

HAUNTED HALIFAX & BEYOND

13 ASHBURN GOLF CLUB 3250 JOSEPH HOWE DR

Located on Joseph Howe Drive, Ashburn was originally a private estate named after Lord Ashbourne of England. The property passed through several prominent owners, until it was sold to the Halifax Golf and Country Club in 1922. In 1954, a visitor walking through the Ashburn golf course reported seeing a woman in an auburn shawl, seemingly gliding several inches above the ground. When the visitor approached, the woman raised her shawl to cover her face while making wild gestures with her free hand, clearly signalling to stay away, before gliding toward a nearby ash grove and vanishing before the visitor's eyes.

Locals believe this spectre to be that of a widow who had lived on Dutch Village Road, just across from the golf course entrance. After losing her husband to a sudden heart attack while playing golf, she suffered terribly from melancholy and bouts of dementia, and was often found wandering about the neighbourhood and golf course grounds. In 1850, she tragically took her own life in an ash grove just off one of the fairways. There have been several sightings in the years since, as her restless spirit continues to roam the Ashburn property, in search of her long beloved husband.

13 ASHBURN GOLF CLUB

14 THE MARITIME CONSERVATORY (OF PERFORMING ARTS) 6199 CHEBUCTO RD

Built in 1864, the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts operated as 'The Chebucto School' until 1975. However, in the aftermath of the Halifax Explosion, it briefly served as a first aid centre, morgue and funeral home. Given its sombre history, it's no surprise that former students and staff often report hearing airy whispers and phantom footsteps echoing through the empty corridors—with no living souls in sight!

15 SHERRIFF HALL 6385 SOUTH ST

Many stories have been told over the years of the ghost of Sherriff Hall, Dalhousie University's oldest residence building. The stories go, that in the early 1920s, Penelope—sometimes described as a student, and sometimes as a caretaker—had an affair with a local professor, and became pregnant. Faced with his subsequent abandonment and the stigma of unwed motherhood of the time, Penelope devastatingly took her own life. Ever since, there have been countless stories of residents experiencing unexplained happenings: doors unlocking and opening on their own, sounds of footsteps in the hallway, electronics acting up without reason, and even the occasional sighting of Penelope, always clad a blue dress. In 1994, the Dalhousie Gazette reported that the TV in the lounge would mysteriously, but consistently, turn off when residents watched star trek—a curious glimpse into the Penelope's quirky preferences. Though the stories may vary, one thing is certain: Penelope still lingers, playful, mischievous, and watching.

16 ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL 1330 CATHEDRAL LN

This beautiful cathedral holds many stories, but notably is said to be regularly visited by the spirit of one of its past deans. His ghostly figure has been glimpsed all throughout the church, though most frequently he is seen at the altar, eternally watchful over the service proceedings in his stead.

18 HALIFAX FAMILY COURT 3380 DEVONSHIRE AVE

19 DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM 26 NEWCASTLE ST, DARTMOUTH

17 NAVAL MUSEUM OF HALIFAX 2729 GOTTINGEN ST

14 THE MARITIME CONSERVATORY

15 SHERRIFF HALL

16 ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL

20 MCNABS AND DEVIL'S ISLAND

17 NAVAL MUSEUM OF HALIFAX

18 HALIFAX FAMILY COURT

19 DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM

13 ASHBURN GOLF CLUB

14 THE MARITIME CONSERVATORY

15 SHERRIFF HALL

16 ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL

18 HALIFAX FAMILY COURT 3380 DEVONSHIRE AVE

The Halifax Family Courthouse was once the Richmond School, educating the many children of North-end Halifax. Tragically, the Halifax Explosion decimated the building, claiming the lives of two students, Annie Campbell and Merle Huggins, among the other 482 children under the age of fourteen who perished that day. After re-building, the school operated until 1985, when it was leased to the Supreme Court Family Division. Despite its transformation, many still report encounters with young Annie Campbell's spectre, running through the hallways or sitting near the side steps to the courthouse. Her lingering presence, along with the playful spirits of her classmates past, are credited with unexplained and mischievous happenings, from flickering lights to doors that open, close, and slam seemingly on their own!

19 DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM 26 NEWCASTLE ST, DARTMOUTH

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum, previously known as the Evergreen house, was built in 1867 for the James family, who sought to get away from the city's filth after the tragic loss of eight of their eleven children to disease. The house served as a peaceful home to the remaining James family until 1928, when it was passed on to the nationally acclaimed Nova Scotian folklorist, Dr. Helen Creighton. Known as Canada's First Lady of Folklore, Creighton made a career of preserving maritime history and folklore. Today, the museum celebrates Helen Creighton's life and works, the James family history, and other historical Nova Scotian exhibits. Creighton cited many paranormal experiences during her residence at the Evergreen House, including hearing three knocks, widely recognized as an omen or forerunner of impending tragedy. Now, some even believe that Helen Creighton herself still lingers in the Evergreen House, where her spirit is said to visit her long-beloved home.

20 MCNABS AND DEVIL'S ISLAND

Both McNabs Island and Devil's Island in the Halifax Harbour boast have long and complex histories, rich with stories of times past. While McNabs Island now serves as a public green space, its past holds much darker chapters. One particularly grim story is derived from Hangman's Beach, where the bodies of executed mutineers and pirates were displayed as a warning to sailors arriving into Halifax Harbour. Many believe that the spirits of those hanged still roam the island to this day, claiming sightings of their ghostly spirits. The nearby Devil's Island holds its own chilling tales. One of which, is that of Casper Henneberry, a resident of the island who claimed to have seen the Devil himself, in the form of a halibut, warning of impending tragedy. He was found mysteriously drowned the very next day, his slumped body overhanging the gunwhales of his rowboat, head and shoulders submerged in the harbour's icy waters. Another spooky tale is that of Charles MacDonald, a lightkeeper on the Island from 1956 to 1967. He said to have awoken one night to the ghost of his long-passed grandmother, grasping at his arms, so unsettlingly real that he braced himself against the apparition and its pull towards death's unforgiving embrace!

WALKING WITH GHOSTS

A WALKING TOUR & GUIDE TO HALIFAX'S GREATEST HAUNTS

Step into the shadows and explore Halifax's long-storied past with this self-guided walking tour of the city's most legendary haunts*.

Eager to venture beyond the downtown core? Even more haunted sites await farther afield**.

Keep your eyes open—you never know who might be walking beside you!

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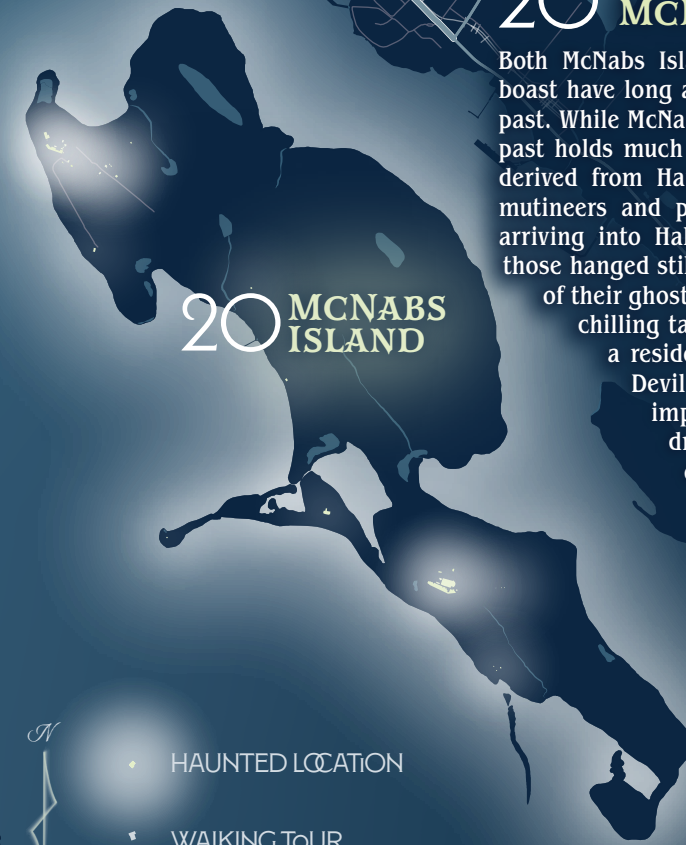
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COGS | NSCC

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- HAUNTED LOCATION
- WALKING TOUR HAUNTED LOCATION



* LOCATIONS 1 - 12. FROM START TO FINISH, THIS WALKING ROUTE TAKES APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR TO COMPLETE
** LOCATIONS 13 - 20

WALKING WITH GHOSTS

I THE HENRY HOUSE 1222 BARRINGTON ST

The Henry House was built in 1835, and is now home to a well-loved pub. Historically, however, it was occupied as both a private dwelling and as a residence for retired sailors. It seems as though many of it's past residents never really left, as the building is reportedly haunted by many fun-loving spirits who still enjoy a cheeky pint! Many staff have reported arriving in the morning to glasses lined up on the bar, despite being put away properly the night before, and have told stories of bewilderment when a beer tap starts flowing without anyone around. Late one night, one manager even reported hearing what sounded like a full-blown party upstairs, but found the entire upper floor empty upon investigation. Who can blame these spirited souls for having a little fun?

2 THE WAVERLY INN 1226 BARRINGTON STREET

The Waverly Inn is widely acclaimed as one of the most haunted places in Halifax, and is home to a few well-known ghostly "regulars". One famed ghost, known as *Isabel*, is believed to be a previous owner from the early 1900s. Keeping watch over the upper floors of the Inn, visitors have reported catching a waft of her signature rose perfume and hearing the subtle swish of her dress in empty hallways. Many visitors also claim to encounter Edward, a young boy who passed away from scarlet fever in 1917. Those staying in rooms 204 and 205 have awoken to the sounds of childish laughter, misplaced belongings, and even the occasional child-sized handprint on their bathroom mirrors. The unoccupied basement seems home to the spirits too, which often rings out with sounds of clattering dishes reverberating through the walls, even though all kitchenware is kept on the main level!

3 GEORGE'S ISLAND

With a rich history, George's Island in the Halifax Harbour is widely considered to be haunted. Initially used as a staging ground for fishing, the island later served as a quarantine station, prison, and military fort by colonial settlers. Over the years, the island has been home to many visitors and inhabitants. In 1784, two pirates were caught and hanged on Georges Island, both of whom have been said to continue to roam the grounds to this day. Others claim the ghost of a French Admiral, the Duc d'Enville, continues to walk the island long after his body was left ashore following the loss of his crew and the burning of his ships in the harbour. His ghostly figure has been spotted strutting about, donning his traditional French uniform.



HAUNTED LOCATION
 WALKING ROUTE
 HERITAGE PROPERTIES

0 250 M

4 ALEXANDER KEITH'S BREWERY 1496 LOWER WATER ST, #312

Established in 1820 by Alexander Keith, his namesake brewery has been serving up good beer for over two centuries. After a successful career in both brewing and politics, Keith passed away in 1873 at the age of 78. However, according to staff, he never truly left. Many claim to hear footsteps and the squeak of an old handcart echoing through the tunnels he had built to connect his home to the brewery, as if he's still keeping an eye on brewery operations—or maybe just sneaking in for a pint!

Keith isn't the only lingering spirit. A mysterious man, affectionately referred to as Sam, has been spotted at the bar, pint in hand, always drawn to the brewery's live music. He's especially fond of traditional maritime tunes—perhaps it's Sam who plays the phantom piano, even when no one is around?

5 THE OLD BURYING GROUND 1541 BARRINGTON ST

The Old Burying Ground has been the final resting place to over 12,000 people since its establishment in 1749. Most notably, the Old Burying Ground holds the remains of over 1,000 settlers who fell victim to the typhoid epidemic of 1749–1750, a tragic chapter in Halifax's long history. To this day, countless spiritual encounters have been reported, most notably of a young woman in period dress who passed away during childbirth. She is regularly seen walking the rows of gravestones, and often accompanied by the faint cries of an infant. On some quiet evenings, right around twilight, ghostly apparitions of military officers have been seen standing guard throughout the grounds, their voices echoing military commands into the night, forever holding their post.

3 GEORGES ISLAND

6 OLD HALIFAX MEMORIAL LIBRARY 5381 SPRING GARDEN RD

The Old Halifax Memorial Library, built in 1951, was a beloved gathering spot until its closure in 2014, in response to the opening of the New Halifax Central Library. However, long before it housed books, the site held a grim past. In the 1750s, the site was home to what was called the "poor house"—a harsh and unforgiving institution designated for those considered, at the time, as society's outcasts. From beggars to fortune tellers, those who sheltered there endured brutal punishments and short life expectancies. Many of its unfortunate residents were denied burial in the Old Burying Ground across the street, and were instead laid to rest in unmarked, shallow graves throughout the grounds. Eventually, as a result of public disapproval, the structure was torn down and given to the city on the condition that it be maintained as a public space in perpetuity. The site was reclaimed into "Grafton Park", before the construction of the library in the 1950s. Archaeological investigations suggest the remains of over 4,500 people may be buried on the property. Over the years of operation, library employees reported strange occurrences, such as books mysteriously moving, shadowy figures wandering the aisles, and even ghostly panhandlers loitering by the stone walls. Now vacant, the building's haunted legacy lingers on, and one can only wonder what it's next chapter will be.

7 NEPTUNE THEATRE 1593 ARGYLE ST

Constructed in 1915, the Neptune Theatre has been a premiere hub for entertainment ever since. While live audiences flock to the theatre, it has been known to draw a more spectral crowd as well! Staff from the costume department have described regularly seeing figures in the mirrors, seemingly critiquing their work. On one occasion, a seamstress reported that after noticing a man observing her work in the mirror, she looked up to find that both the man and the costume she was working on had vanished! She later found the costume neatly hung in its place, with subtle design alterations she hadn't made herself. Some late-night actors and staff have also reported seeing ghostly performances on stage, complete with shadowy audiences, and their faint, echoey applause seeping through the theatre.

4 ALEXANDER KEITH'S BREWERY

5 OLD BURYING GROUND

2 HALIFAX WAVERLY INN

6 OLD HALIFAX MEMORIAL LIBRARY

1 THE HENRY HOUSE

9 ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH 1749 ARGYLE ST

8 THE HALIFAX CLUB 1682 HOLLIS STREET

The Halifax Club, a stunning and ornate Italian Renaissance style building constructed in 1862, served as a hangout for high society, originally founded by fifteen members whose names are now recognized in many Halifax street names. The Club has witnessed some eerie events throughout its history, with two notable stories in particular, who's entities continue to haunt its halls.

One involves the house steward, who, after being caught embezzling Club funds, allegedly stabbed himself before leaping out of a second-story window in 1870. Many claim he still roams the halls, perhaps trying to pay his unsettled debts. The second tale is of a club member who, suffering from heart failure during a visit to a nearby brothel, was discreetly moved by a group of Club members and left on the front steps of the Club to avoid scandal. Since that solemn night, many have reported smelling his signature pipe tobacco and hearing the sound of his heavy footsteps echoing through the Club.

7 NEPTUNE THEATRE

10 THE FIVE FISHERMEN

9 ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

8 THE HALIFAX CLUB

6 OLD HALIFAX MEMORIAL LIBRARY

5 OLD BURYING GROUND

2 HALIFAX WAVERLY INN

1 THE HENRY HOUSE

HALIFAX CITADEL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



12 THE HALIFAX ARMOURY 2261 NORTH PARK ST

The Halifax Armoury, constructed from 1895–1899, was used to recruit and prepare soldiers prior to shipment out to war. A stunning example of Romanesque Revival Style architecture, it's unique design is not all the building is known for. Many have told tales about one soldier, who returned from his service in World War I, to find that his wife had left him for another man. Upon discovery, it is said he took his own life, and now maintains his post in the afterlife, patrolling the building in his full military uniform. Keep an eye out for the warm, flickering glow of his lantern in the otherwise dark windows, as he eternally lights his way through the shadows of the armoury.

HALIFAX CITADEL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE 5425 SACKVILLE ST

The Halifax Citadel National Historic Site is no stranger to ghostly encounters, with one spirit in particular becoming known as a "regular" within the citadel walls: The Grey Lady. Often seen walking the floors of the Cavalier building, she wears a long, white, 19th-century-style dress and carries with her the unmistakable scent of rose perfume. Many believe her to be Miss Cassie Allen, who was engaged to a soldier stationed at the Citadel. The wedding never came to pass, as the soldier tragically died on the day of their wedding. After her eventual passing, legend says she now wanders the citadel, forever searching for the love she lost.

10 THE FIVE FISHERMEN 1740 ARGYLE ST

Now one of Halifax's most famous restaurants, The Five Fishermen has a long and storied past. Originally built in the early 1800s and acclaimed as Canada's first institution offering free education, it later housed the School of Art, eventually becoming the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. The building then took on a more somber role as John Snow & Co. Funeral Home, handling victims from both the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, and the Halifax Explosion in 1917.

Since reopening as a restaurant in 1975, it seems that not all of its former visitors have left the premises. Staff and guests alike report eerie happenings—glasses and ashtrays flying off shelves, phantom voices arguing in the empty Private Room (known as the Captain's Quarters), and the apparition of a long-haired man in an old-fashioned coat appearing near the salad bar. It seems that more than just our current-day Haligonians have been enjoying the lively atmosphere of the Five Fisherman Restaurant!

12 THE HALIFAX ARMOURY