

**Personal stories about
Western State Sanitarium, Lakewood, WA
by posters to The Shadowlands ghost forums
<http://theshadowlands.net>**

NOTE: Text is exactly as originally posted on The Shadowlands, not corrected for spelling or grammar.

Source: <http://www.theshadowlands.net/ghost/ghost253.htm>
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Old Western State Sanitarium in Washington

By: Thailiavigue98@aol.com

HI! I absolutely love your sight.

A couple of my friends from work and I do our own ghost hunting.

We all have a lot of fun and sometimes it scares the you know what out of us.

We also go to your Haunted Places Index and find places close to us to investigate.

We live in Washington State, and we've been really interested in going to the Old Western State Sanitarium. Last night, we all decided to go. It was about 8:30pm when we arrived, very dark, and starting to get foggy! While we walked down the path to get to the gravel road, one of the ladies husbands stopped us and said, "Listen." I had heard something too but didn't know what it was. As we all stood there listening. We heard little children laughing and giggling. Then as quickly as it started it was quiet and eerie again. We all had read the stories of hearing children whispering and laughing but thought it was someone's imaginations.

We were all very scared at that point. But we kept on walking. As we started up the hill to the ruins, we saw Pierce Lake where someone had drowned. We heard ducks quacking and to use it sounded like there were laughing at us.

Then, out of the night we saw the ruins rising out of nowhere. My heart raced with anticipation! But once we got there, there was already

people there. At that point, we were relieved. We looked and climbed what remained of the Old Sanitarium. The whole thing was covered in graffiti and vandalism. We didn't experience anything, or so we thought. One of the ladies brought a tape recorder and was recording the whole thing. Before we were all about to leave another huge group of guys come to the ruins. My fiancee said one had a gun. So at that point we left.

We got the bottom and the guys took off. So, it was just us girls. We went off to look for the cemetery that hold 3,000 of the former residences of the old sanitarium. We didn't find it due to the darkness, but we kept looking. We were about to leave when we all heard a gun shot piercing the cold, foggy night air. At that point it was really time to leave.

Across the street from the ruins is the new (huge) mental hospital. Now us girls were on our way back and looking for the guys when, like typical males, jumped out at us to scare the living crap out of us! Then, we left we want to come back again in the day time to find the cemetery.

On the way home, we listened to the recorder and what we heard was low growls and whispers, someone saying what sounded like, "I'm Sorry."

We didn't hear anything while we were out there, but if your alone with one or two people, I think maybe just maybe something is waiting and watching!

Next time were going to be going to the Thornwood Castle and I will be reporting back with what we experienced!

Source: <http://www.theshadowlands.net/ghost/ghost405.html>

2007-10-26

Westren State Hospital Washington State

By: matt_medley6988@hotmail.com

last summer me and some friends went up to the hill ward 5 or 6 times. the first time we went up there we had no idea where we were going.

so as we are walking down the long dark gravel road we think we hear someone. so we slow up our walk and turn on our flashlights and look around. nothing. we just thought it was our imaginations running wild or something. so as soon as we turn off our flashlights and start walking again i notice a figure in front of us walking. so i shout at the figure, "Is this the way to the ruins?" and there was no response. so i shout, "don't worry, we aren't the cops, we just want to know where the building is."

so i turn on my flashlight and point it at the dark figure, nothing, no one in sight... my hair started to stand up. so i turn off the flash light again and once again i see the figure walking in front of us... so now i am interested, and i start to pick up my pace, i wanted to catch up to the figure... so i start walking faster and faster, and the figure has not changed his motions, but is getting further and further away, and so i get almost to a run and i start catching up to him... and as i get closer and closer something is telling me to get back but i just kept going... and right as i was about 10 feet away from the figure i turn a little corner and there was the hospite and the figure was gone.