

INVESTIGATION FINAL REPORT S.P.I.R.I.T.S. OF NEW ENGLAND

294 REVERE STREET, WINTHROP, MA 02152

Investigation Location: [REDACTED] Springfield, MA [REDACTED]

Date of Investigation: 06 March 2010

Report Prepared By: Jack Kenna, Investigator, SPIRITS of New England (SoNE)

Reported To: [REDACTED] Springfield, MA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Background:

The Supernatural, Paranormal, Investigations, Research, Intuitive, Truth Society (S.P.I.R.I.T.S.) of New England team was requested by [REDACTED] to conduct a paranormal investigation of his home, located at [REDACTED] Springfield, MA [REDACTED], on the evening of 06 March 2010. [REDACTED] desired a professional paranormal investigation of his home after experiencing numerous, unexplainable events within his home. These events include being pushed, hearing someone running up and down stairs when no one is home, hearing knocks on closet door, hearing popping sounds like joints popping, kitchen radio turned on after everyone went to bed, being bitten and scratched by something that isn't there (especially when praying), items moving and items disappearing (crucifix), seeing things like shadows and what look like heat waves moving across floor, seeing lights moving in mid air (one moved across kitchen and then behind refrigerator causing water line on fridge to break), nightmares and unusual dreams about his deceased brother. The client states that activity increases when he is home alone. This activity began after he moved back into his mother's home after falling ill [REDACTED]. The client feels that whatever it is that may be in his home may be evil/ demonic and he believes that there may be at least 6 different entities in the home. The following are the details of the investigation and more detailed background on the client's home, surrounding region where the client lives, and the client.

History of the Home and Surrounding Region:

- 1) The client's home is a single story, single family home located at [REDACTED] in Springfield, MA, in between [REDACTED] from Blunt Park, and approximately [REDACTED] east from the Connecticut river (see images 1, 2 & 3). The home has 3 bedrooms (1 upstairs and 2 downstairs), two bathrooms and the basement is a finished basement. The mother has lived in and owned the home for 10 years. She has not experienced any paranormal activity. Her previous boyfriend

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did live in the home for a period of time and occupied the one basement bedroom that is now the client's. He did experience feelings of nausea and the feeling that he should not stay in the room. The client's sister has not had any paranormal experiences in the home. The niece and nephew have mentioned having nightmares about monsters but this is not that unusual for young children of their ages of 9 and 6. The client has lived in the home since August of 2008.

Image 1 - Removed for Client's Privacy

Image 2 - Removed for Client's Privacy

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Image 3 - Removed for Client's Privacy

- 2) Nothing is specifically documented on the property on which the home is located. No details of deaths in the home or on the property can be identified. There has been a death in the client's family though. His brother was killed in a car accident. As for the history of the city of Springfield, MA itself there was a major incident for the original town on October 5, 1675, when the Pocomtuc Indian Tribe attacked and burned half of the town to the ground. There were at least three deaths directly related to this attack, a Mr. Thomas Miller was shot and killed instantly while riding towards the fort

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up on Long Hill located at the south end of the town. Lt. Thomas Cooper, who was with Mr. Miller at the time was also shot, but made it back to town and the home of Major Pynchon were he fell off his horse to ground dead. Mrs. Pentecost Mathews was also shot and killed in the south part of the town by Indians.

- 3) The geology of the region where the home is located could not be specifically identified. The areas around Springfield, MA are noted for producing crushed stone, construction sand and gravel.
- 4) Although it is not typically thought of, there are minor earth quakes that occur throughout the Eastern United States. It is also believed by many in the paranormal community that seismic activity can cause increased paranormal activity, due to the release of energy that occurs during seismic activity. In the specific region of the Client's home though, there has been no reported seismic activity in recent years.
- 5) There is information from the City Clerk's Office about The Bay Path Cemetery at Blunt Park, Springfield, MA. This cemetery is not far from the client's home. The specific information from the City Clerk's Office is as follows:

Cemetery Name	Established	Address (if known)	Other
Bay Path	Unknown	Blunt Park Rd at Roosevelt Ave	Map (see image 4)

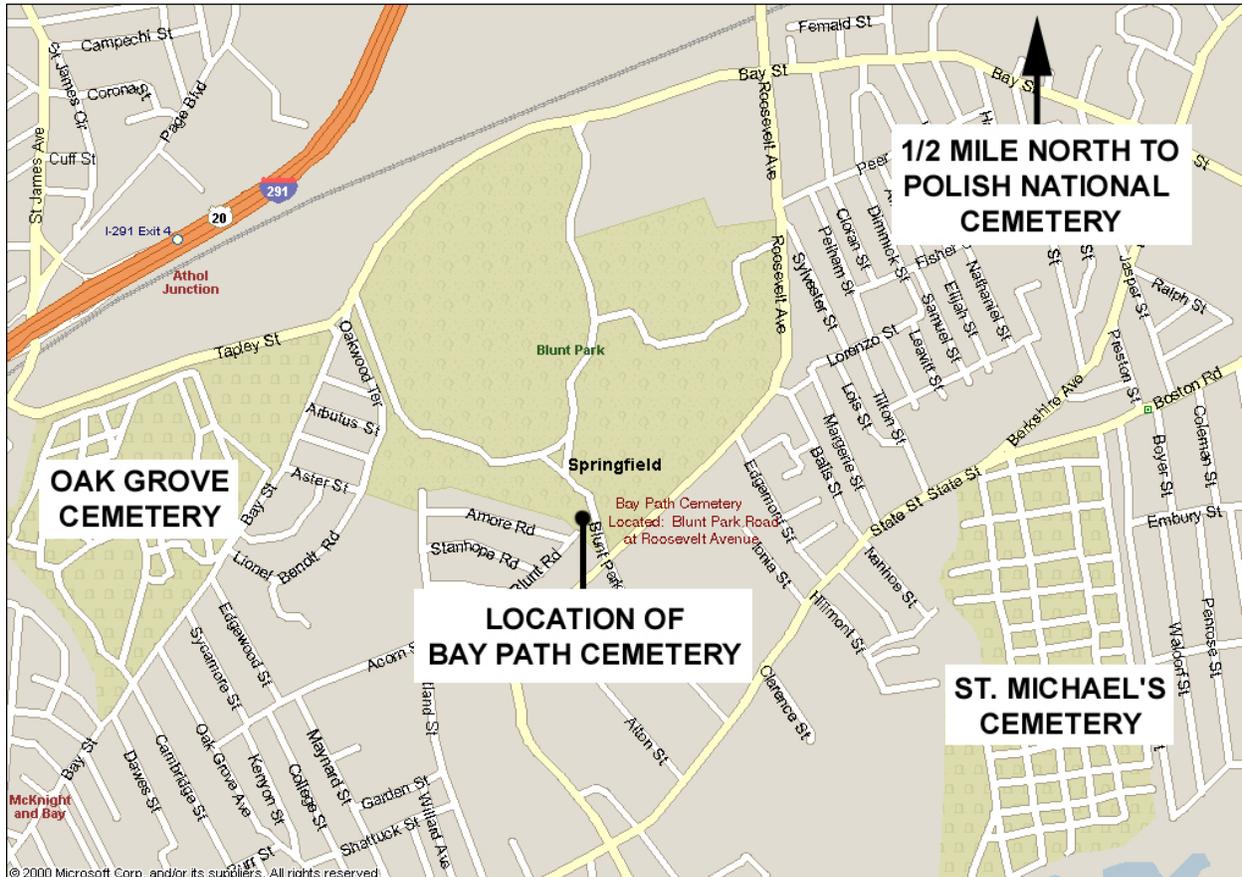
The Bay Path cemetery at Blunt Park, Springfield, MA is an old paupers grave yard. A book at the Conn. Valley Historical Museum at the Quadtrangle in Springfield, MA has many of the graves someone recorded. Many graves have no names or say "box of bones", some were homeless bodies buried there. I believe this person who recorded this cemetery, mentioned it was overrun with brush, weeds, and trees. They tried to get it cleared. I don't know what condition it is in. There is no entrance area to this cemetery that I know of. Hidden away in the woods. – Provided by Roberta Cyr, email: Rob147Ma@aol.com

The area where the home is located is also triangulated by three additional cemeteries, the St Michael's cemetery directly to the south east, the Polish National cemetery approx ■ miles to the north, and the Oak Grove cemetery approx ■ miles to the west. Also not far from the home and these cemeteries is the Holy Trinity

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Church of God in Christ (see image 3 for location). The potential importance of these facts will be discussed and will become more apparent later in this report.



Cemetery and Church Locations - Image 4

- 6) For additional information on and photos of Bay Path Cemetery, Oak Grove Cemetery, St. Michael's Cemetery, and The Holy Trinity Church of God in Christ please see the "Supporting Documentation" section of this report which starts on page #24:

Client Background:

- 1) The following information was collected from the client information form and in-home interview with the client on the evening of the investigation:
 - a) The Client's religious belief is Christian.

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- b) The client is a male, age 45. He is currently undergoing [REDACTED]. He lives in his mother's home along with his mother, sister, niece and nephew. The client is currently taking the following doctor prescribed medications: Amlodipine - [REDACTED], 1 tablet per day; Lorazepam – [REDACTED], 1 tablet twice/day. Side effects of these medications that may relate to or possibly be responsible for some of the paranormal activity being experienced by the client are as follows: 1) Amlodipine: Swelling in your hands, ankles or feet; easy bruising or bleeding; numbness, burning, pain, or tingly feeling; headache; nervousness; warmth or redness under the skin; sleep problems (insomnia); strange dreams; mild skin rash or itching; joint or muscle pain. 2) Lorazepam: Hallucinations; blurred vision; sleep problems (insomnia); trouble concentrating; skin rash. Please note that these are only "possible" causes/explanations for the activity being experienced by the client. Based on other evidence collected by the team during the investigation, and identified within this report, the possibility of true paranormal activity within the home cannot be ruled out completely at this time.
- c) During a portion of his life the client did [REDACTED]. Many [REDACTED] can have long term effects [REDACTED] and can also cause recurring hallucinations even years after [REDACTED]. They also have long term physical effects on the individual. This [REDACTED] could also be another cause of some of the activity that the client feels he is experiencing. Again, based on other evidence collected by the team, true paranormal activity cannot be ruled out at this time.
- d) At his home the client is experiencing the following:
- i) Unusually high usage of batteries for various electric items in the home.
 - ii) Hears voices and footsteps (running) in the home when he is alone in the house.
 - iii) Uncomfortable feelings in his bedroom when praying or trying to sleep. Hears noises in his bedroom like popping of joints and claws scratching on or digging into the walls, as if something is jumping from wall to wall.
 - iv) Seeing shadows and figures moving on the floor and ceiling. One instance of this was captured on a cell phone video in his room by the client. He has also seen one of these mirage like shadows change from a human shape into a

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- dog shape while he was watching it. This happened very quickly in front of him.
- v) Having strange dreams/nightmares.
 - vi) Being physically pushed, bitten and scratched. Having the feeling of needles being poked into him.
 - vii) Objects moving and items missing (his crucifix has disappeared).
 - viii) Seeing lights (balls of energy) move through the home.
 - ix) Interior house lights flickering.
 - x) Feeling cold spots next to him on his bed. Especially near his head.
- e) It does need to be noted that the client does watch shows like Ghost Hunters and Paranormal State and does have an interest in the paranormal.
- f) The client did have another paranormal group come into his home prior to contacting our SPIRITS of New England team. One individual on that team was a psychic, and told the client he had multiple spirits in the home and that some were possibly demonic or evil and to be careful of them. The client ended up contacting us because he was not happy with the way the other team handled his case.

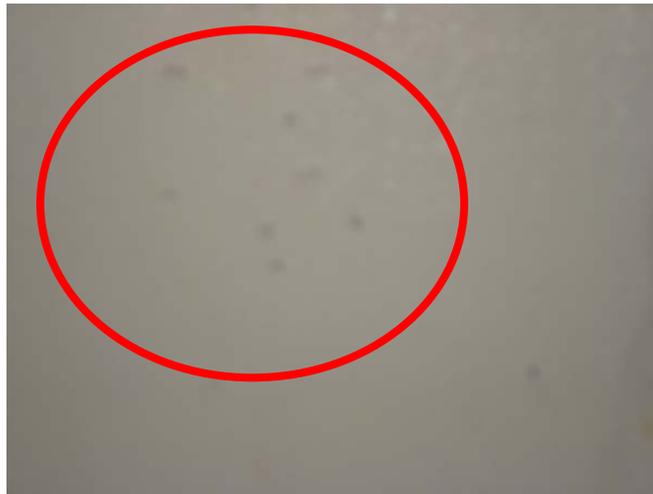
Investigation Details & Findings:

- 1) The SPIRITS of New England Team, consisting of: Ms. Ellen Campbell – Co-Founder and Lead Investigator; Ms. Sharon Koogler – Lead Investigator, Co-Founder and Tech Department Lead; Ms. Sarah Campbell – Investigator, and Mr. Jack Kenna, Investigator and Tech Department Assistant, arrived at the home of [REDACTED] at approximately 6:30 pm.
- 2) The team was greeted by the client, [REDACTED], his mother and his sister. After settling in, SPIRITS Lead Investigator and Co-Founder Ellen Campbell conducted an interview with the Client to document additional personal history and some of the experiences he was having in the home. The following are some of the experiences that [REDACTED] described:

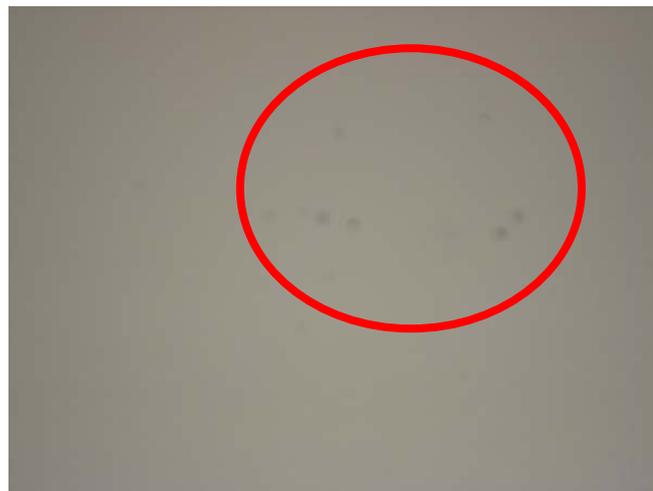
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- a) **2nd Basement Bedroom (Client's Room):** The client reports that after returning from rollerblading he was pushed from behind. He was also slapped that same night on his big toe. He has felt heat on his feet, had trouble breathing and his crucifix has gone missing. He has heard knocking on his closet door. He has seen something like a heat mirage move across the floor and ceiling. He has heard what sounds like joints popping and scratching. He has felt cold spots next to him on his bed. He pointed out marks in the walls to our team that he believes are the fingernail or claw marks of the entity (see Images 5 & 6). He has also reported being bitten (see Image 7). He has also reported that he has been scratched, bitten, poked (feels like needles) in this room, typically while praying.



Claw Marks on Bedroom Wall – Image 5



Claw Marks on Bedroom Wall – Image 6

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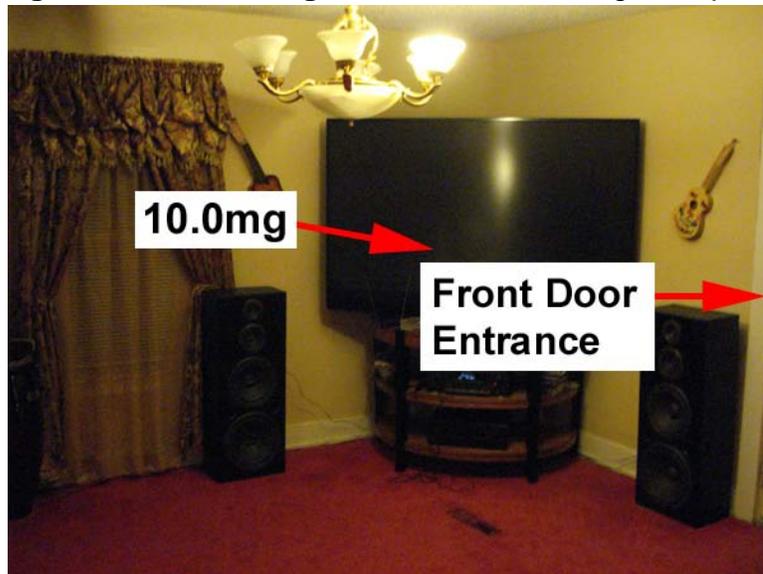
Bite Marks on Client's Arm – Image 7
(Three Days After Occurrence)

- b) **Kitchen:** The client has reported seeing a ball of light move across the kitchen, then go behind the refrigerator, after which the water line to the refrigerator broke and caused damage to the floor and basement ceiling below. He also reported that one time he had walked out of the kitchen and then returned a moment later to find all of the kitchen cabinet doors opened, but never heard anything. The radio in the kitchen also turned on one night after everyone had gone to bed.
- c) **Basement Living Room:** The client reported that while sitting at the computer a box on the floor near him moved for no reason.
- 3) **EMF Inspection Results of the Home:** Prior to starting the investigation the SPIRITS Team gathered base Electro Magnetic Frequency (EMF) readings of each of the rooms within the home. All EMF readings are measured in milligauss (mg). A typical home will have baseline readings of 0.0mg to 0.5mg. EMF readings of 1.0mg or higher are known to cause feelings of illness, nausea, headaches, fatigue, and with long term exposure feelings of paranoia and even hallucinations (seeing and hearing things that aren't there). High EMF is also sometimes associated with causing cancer over very long term exposure. The average EMF readings recorded within [REDACTED] home are 1.5mg to 12.0mg. The individual room readings are as follows:

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a) Upstairs Living Room and Sitting Room: EMF = 4.5mg, Temp = 71°F



Living Room



Living Room

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Living Room/Sitting Room

b) **Upstairs Dining Room:** EMF = 1.0mg, Temp = 73°F

Dining Room – Image Removed for Client’s Privacy

c) **Kitchen:** EMF = 1.7mg, Temp = 72°F (No Kitchen Photo Available)

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d) **Basement Living Room:** EMF = 1.4mg, Temp = 69°F



Basement Living Room



Basement Living Room

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Basement Living Room



Basement Living Room

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Basement Living Room – Image Removed for Client’s Privacy

e) **Basement Laundry Room: EMF = 2.7mg, Temp = 70°F**

Basement Laundry Room – Image Removed for Client’s Privacy

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f) **Basement Bathroom:** EMF = 3.5mg, Temp = 70°F

Basement Bathroom – Image Removed for Client’s Privacy



Basement Bathroom

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g) **Client's Bedroom:** EMF = 3.5mg, Temp = 70°F



Client's Bedroom



Client's Bedroom

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- h) **Conclusions/Recommendations of EMF Investigation:** The home is in poor condition as far as EMF is concerned. The SPIRIT's team recommends that the client have an electrician come into the home and access and repair the EMF issues. It is possible that this high EMF is part of the cause for the client's experiences. It is also believed in the paranormal community that high EMF can provide a power source for entities/spirits to feed off of and will attract them. This is another reason to eliminate the high EMF within the home.
- 4) **Investigation Details:** Upon completion of the walk through tour the SPIRITS Team set up base in the client's dining room which provided the best access to all rooms of the home with the least amount of cross contamination. The Team explained how they intended to investigate the home, and set up IR cameras and audio recorders in the Attic, Client's Bedroom, and Basement Living Room. The first room to be investigated was client's bedroom. Three investigators (Sharon Koogler, Jack Kenna and Sarah Campbell) investigated the bedroom, while investigator Ellen Campbell, the client and his sister remained upstairs in the dining room monitoring the IR cameras. The next rooms to be investigated were the basement living room and laundry room. They were investigated by team members Sharon Koogler, Jack Kenna and Sarah Campbell. Once this was completed, the teams switched around. Jack Kenna went upstairs to the dining room with the client and his sister, while Ellen Campbell went down to re-investigate the three rooms with Sharon Koogler and Sarah Campbell. When this was completed one additional investigation of these rooms was conducted, with Jack Kenna spending a short time alone in the basement living room, then being joined by Sarah Campbell, while Ellen, Sharon and the client went into his bedroom to conduct an evp session. It was decided to involve the client because almost all of the activity seems to center around him, especially while he is praying. The team had the client pray and read from his bible while they just sat and observed. This went on for about 45 minutes and then the two teams switched out, with Jack and Sarah joining ██████ in his bedroom, while Ellen and Sharon moved into the basement living room. The entire investigation lasted 6 hours from 9:00 pm on Saturday evening until 3:00 am on Sunday morning. The results of this investigation are as follows:
- a) **Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP's) and Audio:**
- i) Kitchen: One very distinct EVP was captured in the kitchen during the pre-investigation EMF sweep of the home. There is some discussion between the

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team members over what the second word of this evp says, but we all agree that the first word is “Stop”. The intent of these words, as with all evp messages, cannot be determined.

- ii) Client’s Bedroom: During the course of the evening all four of the team members spent time investigating this room. In approximately 3 hours of investigating this room, several audio clips were captured on three different digital recorders. The evps include such responses as breaths, humming, whistling, voices saying: “like me”, “can’t believe it”, “not seven” and “no”. Other audio evidence captured includes disembodied footsteps. These footsteps were experienced by SPIRITS investigators Sharon Koogler and Sarah Campbell during the second investigation of this room. On the audio file the sound of someone walking down the basement stairs, through the living, into the laundry and then into the bathroom outside the client’s bedroom can clearly be heard. This is also verified on the audio file by both of the investigators, who can be heard discussing them and asking if someone is coming down the stairs. They can then be heard asking each other if they hear someone walking in the other room and agreeing that it sounds like someone came down stairs and into the bathroom. They can also be heard discussing how pitch-black it is in the hallway outside of the client’s bedroom. This audio file is provided on the CD that accompanies this report.

- iii) Basement Living Room: This room was also investigated by all four team members through the course of the night. Approximately 3 hrs of investigation time was also conducted in this room. Numerous audio evidence was captured on three different digital recorders in this room. Evp’s include such responses as knocks, breaths, thumps, humming, laughing, as well as voices saying: “Didn’t like me”, “Nothing”, “No”, “Liar” and “Yes”. The majority of evps and activity occurred between 10:00 pm on Saturday, 6 March and 2:00 am on Sunday, 7 March. The peak of the activity occurred between 10:00 pm and 12:00 am while one of the investigators focused on the discussion on religion, asking questions about God, Jesus Christ, The Holy Trinity and praying. The mention of The Holy Trinity in particular seemed to trigger the most activity. It is very important to note here that during the time of the investigation, none of the team members had any knowledge of the existence of any of the cemeteries or of The Holy Trinity Church of God located within a one mile radius of the client’s home. This information was only uncovered after the

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home investigation, while researching information on the client's home and the surrounding area of the city of Springfield, MA.

- iv) Basement Laundry Room: This room is a small hallway like area of the home between the basement living room and the basement bathroom and the client's bedroom. It was investigated only once during the evening by team investigator Sarah Campbell. This room was investigated because of claims by the client that he saw spirits (moving hazes) in this room. Clicks, knocks and footsteps were heard coming from this area numerous times during the night's investigation, some of which were captured on the digital audio recorders. On several occasions during the night a spraying sound (like the water spray that comes from an iron) was heard. This was later identified by one of the investigators as water spraying into the washing machine from a clear water line feeding into it. This only occurred when the heat came on, which seemed to somehow create pressure in the water line which fed back to the home's hot water heater, and then forced both air and water out of the line and into the washing machine. The investigator, Sarah, did hear some of the thumps and clicks that were captured on recorders during the one hour that she spent investigating this room, but at the time, the sounds to her seemed to be coming from the basement living room, while to the other two investigators (Sharon and Jack) who were in the living room, the sounds seemed to be coming from the laundry room or bathroom.

- v) All of the evp's captured are provided on a CD along with this report.

- b) **Temperature Changes and Cold Spots**: The temperature in the rooms of the basement during the investigation ranged between 64°F to 68°F. Each investigator did experience feelings of cold, colder than the air temperature, on their arms and legs various times during the evening. These could not be attributed to anything specific and there was no actual change in room temperature at the time these things occurred. There was one specific "cold spot" that was identified at about 1:00am during the investigation, in the Down Stairs Living Room by investigators Sarah and Jack. It was a large cold spot that Sarah initially identified by the end of the couch in that room. It was approximately 5 foot tall by 2 feet wide. It was only identified by feel using their hands (they did not have a temperature probe at the time). As one of the investigators, Jack, began to feel the area of the cold spot it began to move away from the couch back

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towards the stairs leading to the kitchen. It did turn before reaching the stairs though and moved to the door to the room of the client's sister, where it then disappeared. This cold spot was very odd for several reasons: 1-The forced air heating in the basement was running and had been for at least 15 to 20 minutes before the cold spot was identified. 2-The cold spot felt at least 20 degrees colder than the rest of the room and was about human size. 3-Approximately 5 minutes prior to investigator Sarah Campbell identifying the cold spot at the end of the couch, investigator Jack Kenna, who was sitting on the couch, had seen a full bodied shadow person standing in the exact location the cold spot was identified, and had not yet mentioned anything about it to Sarah. 4-An evp was captured shortly after Sarah had identified the cold spot, and Jack was telling her about the shadow person he had seen. A woman's voice can be heard on the evp saying "Didn't like me".

- c) **KII Meter Interaction:** During the investigation several KII sessions were conducted, but there was no activity experienced with this device.
- d) **Photo & Video Evidence:** During the Team's investigation of the home, numerous baseline photos were taken to help establish and document possible areas of paranormal activity in the home. Additional photos were taken during the investigation in order to try and document any possible paranormal activity taking place during the investigation. No anomalies of any kind were captured in any of the photos taken of the home. IR cameras were also setup in the attic, basement living room and the client's bedroom. Nothing paranormal was captured on these cameras. Investigator Jack Kenna also used a hand-held IR camera during the investigation, but again, nothing paranormal was captured on this camera. There is one piece of video footage that was provided to the SPIRITS Team by the client, that was captured by him in his room on his cell phone. The SPIRITS Team was given the actual phone by the client and downloaded the video from it to a PC. Upon review of this video, some type of blurred mass can be seen moving from left to right on the bedroom ceiling while the camera is moving right to left. It then just disappears. This does not seem to be pixelization of the digital image as in other parts of the video. It cannot be totally explained as to what this is, but it can also not be explained to anything natural or to flaws in the digital image itself. It is an interesting piece of digital video.

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e) Personal Experiences:

- i) Client's Bedroom: No personal experiences were reported in this room by any of the investigators.
- ii) Basement Living Room: Investigators Jack Kenna and Sarah Campbell both had personal experiences in this area. Investigator Jack Kenna reported seeing a full bodied shadow person standing by the end of the couch that he was sitting on (see Image 8). This figure was so black that it blocked out the door and a photo hanging on the door that were on the opposite side of this shadow. Jack stated that he saw this shadow figure while looking straight at it. He then pulled up his IR video camera to try and film it, but it did not show up on the film or in the LCD screen on the camera. He observed it for approximately 10 seconds and then watched as it slowly faded away from the head down. Approximately 5 minutes after experiencing this shadow figure both Jack and Sarah physically identified a cold spot in the exact spot Jack had seen the shadow figure. This cold spot seemed to be at least 20 degrees F colder than the rest of the room. Jack also experienced the feeling of something squeezing his left leg while seated on the couch. This occurred twice during an evp session while he was talking to whatever might be there about God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Trinity. It is also important to note that other activity also occurred, such as knocks, thumps, etc., whenever these terms were mentioned by the investigators.



Location of Shadow Figure – Image 8

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Investigation of Bay Path Cemetery – 18 April 2010:

- 1) As part of the research portion of this investigation, two of the SPIRITS team investigators returned to Springfield, MA on 18 April 2010 to collect photos of the cemeteries and of the Holy Trinity Church, and to also conduct a short investigation of Bay Path Cemetery. This investigation was conducted during the day between the hours of 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm. Photo and EMF and audio data were collected at this site. The average EMF reading was 0.1 mg, which indicates normal background readings. Photos of this site can be viewed on pages 30 - 31 of this report. Nothing indicating paranormal activity was captured in these photos. With regards to the audio data that was collected, one definite evp was captured by the investigators on the outside of the cemetery right next to the fence by the north corner of the cemetery near Blunt Park Road. The evp is a one word response of “Go”, possibly to the fact that the investigators were disturbing the area. It sounds like a woman’s voice and seems to sound a little irritated. This evp is provided on a CD with others captured during the home investigation, along with this report.

Conclusions & Recommendations:

- 1) Given the results of the investigation the SPIRITS Team is able to reasonably conclude the following:
 - a) Extremely high levels of EMF exist throughout the home. These high EMF levels can be a contributing factor to some of the client’s feelings of being uncomfortable (like your being watched), headaches, seeing things, and feeling ill (stomach aches). It can also be a reason for some of the lighting issues in the home, such as flickering lights, which can be caused by poor or old wiring. It is strongly suggested that the family have the wiring in the home looked at by an electrician. It is also a theory that high EMF can also act as an attractant to spirits/entities as it is theorized that these type of beings feed on energy. Remove the energy source and remove the paranormal activity.
 - b) Some of the side effects of the medications that the client is taking could also account for some of the experiences the client is having. For instance, the side effects of Amlodipine and Lorazepam that the client is taking could be responsible for some of the marks the client is finding on his body as well as headaches, nausea, blurred vision, sleep problems (insomnia), numbness,

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burning pain, or tingly feelings, hallucinations (seeing or hearing things), skin rashes. These side effects are provided in more detail along with or detailed medication information on pages 37 – 50 of this report.

- c) While the photo, video, and DVR files collected during the investigation do not reveal any solid evidence of paranormal activity, the audio and EVP evidence collected in conjunction with Team Member personal experiences, does indicate that there is some type of paranormal activity occurring within the home.
- 2) Taking into account all of the Client's history, the history of the surrounding area of the home, the location of the home to four cemeteries (Oak Grove, St. Michael's, The Polish National, and Bay Path with its over 1000 unmarked graves) and the audio evidence and personal experiences collected during the investigation, it is the final conclusion of the S.P.I.R.I.T.S. of New England Team that there is some type of paranormal activity occurring in the home of the client, [REDACTED]. The reason for this activity cannot be determined at this time. Also, we cannot state at this time that the home of the Client or the Client himself is haunted, as no physical apparitions or manifestations were captured on video during the investigation. I do personally believe however that there is some connection between the Bay Path Cemetery, the location of the home within the triangle formed by the other three cemeteries, and the activity within the Client's home. There may also be some type of connection between the cemeteries and the Holy Trinity Church of God in Christ based on the activity that occurred during the investigation when references were made by one of the investigators to The Holy Trinity, God and Jesus Christ. I would recommend an additional investigation be conducted if the client wants or needs more answers, or if he is still uncomfortable with the activity going on in the home and around him.

Prepared BY:

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Reviewed & Approved BY: Ellen MacNeil, Lead Investigator & Co-Founder, SoNE
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**INVESTIGATION FINAL REPORT
S.P.I.R.I.T.S. OF NEW ENGLAND
294 REVERE STREET, WINTHROP, MA 02152**

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION SECTION

Bay Path Cemetery:

Feature Detail Report for: Bay Path Cemetery

ID: 601069

Name: Bay Path Cemetery

Class: Cemetery ([Definitions](#))

Citation: U.S. Geological Survey. Geographic Names Post Phase I Map Revisions. Various editions. 01-Jan-2000.

Entry
Date: 27-Aug-2002

*Elevation: 207/63

*Elevations in feet/meters from the [National Elevation Dataset](#)

Counties

Sequence	County	Code	State	Code	Country
1	Hampden	013	Massachusetts	25	US

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Coordinates (One point per USGS topographic map containing the feature, NAD83)

Sequence	Latitude(DEC)	Longitude(DEC)	Latitude(DMS)	Longitude(DMS)	Map Name
1	42.1231496	-72.5514765	420723N	0723305W	Springfield South

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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE *Springfield Union News* June 6, 1933
Story about the rededication of the **Almshouse Burying Ground**
[also called the Bay Path Cemetery] in Blunt Park, Springfield, MA.

Submitted by Roberta Cyr RobCyr1947@wmconnect.com

NEW BAY PATH CEMETERY TO BE REDEDICATED
SPRINGFIELD
6/6/33 VERTICAL FILE
Ceremony Tomorrow Night
Will Include Procession,
Addresses and Musical
Selections.

After months of restoration work, Bay Path Cemetery near the City Home in State Street will be dedicated tomorrow night with a ceremony which will include a procession, addresses and musical selections.

Since October of last year, the cemetery, which is under the supervision of the Board of Public Welfare, has been laid out anew, regraded, its iron grave markers replaced with new ones of terra cotta, two large crypts for infants constructed and flower beds and shrubs planted. Dr. John F. Streeter directed the project on behalf of the board.

The exercises in the cemetery at 7 o'clock will include addresses by Rabbi Samuel Price on "The Unknown Dead," by John F. Madden, agent of the Board of Public Welfare, and by Mayor D. R. Winter and R. DeWitt Mallary, chairman of the welfare board. Dr. Streeter will make the opening remarks and Rev. John H. Nolan, Protestant chaplain of the City Home, will give the invocation.

A selection will be sung by the Harmony Kings Quartet and the Technical High School Band will play. Rev. John H. Freed, Roman Catholic chaplain of the City Home, will pronounce the benediction.

The procession will form at 6:45 o'clock on Blunt Park Drive west of the City Home and then will move to the cemetery in the following formation: Maj. Milford D. Harder, marshal, motorcycle squad of police, Technical High School Band, First Springfield Cadets, Capt. Edward V. Bousquet commanding, Mayor Winter, City Council, Board of Public Welfare and guests.

At the conclusion of the exercises in the cemetery, the procession will reform and march to the City Home where it will be dismissed. The band and quartet will give a concert at the home.

The procession is to be held in following out an old custom that once prevailed at the City Home. When someone died there, all of the home occupants walked together to the cemetery for the burial.

Bay Path Cemetery was established by the City Council in 1874 and since that time has been known variously as Potters Field, City Farm Cemetery and Almshouse Cemetery. It was enlarged in 1885 and in 1928 the name was changed by the Board of Public Welfare to Bay Path Cemetery.

The condition of the burial grounds had become so deplorable that Dr. Streeter, who was successful in restoring the old Cherry Lane Cemetery, was asked to take charge and during the last six months workers from the Park Department, Department of Streets and Engineering and the welfare department have been engaged there under the immediate supervision of Raoul N. Bouchard.

A new plan was drawn, old trees removed and graves replaced until now the cemetery is of most presentable appearance. Each of the new crypts for infants will hold more than 1000 bodies. The cemetery also has room for 1029 more adults and 250 more children.

Through the cooperation of funeral directors in Springfield all welfare department dependents who die are assured of regular burial services.

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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE Springfield Union News Oct. 23, 2000, page B-4. Story about the Almshouse Burying Ground [also called the Bay Path Cemetery] in Blunt Park, Springfield, MA.

Submitted by Roberta Cyr RobCyr1947@wmconnect.com

Neighbor seeks respect for Potter's Field graves

From the small parking area at the edge of Blunt Park, the fenced-in field looks like an empty lot, a slightly overgrown yard, or a forgotten corner of the city's parkland.

Which, as it turns out, is just what the good city fathers in the late 1800s had in mind for certain neighbors they would just as soon forget.

Measured off carefully by city ordinance at 6 by 12 rods, this patch of earth



Front porch

served from 1873 to 1951 as the city's Potter's Field, or Alms Cemetery, where the city buried its poor, its homeless, its forgotten, its insane.

There are no gravestones, no monuments, only a flagpole that never flies a flag and a small stone marker hidden behind a rhododendron bush bearing these lines from Matthew:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."

"The people who were buried here had no money, no relatives,

no one to care for them," said Roberta Cyr during a recent visit to what is now known as the Bay Path Cemetery.

"But I care," she said.

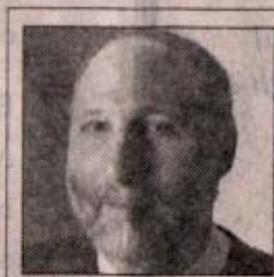
Cyr and her husband have been regular visitors at the cemetery in recent weeks as they have set about their task of uncovering the small clay

markers set six inches below the ground, as the first step in cataloging and marking the gravesites of the 896 souls buried here.

Cyr's interest in Potter's Fields was sparked by the search for the grave of her grandfather who had been sent to Monson State Hospital because he was allegedly insane, but who in fact had epilepsy.

"When he died he was buried by case number, but there are no records of his grave, so I can't mark the stone. My grandfather was more than case number 2703."

The search for her grandfather's grave sparked an interest in the numbered, but unmarked, graves of the Potter's Field at Blunt Park. Thanks to an internet chatroom on



**Bob
Chipkin**

the subject, she has been joined by Gerri Mortell who as it turns out grew up near Cyr in Hungry Hill, and who believes that somewhere in this field are the remains of her great-grandfather.

"So far as we know he committed suicide in St. Michael's Cemetery in 1902, but his body was removed to somewhere else," she said. "I have a feeling it might be here."

The Alms Cemetery was closely connected with the old Municipal Hospital, and the city's poor farm. Many times, the poor and homeless who spent their last days at one or the other of these institutions would be buried without ceremony here.

And there were the children, so many children, whose only piece of recorded history is a phrase on a burial list marked simply "infant."

Both Cyr and Mortell spend time in Potter's Field uncovering and cataloging markers, cleaning up brush and trying to make sense of an accounting system that has been lost in time.

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And they spend even more time in libraries and historical societies where the dusty records and poorly photocopied documents are nearly as buried as the cemetery's inhabitants.

"When I was younger, I used to ask about some of my relatives and I was always told to leave well enough alone," Cyr said. "But you know that was one thing I was never very good at.

"I just couldn't help thinking about all the unmarked graves, and all the people who might want to know what happened to their relatives who rest so quietly and unknown. And I just couldn't leave all that alone."

And so she writes to legislators, and calls the parks department, and puts out messages on the internet, hoping to speak for all the people who had no voice in life.

"No one did much for these people when they were alive, but I feel like I can do something for them now."

Cyr feels strongly that the memory of the people buried at Bay Path Cemetery must be honored in some formal way; that the city or the state has an obligation to recognize the citizens they were once in such a hurry to forget.

"Maybe they felt that these people didn't mean anything and that's why they were treated the way they were. But if my grandfather hadn't been born, I wouldn't be here today."

No one was buried in Potter's Fields after the early 1950s, when the state decreed that indigent people must be buried in public cemeteries and provided with a modest funeral service. But Mortell too feels that the government owes recognition to those of our neighbors in these unmarked graves.

"I think they were treated this way because there was no one to remember them. But no one is completely forgotten. A new generation comes along, and they want to know."

GET CONNECTED

How can we make sure none of our neighbors is ever forgotten. I'd like to know. Contact Robert B. Chipkin, Neighborhoods Editor, at the newspaper after 6 p.m. at 788-1303, or write to Box 2350, Springfield 01102-2350. Or at the Internet at NewsCall@aol.com.

Almshouse & Burial Grounds, Springfield, MA.

The following information was posted to our Message Board by Roberta Cyr Rob147Ma@aol.com

There was an Almshouse/Poor Farm at 1400 State St., Springfield, **Hampden** County, MA. And they had their own **burying grounds behind the farm**. 1873-1952

In 1873, this land the Almshouse stood on was all farm and extended back quite a distance. Since that time roads were built and now the old burying grounds is on city park property and has been forgotten.

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In 1952, a new hospital was built to replace the Almshouse and it was named, Municipal Hospital. Which was still run by the State of Massachusetts. A few years back, private owners bought the building and it was names Olympus Specialty Hospital and Rehabilitation Center, still located at 1400 State St., Springfield, MA. On April 8, 2001, the hospital was sold again to Parkview Specialty Hospital.

I found **news articles** dated back to 1873 when the Almshouse was first built and the only records for the burying grounds is in the Conn. Valley Historical Museum at the Quadrangle, 220 State St., Springfield, MA.

There were over **1000 burials from 1873-1952**, which included many infants, children, men, women and unknown. There are names in the hand copied booklet for # 550 to possibly #670 of the *numbered markers* that were replaced at the graves in 1936 after welfare men were hired to dig up the graves and place them in rows, etc. There used to be two crypts at the rear part of the cemetery, according to one of the articles in the Springfield Union News, dated 1915. There are only imprints of 4 corner posts where the crypts may have stood. They were discarded years ago by Park employees, not knowing what they were.

Last fall, my husband and I went to this cemetery, now called, "**Bay Path Cemetery**", which is in **Blunt Park**, off Roosevelt Ave., Springfield, MA. and we tried to uncover the buried numbered markers.

We found 205 markers and I cross referenced these numbers to the copies I have. Most were infants from 1873 and later. No names..

In 1981, the past **Springfield Historical Society** had people clean the cemetery once again, plant trees and flowers which were donated by different companies. **New gates were installed and also a small monument to honor the poor.**

But when I wanted to find this cemetery last fall, I called the Parks dept. and the man answered said there was no cemetery in this park. But he then gave me the phone number for the shed at Blunt Park. I called and left a message. To my surprise, a man called me back and said there "Was a cemetery in Blunt Park", and we made arrangements to meet the next afternoon.

I wrote letters to the Mayor's office, Senator Edward Kennedy and sent out messages by email. After my pleas, **a sign was erected at the main fence to the cemetery, which now**

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at least tells someone it's a cemetery. Trees were cut down, brush cleaned and taken away, etc. So maybe my calls and letters did some good. I hope.

If anyone wants to know something about Springfield's Almshouse, please email me.

Roberta Cyr

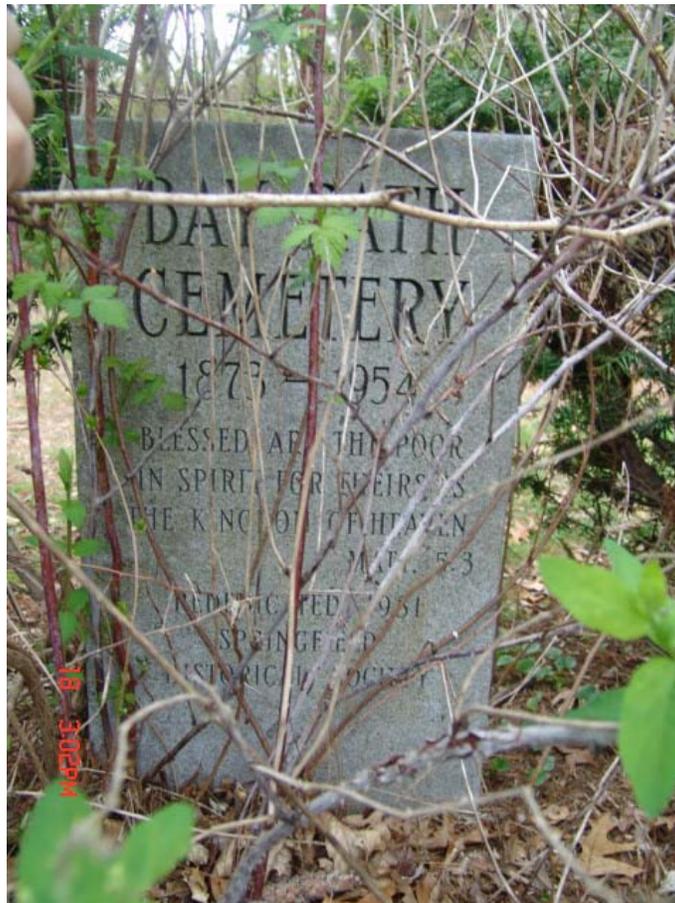
Photos of Cemeteries Surrounding Client's Home:

Bay Path Cemetery:



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Bay Path Cemetery
1873 – 1954
BLESSED ARE THE POOR
IN SPIRIT FOR THEIRS IS
THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

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Oak Grove Cemetery:



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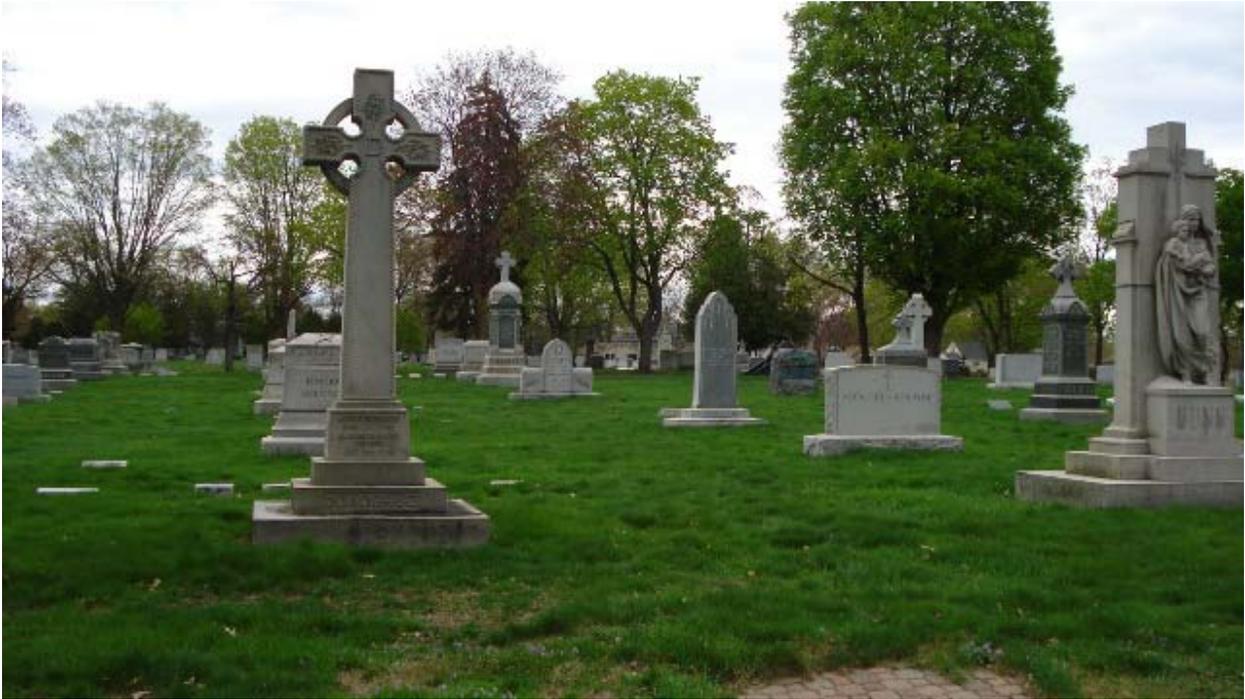
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Saint Michael's Cemetery:



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Photos of The Holy Trinity Church of God in Christ:



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Client's Medications Information:

The Following Information was Obtained Online From Drugs.com

Amlodipine

Generic Name: amlodipine (am LOE di peen) Brand names: Norvasc

What is amlodipine?

Amlodipine (Norvasc) is in a group of drugs called calcium channel blockers. It works by relaxing (dilating) your blood vessels, lowering blood pressure, and decreasing heart rate, which lowers the workload on the heart. It also dilates coronary arteries increasing blood flow to the heart.

Amlodipine is used to treat high blood pressure (hypertension) or chest pain (angina).

Amlodipine may also be used for other purposes not listed.

Important information about amlodipine

Before taking amlodipine, tell your doctor if you have congestive heart failure or liver disease.

Avoid drinking alcohol while taking amlodipine. Alcohol can further lower your blood pressure and may increase some of the side effects of amlodipine.

If you are being treated for high blood pressure, keep using this medication even if you feel fine. You may need to use blood pressure medication for the rest of your life.

Amlodipine is only part of a complete program of treatment that may also include diet, exercise, weight control, and other medications. Follow your diet, medication, and exercise routines very closely.

Tell your doctor about all other heart or blood pressure medications you are taking.

Your chest pain may become worse when you first start taking amlodipine or when your dose is increased. Call your doctor if your chest pain is severe or ongoing.

Before before taking amlodipine:

You should not take this medication if you are allergic to amlodipine.

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If you have certain conditions, you may need a dose adjustment or special tests to safely use this medication. Before taking amlodipine, tell your doctor if you have:

congestive heart failure; or •

liver disease. •

If you are also taking a beta-blocker drug (such as Blocadren, Corgard, Inderal, Normodyne, Tenormin, Toprol, Trandate, Zebeta, and others) do not suddenly stop using the beta-blocker without first talking to your doctor. You may need to use less and less before you stop the medication completely. Stopping a beta-blocker too quickly can cause serious heart problems that will not be prevented by amlodipine.

FDA pregnancy category C. Amlodipine may be harmful to an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant during treatment. It is not known whether amlodipine passes into breast milk or if it could harm a nursing baby. Do not use this medication without telling your doctor if you are breast-feeding a baby.

How should I take amlodipine?

Take amlodipine exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Do not take it in larger amounts or for longer than recommended. Follow the directions on your prescription label.

Amlodipine is usually taken once daily. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose to make sure you get the best results from this medication.

Your chest pain may become worse when you first start taking amlodipine or when your dose is increased. Call your doctor if your chest pain is severe or ongoing.

Amlodipine is only part of a complete program of treatment that may also include diet, exercise, weight control, and other medications. Follow your diet, medication, and exercise routines very closely.

If you are being treated for high blood pressure, keep using this medication even if you feel fine. High blood pressure often has no symptoms, so you may not know when your blood pressure is high. You may need to use blood pressure medication for the rest of your life.

Store amlodipine at room temperature away from moisture, heat, and light.

What happens if I miss a dose?

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Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention if you think you have taken too much amlodipine.

Overdose symptoms may include warmth or tingly feeling, severe dizziness, and fainting.

What should I avoid while taking amlodipine?

Avoid getting up too fast from a sitting or lying position, or you may feel dizzy. Get up slowly and steady yourself to prevent a fall.

Avoid drinking alcohol while taking amlodipine. Alcohol can further lower your blood pressure and may increase some of the side effects of amlodipine.

Amlodipine side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have any of these signs of an allergic reaction: hives; difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat. Call your doctor at once if you have a serious side effect such as:

- feeling like you might pass out; •
- swelling in your hands, ankles, or feet; •
- chest pain; •
- slow, fast, or pounding heartbeats; •
- easy bruising or bleeding, unusual weakness; •
- numbness, burning, pain, or tingly feeling; or •
- jaundice (yellowing of your skin or eyes). •

Less serious amlodipine side effects may include:

- headache; •
- drowsiness, depression, nervousness; •

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- dizziness, spinning sensation; •
- warmth or redness under your skin; •
- nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, loss of appetite; •
- diarrhea, constipation; •
- urinating more than usual; •
- sleep problems (insomnia); •
- strange dreams; •
- mild skin rash or itching; •
- joint or muscle pain; •
- dry mouth, thirst, increased sweating; or •
- weight changes. •

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Tell your doctor about any unusual or bothersome side effect. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What other drugs will affect amlodipine?

Tell your doctor about all other heart or blood pressure medications you are taking.

There may be other drugs that can interact with amlodipine. Tell your doctor about all your prescription and over-the-counter medications, vitamins, minerals, herbal products, and drugs prescribed by other doctors. Do not start a new medication without telling your doctor.

Where can I get more information?

Your pharmacist can provide more information about amlodipine •

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided by Cerner Multum, Inc. ('Multum') is accurate, up-to-date, and complete, but no guarantee is made to that effect. Drug information contained herein may be time sensitive. Multum information has

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<http://www.drugs.com/amlodipine.html?printable=1>

The Following Information was Obtained Online From Drugs.com

Lorazepam

Generic Name: lorazepam (oral) (lor A ze pam) Brand Names: Ativan

What is lorazepam?

Lorazepam is in a group of drugs called benzodiazepines. It affects chemicals in the brain that may become unbalanced and cause anxiety. This results in a reduction in nervous tension.

Lorazepam is used to treat anxiety or anxiety associated with symptoms of depression.

Lorazepam may also be used for purposes other than those listed here.

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Important information about lorazepam

Do not use this medication if you are allergic to lorazepam or to other benzodiazepines, such as alprazolam (Xanax), chlordiazepoxide (Librium), clorazepate (Tranxene), diazepam (Valium), or oxazepam (Serax). This medication can cause birth defects in an unborn baby. Do not use lorazepam if you are pregnant.

Before taking lorazepam, tell your doctor if you have any breathing problems, glaucoma, kidney or liver disease, or a history of depression, suicidal thoughts, or addiction to drugs or alcohol.

Do not drink alcohol while taking lorazepam. This medication can increase the effects of alcohol.

Avoid using other medicines that make you sleepy. They can add to sleepiness caused by lorazepam.

Lorazepam may be habit-forming and should be used only by the person it was prescribed for. Lorazepam should never be shared with another person, especially someone who has a history of drug abuse or addiction. Keep the medication in a secure place where others cannot get to it.

It is dangerous to try and purchase this medicine on the Internet or from vendors outside of the United States. Medications distributed from Internet sales may contain dangerous ingredients, or may not be distributed by a licensed pharmacy. Samples of lorazepam purchased on the Internet have been found to contain haloperidol (Haldol), a potent antipsychotic drug with dangerous side effects.

Before taking lorazepam

Do not use lorazepam if you have narrow-angle glaucoma, or if you are allergic to lorazepam or to other benzodiazepines, such as alprazolam (Xanax), chlordiazepoxide (Librium), clorazepate (Tranxene), diazepam (Valium), or oxazepam (Serax).

Before taking lorazepam, tell your doctor if you are allergic to any drugs, or if you have:

glaucoma; •

asthma, emphysema, bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD), or other breathing problems; •

kidney or liver disease; •

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a history of depression or suicidal thoughts or behavior; or •

a history of drug or alcohol addiction. •

If you have any of these conditions, you may need a dose adjustment or special tests to safely take this medication.

FDA pregnancy category D. Lorazepam can cause birth defects in an unborn baby. Do not use lorazepam without your doctor's consent if you are pregnant. Tell your doctor if you become pregnant during treatment. Use an effective form of birth control while you are using this medication. It is not known whether lorazepam passes into breast milk or if it could harm a nursing baby. Do not use this medication without telling your doctor if you are breast-feeding a baby.

The sedative effects of lorazepam may last longer in older adults. Accidental falls are common in elderly patients who take benzodiazepines. Use caution to avoid falling or accidental injury while you are taking lorazepam. Do not give this medication to a child younger than 12 years old.

How should I take lorazepam?

Take this medication exactly as it was prescribed for you. Do not take the medication in larger amounts, or take it for longer than recommended by your doctor. Follow the directions on your prescription label.

Your doctor may occasionally change your dose to make sure you get the best results from this medication.

Measure the liquid form of lorazepam with a special dose-measuring spoon or cup, not a regular table spoon. If you do not have a dose-measuring device, ask your pharmacist for one.

Lorazepam should be used for only a short time. Do not take this medication for longer than 4 months without your doctor's advice. This medication may be habit-forming and should be used only by the person it was prescribed for. Lorazepam should never be shared with another person, especially someone who has a history of drug abuse or addiction. Keep the medication in a secure place where others cannot get to it. Contact your doctor if this medicine seems to stop working as well in treating your symptoms. Do not stop using lorazepam suddenly without first talking to your doctor. You may need to use less and less before you stop the medication completely.

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Your symptoms may return when you stop using lorazepam after using it over a long period of time. You may also have seizures or withdrawal symptoms when you stop using lorazepam. Withdrawal symptoms may include tremor, sweating, muscle cramps, stomach pain, vomiting, unusual thoughts or behavior, and seizure (convulsions).

To be sure this medication is not causing harmful effects, your doctor may need to check your progress on a regular basis. Do not miss any scheduled visits to your doctor.

Store lorazepam at room temperature away from moisture, heat, and light. Store the liquid form of lorazepam in the refrigerator.

Keep track of how many pills have been used from each new bottle of this medicine. Benzodiazepines are drugs of abuse and you should be aware if any person in the household is using this medicine improperly or without a prescription.

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take the medicine at your next regularly scheduled time. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention if you think you have used too much of this medicine. An overdose of lorazepam can be fatal.

Symptoms of a lorazepam overdose may include extreme drowsiness, confusion, muscle weakness, fainting, or coma.

What should I avoid while taking lorazepam?

Do not drink alcohol while taking lorazepam. This medication can increase the effects of alcohol. Lorazepam can cause side effects that may impair your thinking or reactions. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be awake and alert.

Cold or allergy medicine, narcotic pain medicine, sleeping pills, muscle relaxers, and medicine for seizures, depression or anxiety can add to sleepiness caused by lorazepam. Tell your doctor if you regularly use any of these other medicines.

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What are the possible side effects of lorazepam?

Get emergency medical help if you have any of these signs of an allergic reaction to lorazepam: hives; difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat. Call your doctor at once if you have any of these serious side effects:

confusion, depressed mood, thoughts of suicide or hurting yourself; •

hyperactivity, agitation, hostility; •

hallucinations; or •

feeling light-headed, fainting. •

Less serious lorazepam side effects may include:

drowsiness, dizziness, tiredness; •

blurred vision; •

sleep problems (insomnia); •

muscle weakness, lack of balance or coordination; •

amnesia or forgetfulness, trouble concentrating; •

nausea, vomiting, constipation; •

appetite changes; or •

skin rash. •

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Tell your doctor about any unusual or bothersome side effect. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What other drugs will affect lorazepam?

Before taking lorazepam, tell your doctor if you are using any of the following drugs:

a barbiturate such as amobarbital (Amytal), butobarbital (Butisol), mephobarbital (Mebaral), secobarbital (Seconal), or phenobarbital (Luminal, Solfoton);

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an MAO inhibitor such as isocarboxazid (Marplan), phenelzine (Nardil), rasagiline (Azilect), selegiline (Eldepryl, Emsam), or tranylcypromine (Parnate);

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medicines to treat psychiatric disorders, such as chlorpromazine (Thorazine), haloperidol (Haldol), mesoridazine (Serentil), pimozide (Orap), or thioridazine (Mellaril);

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narcotic medications such as butorphanol (Stadol), codeine, hydrocodone (Lortab, Vicodin), levorphanol (Levo-Dromoran), meperidine (Demerol), methadone (Dolophine, Methadose), morphine (Kadian, MS Contin, Oramorph), naloxone (Narcan), oxycodone (OxyContin), propoxyphene (Darvon, Darvocet); or

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antidepressants such as amitriptyline (Elavil, Etrafon), amoxapine (Asendin), citalopram (Celexa), clomipramine (Anafranil), desipramine (Norpramin), doxepin (Sinequan), escitalopram (Lexapro), fluoxetine (Prozac, Sarafem), fluvoxamine (Luvox), imipramine (Janimine, Tofranil), nortriptyline (Pamelor), paroxetine (Paxil), protriptyline (Vivactil), sertraline (Zoloft), or trimipramine (Surmontil).

This list is not complete and there may be other drugs that can interact with lorazepam. Tell your doctor about all the prescription and over-the-counter medications you use. This includes vitamins, minerals, herbal products, and drugs prescribed by other doctors. Do not start using a new medication without telling your doctor.

Where can I get more information?

Your pharmacist can provide more information about lorazepam. •

What does my medication look like?

Lorazepam is available with a prescription under the brand name Ativan. Other brand or generic formulations may also be available. Ask your pharmacist any questions you have about this medication, especially if it is new to you.

Ativan 0.5 mg - five-sided, white tablets with a raised "A" on one side •

Ativan 1 mg - five-sided, white tablets with a raised "A" on one side •

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Ativan 2 mg - five-sided, white tablets with a raised "A" on one side •

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