

Blood and Roses

Many houses around the world are haunted. Only a few have had experiences. This is exactly what is seen at the residence on Mill Street in Hudson, New York. There have been a few sightings of the first owner of the building, John Muldowney. Here is his tragic story.

It was the summer of 1809 and Muldowney's estate was being finished. He was one of the leading proprietors for the Geo.C. Byrne Brick Yard and A. Bogardus, Brick and Tile Yard. He had a barn and house with his slaves' quarters. John was a young, rich, and good looking man with no wife or children. He decided that as soon as the estate was finished, he would throw a ball to find a bride. Seven days later his first ball was held. People from all over Columbia County attended. John searched the room until his eyes fell upon Abigail. Abigail Elizabeth Johnston was the daughter of a major trading company's owner.

Abigail was a short petite blonde with big brown eyes. She was a Southern belle with a sweet and caring personality. John decided that he wanted her to be his wife so he danced with her all night. By the end of the night he was in love.

The following day he went to ask her father for her hand in marriage. Of course her father said yes to John. He was young and rich and that was all that was needed for his daughter's hand in marriage. The wedding was planned immediately. Their wedding was to be two months later at Muldowney's estate. He told his older brother Gerald, who was not as rich as John and very envious of his younger brother, and Gerald became jealous.

On John and Abigail's wedding day John wore a large top hat, long tailored jacket, and newly seamed trousers. Abigail wore a beautiful white gown with a smile brighter than the sun. She carried a bouquet of gorgeous white roses from John's garden. She could not wait to get married to John. She was in love with John regardless of what other people said. Today she would be his and he would be hers. Three hours were left until they were to be wed.

Gerald saw how Abigail and John were in love. He became even more jealous. He came up with a treacherous plan --to kill his younger brother! Gerald decided to "talk" to John, so he went to John's bedroom where John was preparing for the wedding. Gerald stabbed him in the back. Literally. He stabbed him in the back, straight through the heart. He died instantly. Abigail's father was going to check on John but John's body was missing. Gerald had taken the body out to the cutting shed and chopped him into pieces with an ax! He took what was left of John and fed him to the dogs! Blood coated John's personal garden of white roses!

Three hours later everyone was searching for the groom but they could not find him anywhere. Abigail thought that he had decided against marrying her so she decided to kill herself. She found some rope and went into the attic of John's house and hanged herself.

To this very day people still see John walking around in his top hat and long beard

searching for his killer. People very rarely, but do see, Abigail as well looking for her deceased husband to be. If you listen close enough you can even hear her calling him!