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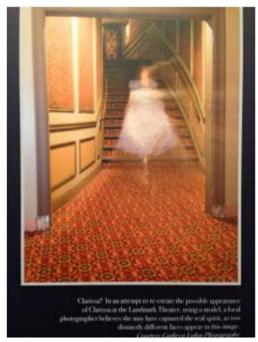


REGIONAL COVERAGE

Onondaga County has its own spooky stories to share on Halloween

By Ellen Abbott (/people/ellen-abbott)

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Credit Enlarge image (http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/wrvo/files/201310/clarissa.jpg) Ellen

Abbott/WRVO

An artist's rendering of the ghost Clarissa

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Ghost stories abound during the Halloween season and the Onondaga Historical Association has collected some of the best known ghostly tales in Onondaga County.

One of the most told ghost stories in central New York is "the Bride of the 13 Curves." OHA Curator of History Dennis Conners said it starts on Cedarvale Road.

"There's a series of curves, and the woods are quite close to the road, so you have a situation where automobile headlights are constantly driving down the road, scanning and sweeping through the forest along the edge of the road. So it's the perfect setting to have the tale of a bride who got killed on her wedding night, appearing along that road," Conners said.

Conners said there's no proof that any bride ever died on Cedarvale Road, the same thing goes for the other high profile ghost, Clarissa, an actress who is said to haunt the Landmark Theatre, or the mysterious Woman in Red, who some say they've seen haunting the corners of Syracuse Stage.

Conners said just having a spooky road or a theater full of shadowy corners is enough to spawn a ghost story. There are other stories with a factual base, according to Conner, like a house on Onondaga Hill, said to be haunted by Ruth Fyler, who was murdered by her husband more than 100 years ago.

These and other stories were collected and put on display at the Onondaga Historical Association in conjunction with Syracuse Stage's production of "Blythe Spirit" this fall.

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