1. **Beaumont Tower:** **LYNNE**
   1. Archaeology & History
      1. College Hall was erected in 1856, becoming the college’s first building, and also the first structure in America dedicated to the instruction of scientific agriculture. The building was designed by John C. Holmes, co-founder of the Michigan State Agricultural Society and professor of Horticulture, to be part of a much larger building that was never actually constructed. 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. 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 found 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. A ghostly man and a woman dressed in 1920s clothing has been seen walking hand in hand, waiting to kiss under the tower when the bell tolls at midnight. Perhaps the haunted couple never had the opportunity, and is still waiting to seal their fates.
      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. **Sleepy Hollow: Jeff**
   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.
3. **Saints’ Rest: LISA**
   1. Archaeology:
      1. Saints’ Rest was constructed in 1857 as the boarding hall for the first students attending the college. It was designed to allow students to be close to their working environments and facilitate bonding between them. It contained dorm rooms, a kitchen, laundry, mudroom, and parlor. The building was constructed to house 56 students, but with increasing enrollment it was accommodating over 80. The lack of funds similar to those affecting College Hall meant that the building needed constant repairs. 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. A total of 29 units were excavated revealing the north, east, and western walls of the structure. The primary artifacts found during this excavation were hardware from the building such as stoves, hinges and doorknobs. Based on this first excavation, archaeologists were able to learn more about the fire, which likely started in the basement. Construction tools were found burned in place in the basement, suggesting that it accidentally burned down by a lamp or small heater that was not properly damped. In 2007, sidewalks were realigned in this area, and we discovered more of the historic building interior. Archaeologists returned to the site of Saints Rest in 2008 during the year’s first snowfall to investigate artifacts that had been discovered while planting a tree. Three units were opened as well as various shovel test pits. All excavations produced many historic artifacts. We also found the remains of a historic trash midden likely associated with Saints Rest. Excavations in 2011 and 2013 revealed more information about the layout of the building, including the chimneys.
      3. Doll!
   2. Apparitions:
      1. There have been numerous sightings of male students wearing 19th century clothing wandering around this space, looking for the actual building, their dorm room and missing belongings. Some have been seen wearing overalls and work boots, suggesting that maybe the workers continue to return after death to complete their renovations. Perhaps it is because the building is still here beneath our feet that these ghosts remain- maybe they can sense that their tools and items are here, but they just can’t reach them.
4. **Fountain: Mari**
   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 long 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!
      3. Linton Hall hauntings
5. **Morrill Hall: SUSAN**
   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.
6. **Mary Mayo: Amy & Autumn** 
   1. Archaeology:
      1. This area is of particular importance, as it was the spot where the first faculty homes on campus were built shortly after its founding in 1855. Faculty Row was built beginning in 1857, with the erection of four buildings including Cowles house. An additional 3 buildings were erected in 1874, and by 1885 there were 11 total. Each building was meant to house the professors of specific disciplines and their families. The houses were large and multi-storied, built in a similar architectural style although each was unique in design. Over time the buildings were repurposed, moved or demolished from 1922 to 1970. The only Faculty Row building that remains is Cowles House. The Cowles House is currently the oldest standing structure on the MSU campus. Originally used as faculty housing and the house of the MSU president, it currently serves as a special events center, hosting many meetings for the president.
      2. The area, which was once Faculty Row, is now known as North Neighborhood, and is home to numerous undergraduate students. Beginning in the 1940’s, construction of dormitories began. Each was named after a prominent female from MSU’s history including Campbell, Gilchrist, Landon, Mayo, Williams & Yakeley.
      3. In 2008, Campus Archaeology excavated Faculty Row in the area between Landon and Campbell Halls. These excavations yielded early construction materials including wooden plumbing pipes. These excavations also indicated a change in land use as the land was restructured to accommodate the new dormitory buildings. In 2013, further archaeology was done in this area with renovations to Landon Hall.
   2. Apparitions:
      1. Of all the locations on campus, the most haunted and most reported sightings have occurred at Mary Mayo. Mary herself is reported to roam the first floor of the building late at night, wandering through the lounges, playing the piano, and her voice has even been heard. Mary Mayo died of illness almost twenty years before the building was erected, so she never visited it in life, but has apparently often visited in death.
      2. 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. Being one of the RAs, she 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 wouldn’t work. A few seconds later, the key magically worked perfect and the lights turned back on, a woman’s voice echoing softly through the darkness telling her to go.
      3. The most common rumor and most haunted location on campus is that of the Red Room. On the top floor of the building, there is a room that is now completely blocked off to students. Supposedly this room was used for satanic rituals during the early occupation of the building, and was painted bright red. Students reported seeing people through the windows in this Red Room, but when they went to investigate it they couldn’t find a way to get into the room.