



WHAT LURKS IN THE WOODS?

1 Bigfoot & Dogman

Centered around the Lake James and Linville Gorge regions, numerous credible Sasquatch sightings have been made in the area.

2 UFOs & Ancient Alien Folkstories

Cigar Shaped UFO & UAP sightings near Spruce Pine and North Cove pre-date the Roswell incident. Locals watch glowing, floating UAP's from Mt. Ida Wilderness.

3 Brown Mountain Lights

Have you seen the lights? These mysterious ghost lights have confounded researchers for over a century.

4 Haunted History

From harrowing stories of colonial America, to the moving history of railroads in our community, our historic tours offer visitors an opportunity to experience history in new ways.

Read our
First in Fright:
Haunted Hollars article!



EXPLORE, CELEBRATE AND
DISCOVER THE WEIRD!



Home to one of the largest Bigfoot & Cryptid Festivals in the American South, our neck of the woods has experienced numerous Bigfoot, UFO, and cryptid sightings over the past 100 years.

Explore the lush, untamed Pisgah National Forest at our doorstep. With over 42 miles of trails through McDowell County, a Sasquatch sighting might be your next adventure! Travel beneath Humpback Mountain and hear haunting tales of war at Linville Caverns, or stay the night and see if you can spot the Brown Mountain Lights.

Fall is the most beautiful time of year in McDowell, but it's also the most festive. Check out local ghost tours, visit some of our heritage haunts, or immerse yourself in the wild history of our region.

Set your sights on Marion, North Carolina, home of the WNC Bigfoot Festival, our yearly celebration of Marion's official "monster" -Bigfoot.

91 Catawba Ave. | Old Fort, NC 28762

HAUNTED HOLLARS

Monsters, Mysteries, and
more in the Mountains of
McDowell County, NC





NATURALLY SPOOKY



Catawba Falls: Hikers report the eerie sounds of whispers along the river's edge. Old tales from the indigenous Catawba and Cherokee people of the region speak of "Nunnehi" or "Yunwi Tsunsi" (Little People) along this waterfall passage carry on through the modern times. Visitors to this waterfall trail sometimes misplace or lose trinkets, no doubt because of the little trixsters along this historic trail.



Linville Caverns: Historians and modern day paranormal researchers have reported supernatural activity like voices and movement in the caves. Former employees of the caverns say you should pay attention to items moving off shelves or around the rustic fireplace in the gift shop.



Andrews Geyser: Reports of a Civil War era soldier walking the park at dusk, along with glowing orbs floating over the geyser happen seasonally. One witness that lives nearby says the activity is more likely to be seen in late Summer or early Spring.



Marion Train Depot: This renovated depot is home to a quaint event venue and our local business association, but stories from residents tell of a dark history along the rail lines involving tragic deaths, escapes from slavery and wild west like robberies.

DESTINATION ★ NC ★ McDowell

HAUNTED HOLLARS



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Explore
Our
History



Share your
spooky
adventure
with us on
instagram!

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VISIT US. IF YOU DARE.

NATURALLY SPOOKY



Point Lookout Trail:

Nestled in the Pisgah National Forest, this spot overlooks sections of historic railways where workers experienced tragedy.



Wisemens View:

This local hiking spot is one of the best places to witness the mysterious Brown Mountain Lights.



Chestoa View:

This stunning overlook is the scene of tragic and unsettling history. Visitors and paranormal enthusiasts sometimes report a heavy, somber atmosphere or unexplainable sensations of being watched near the stone steps.



Toms Creek Falls:

This beautiful waterfall hike was also the location of a dogman sighting in 2019.



Linville Falls: Along with being a film location for "Last of the Mohicans," ghost lights, the ghosts of soldiers, and more have been spotted on the trails.



Round Hill Cemetery:

Resting place of some members of the McDowell & Carson family members.



Mt Ida Wilderness:

Early settlers and locals have recounted seeing strange, floating lights and objects in the night sky above this wilderness park.



Lake James State Park:

Home of the most credible Bigfoot sightings in the region. Reports of Bigfoot sightings stem from Lake James to the Linville Gorge Wilderness.