

Bumps in the Night!!!!

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Tools of the Trade

Barometric Pressure Gauge

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Many investigators in the paranormal field theorize that in addition to magnetic and temperature fluctuations that may occur as the result of an entity drawing energy from the environment, that the surrounding air pressure can/will also deviate. These slight changes can be measured using a barometric pressure gauge also know as barometers.

As we dive into the topic, we first need to define what barometric pressure is, and how it's measured. Barometric pressure is simply a measurement of the pressure of the atmosphere around us. This pressure is caused by gravity pulling on the gasses surrounding the earth and varies naturally based on temperature, altitude, and weather and wind patterns around us. Common units of measurement are 'Inches of Mercury'(InHg) or the metric equivalent millibars, or even Pounds Per Square Inch (PSI). The standardized baseline is 29.92 InHg or 1013.25 millibars or 14.696 PSI, which is the air pressure at sea level at a standardized temperature in accordance with a mathematical model defined by the International Standard Atmosphere <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Standard_Atmosphere> (ISA).

Barometric pressure is used routinely in weather forecasting as we commonly hear the weather reports discussing high (generally good weather) and low pressure areas (generally stormy). The cockpit of every plane also uses another form of a barometer known as an (Kollsman) altimeter which directly relates air pressure to an altitude.

Barometers can be found in most hardware or sporting good stores with prices ranging from \$20 for a good wristband model to \$200-\$300 for a high end model. Select one that fits your budget and needs that is accurate and fairly quick responding.

Tips to properly use a barometer as part of a paranormal investigation:

- Check current weather conditions slightly before, and directly after the investigation to note nearby weather and/or storm fronts which can naturally (and sometimes fairly quickly) change the air pressures. Many teams have portable weather stations with data logging that can be utilized during the investigation for additional data points.
- Take and record baseline readings in several location of the building/area being investigated. This operation can be done as part of the baseline grid pattern sweep along with the EMF and other reading.
- Note the wind strengths and directions along with open doors, open windows, running fans, forced air furnace/AC/ventilation systems that can slightly change pressures in closed spaces during the investigation.
- If variations 'are' detected during the investigation, note the readings along with any other instrument variations (e.g. EMF, temperature, noise/light anomalies) that can be used later to support the data and/or experience.

To find out more about Barometric Pressure and Barometers use the following links:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atmospheric_pressure

<http://www.barometricpressure.org>

<http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/weather/wbaromtr.htm>