



Ralph Stern :: Professor, Department of Architecture
WS 2027 // Research Topics: History and Theory (1.5 credit hours)

Whether as mediaeval castles with deep and dank dungeons, ornate Victorian mansions with dark and stormy histories, Southern Gothic plantation houses as sites of personal tragedies, snowy alpine retreats or salty seaside resorts, suburban subdivisions built on Indigenous burial grounds, or simply as playgrounds for poltergeists and creepy things that go bump in the night, the haunted house is a central and recurrent figure in literature, film and architectural fact. The historical persistence of such concerns underscores deep human interests, needs, and desires; topics seldom properly examined in architectural history and theory.

With weekly readings, film screening, discussions and (maybe) seances, we will explore some of the many facets of this fascinating topic. As a guide to our explorations, we will use Mark Wigely's important 'The Architecture of Deconstruction: Derrida's Haunt' as a textbook.

For any questions, please feel free to contact me at ralph.stern@umanitoba.ca

Course Times and Location: Wednesdays @ 1:30 – 5:15 in Room 213 JAR