

# Ghostly Tales & Mysteries



## Gothic Hanging Jail

Located at 301 1st street in DeRidder, La. this gothic style jail dates back to 1914. It was the last in the state to practice the death penalty in the

Two prisoners were hung from the top of the stairwell pictured to the right. Thier bodies could be seen by all the cells in the prison that surround the spiral staircase.



The jail is believed to be haunted by the spirit of the old jailor, who is sometimes seen standing in the window of the old jail. An artist rendering of his image adorns all the Beauregard Parish kiosk murals.

## Old Campground



Old Campground Cemetery was established in the 1820's and was part of the neutral strip of land also known as 'no man's land'.

It is located at 309 Old Campground Rd. in Dry Creek, La.

Legend says that a young Dr. Salter took a fancy to one of the beautiful ladies of Sugartown and asked for her hand to dance at the local suiree. She accepted, however her jilted ex-beau was none too happy about it and shot Dr. Salter dead.

After the funeral, several local boys decided to go out to the graveyard and reclaim a gold ring from Dr. Salter's grave. Under the stillness of the night, they began to dig. All was quiet at first, until the boys got about four shovelfuls deep. Suddenly, the wind howled and blew so hard that the trees parted right down the middle. The boys were so spooked that they dropped thier shovels and fled. The Doctor now rests peacefully in his grave, gold ring still with him.

## The Legend of Cherry Wenchie

Somewhere in between the Calcasieu River and the small town of Elizabeth, lies a place deep in the bayou called Cherry Wenchie. Local lore says that pirates would take some unfortunate soul to dig a hole for thier ill gotten gains. They would then kill and bury them atop the treasure, forever leaving them as captive guardians. These spirits are known as haints and the banks of the river in this area are believed to be home to many of them.

## Talbot Pierson Cemetery

Mystery surrounds Talbert Pierson Cemetery with its little wood houses and picket fences built over the graves. Many believe they are part of the early traditions brought to the south after the Civil War.



Some say it was the lack of rock like those used in the northern cemeteries. Others say they were built to keep the rain off the face of the deceased. To this day, the exact reason these little houses were built remains a mystery. Talbert Pierson Cemetery is located on Victor Martin road in Sugartown, La.

## Pleasant Hill Cemetery



Some people say Pleasant Hill Cemetery is haunted by a ghostly young mother and her son. Mary Lee Stone Krueger died in 1973 in a house fire. Her son, ironically named Freddy Krueger, died 18 years earlier also in a house fire.

They are both buried in the cemetery. Legend says that if you go stand by the fence in the middle of the night, an orange flame can be seen over thier graves.

## Old Hoy Cemetery

Church gatherings and revivals were once held around the old oak tree that grew here. Remnants of the tree can still be seen.

Legends say the joyous spirits of the souls that are buried here still gather and appear in the photographs taken here as glowing orbs.



## Elizabeth Town Hall



Elizabeth Town Hall was originally used as the local hospital in the lumber days of the area. Several patients and doctors met thier end in this hospital in its early days.

Some say the patients never left the hospital and are still being treated by the ghostly doctors that roam the halls of Elizabeth Town Hall.

**Travel our Ghostly Tales & Mysteries trail to discover the myths and legends of our byway!**