

# WHAT THE H

## History of Halloween

By Sarah Sheppard

The final day of October is one of both fright and fun.

As we know it today, Halloween typically involves princesses and superheroes traveling up and down the streets repeating the phrase, "Trick or Treat" and receiving candy in return. However, the holiday has been around for over 2,000 years and its beginnings did not involve candy, but costumes.

The October holiday is a combination of both Celtic and Catholic tradition; these ancient peoples believed Halloween to be the day of the dead. Superstitions caused



against the dead, along with lighting fires and fortune telling. These costumes served as disguises, while the rituals protected the society.

Eventually, Halloween became a piece of European culture, and finally traveled to America. By the 1800s, it had evolved from a holiday of fear to one of fun.

Halloween has become particularly a holiday for children. It is perhaps the one day of the year where kids can be something they are not, eat as much candy as they can possibly consume and stay out past bedtime.

people to believe that Halloween was the only day of the year where the living and the dead could cross paths.

So, to shield themselves from evil spirits, ancient peoples resorted to costumes. Animal heads and skins were thought of as protection

## HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH!

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# HALLOWEEN?!

## Thornewood Castle: A magnificent mystery

Dunlap

Upon a time, in the early 19th century, a Gothic castle was built on three ships brick by brick from England, travelled across the pond, and rebuilt. The castle was bought by a man for his wife, Anna, and has since been called "the castle that love built." It has housed two presidents, been a movie shooting and is the most private castle on the East Coast.

This gorgeous masterpiece sits in Lakewood, Virginia; sunsets can be seen over American Lake and its custom stained glass windows or from the castle's Secret Garden." Breakfast is eaten in the Great Hall, and staying at Thornewood can be taken back in time 500 years or so. The castle's owner and operator DeAnna Robinson does not live in the castle as a special...the world kind of magic and everything just slows down. It's like living in a fairy tale." Not only does the castle have a long history and spectacular architecture and views, it also boasts friendly "angels," as the staff likes to call them. There



is a barefoot print...and no one knows how it got there."

Movies have also been filmed at Thornewood, adding to its charm and fascinating stories.

"Rose Red," a Stephen King mini-series, along with its prequel, "The Diary of Ellen Rimbauer," were filmed at Thornewood, as well as brief shots from the Oscar winner "There Will Be Blood."

Robinson states, "Having 'Rose Red' filmed here was a great adventure. One of the characters in the movie, her name was DeAnna, and of course, my name is DeAnna and that was in Stephen King's book." Cars were blown up on the front lawn in front of the officially historic site and a cast and crew of 200 buzzed around to prepare the set.

With its beautiful architecture, gorgeous views and remarkable history, along with its extra "guests," Thornewood is a beautiful place to spend the night, to film a movie or to just spend some time soaking in its amazing antiquity.

Thornewood Castle in Lakewood, with the fountain used in Stephen King's "Rose Red."

There have been stories of light bulbs unscrewing by themselves, and when Robinson wrote Chester Thornewood, the original owner of the house, a note asking him to stop, the light bulbs no longer unscrewed. A rug in the main room was also found moved multiple times to the side of the room, and now the staff just leaves it there.

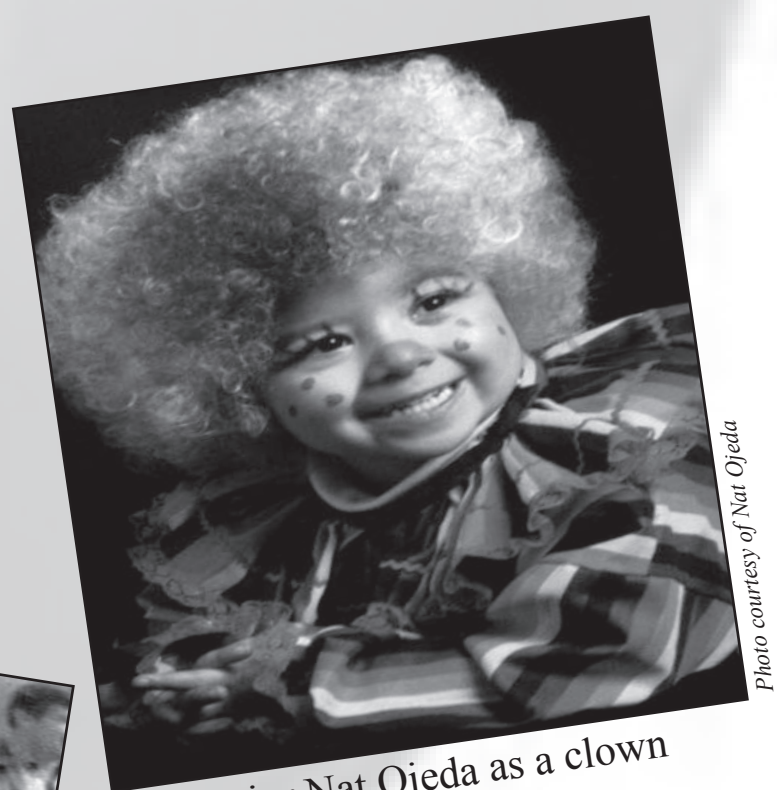
A mystery footprint was also found by guests having breakfast one day... on the ceiling. Robinson says "We looked up and there was a footprint, up on the ceiling. It looks like a



Senior Casey Penrose as Queen Amidala



Junior Erin Haas as Snow White



Senior Nat Ojeda as a clown

Photo courtesy of Jane Manley and Gracie Dyer

Photo courtesy of Casey Penrose

Photo courtesy of Erin Haas

Photo courtesy of Nat Ojeda

Photo courtesy of www.tripadvisor.com