



The Most Haunted House in England: Ten Years' Investigation of Borley Rectory

Harry Price

[Download now](#)

[Read Online ➔](#)

The Most Haunted House in England: Ten Years' Investigation of Borley Rectory

Harry Price

The Most Haunted House in England: Ten Years' Investigation of Borley Rectory Harry Price

Harry Price's The Most Haunted House in England is about a classic haunted house, Borley Rectory, which is a staple of many of the ghost and supernatural books and documentaries. It is well-written in that competent British school boy fashion, with impeccable grammar, restrained wit, and conservative style.

The Most Haunted House in England: Ten Years' Investigation of Borley Rectory Details

Date : Published July 30th 1990 by Diane Pub Co (first published 1940)

ISBN : 9780756780951

Author : Harry Price

Format : 255 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Fantasy, Paranormal, Ghosts, Supernatural

 [Download The Most Haunted House in England: Ten Years' Inve ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Most Haunted House in England: Ten Years' In ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Most Haunted House in England: Ten Years' Investigation of Borley Rectory Harry Price

From Reader Review *The Most Haunted House in England*: Ten Years' Investigation of Borley Rectory for online ebook

Jason says

After watching *The World's Scariest Ghosts Caught on Tape* one Friday evening a few weeks ago, my interest in "true ghost stories" was peaked and so I scared up this volume.

Harry Price's *The Most Haunted House in England* is about a classic haunted house, Borley Rectory, which is a staple of many of the ghost and supernatural books I skimmed when I was younger. It is well-written in that competent British school boy fashion, with impeccable grammar, restrained wit, and conservative style.

Price explains how he was invited to explore Borley Rectory, which was built in 1863 by the Rev. Henry Bull and which had allegedly been visited by the ghost of a nun and by a spectral coach drawn by two headless men. Price details the history of the village of Borley and the tales of the haunted rectory; the legend of a nun who was buried alive at the site that would become the rectory for her illicit liaison with a monk; and spooky stories from various sources—those who lived in the house, their guests, and those invited specifically for the task of research into the hauntings.

Sadly, for its status as a classic in the genre of supernatural literature, the book is not really scary. Almost all of the activities described were of the nature of a poltergeist (or *Poltergeist*, as Price would have it) in the form of mysterious sounds, teleportation of small objects, movement of small objects, and, over a period of several years, the writing of messages and small marks on the walls of the house. There was surprisingly little about the spectral coach and ghostly nun, particularly seeing how these alleged phenomena were what drew Price to the house initially.

The book serves as a documentary history of the alleged haunting, and the author leaves it up to the reader to decide as to the veracity of the stories of Borley Rectory in light of all the documentary "evidence" presented. Many contemporary critics feel that Price and one of the couples who lived in the house (those to whom the mysterious messages were addressed) established this entire story as a hoax. It wouldn't surprise me.

In short, this is a high-quality reprint of a classic, if unconvincing and not very scary, early 20th century monograph on ghosts. The Time-Life Collector's Library of the Unknown is a classy series for those who are interested in the literature of the unexplained, even if only in fun, and this volume is no exception.

Kimberly says

[concerning the possible place that the legendary nun was buried (hide spoiler)]

Claudia Loureiro says

First, let me point out that the building has been burned down. According to the book, some spirits still haunt the grounds, such as a nun, but I'm not sure how many people wish to run into a ghost nun out in the middle

of nowhere.

Second, the book is an amazing piece of history in the field of ghost hunting. To my knowledge, Harry Price is one of the first to really focus on one haunted site for a multi-year period, using volunteers, cameras, policies and rules for dealing with ghost. Many of the raw information and reports come with the book and he gives a very well balanced, not-too-emotional account of the happenings.

In the end I feel he is the father of ghost hunting in which people were REALLY trying to explain things.

True, there is also a few séances, but much of the volunteers and investigators use good old common sense, cameras, chalk, tape, and the Blue Book. To me this is the border, between when people just took the ghosts on face value and when people started to question WHAT was happening.

I feel a lot of it can be explained away. For example, like it or not, I think the house DOES have mice or rats. It is old, so it can made sounds and there is going to be cold spots, with or without ghosts. Now, does that explain everything? No. Yet some information has appeared after the book was published - just to a net search on the house - which suggests some of the events WERE fakes.

In the end, it is up to the person to each decide what they believe. And either way, this makes a wonderful book, a lovely slice of history.

Kimberly says

A very enlightening book of what was considered to be England's "most haunted house". This was based on the actual experiences and experiments conducted by Harry Price, himself. While I found much of it to be very interesting, it was extremely repetitious. Almost all of the "evidence" was the same, and nothing was ever really proven.

Also, there was one part of the book (view spoiler) that was left--bafflingly--open-ended. The only reason I could come up with for this was that the information "given" on it was purposely false in order to drum up interest, and therefore there was NO REASON to pursue it further....

I'm still interested in this historic story, and will follow up with some other sources on the subject in the near future.

P. says

Harry Price goes to great lengths to control the variables in his observations of the Borley Rectory, so it's light years away from the frantic yelling seen on modern day ghost investigations like Ghost Adventures or Most Haunted. He's also very careful to report all the details in an objective way, quoting reports from others verbatim when possible. This allowed me to find the creepiness by myself, rather than be influenced by atmosphere. It also means that, although the text is not dry, per se, it's also not a page turner. I didn't want to stop reading though, because the weird things that happened at the Rectory were confounding. One by one they're not much, but together they make a person wonder. Gluey substances, apported coats and other objects, and pencil marks from nowhere. The most astonishing thing to me was that a family lived there for a good while even though things were thrown at their heads, they were locked into rooms, and messages started appearing on the walls for the wife, calling her by name. And they only left because they didn't like the layout of the house. No conclusions are ever drawn, but this has to be one of the best documented haunted houses I've read about, and the lack of a narrative to the haunting makes it more real to me.

Glen says

Interesting ... Do most of the action only take place when Harry Price is actually at Borley?

Peter says

Harry Price was a ghost hunters in the 1930's. Price spent ten years investigating The Borley Rectory. It was the most haunted house in England. I found some of the observations interesting but a lot of the material was duplicated throughout the entire book. It seems like things really only happen, when Price was around. Price left some stones unturned in his investigations. I enjoyed the historical facts about the Rectory and its surroundings. Somewhat towards the end of the book, Price states, I have presented my observations of The Borley Rectory and now it is up to the readers, to make up their minds, whether these findings are true or false.

Danny Granado says

Very informative.

Isa Adams says

Borley rectory was a truly fascinating place. out in the middle nowhere, haunted beyond doubt and burnt to the ground, this house had it all. Harry Price did a lot of work at Borley, and his findings are presented extremely well in this book. Although he is very repetitious with his evidence and some of it is quite far-fetched, he is still one of the greatest psychical investigators of his time.

Ann says

Two caveats up front: I don't believe in ghosts; I love ghost stories. Unfortunately for me, Harry Price's matter-of-fact writing style is not conducive to developing those delicious tingly spines one craves on a dark cold January night. Ultimately I came to appreciate this book for what it is--an early 20th century attempt at a scientific psychic investigation that took place over several years. One has to commend Mr Price for his doggedness if nothing else.

I don't know if Borley Rectory was haunted or not, either way it must've been a fascinating place to behold.
