

Just Another Old House, Or Is It

The following was taken from the "Pirate Press", Volume 26, Number 3, 27 Oct 1999, written by Amanda Rhorer.

Approximately ten miles past the high school, one may notice and unusually large, old home named Ravenswood that was built in 1880 and cost \$12,000 to build. The home has 30 rooms filled with china, paintings and antique furniture.

Throughout all of the 119 years and history of Ravenswood it may be hard for one to believe, but not much about the house has changed. Most of the things there have been there since the house was built. The home has been through six generations of Leonards.

"The house is really neat; it has a lot of history," said senior Sarah Langston, who recently toured Ravenswood.

While talking with one of the workers, he explained about a music box and says he has heard voices, but it doesn't bother him any longer.

With all the rumors about the house supposedly being haunted, Leonard told us a few scary stories, but says he does not believe in ghosts.

After speaking with Leonard, a lot of history was learned plus a few scary stories. Take this for example. The music box on the second floor will come on by itself at all hours of the night, but Leonard does not believe the house is haunted.

"I don't believe in ghosts and I don't go around looking for them," said Leonard.

Although the house may seem scary, it's definitely worth seeing. So if you're ever bored and have nothing to do, go by and check it out. Ravenswood is open to tours daily.

The music box story is well-known throughout the community and is documented by several sources. It is said that ghost of Nadine Nelson Leonard, the daughter of James M. Nelson and Margaret Wyan, haunts Ravenswood.

Open for tours on Saturdays and Sundays until November, 660-882-7142. Floating lights have been seen and music heard outside on the grounds, and a large music box in the upstairs hall is said to turn itself on late at night. Also loud crashing sounds have been heard that can last over 15 minutes. The ghost may be that of Nadine who lived to the age of 90 here, or the son Nelson who was crushed to death by a car that slipped out of gear and pushed him into the iron gate.