

# A Haunting in Georgetown

by Judi Burton

Mr. Samuel Wragg was a wealthy merchant who owned a house on Screven Street in Georgetown. He shared his dinner table with the loathsome English soldiers almost every night, and as they merrily sipped on wine and ate shrimp, they would discuss strategies to defeat the patriots of South Carolina. As they imbibed the best of brandies, Mr. Wragg's daughter secretly eavesdropped and took note. At night she would write her notes in a letter and hop over the wall behind the house to deposit the letter in the crack of a tombstone in the famous Prince George Episcopal Cemetery. The letter was meant for Francis Marion, "the Swamp Fox," famous for his guerilla warfare tactics that he had picked up during the French and Indian War. Francis Marion was like pebbles in the shoes of many English soldiers as he taunted them relentlessly with his cat-and-mouse games. One night, the soldiers were enjoying yet another dazzling array of fine foods and drink when a sentry reported sighting Francis Marion. Dashing from the table, the men scurried down the stairs in a blur of red coats. The last soldier to descend the wooden stairs was unaware of the uneven step, intentionally planned in old homes to catch burglars in the act. He soared through the air and landed on his neck, instantly killed. The gruesome scene was witnessed by many servants, never forgotten. Why you ask? Over the years the house has changed hands several times and new owners are caught unaware by the uneven step. Just as they lose their footing a mysterious hand appears to steady their balance, accompanied by a chilling draft of air.

Several people report that if you stand at the bottom of the stairwell and look up there can be seen a young British soldier decked out in full military rig standing at the top. Be careful not to blink, or else he may vanish.

Paranormal expert William Goins, owner of William's Ghost Walks of Georgetown, shares this spooky story. William is a member of the Georgetown Paranormal Society and hunts ghosts often. He has a repertoire of stories of pirates and maidens, untimely deaths and broken hearts that will put goosebumps on your arms, but also will teach you a bit about the rich history of Georgetown. If you are bored with the same old Halloween Hayride of Horrors, chockfull of chainsaws and gore, this mystery tour of ghosts and legends may be the Halloween experience you've been looking for. Take a walking tour under the cover of darkness through the historical and spooky district in the third oldest city in South Carolina. **WOOOOOHA HA HA HA HA HA!**

For more info on William's Ghost Walks of Georgetown call 843-359-6349 or visit [WilliamsGhostWalksOfGeorgetown.com](http://WilliamsGhostWalksOfGeorgetown.com).

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