

HAUNTINGS IN DUBLIN

Stephen Wade

Of all the cities in the world, Dublin has a claim to be the most actively paranormal. The layers of violent history are there to see, from the underground caverns of St Michan's church to the iconic St Stephen's Green, which has seen hangings and gun fights over the centuries. Dublin has a chronicle of hauntings to match any other place claiming to be steeped in eventful history.

Hauntings in Dublin is a different kind of ghost case book. It brings together established tales and modern unexplained everyday experiences of Dubliners and visitors to the city. Here you will find the famous and the infamous, the literary celebrities and the unknown people of the streets, their stories told in a rich compendium of tales, ancient and modern.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Stephen Wade is a freelance writer and lecturer, researching both crime history and paranormal studies. This is the third book for Halsgrove in his Hauntings series.

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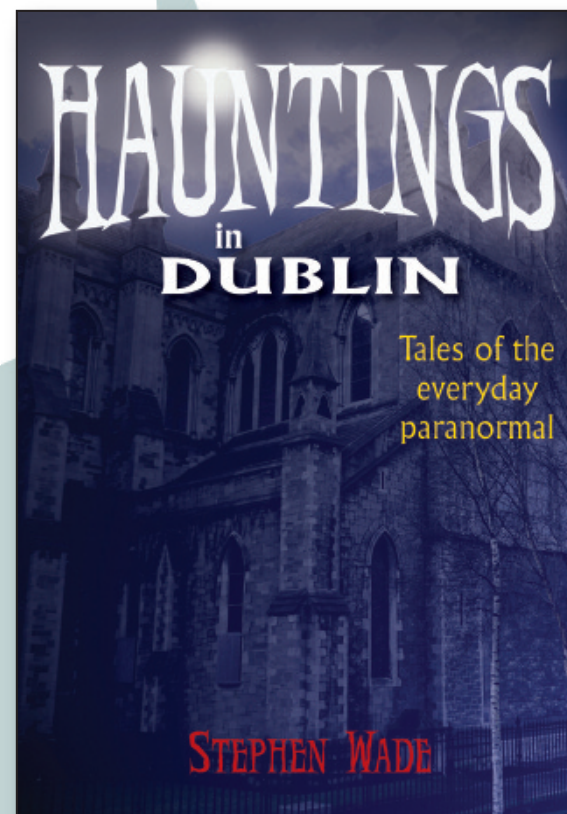
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St Michan's church. The skeletons of Dubliners from many centuries lie in the crypt.



Dublin Castle entrance. The castle has several paranormal sightings, reflecting its turbulent history.



St Patrick's cathedral. Swift's ghost has been reported here.

HAUNTINGS IN DUBLIN

Shelburne Hotel.
Here is a haunted room, investigated in the 1960s by famous mediums.

... explanation – until the next day when the musician was asked about this and he said that he no longer had his violin. He had sold it.

It was a mystery, but the story did not end there. In 1957, the soldier roared about the marmalade, and the story of the weird thing was that it had been sold and had come back to Dublin. But the violin music had come with it, and the new Dublin owner had had the piece taken away. The last that was heard of the marmalade is that it was in Clonagh Castle, Offaly. But there were no more paranormal tales about it after that more.

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Apparitions Everywhere

Biddy Butlerly

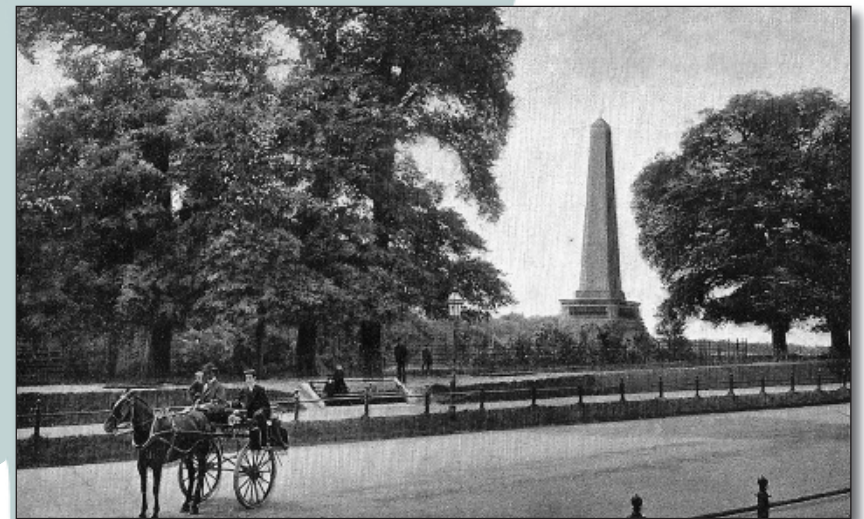
IF THERE is any credence due to the fact that ghosts of people who have passed to the next world in agony tend to burn in a purgatorial heat, then this tale is to be attended to. It concerns Mountjoy Square, meetings with a woman wailing and calling for her Maker, and a tale of a ruthless murder.

Mountjoy Square was completed in 1815, after a delay in completion brought about by the death of the 2nd Lord Mountjoy at the Battle of New Ross in 1798. The usual addition of a great swathe of lawn was done, and a noble addition to Georgian Dublin had arrived. Being a place of wealth, there were attractions there for the criminal classes of course, and that is where Biddy Butlerly comes into this story.

In March 1821, a young woman who was living in the home of a Captain Peck in Portland Place near Mountjoy Square was murdered. Apparently, a girl called out to her that the Captain had had an accident and that he wanted the girl to take his greatest to him. When the girl did so, she returned to find the house ransacked, and there had been no accident but her mistress had been killed. It took no time at all to find and arrest two Bridgetts – Ennis and Butlerly.

They had killed Miss Thompson, and there was a back-story to the case, as Bridget Ennis told people in gaol. The report states that she had had an intimacy with the Captain while employed by him. The Bridgetts had then planned to run away to England and needed funds. Robbing the Captain's house was to find some cash for that purpose, but the girls murdered Miss Thompson. Butlerly testified: 'I had drugged Miss Thompson two or three steps down before Ennis had left the house but had not given her a blow or other injury at that time. I pushed her down the stairs until I got her into the kitchen. I then seized a poker and began to beat her...'

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Phoenix Park. Where one correspondent heard a voice of warning from an apparition of an old man.

Example of a double-page spread.