



## Investigation Summary Report

### Fort Derussy Cemetery Marksville, LA



### HISTORY

Located on the backroads of Marksville, La, this historic cemetery (erected 1862) is located on the actual battlegrounds of the locally known Battle of Fort Derussey. The road to the cemetery is a long and ominous path, leading to the open area you see above. The grounds are small, yet intimidating. During our visits we have experienced EMF spikes, EVPs, ectoplasm photos, multi colored orbs, and altered states of equilibrium. Folklore states that a witch is buried on the left corner of the cul de sac. Portions of the cemetery are roped off, not allowing future burials due to "unmarked graves of soldiers who died in battle!" For general information on Fort Derussey, please visit [www.fortderussy.org](http://www.fortderussy.org)

The following exert was sent to me by a reliable source. Thank you for the information!

"Local high-school kids frequently go out to the cemetery, and it has a reputation of being quite a scary place to be. I was at a car repair shop once, and one of the mechanics told me he would never go out there again, as the last time he went the gate had closed on it's own behind them, and he and his friends had heard screaming from the direction of the fort. They'd left in a hurry, and never been back. He said he wouldn't even go out there in the daytime, and suggested that I not go out there either.

The picket fence around the cemetery is new (2000). It now encloses a grave that used to be outside the old fence. There is a story about why that grave was outside the fence, but I've never been able to get a straight story as to exactly why that was. Some say it was a suicide, others say it was a white man who'd married a colored woman, others refuse to talk about it.

The oldest marked grave is from the late 1890s. The cemetery was used at least as early as 1862, and has a large number of old unmarked graves. It is still in use, but it is doubtful whether there is anywhere you can dig a grave in the cemetery that isn't on top of an old grave.

There is a book, Gumbo Ya-Ya, published in the 1940s, that you might be familiar with. It has a story about Fort DeRussy in it. Don't know the page number right off, but the story starts off something like "There is a haunted wood near Marksville where the local people refuse to go after dark."



