

Saint Helens Oregon

Dark History & Haunted Places



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COLUMBIA COUNTY EVENTS

Twilight Halloweentown Dark History & Haunted Places



14. Aggie Cromwell's Home, 285 S. 2nd St.
This historic home overlooks the Riverfront District. St. Helens is Aggie Cromwell's house in Halloweentown. In October you might spy Aggie coming and going or walking through town. Today it is the Nob Hill B&B featuring luxury guest rooms and murder mystery weekends.

13. Petite Jolie, 251 S. 1st St.
This hair salon was transformed into the Petite Jolie dress shop with items from Jilly's. This is where Bella's friends shop for prom dresses in the Twilight movie.

12. Keller Williams Realty
Home of Halloweentown Wolfe's Beauty Salon.

11. Jilly's, 299 S 1st St.
Jilly's supplied the Twilight set décor team with the dresses and fairy wings that appear in the Petit Jolie dress shop scene. There is a treasure trove of clothing and accessories. Jilly's still sells prom dresses, fairy wings and a vast selection of adornments.

10. Bloated Toad, 330 S. 1st St.

Known as La Bella Italia in the book, this is the scene where Edward and Bella have their first real conversation over a dish of mushroom ravioli.

8. St. Helens Waterfront

Even before the City of St. Helens was established in the late 1800s, the waterfront area was a bustling port receiving ships from far away seas. An early register of the Order of Knights of the Pythians show longshoreman, boat builders, loggers and blacksmiths resided here. Henry Knighton, the city's founder, along with investors and workers moving west, believed the town would surpass the newly established City of Portland. But after the Pacific Mail docks and many buildings burned in two fires, Pacific Mail was persuaded to move to Portland. Work on new docks was suspended and the docks fell to decay. Proof that Portland's early business elite may have been responsible never surfaced, but immediate and lasting suspicion casts a shadow over The Riverfront District. Next to the county buildings is Columbia View Park and Amphitheatre: home to 13 Nights on the River's outdoor concerts and many Spirit of Halloweentown activities.

9. The Klondike, 71 Cowlitz St.

The Klondike has become notorious for its rumored haunts. Faint voices are heard, the coffee pot is turned on by something other than a human hand and workers and residents alike have reported seeing a child that calls out and then disappears. Investigations and paranormal activities have taken place at The Klondike and it has been featured on Ghost Hunters and Paranormal State. Robert Pattinson and Kristin Stewart are interviewed outside The Klondike in scenes about the making of Twilight. Despite its mysterious reputation, The Klondike is a working restaurant and favored by locals. Beware of ghosts wying for your fries!

5. Halloweentown Square

Columbia County's Courthouse Plaza was used as the Halloweentown Square. In October St. Helens becomes Halloweentown for the entire month. The plaza also contains a pathway of granite squares depicting the journey of Lewis and Clark.

6. Hanging at the Courthouse

The rose and trellis across from the plaza give no hint of the hanging that happened here where a gallows once stood. St. Helens was rocked by murder in 1902 when the body of 27-year-old Polish immigrant Joseph Schulkowski was discovered. The only evidence was a bullet lodged in Schulkowski's back and white hair on a nearby tree. Schulkowski's own friend August Scheive, owning a gun and a white horse, was arrested for the murder. His mother's stay in the Oregon State Asylum fueled suspicion of his guilt. During the trial, Scheive's father confessed to the crime, but people believed he was only trying to save his son. August was hung from the courthouse gallows in the summer of 1902, making him St. Helens' only documented hanging. His father would claim responsibility for the murder even on his deathbed. The mystery of who really killed Schulkowski remains unsolved.

7. Halloweentown City Hall

The Columbia County Courthouse, constructed in 1906 of locally mined basalt, was the Halloweentown City Hall. It also appears as a high school in the dark genre film Behind the Mask. This is still a working county building and home to a museum featuring historical artifacts from the area's logging, mining and maritime past.

4. Columbia Theatre, 212 S. 1st St.

The Columbia Theatre was key in Halloweentown as the setting for a major struggle between the Croomwell ladies and the evil force taking over Halloweentown. Actress Debbie Reynolds practiced her lines here. The theater also appears as a backdrop in Twilight, when Edward and Bella race away from the alley. This theater has been lovingly restored.

1. Bella's House, 184 S 6th St.

See the house Bella lives in with her dad Charlie, just as it appeared in the movie. Imagine Bella's old pick up pulling into the driveway. This quaint home is a private residence on a dead end. Please park at the bottom of the hill and walk up to take pictures from the street.

2. Thunderbird & Whale, 260 S. 2nd St.

Having found a Quileute myth online, Bella finds a bookstore to learn more. Enjoy from a distance.

3. Edward Saves Bella (Parking Lot)

When Bella leaves the bookstore, she is pursued by a menacing group of young men. Out of nowhere when she has no way out, Edward appears. This is a good place to leave your car while touring The Riverfront. You can see the murals painted by the movie crew and access the alley Bella walks through.