

HAUNTED PLACES

# HAUNTED GRAVEYARDS

by Carla Mooney



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# AT A GLANCE

- A haunting occurs when a ghost visits or lives in a location. Some people believe that ghosts are the spirits of dead people.
- Spirits are said to linger near graveyards when they are unable to move on after they die. They may stay to comfort loved ones, pass along information, or learn to accept their death.
- Spirits appear in several forms, including ghostly figures, swirling mist, glowing orbs, and moving lights.
- There are many supposedly haunted graveyards in the United States. These include Gettysburg National Cemetery, Bachelor's Grove Cemetery, and Pleasant Hill Cemetery.



# HAUNTED GRAVEYARD STORIES

People have told stories about haunted graveyards for many years. There are thousands of graveyards across the United States. Some are hundreds of years old.

Graveyards are often considered creepy places. This is because the dead are buried there. People sometimes claim that unusual events occur at graveyards. They may turn to the **paranormal** for explanations.

**Old Burying Point Cemetery in Salem, Massachusetts, is one of the oldest graveyards in the United States. It was founded in 1637.**





# SAINT LOUIS CEMETERY NO. 1

Saint Louis Cemetery No. 1 is one of the oldest cemeteries in the United States.

It is located in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Most of the graves in Saint Louis Cemetery No. 1 are above ground.**



The cemetery was opened in 1789. It holds more than 100,000 dead. Today, people continue to be buried there.

Saint Louis Cemetery is considered one of the world's most haunted cemeteries. For more than 200 years, people have reported seeing ghosts there. The cemetery's most famous ghost is Voodoo Queen Marie Laveau. Visitors frequently report spotting Laveau's ghost. She appears to be wearing bright clothing. Her head is wrapped in a red and white turban. People say they have been scratched, pinched, shoved, and touched by Laveau's ghost. Others report getting suddenly ill after an encounter with her.

Another spirit visitors claim to see is that of Henry Vignes. Vignes was a sailor who

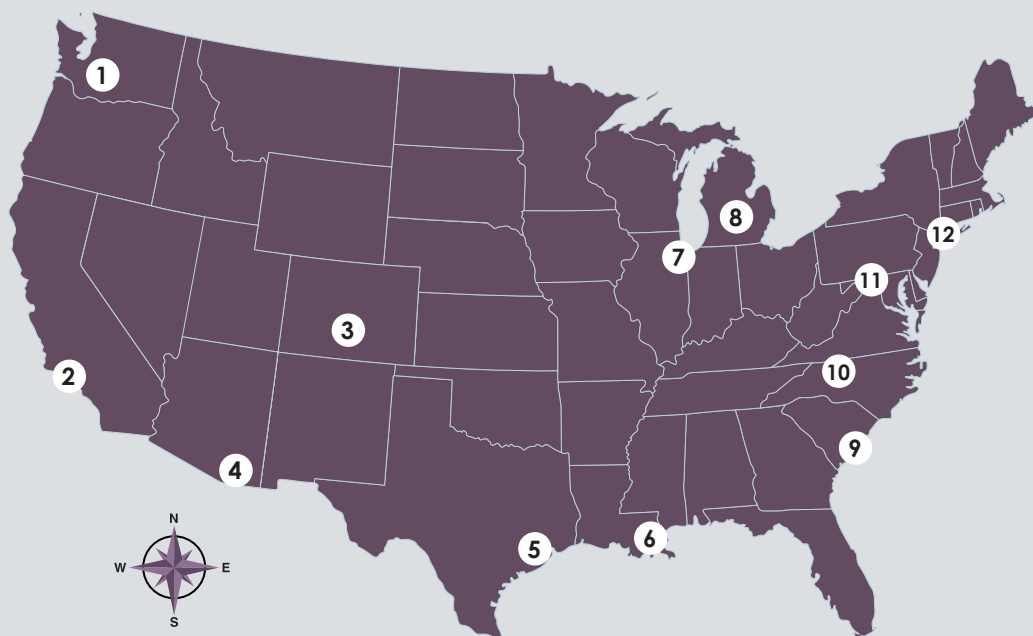
lived in the early 1800s. Vignes bought a **tomb** at Saint Louis Cemetery. He asked someone to keep his important papers safe while he was at sea. While Vignes was away, that person sold his tomb at the cemetery. Vignes could not get his tomb back when he returned to New Orleans. When Vignes died, his body was buried in

## The Voodoo Queen

Marie Laveau lived during the 1800s in New Orleans, Louisiana. At this time, slavery was legal. But Laveau was a free woman of color. She practiced a religion called voodoo. Laveau performed psychic readings and healing rituals. She sold charms and magical powders. Some items she sold were believed to bring wealth or protection. Laveau became known as the Voodoo Queen.



# FAMOUS HAUNTED GRAVEYARDS IN THE UNITED STATES



**1. Black Diamond Cemetery:**  
Black Diamond, Washington

**2. Hollywood Forever Cemetery:**  
Los Angeles, California

**3. Silver Cliff Cemetery:**  
Silver Cliff, Colorado

**4. Boothill Graveyard:**  
Tombstone, Arizona

**5. Old City Cemetery:**  
Galveston, Texas

**6. Saint Louis Cemetery No. 1:**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

**7. Bachelor's Grove Cemetery:**  
Midlothian, Illinois

**8. Pleasant Hill Cemetery:**  
Lansing, Michigan

**9. Unitarian Church Graveyard:**  
Charleston, South Carolina

**10. Browder Family Cemetery:**  
Germanton, North Carolina

**11. Gettysburg National Cemetery:** Gettysburg,  
Pennsylvania

**12. Union Cemetery:**  
Easton, Connecticut

**Many graveyards across the United States are believed to be haunted. People visit these places to look for evidence of ghosts.**



# GLOSSARY

**electromagnetic**

having to do with a relationship between electricity and magnetic fields

**infrared**

a type of light that humans cannot see

**inscription**

writing carved into something, such as stone or metal

**paranormal**

something that is unexplained by science, such as ghosts or aliens

**phantom**

a ghost or spirit

**rites**

religious ceremonies or acts

**thermal**

related to heat

**tomb**

a structure, often underground, where the dead are buried

**transparent**

clear or able to be seen through

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