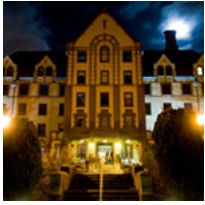


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Haunted Highline: Where To Find "Real" Local Ghosts And Hauntings

Posted By [Scott Schaefer](#) On October 28, 2010 @ 3:30 pm In [Entertainment,Featured Stories,Headlines,History,Life](#) | [No Comments](#)



by [Joanne Dyer](#) ^[1]

You know random and creepy bits of trivia about buildings you've never been in. You're dying to see *George* the friendly ghost at the Landmark on the Sound's Haunted Halloween. You can even explain exactly what "EVP" means.

Congratulations: you've been bitten by the Ghost Hunting bug!

And you have a lot of company.

Ghost hunting's popularity has come and gone over the years, but it seems to be on the upswing, according to Des Moines resident, Author, and ghost hunting expert **Joe Teeples**. Joe has written two books on ghost hunting and has been chasing weirdness since 1970.

"I'm probably one of the most skeptical people you'll find," Joe told our sister site [The Waterland Blog](#) ^[2] in a recent interview. "I've yet to have that moment when a huge beast with 666 on its forehead jumps out at me. But I've seen enough to make me wonder," he said. His scariest moment? "It takes a lot to rattle me," Joe admitted. But after one seemingly unremarkable investigation was completed, he was later surprised to see the videotape of a black shadow clinging to the ceiling and looking right at him. He saw and felt nothing at the time.

Many ghost hunters take a skeptical-but-interested point of view, much like Joe's. Local groups like [Puget Sound Ghost Hunters](#) ^[3] and [A.G.H.O.S.T.](#) ^[4] (Advanced Ghost Hunters of Seattle-Tacoma) explore paranormal activity via psychics or "sensitives," EVP (Electronic Voice Phenomena), photography, video, or energy measurements.

Sometimes the findings are inconclusive or, well, kind of boring, like when the investigators and instruments detect nothing paranormal.

And the TV ghost hunters' shrieking and wisecracking?

"It interferes with the EVP. We don't do that," Joe said. "Those TV shows are designed to sell coffee and aspirin," he added.



Joe Teeples is a leading local writer on ghosts and the paranormal.

Locally, some spirit activity is reported in Burien. **Highline Hospital** (now the Highline Medical Center) is said to be haunted, though **Stephanie Davisson**, president of Puget Sound Ghost Hunters, has not found much evidence there.

A young boy is rumored to have hanged himself at **Lakeside Milam Recovery Center** on Ambaum Blvd. SW, and reports of his ghost wandering the halls used to circulate. Since the building's remodel, unusual activity seems to have stopped, according to Stephanie.

IS DES MOINES LANDMARK ON THE SOUND HAUNTED BY "GEORGE"?



"George" is the name of a ghost who allegedly haunts the fifth floor of Des Moines' historic Landmark on the Sound, once a retirement home for Masons. You can try to find him at Sunday's "Halloween at the Haunted Castle" (more info here: <http://tinyurl.com/hauntedlandmark>).

Des Moines is reported to have several ghosts, including the famous **George**, said to haunt the

Landmark on the Sound building's fifth floor. Freemasons—a group mysterious and secretive in its own right—built the Landmark as a retirement home in 1926 ([click here](#) ^[5] for more details about this fascinating building from our sister site The Waterland Blog).

DOES A LITTLE GIRL HAUNT DES MOINES BEACH PARK EVERY JAN. 7TH?

Des Moines Beach Park is probably the most well-known hot spot for ghosts in Des Moines, enough so that we'll be posting a separate story on that soon.



No, these aren't real ghosts, but they're kinda spooky looking aren't they?

Another reported local ghost is allegedly at **Salon Michelle** on Marine View Drive South.

Diehard skeptics might compare paranormal reports to seeing faces in clouds—the mind imagines and projects what it wants to see and hear. Stephanie explained that she tries to rely on her senses rather than her imagination.

"I look for the logical first," Stephanie said, explaining that she often looks to a building's plumbing to explain thumps, for example.

What some see as spirit orbs—balls of light in photos—can be simply glare, bugs, dust, or digital blips. A sensitive once told Stephanie that she didn't believe an investigated house held spirits, but that psychotherapy might cure the "manifestations" the family was experiencing.

Which is to say, evidence is in the proverbial eye of the beholder. But the desire to connect with deceased loved ones or with other worlds, real or imagined, seems nearly universal and timeless.

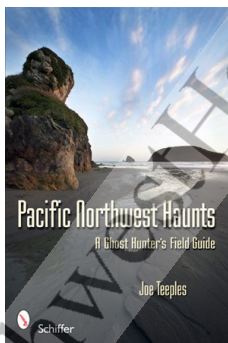
"Edison was working on a way to communicate with the dead," Joe pointed out. And according to the [Highline Historical Society](#) ^[6], early Native Americans living in Three Tree Point believed its waters to be haunted by a mythical serpent with the front legs and antlers of a deer. The bluffs above the water were said to be haunted by great snakes that triggered avalanches.

And of course, with the darkening skies, spiders and fallen, dying leaves, it seems a lot easier to believe in ghosts this time of year.

^[7] **EDITOR'S NOTE:** Watch for future stories, including what ghost hunters found at Des Moines Beach Park on January 7th, where the mischievous ghost of a child is reported to appear.

Meanwhile, [Market Ghost Tours](#) ^[8] offers haunted tours of the Pike Place Market, and [Private Eye Tours](#) ^[9] will escort you to some of Seattle's creepiest places.

Or plan your own ghost hunts with Joe's books as guides: [Ghostology 101: A Ghost Hunters Guide](#) ^[10] and [Pacific Northwest Haunts](#) ^[7] are available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Borders.]



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URLs in this post:

[1] Joanne Dyer: mailto:joanne_dyer@comcast.net

[2] The Waterland Blog: <http://www.waterlandblog.com>

[3] Puget Sound Ghost Hunters: <http://www.psgghosthunters.com>

[4] A.G.H.O.S.T.: <http://www.ghost.us/index.php>

[5] [click here: http://www.waterlandblog.com/2010/03/07/time-capsule-masonic-mysteries-abound-on-final-day-of-poverty-bay-wine-festival/](http://www.waterlandblog.com/2010/03/07/time-capsule-masonic-mysteries-abound-on-final-day-of-poverty-bay-wine-festival/)

[6] Highline Historical Society: <http://www.highlinehistory.org>

[7] Image: <http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0764334360?ie=UTF8&tag=btobl-20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=0764334360>

[8] Market Ghost Tours: <http://www.marketghost.com>

[9] Private Eye Tours: <http://www.privateeyetours.com>

[10] Ghostology 101: A Ghost Hunters Guide:

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1420881213?ie=UTF8&tag=btobl-20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=1420881213>

[11] Tweet: <http://twitter.com/share?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.b-townblog.com%2F2010%2F10%2F28%2Fhaunted-highline-where-to-find-real-local-ghosts-and-hauntings%2F&via=btownblog&text=Haunted%20Highline%3A%20Where%20To%20Find%20Real%22%20Local%20Ghosts%20And%20Hauntings%20&related>

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