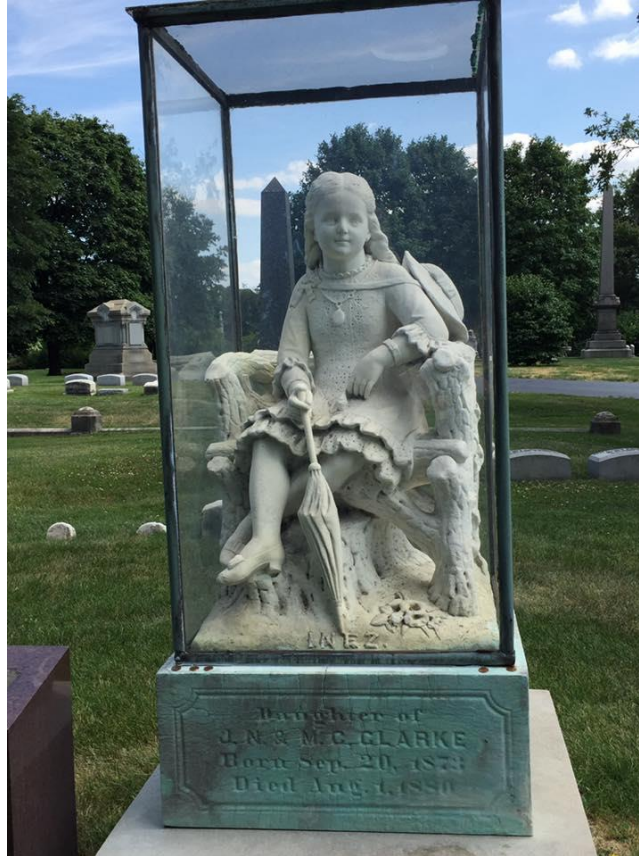


The Mysterious Statute of Inez Clarke



According to local legend, young Inez was killed in 1880 by lightning during a family picnic. Upon her tragic death, her parents commissioned a life-size statue of her to be placed on her grave. This site in Chicago's Graceland Cemetery has become one of the most popular places for history buffs and curiosity seekers. Witnesses claim that the statue of Inez actually moves on its own. There are reports of disembodied weeping being heard near the grave. And, during violent thunderstorms the statue has been said to disappear completely from its glass box. Even more problematic, as reported in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, there may have never been an Inez Clarke at all! Who is buried in this grave?

Dark Tourism, defined as "the act of travel to sites of or sites associated with death", is described as an academic field of study "where death education and tourism studies collide." While this is a relatively new interdisciplinary field of study, it has a long history that includes those who traveled to gladiator games in the Roman colosseum, attended public executions by decapitation, and visited the catacombs.

Want to learn more?

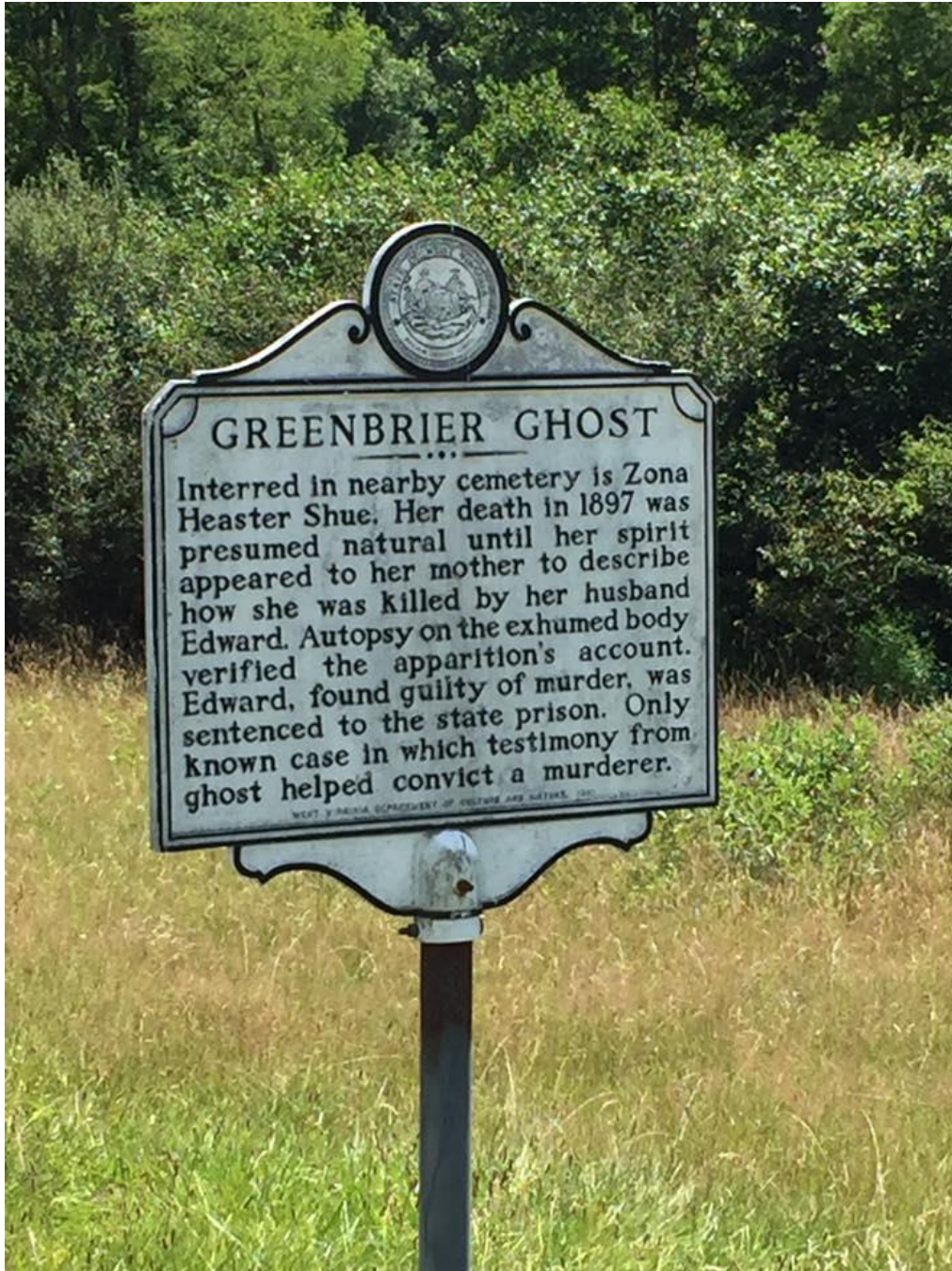
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The Greenbrier Ghost in West Virginia



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The Haunted Painting at a Historic Plantation



Shirley Plantation is the oldest active plantation in Virginia and is the oldest family-owned business in North America, dating back to 1614. The plantation was added to the National Register in 1969 and declared a National Historic Landmark in 1970.

The legend of the haunted painting begins in 1858. Martha Griffith, known to family members as “Aunt Pratt” left behind a portrait of herself when she moved to England. Legend has it that the painting will constantly rock against the wall if it moves from its preferred location.

In 1974, the portrait along with other pieces connected with psychic phenomena were loaned to an exhibit at Rockefeller Plaza in New York. Once displayed, the picture began to move quite vigorously in front of spectators. Footage of the rocking painting was caught on tape by a news crew. This caused such a disturbance that the portrait was removed from the exhibit.

The portrait is currently on display.

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A Founding Father's Wife Confined to a Basement



Notice how the two windows on the far right are different.
This is the basement apartment where Mrs. Henry resided.

Patrick Henry was an American orator, lawyer, and leader in Virginia politics. He became famous for the forceful, persuasive speeches which he used to help bring about the American Revolution (1775–83). Henry and his family lived in Scotchtown where he developed the ideas in his famous “Give me liberty or give me death” speech; and, it was from this location that he rode to St. John’s Church in Richmond on March 23, 1775 to deliver it.

Scotchtown was also the location where his wife went mad and was confined to a basement apartment where she would live in a straitdress for the remainder of her life. Because of Mrs. Henry’s illness, which during the time was believed to have been caused by demonic possession, she was denied a Christian burial. It is believed that she was buried somewhere on the grounds of Scotchtown.

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