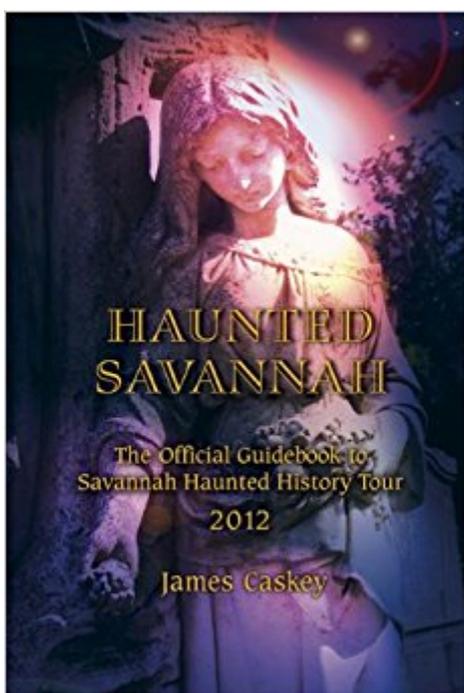


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# Haunted Savannah: The Official Guidebook To Savannah Haunted History Tour



## Synopsis

Savannah has been named the "Most Haunted City" by investigators from the Travel, History and Discovery channels. Her history is filled with plagues, wars, duels, and murders ...no wonder every site in Savannah has a haunted past! For over one year author James Caskey pored over the files at Georgia Historical Society researching the history of over 45 Savannah locations. The result is a collection of strange but rich historical accounts, which form the foundation for stories of actual experiences and sightings in these locations. Haunted Savannah brings you chilling tales, as experienced and told by witnesses, and authentic photos documenting the existence of energy from another dimension.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"One cannot walk down Savannah's streets at twilight without feeling evidence of her supernatural side. The old beautiful homes practically emanate the aura of lost loves, lives cut short, and other misfortunes." Thus begins James Caskey's "Haunted Savannah," the latest entry in the growing list of books about the city. I suspect many of you know Caskey, at least by sight. He's a tour guide and founder of Cobblestone Tours, and many nights he's dressed in Civil War Era garb while leading a group of visitors on his Savannah Haunted History Tour. Such tours have become a big hit with tourists who otherwise find little to do downtown at night. His new book, published by the locally based Bonaventure Books, is the official guide to the tour, and it's chock full of history, legends, stories, and personalities. The 200-plus page book is broken up into literally scores of readable small chapters. I suspect many local readers will find themselves reading the book as I did - by flipping through and randomly reading stories about places that interest us. Some of the places are

familiar - The Olde Pink House, 17Hundred90, the Kehoe House. Other stories are less familiar, like the one about the Willink House on St. Julian, where mysterious goings-on might be linked to a clandestine school for blacks in the decade before Emancipation. Or the story of Irish immigrant Alice Riley, who was the first person to be executed in Georgia. She was hanged for murder in January of 1735. In addition to the stories about ghosts and other hauntings, the book is sprinkled with tales about the strange and notorious. Last weekend, "Haunted Savannah" was fittingly launched with a big party in the basement at Moon River Brewing Co. Originally the old City Hotel, the ancient building allegedly has hauntings of its own, and the close confines and dense brickwork of the basement appropriately evoked Savannah's mysterious past. And present. "Haunted Savannah" is available at bookstores and gift shops throughout downtown.

--billdawers@comcast.net for Savannah Morning NewsIT SEEMS LIKE everyone wants to live in a haunted house in Savannah. "It's almost a status symbol," says James Caskey, tour guide, historic re-enactor and author of the new book, Haunted Savannah. "Old seaports have that reputation," Caskey says. "Southern seaport cities, especially." Caskey's book is subtitled The Official Guidebook to Savannah Haunted History Tour. It details all the stops made during tours led by Cobblestone Tours, Inc., which Caskey owns. The tours cover Savannah's extensive and often tragic history, including duels, wars, plagues and murders. In addition to the stories, the book includes some photographs of what appears to be spectral energy. The photo of Caskey that is on the back of the book depicts him with streams of energy shooting around his face. The photo was taken by his brother. Caskey's book came about over time. "I originally started just writing out scripts for tour guides," he says. "I found if they had written material, it helped them a lot more than me telling them the same things over and over." At one point, Caskey opened the file of scripts he kept on his computer. "I was very surprised to see how much I'd written," he says. Then Caskey met Savannah author Murray Silver. "We must have talked a couple of hours," Caskey says. "He urged me to get in touch with his publisher." The publisher is Cristina Piva, owner of Bonaventure Books. "She was very enthusiastic about it," Caskey says. The book not only has ghost stories, there is a lot of history about Savannah. The book is selling briskly locally. "The response has been overwhelmingly positive," Caskey says. Readers have turned out for readings and signings Caskey

--Linda Sickler for Connect SavannahIT SEEMS LIKE everyone wants to live in a haunted house in Savannah. "It's almost a status symbol," says James Caskey, tour guide, historic re-enactor and author of the new book, Haunted Savannah. "Old seaports have that reputation," Caskey says. "Southern seaport cities, especially." Caskey's book is subtitled The Official Guidebook to Savannah Haunted History Tour. It details all the stops made during tours led by Cobblestone Tours, Inc.,

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The owner and operator of Savannah's most popular walking tour, Jamie Caskey is also the author of the bestselling local guide, *Haunted Savannah*. A graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design, Jamie is also a gifted painter. But living in the Victorian section of America's Most Haunted City practically forced this Florida transplant into taking a closer look at that which most people would prefer not to see at all: ghosts! Jamie's research into Savannah's haunted history and his own personal experiences with the paranormal have made him a popular speaker whenever ghost hunters in need of a competent guide convene. His facts and findings have been featured on the Travel Channel, and he can be seen narrating a new series for PBS, *Southern Haunts*. Jamie is regularly featured in the *Savannah Morning News* and the local weekly *Connect Savannah*, and is routinely mentioned by travel writers in major newspapers, including the *New York Daily News*. That Jamie dresses in period costume while conducting his highly informative and entertaining tour is not the mere affectation of an art student; Jamie's other passion is historical re-enactment, with an emphasis on the Civil War. He took part in the color guard that escorted the crew of the Confederate blockade runner *Hunley* from their watery grave to a more permanent resting place.

Very interesting with history and stories. I have learned a lot more concise information about Savannah from this book than from blogs or other sources online (or from a tour we took there prior). I really like the way the author not only gives the stories context but further more explains why they, even if you believe in ghosts, would or wouldn't make sense WITHIN that context. In other words, if no one that name/age/etc ever lived there, then a story about someone living in a house and dying a specific way makes no sense, and is easily debunked through historic record, regardless of what you believe about ghosts.

If ever I needed an excuse to visit Savannah, besides its historical streets and beautiful structures, this would be it! This book breaks the shiver barrier with a great big boom! Mr. Caskey is a true ghost-hunter. Most welcome is the fact that he has interviewed virtually all of these contemporary eye-witnesses himself, most at the sites of the hauntings, making the stories even more eerie and credible. The author is an excellent narrator and knows how to tell a frightfully good story. Mr. Caskey has really done the legwork involved in researching the historic sites he details in his book, giving a good feel for the places involved. His history is very interesting and well researched, and as for the wee bit of folklore included, Mr. Caskey is not afraid to debunk some of the vague but persistent legends of Savannah. Several of the tales included in the book, involving such varied subjects as pirates, gangsters, and (of course) haunted houses, are undocumented legends, but he

identifies them as such, and has still spent a fair amount of legwork researching their origin and likelihood. The last story, a personal account of the author's own experience, is the most eerie story of all. What he has witnessed in an Inn on Tybee Island will have you feeling around the corner for the light switch before sticking your head into a dark room and checking your cellar door to see if it is closed. Absolutely SPOOKY. It is no wonder Savannah is known as one of the most haunted places in the US. Its storied history is overflowing with tragedy, tradition, and a host of interesting characters. The haunted locations just don't seem to end. Even though this book is more than satisfying, you'll wish it was even longer!

This book was interesting and gave me more information about the history of Savannah. There is so much unknown about this history, but the author was meticulous in giving us the details he could glean from his sources. The book was written well and told the story of the city, relating so many of the mysteries surrounding this very interesting place that will forever be a symbol of our early colonization. Thank goodness this city has survived more or less intact. It is a priceless jewel, thanks to a forward-thinking historical society and this book captures some of those stories that make a city feel alive.

Book was a little shallow on history; it had plenty of oral confirmations and was a good read including the bad puns. This is the 7th edition of this book and I would have expected more historical triangulation of the sightings. It certainly corrected much of the fuzzy, hand me down sighting information that I had questioned in my experience with various Savannah ghost tours.

This was very well written and informative. I read it in preparation to my visit to Savannah. The author researched the history of each site and provided first hand accounts.

James does a great job giving the reader a great overview of nearly every Savannah haunting out there. Caskey is regarded as a great researcher and I would have to agree. People don't just read this book, they reference and cite it. He has owned a tour in Savannah for over a decade and his experience comes through as well as his commitment to getting to the truth. Highly recommend.

**THE BEST Book for the area!**

We had just returned from an exciting trip to Savannah when I ordered this book ( a copy for me and

a copy for my grandson). Our guide for the walking Ghost Tour in Savannah recommended this book to me. It was so interesting to read all the stories of sites we had visited. I would highly recommended this book.

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