

Notes on the Fenwood House: Transcript.

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ABBIE: 49,360 kilograms. Or fifty-four tons. Per day.

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ABBIE: Note to self: research George Waring Jr. Focus on hiring practices and candidate selection.

ABBIE: Good news: The state of Ohio has accepted my grant proposal. Which means I must stop my research into the potential modern applications of 19th century night soil collection. Dr. Hadad will be much relieved.

For the purposes of objectivity, the subject of my analysis has been made for me. I am to report to the township of Mount Absalom in May. Note to self: begin looking for long-term temporary housing.

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ABBIE: Housing option one. Fenwood House Boarding Services. Pro: Proximity. The boarding house is within Mount Absalom itself and the nearest sublet is thirty to forty minutes away in the neighboring town of Julian. Travel and subsequent expenses will be minimal.

Also it will allow maximum exposure to culture and air quotes personality of the town.

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ABBIE:

Concept: Recording stillness. (PAUSE) Followed by the repetition of the word stillness over the top of itself. Stillness. Still-still-ness-ness. Still-still-ness-still-ness-ness. (PAUSE) And then again, stillness.

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Con: amenities. Virtually none within Mount Absalom itself. Food options consist of the local grocery store, a breakfast café, and an ice cream shop. (Note: Pro: evening meals are included in the rooming fee of Fenwood House so food is not a necessity though options would be preferable. Access to coffee is also included in the rooming fee of Fenwood House. PRO.

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ABBIE:

No speed listed or mention of wifi is listed on the Fenwood House website. Assume physical connection and slow, possibly even dial-up. (PAUSE) Would that even work with a laptop?

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ABBIE:

I would need a special cord, however, after calling and talking to Wes at the Fenwood House, they do have wifi. Sometimes. The pause and under the breath tone are his.

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You are out of Four Horse Oatmeal Stout.

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RECORDER ON.

Further amendment to note on proximity: Pro. The Fenwood House abuts the Mount Absalom Graveyard. Convenient for field work and cataloguing.

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There are filings the town made in the State Historic Preservation Office asking that the Fenwood House be named the oldest continually inhabited residence in all of Ohio. The claim is under dispute as the house was remodeled at some point in the gothic revival style. Still...

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ABBIE: Just found the webpage for Fenwood House Haunted Tours! Apparently it advertises itself as and I quote “The Most Haunted House in all of Ohio. Filled to the rafters with ghosts, ghouls, and geists that bump in the night. Summer and weekend shows for those who dare.” Unquote. CON.

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ABBIE: Having trouble finding an exact layout of the house. I do prefer east or south facing windows to maximize early morning sun exposure and minimize afternoon laptop glare. I’ll try calling again.

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ABBIE: WhoDiedHere app, I have found twenty-two names of people who died in the house. Nothing related to black mold, gas leaks, or carbon monoxide poisoning. Eight deaths from TB but that was in 1896 and as tuberculosis bacteria can only live four hours in the air, I believe I am safe.

App also mentions notable occupant: serial poisoner Deirdre Abernathy in 1935. No deaths attributed to her, she just stayed in the house for two days on her way to a job as a cook at Cincinnati General Hospital.

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I have decided the Fenwood House makes the most economic and locational sense for long term lodging while I conduct my study of the town. I have talked to Ms. Harper who hereafter I will refer to as Dot under punishment of no hot water in my shower, her words, and my move in date is April 15th. Included in my rent is two complimentary tickets to the ghost tour for me and a guest of my choice. (UNENTHUSIASTIC) Yaaaay.

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ABBIE:

Buy a dial up adaptor for your laptop. Just in case.

RECORDER OFF. DEEP BASS NOTE THRUMS.

NARRATOR:

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