

# Lewiston Ghosts: Curious Tales Abound of Local Hauntings

Lewiston  
History  
Mysteries

Lewiston is famous for many things, including the tales of restless spirits who haunt our local homes, establishments and streets. Several ghost-hunting productions have visited Lewiston to film various locations. These are just a few of the more popular stories that people swear are true.

## Frontier House

Gordie Harper was the Frontier House manager from 1964-67 and lived there. As reported in the local press, "He had heard doors open and close at times when he knew he was alone in the building. He wandered about, searching for prowlers, but found no one.



On one occasion, Harper said, he was taking a shower and saw someone through the opaque glass. When he slid the panel back, there was no one in the bathroom. "That scared me," he said, "I had to get out of the bathroom quick."

On another occasion, Harper was alone in the house and watching television. He left the room, leaving the television set on channel 7. When he got back, he said it was turned to channel 4.

"I'm sure there's something in the building," Harper said. "I believe in this stuff now. I always had the feeling that if I thought about it too much, I'd see something."

Bob Miller, a chef at the Frontier House in the early 1970s, said, "From the kitchen there was a narrow staircase that led up to the second floor and to a room where I had an office to do menu planning and ordering. More than once when I was up there late at night I would hear the stomping of feet and crashing pans. I never found or saw the cause of this."

Recently, Jim Fittante, an architect involved with the Frontier House restoration, had a "weird" experience. He was at the bottom of the stairs in the basement when he heard a voice say, "Hey!" He turned around and no one was there. "Every hair on my body stood up!"

Unexplained "ghost orbs" have also been photographed at the Frontier House.

## Red Brick School (Village Hall)

There are many ghost stories here. Trustee Nick Conde saw the spirit of a little girl in the interior window on the second floor looking down at the gym. Mayor Anne Welch, who has worked in the building for decades, often hears footsteps walking down the hall. The entire Village staff is well familiar with the "burnt toast" smell that comes and goes. Is it from the time when there was a fire in the front of the school in the early 1900's?

Recently, Nick and Tessa Groff and the crew from Death Walker were filming an episode for season 5 of their series. They recorded several apparitions including loud doors slamming shut, voices, and footsteps. Tessa, a medium, said, "Someone near the janitor's room is very protective of that space."



To see the paranormal activity that was filmed by the DeathWalker crew at the Red Brick School, just point your phone camera at this QR code and it will automatically take you to the short video posted on Instagram.

## Barton Hill Mansion

Local historian Tim Henderson, says, "The Barton Hill owner once told me that while he was doing some renovating, his tools would either disappear or were moved to other places in the large house. Jack and Gretchen Morgan lived there for a spell and used to feel the presence of other people, especially in the living room. He remembers cold drafts of air brushing by him about halfway up the stairs to the second floor." The Death Walker crew also recorded a "big rush of energy" permeating throughout the house, along with footsteps, voices and a presence that projected "get out of my way."

## Starkweather Mansion

(on Artpark property, destroyed by fire in 1974)

Nina Starkweather (1885-1966) was the last resident of the Starkweather Mansion that was built in 1834. Nina fell in love with a young man, Mike Mellany, who lived down the street. However, Nina's mother and aunt were against the romance and forbade Nina from marrying him. She turned bitter and resentful and stopped speaking to her mother. Some say her spirit can be seen in the area wearing a white dress and walking a white dog. Is she wearing the wedding dress she longed to be married in?

## Angler's Retreat (Former Riverside Inn)

Village Historian Russ Piper recounts the time when he working alone late into the night on Christmas Eve. He reports, "I encountered a woman in a Victorian dress staring at me in the pier mirror at the top of the staircase. I was so freaked out I ran out of the building."

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