



Spirit Tour Self-Guided



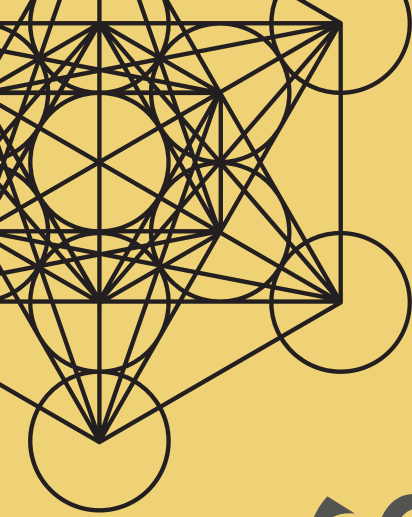


Table of HAUNTED STOPS

The Former Winchester Home	1
Whitewater's Cemeteries	2
WW Cemeteries Cont...	3
The Witches Tower	4
Hamilton House B&B	5
The Sweet Spot Cafe	6
Greenhill Center of the Arts	7
Whitewater Lake Public Beach	8

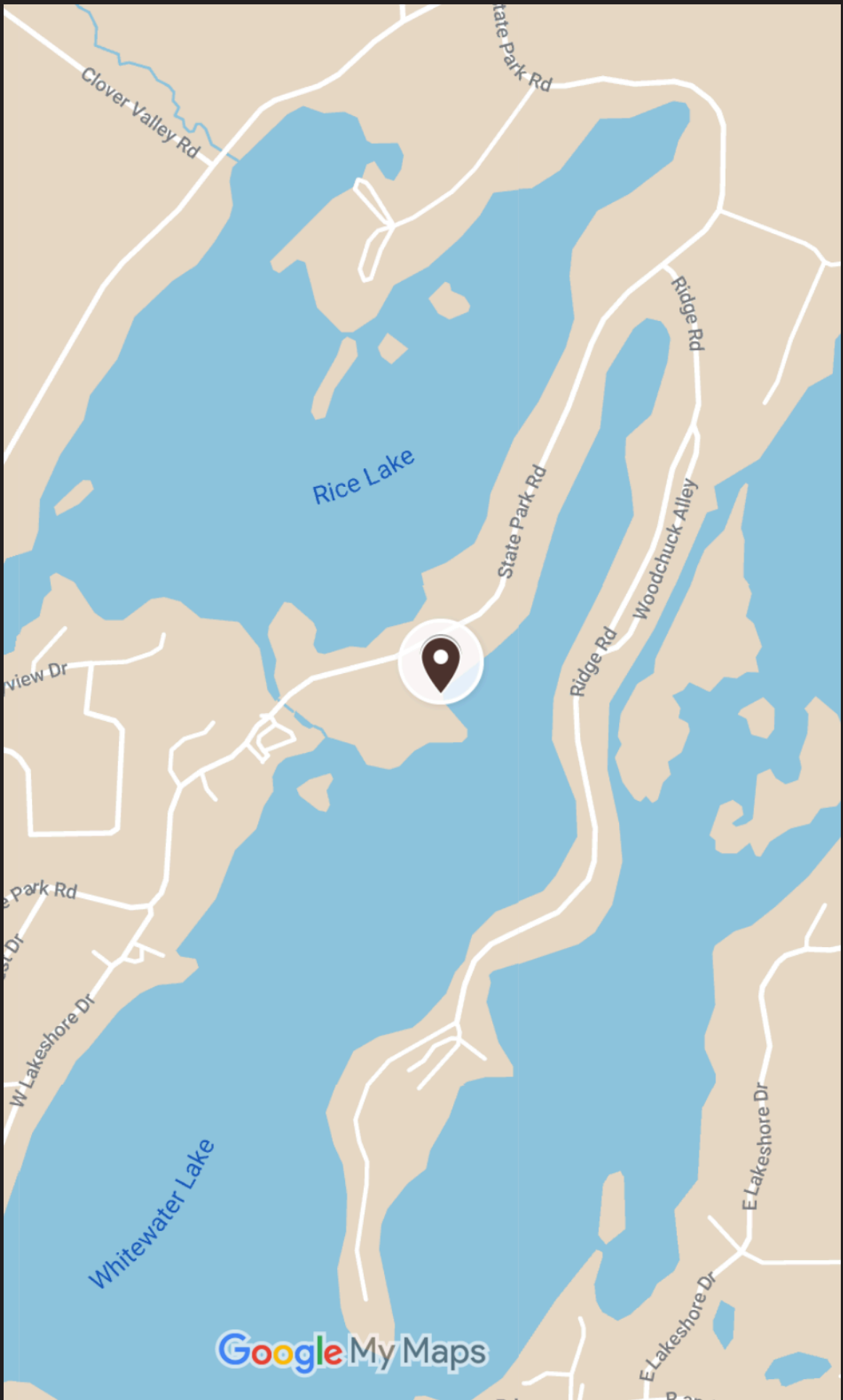
Whitewater, aka "The Second Salem", may seem like a normal Midwestern town, but it hides a dark past, one rife with tales of witches, ghosts, strange murders, and occult practices. Whether you're a skeptic, a paranormal enthusiast or just looking to learn more about Whitewater's legends and lore, this self-guided spirit tour will give you a glimpse into Whitewater's spiritualism history.

In 1889, spiritualist, Morris Pratt, built what he called a "Temple of Psychic Science" at the northwest corner of Center and Fremont. It was used for the practice of Spiritualism - a popular belief system in the late 19th century based upon communication with the spirit world via séances hosted by mediums. Many lectures and séances were held there. When he died in 1902, other spiritualists established the Morris Pratt Institute, a formal school for mediums. And what follows is our haunted history.

For a more in depth tour with more haunted stops and their stories, book tickets to our Annual Spirit Tour every October:
www.whitewaterchamber.com/spirit-tour



- Former Winchester Home
- Oak Grove Cemetery
- Hillside Cemetery
- Calvary Cemetery
- "Witches Tower" - Starin Park...
- Hamilton House Bed & Break...
- The Sweet Spot Cafe
- Greenhill Center of the Arts
- Whitewater Lake Public Beach
- Isosceles Triangle of Cemete...



Clover Valley Rd

State Park Rd

Rice Lake

Ridge Rd

State Park Rd

Ridge Rd

Woodchuck Alley

view Dr

e Park Rd

st Dr

W Lakeshore Dr

Whitewater Lake

E Lakeshore Dr

E Lakeshore Dr

Google My Maps

DON'T ENTER THE BASEMENT, PLEASE.

The former Winchester home on E. Milwaukee St., is a small, elegant house with an attractive stone veneer. However peaceful it feels on the outside, restless spirits roam the inside. These spirits hold conversations late at night and knock books off shelves in the library-meeting room. A former employee (when it was a law office) reports being tapped on the shoulder when no one was there & having her gloves removed from her desk and laid out neatly on the floor. One spirit floats through a wall, and the building's owner warns that you don't want to go into the basement after dark! Some theorize that the hauntings are due to the building's association with the Ed Gein investigation. An FBI team working on the case was housed here. Late at night, see if you can catch the strange flicker of lights or the ghost of Lucius Winchester (supposedly cursed by witch, Mary Worth) move past a window.

803 E Milwaukee St





Whitewater's *Cemeteries* & the isosceles triangle

When you connect Whitewater's cemeteries on a map, they form an exact isosceles triangle, a triangle that has at least two equal sides. Since five isosceles triangles make up a pentagram, often thought to be a symbol of the occult or witchcraft, it is thought that occult practitioners, like witches, would be drawn to Whitewater.

1. Oak Grove Cemetery – E. Main St.

The Oak Grove Cemetery is the city's pioneer cemetery. Not only are two Revolutionary War soldiers buried here, but it contains the graves of several Civil War soldiers as well. It is closed to the public and surrounded by a chain-link fence. It's believed to not be accessible due to consistent hauntings.



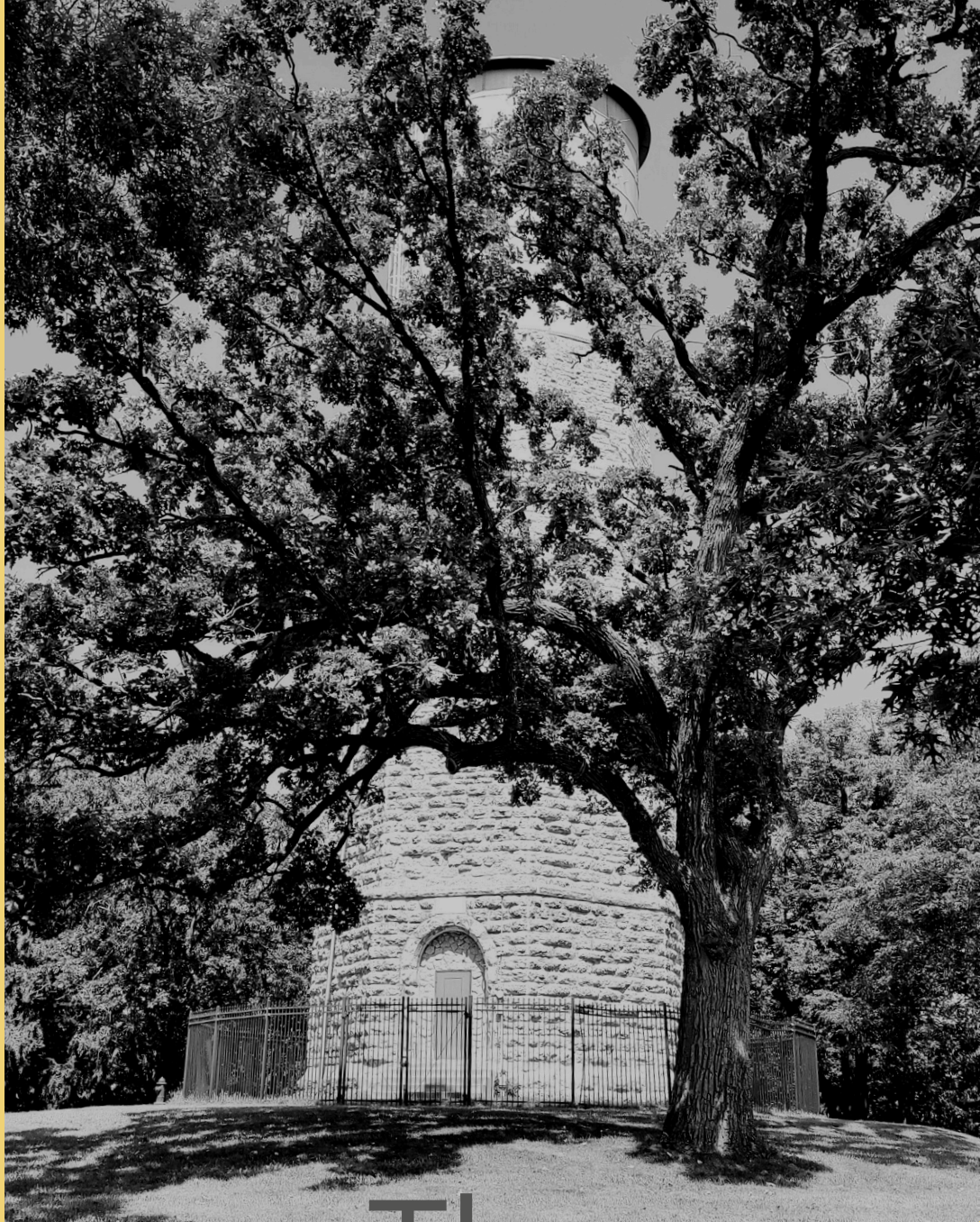
2. Hillside Cemetery – S. WI St.

Hillside Cemetery is rumored to be where self-proclaimed witch, Mary Worth, is buried, and it is also the final resting place of Morris Pratt, the Winchester family, and the Partridge family – whose members, oddly enough, are buried in circles. For decades, a legend has circulated of Mary Worth placing curses on people in the community. The most famous of her curses involved the Winchester family.

In 1850, Lucius Winchester started a foundry and plow factory in Whitewater. In 1857, he entered into a partnership with John S. Partridge, and the two men expanded the plow factory into the Winchester and Partridge Manufacturing Company, which produced agricultural equipment and wagons. The company was very successful and known internationally for producing the "Whitewater Wagon." Mary Worth reportedly got into a dispute with the Winchester family in the late 1880s and placed a curse on them and their factory. Indeed, the profitable wagon production ended in 1888, family member Charles Winchester died in 1889, Lucius Winchester died in April of 1890, and 15-year-old Mabel Winchester died in October 1890. John S. Partridge died in 1892. The factory closed for good by 1893. Many people believed in the curse, as it was thought no single family could suffer so much bad luck. Mary Worth requested that she be buried at Hillside Cemetery, and reportedly because of her reputation as a self-proclaimed witch, the cemetery board would not bury her in what was deemed hallowed ground. Mary then threatened to curse all of Whitewater, and as a compromise, so the story goes, she was laid to rest in an above-ground crypt. She is known to roam the grounds after dark.

3. Calvary Cemetery – Warhawk Dr.

The Calvary Cemetery, located on the UW Whitewater's campus, is the resting place of the Poison Widow, Nellie Horan, and her family, who all died within a short period of each other in the late 1800s. The sister's autopsy showed strychnine poisoning. Nellie was never acquitted, though, because the jury felt it was not possible for a woman to do such an evil thing.



The *Witches Tower*

504 W Starin Rd

Built in 1889, the old Whitewater Water Tower located in Starin Park is one of the oldest water towers in the area. For many years, it was a remote location on the north side of town, and legend has it that it was the site for séances and witchcraft. The legends state that witches would surround the tower and perform rituals. It is also rumored that there is an altar buried nearby. The tower used to be surrounded by a chainlink fence with barbed wire facing toward the tower. Usually barbed wire faces in the other direction to keep people from getting into a location. In this case, the story goes, it was angled in as if to keep something from getting out of the tower.

The Hamilton House & Underground Tunnels

**Come
play
with
me!**

This big, beautiful Victorian bed and breakfast is built atop an underground tunnel, and according to legend, the ghosts of Little Boy Posey and his mother, Sarah, haunt it. Book a stay in Sarah's old room, "the Pissarro", to hear about a time that the house had a doll museum where dolls just wouldn't stay put. And maybe, in the early morning hours, you'll hear Sarah humming in the East Garden.

The tunnel below The Hamilton House is rumored to be connected to a vast underground tunneling system that may have been for the Underground Railroad, but was also assumed to be a safe way for witches to travel for meetups without fear of harassment.

328 W Main St

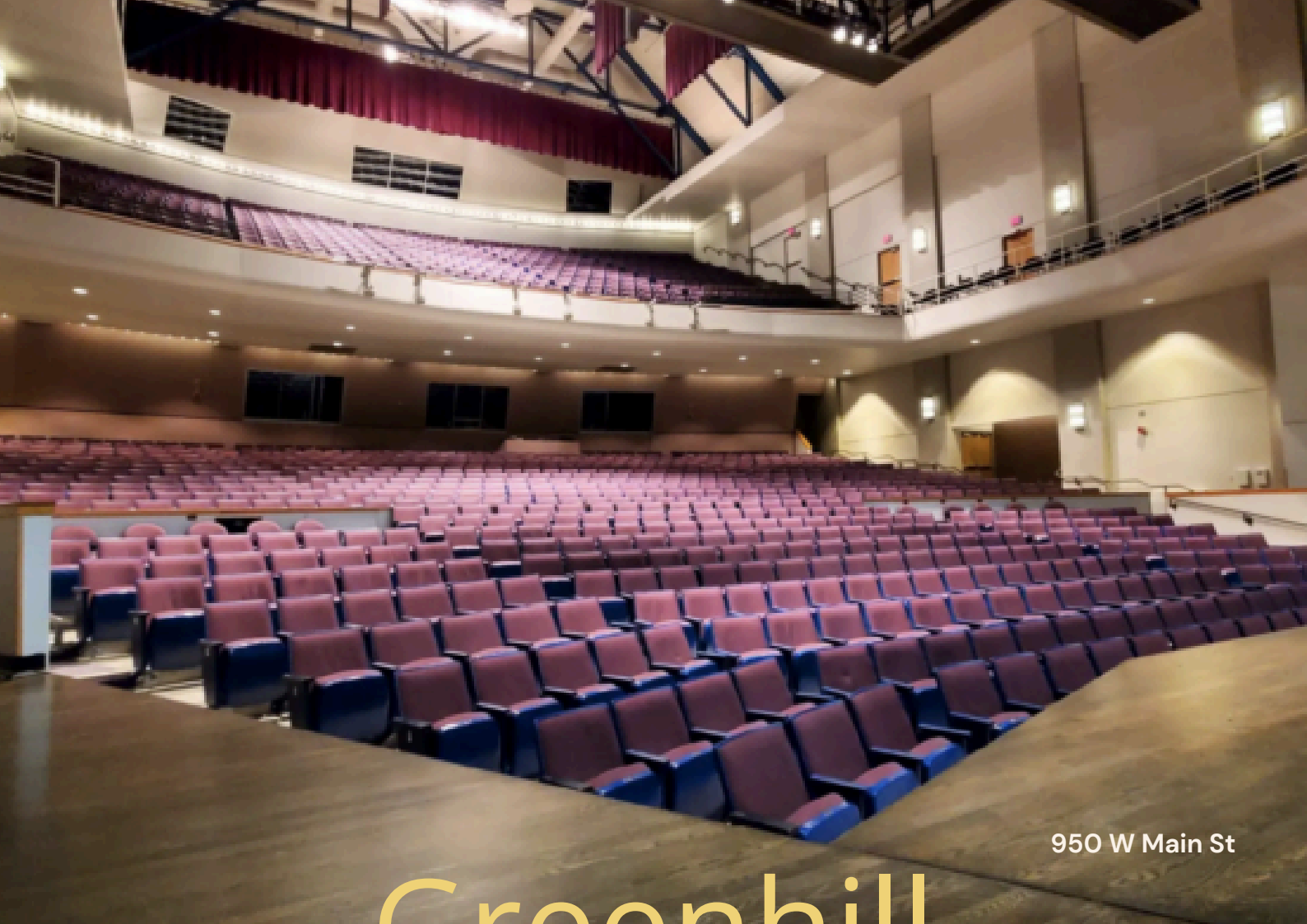


WHO'S PLAYING FRANK SINATRA?

Imagine coming to work in the early hours of the morning and suddenly you hear Frank Sinatra music and someone walking the back hallway in high heels. Or someone whispering your name right next to you while no one's around. Or perhaps you might here toilets flush and doors close when you're locked up for the night. "Oh, it's just the ghost of Ruby," employees have said. The Sweet Spot Cafe is located in the historic Whitewater Hotel, and Ruby is said to have grown up there and owned the hotel as an adult. Maybe you'll bump into her in the cafe's closing hours.



226 W Whitewater St



950 W Main St

Greenhill *Center of the Arts*


Built in 1971, the Greenhill Center of the Arts houses 3 performance art theaters and a basement full of practice rooms for music majors. An entity or two (or more!) haunts this building, according to a number of students and staff. Late at night, you can hear hammering coming from the metals room. Chairs move around in various classrooms. A ghost roams the backstage of the Young Auditorium. And in the basement (where you'll find endless practice rooms), elevators descend from upstairs and open as you're passing by...

Whitewater Lake Public Beach

Follow
me to
the depths.

A group of black-cloaked figures circled up on the beach late one night to chant and hold a seance. A witness reported seeing a creature arise from the depths of the water.

Years later, two men were fishing in a small boat. One fell out and reported feeling like he was being pulled down.

A photograph of a small boat with two people on a calm lake under a cloudy sky. The boat is in the middle ground, moving towards the right. The water is still, reflecting the sky and the surrounding trees. The sky is filled with large, grey clouds, suggesting an overcast day. The trees on the shore are lush and green.

N7660 State Park Dr



*happy
hauntings*

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