

TO THE NINES

Haunted houses — those seasonal attractions filled with painted ghouls and recorded screams — are a staple of Halloween fun. In some cases, though, the ghosts are no joke. Here are some seriously spooky places where paranormal activity is said to be the norm.

— Ryan E. Smith

9 Famous Haunted Houses



1. White House, Washington: Ghosts sighted here famously include Abraham Lincoln.

■ Abigail Adams has been spotted doing laundry in the East Room.



2. Ohio State Reformatory, Mansfield: Ghost hunters flock to this former prison, a hotspot of paranormal activity.



3. Winchester Mystery House, San Jose, Calif.: This 160-room mansion was built by Sarah Winchester to appease the spirits of those who were killed by the rifles that her husband's family manufactured.

4. 112 Ocean Ave., Amityville, N.Y.: The site of a mass murder, it was immortalized in the book *The Amityville Horror* and subsequent movies, made after a brief stay there in 1975 by the Lutz family, who said they were driven out by the spirits of those who were killed.



5. Alcatraz, San Francisco Bay: Stories abound of ghostly screams and unexplained slamming doors in this former federal penitentiary.

6. Hill House: The evil subject of the fictional horror book, *The Haunting of Hill House*, by Shirley Jackson and the movies based on it.



7. Overlook Hotel:

■ The building that drove Jack Nicholson crazy in *The Shining*, based on the Stephen King novel.



8. Collingwood Arts Center, Toledo: The former convent is said by some to be full of paranormal phenomena, including a phantom nun who hangs out in the auditorium.

9. Columbian House, Waterville: Various owners of this one-time inn that was built in 1828 have sworn that it is haunted by ghosts.

