaeology interns had a ghostly experience here. She was doing laundry in the basement, and heard a noise coming from an area that was blocked off to students. She was one of the RAs and used her key to investigate the noise, assuming that some student had broken into the room. As she entered, the door slammed behind her and the lights shut off. She tried using her key to get back out but it got stuck and wouldn’t turn. A few seconds later, the key worked perfectly. The lights turned back on and a woman’s voice echoed softly through the darkness telling her to go.**
      4. **Investigation**
         1. **We interacted with a “haunted doll” that a couple of the Mayo Hall residents reported as being haunted. When near this doll, our K2 meters went crazy and we recorded a lot of activity. We have yet to go through the voice recordings to see if there is anything on there. According to the residents, after obtaining the doll, objects move on their own and the door locks on its own when both roommates are in the room.**
4. **MSU Museum:** 
   1. Archaeology
      1. Welcome to the MSU Museum. Long ago, a very different building stood in this spot: Williams Hall, which was the second dormitory on campus. It was built in 1869, but, like nearby Saints Rest, it burned down in 1919 during winter break. Museum collections were originally housed in Linton Hall, just to the northeast of here. The current museum building was finished in 1925. It houses and curates a number of scientific and cultural collections, including many of the university’s archaeological collections. Until 1994, the basement of the museum housed some of the archaeology offices and labs.
      2. Although limited archaeology has been done in the immediate vicinity of the museum, just to the west of Beaumont Tower, a small Archaic campsite, dating to between 3000 and 500 BC, was discovered and excavated by Campus Archaeology in 2010 and 2011. It is the only intact pre-Columbian Native American site known on campus and continues a long tradition of research focusing on ancient Michigan by MSU archaeologists.
   2. **Apparitions**
      1. **Over the years, archaeology graduate students working in the basement labs reported hearing people walking around on the first and second floors, as well as strange noises coming from behind the exhibits. One chilling story involves a janitor who once worked at the museum late at night during the 1980s. She reported seeing and speaking to a man she called “Mr. Dirk.” Upon further questioning of the janitor, the museum staff realized she was describing Dirk Gringhuis, a former museum curator who had passed away in 1974, before the janitor had moved Michigan. It seems Mr. Dirk was loathe to part with his beloved museum collections.**
5. **Beal Gardens:** 
   1. Archaeology
      1. Beal Botanical Garden is the longest continually maintained university garden in the nation. It was established in 1873 by William Beal, MAC’s first professor of Botany. When he arrived at MAC, Beal turned much of this area of campus into a “wild garden” that he used as an outdoor laboratory. The garden contained over 700 species of flowering plants. The planting, labeling, and maintenance of the garden was done almost entirely by Beal’s students. When Beal died in 1924, the Michigan State Board of Agriculture renamed the garden after him.
      2. In 1879, Beal got the College to build a Botanical Laboratory in the area near the Botanical Garden. The laboratory held state of the art equipment including compound microscopes. The first floor of the building was a laboratory lecture room and the second floor was a museum with a large collection of plant specimens. This building burned down in 1890. Legend has it that some incompetent graduate students accidentally started a fire in the attic.
      3. Beal holds the world record for the longest continually monitored scientific study. In 1879 he buried 20 bottles of seeds mixed with sand at a secret location on campus. The goal of the experiment was to dig up one bottle every few years and test how many sprouted. The next bottle is due to be excavated in 2020 and the last bottle in 2100.
      4. Campus Archaeology excavated between West Circle Drive and the Beal Garden Gazebo in 2016. CAP found building foundations believed to be the Botanical Laboratory. Artifacts recovered included building materials, melted glass, and charcoal probably associated with the 1890 fire.
   2. **Apparitions**
      1. **Screams are sometimes heard coming from the garden in the middle of the night. Those who have heard the screams and gone to investigate report seeing shadowy figures in the distance that seem to vanish into thin air when they are approached.**
      2. **Students and faculty have also reported seeing a male apparition dressed in clothes from the 1920s - some say it is Professor Beal coming back to check on his seed experiment.**
      3. **Investigation:** 
         1. **Through the Spirit Box (an AM/FM radio that quickly cycles through the channels and creates white noise and fragments of words that spirits can manipulate in order to communicate), something was recorded saying “help” multiple times, a growl was recorded, and an explicit word was recorded with an accompanying gust of wind.**
6. **Morrill Hall**
   1. Archaeology:
      1. It wasn’t until 1896 when an official “women’s course” was added into the curriculum. This caused the number of women attending the school to greatly increase, and it was clear that a building was needed for female housing. Construction on the Women’s Building began in 1899, and was completed in 1900. The building was designed to sleep 120 women and a handful of faculty, including the dean, the head of the Home Economic department, her assistants and the physical education instructor. Other rooms included a kitchen lab, dining rooms, a large recitation room, parlors, music rooms, bathrooms and even a two-story gym. The building wasn’t symmetrical; the original plan was to make both sides exactly the same, but because of a lack of resources, the north wing was never built. Building materials included mostly red sandstone, and the dorm stood in front of an artificial pond. In the late 1930s, the women moved out of the Women’s Building and into the new women’s dormitory (Williams Hall), and the name of the Women’s Building was changed to Morrill Hall. Since then, the building has been used for a number of different department offices and classrooms, most recently that of the English, History and Religious Studies. In 2010, the Board of Trustees decided that the internal wooden structure of Morrill Hall had incurred irreparable deterioration and was at the end of its useful life. The decision was made to demolish the building, and in its place create a commemorative green space.
      2. Archaeological survey was done of this area prior to reconstruction, but no artifacts were recovered. Unlike Saints Rest or College Hall, which retain some of their features underground, Morrill Hall was completely demolished and the basements removed. All that is left is some of the original stone used for benches, and the original layout of the building has been marked with the concrete sidewalks below us.
   2. **Apparitions:**
      1. **Morrill Hall has had a long history of being haunted as it changed from a women’s dorm to an educational building. While the hall was still present, there were accounts of ghostly professors wandering the hallway, looking for their classrooms. Even with the building no longer here, you can sometimes catch glimpses of professors wandering down the layout of the memorial sidewalk, still looking for their classrooms.**
      2. **On numerous occasions there were also issues with bats getting into the building and creating homes for themselves. While this is not exactly a haunting, it didn’t improve the overall feeling of the building being a little spooky. Further, as demolition of the building began, there was a mysterious fire that started in the roof, temporarily pausing the demolition process.**
7. **Fountain**
   1. Archaeology
      1. The 1900 Fountain is often an overlooked artifact of the past, hidden between the bushes and trees of this area. It is a unique feature, not only due to its age and that it has two sides, one for humans and one for horses, but that it marks where the old road used to go through campus. Before cars and campus expansion, the roadway for this central area was actually along the inner side of the buildings, not along the outer side as today. As travelers made their way through campus, they would stop here for quick refreshment. It was placed between Linton Hall and Williams Hall (located under the current MSU Museum).
      2. Linton Hall is the oldest building on campus, erected in 1881 to serve the purpose of the college library and museum, as well as the administration building in later years. Lack of funds contributed to the library’s beginnings on the third floor of College Hall. After holding a brief residence on the first floor of College Hall, the collection of 1,200 volumes and newspapers was moved to the new Linton Hall. The second floor of Linton Hall was also home to the general museum, consisting of many natural history collections. In 1925, the museum collections moved to the current MSU Museum building. Both the collections and the library stayed in the current MSU Museum building until 1955 when the current library was built. After the departure of the collections, Linton Hall transformed into the administration building and then various administrative and departmental offices.
   2. **Apparitions:**
      1. **There have been sightings of men and women dressed in 19th century clothing wandering along the pathway of the old road. They walk along this path, and then go behind the fountain for a drink- those who have tried to follow them say that the ghosts vanish behind the fountain.**
      2. **While Linton Hall doesn’t have reported sightings of ghostly people, there are rumors that books seem to reorganize themselves in the offices- as if a librarian has come in at night and placed them in proper order. Jumbled paperwork has been said to be shuffled and reorganized as well. At least whatever spirit is there is being helpful!**
8. **Sleepy Hollow**
   1. Archaeology:
      1. This area is actually part of Beal Gardens, which were first started in the early 1870’s when Professor William J. Beal began working at the university. This area was meant to be a space for experimentation and collection of plants, and was referred to by 1877 as the Botanic Garden. One feature of the garden that is no longer present is a brook that ran across the campus and through the Beal Gardens. A substantial bridge covered the brook. In 1884, when Abbot Hall was constructed (now the location of the Music Practice Building), it was determined that this bridge wasn’t sturdy enough. The soil removed from the basement of Abbot Hall was used to fill in the ravine where the bridge was, and the brook was directed through cement drains. Eventually, more drain pipes were placed and it became used for sewage. In 1927, East Lansing determined that a proper sewer system was needed, and the brook was diverted into a concrete pipe system. This area known as Sleepy Hollow used to be the site of the brook and part of the gardens. In the winter when it snows, you can see the river that is now underground because the warmth of the water causes the snow immediately above it to melt.
      2. Archaeological work has revealed a number of important sites on campus. This is the location of the first prehistoric site found on campus that dates to around 3000-1500 BC. We found evidence of a substantial fire pit, as well as some of distinctive tools used during this period.
      3. This is also an area where we have found refuse from the earliest campus occupation in the 19th century. A number of odd artifacts have been found including the heels of someone’s shoe and a cluster of human hair that appears to have been thrown out – maybe someone’s haircut?
      4. Finally, when the campus began, it made its own bricks, and this is the area where clay was gathered for the bricks to construct the first campus buildings. It is not entirely clear where the bricks were actually made.
   2. **Apparitions**
      1. **While there are no documented ghosts or apparitions in this area, people often comment on a haunted feeling and spooky atmosphere. Due to it being a low spot in the landscape, it often retains fog more than other areas on campus, and this section of campus is less occupied than others. While this could be natural, there is some speculation that this area has been left open on purpose due to its spooky nature and potential for supernatural encounters.**