

Ontario Provincial Police Force

Investigation Report

Southwestern

District

Lambton

Section

28 October

10

19

REPORT relative to the antecedents of :

Mr. Edmund DeLacey

Name:

Victim of murder

Circumstance

24 October 1910

Date:

Constable John L. Mahoney

reports,

On the afternoon of October 24, shortly after 3pm, the DeLacey family maid, Miss Maggie McMurphy found the inanimate body of Edmund DeLacey in his bed with his chest and neck soaked in blood. At approximately 3:50pm, Sombra Township's Dr. MacDonald arrived and found the deceased in his bed laying on his right side with two stab wounds to his upper right chest and neck. Dr. MacDonald says that other than the wounds, Mr. DeLacey was reposed as if taking a nap, with the bed coverings and his tea tray little disturbed. The bottle of analgesic found beside the body remained sealed and no signs of poison were found during examination of the body or refreshments. The attacker must then have struck with the element of surprise while DeLacey slept. I next visited the body being held securing with the undertaker and found that the wounds were most unusual, each blow leaving a jagged and deeper crescent-shaped puncture and separate angular cut beside that in the flesh.

Constable

Potential Weapons

sword



can opener



pen



meat fork



one-armed fork





Louis DeLacey
Interview:

Where did you last see your
father?

-Upstairs in his room, I was grabbing some toys. He
asked me to fetch him a glass of water

-Did he have a tea tray from Maggie?

-Yes

-Did you see anyone else upstairs?

-No

-And he was fine at this time?

-Yes

-So, you fetched him the water?

nods

-I see, and you used the back staircase?

-Yes, mommy doesn't like us using the main one when
the book ladies are here



Louis DeLacey
Interview Page 2:

-Anyone in the kitchen?

-Yes, Ms. George was in the kitchen. She asked me what I was doing, I said I was getting my dad some water, when I came back, she said I should go play on the porch with my sister, but when I went out, Mr. and Mrs. St. Laurent were fighting there.

-Do you know what they were fighting about?

-Something about Miss Maggie



Sarah-Jane Mathews
Interview:

-So, you were having an affair
with Hugh?

-Wha-what?! Of course not - -

*places photo of Hugh and Sarah
on the desk*

-*blushes, then huffs* Okay fine, but we didn't
kill him!

-*shrugs* Well, he knew about your secret

-We paid him to keep quiet

-What's that now?

-Hugh owed Edmund a lot of money. Threatened to
expose us in the newspaper if he didn't pay him
back. Hugh couldn't afford it so I payed Edmund
myself.

-When did you pay him?

-I didn't, I gave the money to Maggie, because I
trust her. Told her to give it to Hugh. I didn't
tell her what it was for.



Sarah-Jane Mathews
Interview Page 2:

-How much?

-\$400, plus a few dollars. I told Maggie to keep the extra, as a thank you, and because I figured she could use it in case anyone saw the two of them, make it look like Hugh was the one giving her money

-So, Maggie gave Hugh money, that she got from you. To pay off Edmund. And you told her to make it look as if Hugh was paying her?

-That's right

-And where were you between 1:43 and 2:15?

-I was in the living room the entire time. Except when I left to use the outhouse.

-Did anyone see you at the outhouse?

-Yes, the children



Maggie McMurphy
Interview:

-Did Sarah give you money to give to Hugh?

-Yes

-Did she tell you what it was for?

-No, just that he would be expecting it from me and to not let anyone see us

-What was on the tray that Hugh took upstairs for you?

-A teapot, two teacups with saucers, a bowl of sugar with a spoon, a jar of milk, and sponge cakes

-no water?

-No



Genevieve St. Laurent

Interview:

-Were you aware that your husband
owed Edmund money?

-I had my suspicions.

-And this caused the tension between them?

-Of course, but my husband would never murder his
dearest friend! Who else would tolerate him then?

-What were you and your husband talking about on
the front porch that afternoon?

-I was questioning why Maggie was giving him money

-Maggie gave him money?

-Yes, he tried to tell me that he gave her money,
for her sick mother. But I don't believe him.

-What do you suspect this money was for then?

-*Scoffs* I have no idea why a maid would be giving
money to my husband.

-So, you don't think this suspicious exchange of
money had anything to do with Edmund's murder?

-My husband is a shady man, but not a murderer.



Genevieve St. Laurent

Interview Page 2:

-So, what do you suppose the money was for then?

-*rolls eyes* I told you I don't know. Why don't you ask my husband or the maid yourself?

-What happened between you and Edmund after his publishing error cost your company nearly \$1000

-*scoffs* That wasn't a very subtle accusation. Nothing happened. Sicken Lumber proofread the advertisement, it was our own mistake as well. We do not blame Edmund.

What were the shares suppose to be valued as?

-\$12.34

-Do you have the copy that was given to the company prior to publishing?

-Yes, in my office

-We will be needing that ma'am

-Sure, whatever. But if you don't mind, I need to get back to work.

Sicken Lumber Co.



Shares for Sale

BUY NOW— Now more than ever is the best time to invest your money and buy shares for a local Sombra business. Investing \$10.34 can be your key to fortune and success in the near future.

SICKEN LUMBER CO.—\$10.34 per share

A small price to pay for wealth and fortune for many years to come!

SICKEN LUMBER CO.

Wholesome Lumber, Lath & Shingles

SOMBRA, ONT.

MILL WORK

SASH

DOORS

BLINDS

SCREENS, MOULDINGS, ETC.

CABINET AND STAIR WORK

Hard and Soft COAL

Hard and Soft WOOD

Cedar Posts and House Blocks.

ESTIMATES CHEERFULLY FURNISHED

Evidence collected from the office of

Edmund DeLacey

I.O.U

-Hugh

St. Laurent



POSTAL TELEGRAPH



COMMERCIAL CABLES

TELEGRAM

The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company (Incorporated) transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

COUNTER NUMBER.

TIME FILED.

CHECK.

Oct 18, 1910: 9:33am M.

6/1

Send the following message, without repeating, subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back hereof, which are hereby agreed to.

Mr. Edmund DeLacey,

Regarding newspaper position 25% ownership with \$655 salary per yr.

Please respond promptly

London Free Press



Charlotte DeLacey
Interview:

-Do you know anyone that would have wanted to kill
your husband?

-No, Of course not

-Do you recall anything suspicious happening the
day he was murdered?

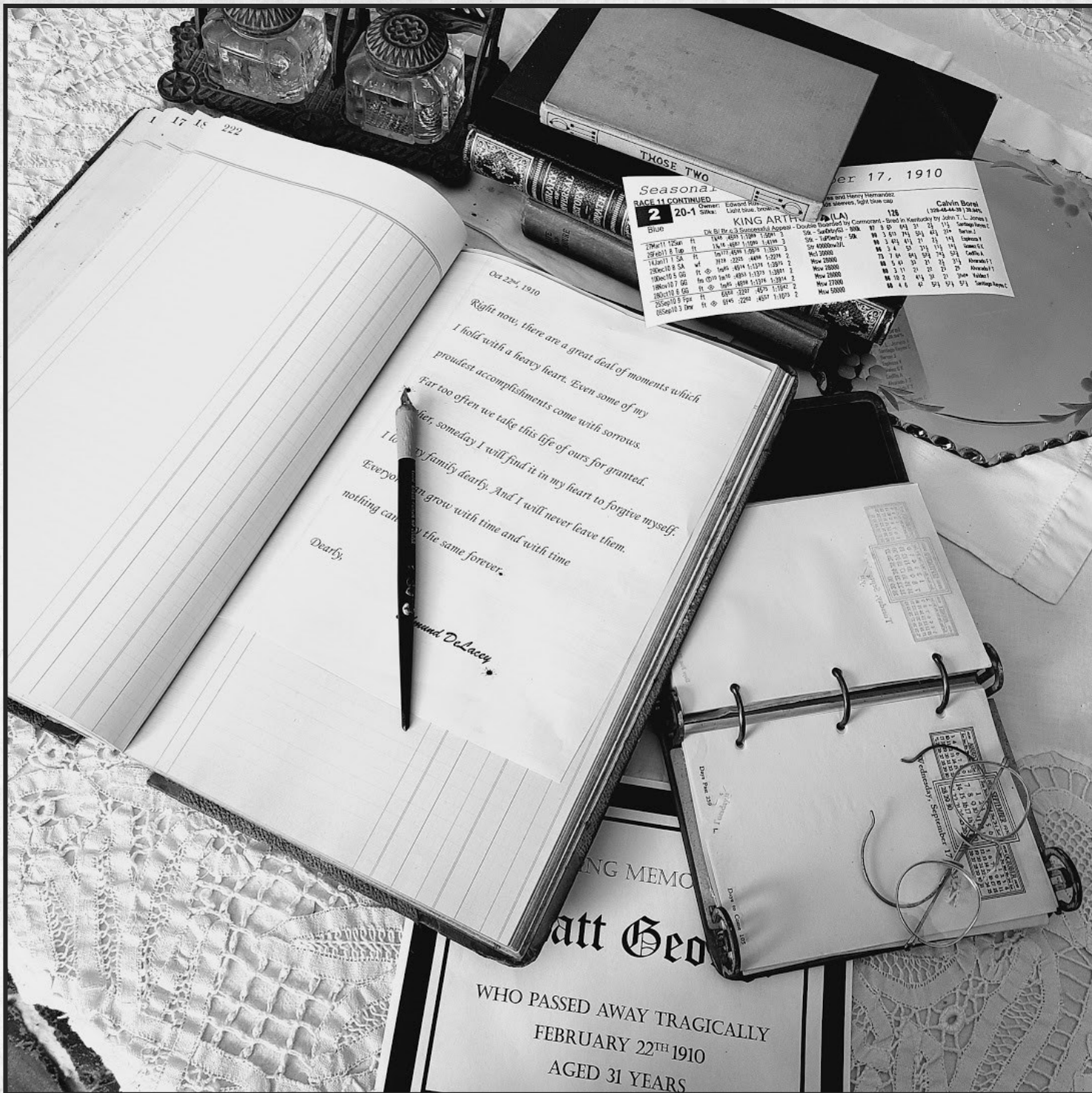
-Yes, I went into the dining room to get Maggie the
good china plate when I saw Maggie with the men's
tea tray. I noticed Hugh hand Maggie a large stack
of money under the table, before I had entered the
room. I assumed it was for her mother. She has
fallen extremely ill you know. And Hugh is a
compassionate man, The St. Laurents are very
wealthy.

-Did you know about your' Husband's job offer in
London?

-*glaring* I did.

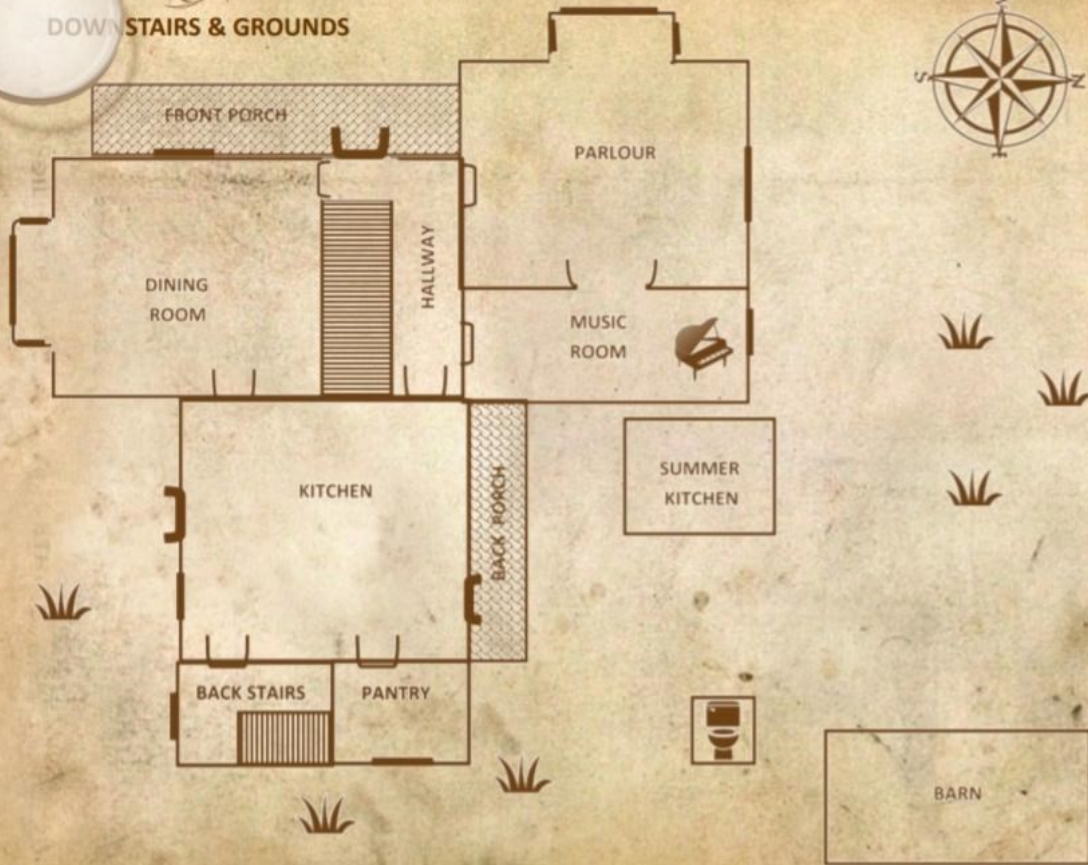


The Crime Scene

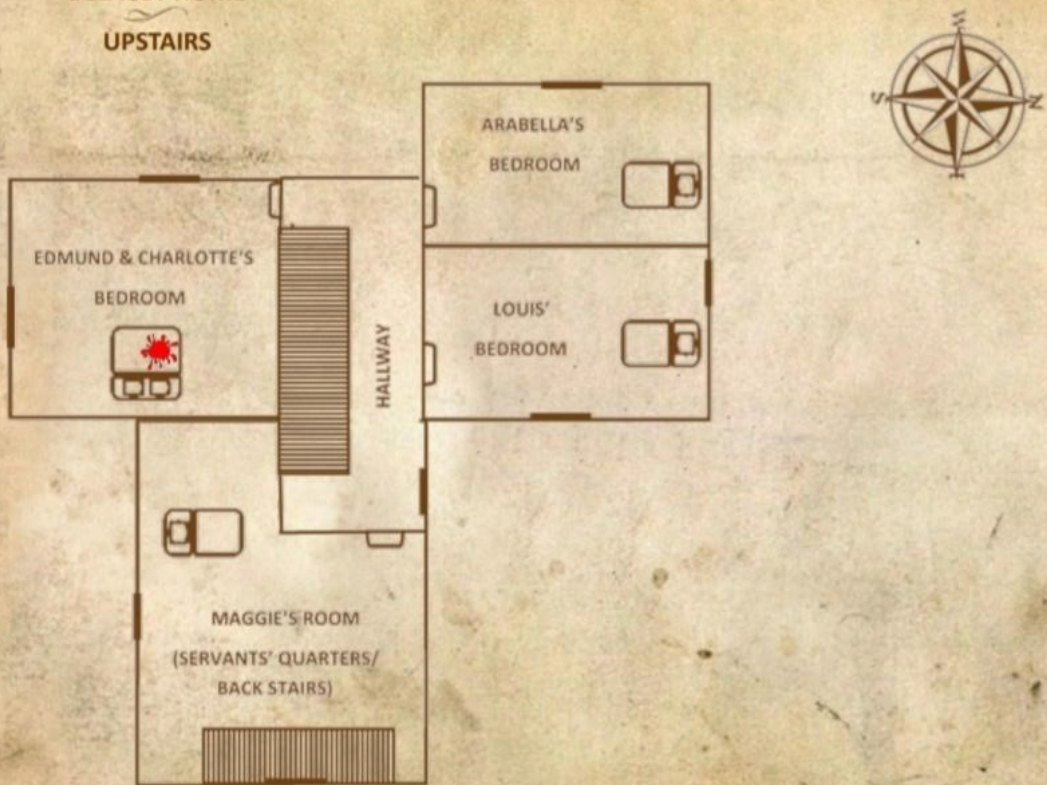


*Last Known Where-Abouts
of Edmund DeLacey:
The DeLacey Dining Room*

DELACEY HOME
DOWNSTAIRS & GROUNDS



DELACEY HOME
UPSTAIRS



October 24th, 1910: 1:43pm

Charlotte is hosting the monthly Literary Society meeting in her home one crisp sunny Saturday. Maggie is serving Earl Grey tea and sponge cakes. Genevieve and Hugh St. Laurent are the second to last guests to arrive through the front door. Genevieve goes to the parlour with the other women while Hugh goes to the dining room where Edmund is writing his best ideas for his latest story down in his notebook. Maggie brings the men their tea but upon seeing the mess in the dining room and hearing the women laughing in the parlour, Maggie moves the men upstairs. The true gentleman that he is, Hugh offers to carry the tray upstairs so that Maggie can get back to her work. The men take the main staircase, and many guests notice but pay no mind.

About 15 minutes later, Hugh comes down, saying goodbye to the ladies before leaving through the front door. His wife follows him outside, saying she will be back in a moment.

Helen and Sarah-Jane lead the group in a sing-along prior to starting their official meeting as Charlotte is still giving Maggie some last-minute directions in the kitchen to ensure everything is perfect for her guests. Agatha arrives last and she has brought some medication for Edmund's arm. Sarah-Jane excuses herself to the outhouse and Helen announces that she is going to the kitchen to select a different jam from Charlotte's extensive collection. The ladies all settle in for their meeting after reconvening in the parlour.

Maggie's terrified scream echoes through the house from upstairs and the ladies rush up after her to find Edmund has been murdered.

Profiles

Edmund DeLacey



Edmund DeLacey, devoted husband of Charlotte DeLacey and father of two, was once a sailor until the recent and dreadful ice boating accident on the St. Clair River where he tragically lost his arm and his dear friend Wyatt lost his life. Edmund was raised in a wealthy household and grew up in the ten room Victorian home where his family currently resides. Since the accident, Edmund has become the owner and operator of the Sombra Outlook. He is well known for his ability to uncover the hidden truths.

Charlotte DeLacey



Charlotte DeLacey is the loving wife of Edmund and mother of two children, Louis and Arabella. They met on a hayride in the late heat of August while attending high school in Wallaceburg. They wed in mid-April of 1902, just after Charlotte's 18th birthday. As president to the Literary Society, Charlotte enjoys hosting guests and planning fine events. While Charlotte is known to love her husband dearly, her dreams of moving to the bustling city of London and joining the upper echelons of society are well known to her closest confidantes. In the 8 years of their marriage, Charlotte and Edmund have never argued except when Mr. Green recently offered a handsome sum for the family home which would allow them the freedom to move to the city and Edmund refused.



**Louis
DeLacey**

Age: 8



**Arabella
DeLacey**

Age: 7

Genevieve St. Laurent



Wife of Hugh St. Laurent and mother of two, Genevieve is co-owner of her family's Lumber business, Sicken Lumber. Along with the other major businesses, Sicken Lumber owns interests in the Sombra Outlook. Recently, Edmund made a typing error on the newspaper, advertising Sicken's share price as significantly cheaper than intended, thus costing Sicken Lumber, \$900. Despite this mix-up, Genevieve and Hugh are still Charlotte and Edmund's closest friends and the two families regularly go sail boating together on the St. Clair. Genevieve is a member of the Literary Society and sings in the church choir.

Hugh St. Laurent



Edmund's closest friend, husband of Genevieve St. Laurent, and father of Pierre and Marie. Hugh is the Captain of the tugboat Victory, owned by his wife's family lumber company. When home from cruising the Great Lakes, Hugh enjoys the finer things in life including whiskey at the Grand Union and betting on his favourite horse, King Arthur, at the Sombra Racetrack. The wives have noticed that Edmund and Hugh have been unusually tense around each other as of late and Hugh has been away for work more frequently over the past several months.

Helen George



Helen George is the childhood best friend of Edmund DeLacey. As teenagers, everyone expected Helen and Edmund to marry but Edmund met Charlotte and fell madly in love. Edmund broke off the assumed arrangement with Helen. Helen married four years later only to have her husband tragically pass away. Now a widow, she is the devoted treasurer of the Literary Society, successful hat maker, and close confidant of Charlotte DeLacey. The DeLaceys frequently invite her over for Sunday brunch.

Maggie McMurphy



Maggie McMurphy has been the maid of DeLacey household since the DeLacey's first married. The daughter of Irish immigrants, she comes from a large family and over the last six months, has expressed her concern for her ill mother to the DeLacey's who give their deepest sympathies. While devoted to the DeLacey family, Maggie has been seeking opportunities for greater income to aid her struggling family.

Sarah-Jane Mathews



Sarah-Jane and her husband Jack Mathews are neighbours of the DeLacey's. Every Saturday Sarah comes to the DeLacey household to teach piano lessons to Louis and Arabella. She is the quiet, well-mannered, secretary of the Literary Society. Her husband Jack was recently let go from the Sombra Outlook due to some peculiar financial strains on the seemingly successful newspaper.

Agatha Black



Agatha Black is the widow of pharmacist Bill Black. The local children fear walking past her unkept home near the graveyard. There have been whispers of her leaving the woods late at night with a covered basket in tow, collecting frogs at the brick pond, chanting poetry in the graveyard, and lighting black candles in the window. While all her friends in the Literary Society know that she is a bit eccentric, the children's rumours are nonsense as far as they are concerned.