

# Deppville

## A Centre of Mystical Energy?

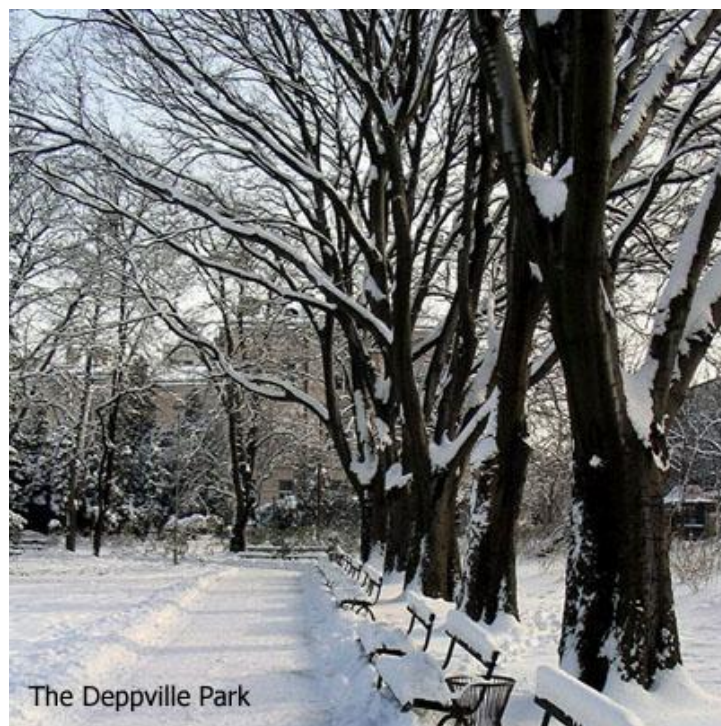
At first glance the small town of Deppville, California looks like a wonderful place to set roots or spend your holiday complete with beautiful mountains and forests for hikers, the harbour with a wonderful view of the ocean as well as the impressive ships, a town-centre buzzing with life with good shopping opportunities and a chance for a chat with one of the local citizens. Yes, Deppville has a lot to offer and does indeed seem like a wonderful place. However, don't pack your bags just yet. There is much more to this town than meets the eye.

Like any other American town, Deppville is ruled by its Mayor and in his absence, its Vice-Mayor. However, the town's head of security, Commander M. Portsmouth, seems to believe that she is the highest authority. The Commander pays little or no regard to legal justice; she misuses her authority to arrest anyone who crosses her. Never mind freedom of speech – should you speak up against her or her beliefs, you should also expect to spend considerable time either at the cell at the Security Office or in the Commander's own personal dungeons at her home, Chateau Blanchefort.

Portsmouth's obsession with power and order does not only mean that anyone might be arrested for getting in her way, it is also a well-known fact among the citizens that the Commander has installed so-called secret cameras all over town – and not only in public places where you might expect to be filmed, but also in the private homes of the citizens. Supposedly, the cameras have been installed for the safety of Deppville's citizens... Should you be so unfortunate to get on the Commander's bad side, I recommend mentioning any noble family relations, praise her uniform, or give a large contribution to her equestrian fund made to finance the making of a statue of the Commander. This may very well get you out of trouble.

For some time it has been rumoured that mystical activities has been happening in Deppville and I set out to investigate if any of these rumours were true. I have learned that several of the town's citizens possess mystical powers – for instance, in one family alone, the father is a 'dreamer', the mother is the descendant of a Necromancer (and she's a pirate), the eldest child is a shape-shifter and 'dreamer', and their young infant is a 'healer'. A close friend of same family, a pirate with Gypsy roots, is also a 'dreamer' and alchemist.

Some time ago this group of people were involved with the highly mysterious and powerful Fijian Soul Box – (the box can supposedly lead to unlimited powers, but be warned: everyone who's ever tried to yield its powers has suffered a terrible fate as the box consumed them.) The story is that the family and the gypsy 'dreamer' are all tied to the box and the gypsy 'dreamer' became trapped in the box in order to render it powerless, but was miraculously rescued. If you wish to know more of these events and the Soul Box, I recommend reading Author Godalming's first-hand account and research of the events in his new book, "Keepers of the Soul Box".



Other examples of Deppville citizens with magical powers are the Irish pirate witch with telekinetic powers, the witch sister of the 'dreamer's' wife, and quite possibly other kinds of mystical beings.



From Hell Court

The part of Deppville called From Hell Court is home to the lowest forms of human beings occupying its many taverns, opium dens and run-down apartment buildings— some have mystical powers, some are pirates, some are simply in the lower end of the social ladder. And some again, are living in this part of town to keep a low profile. Should you want to explore the area, I highly recommend doing so in the light of day for your own safety as it is also said that vampires consider From Hell Court their feeding grounds – yes, among the mystical beings of Deppville are vampires.

According to locals, the vampires live mainly in the Sleepy Hollow Woods, but also hunt in From Hell Court. There have been several reports of prostitutes killed by vampires in the area.



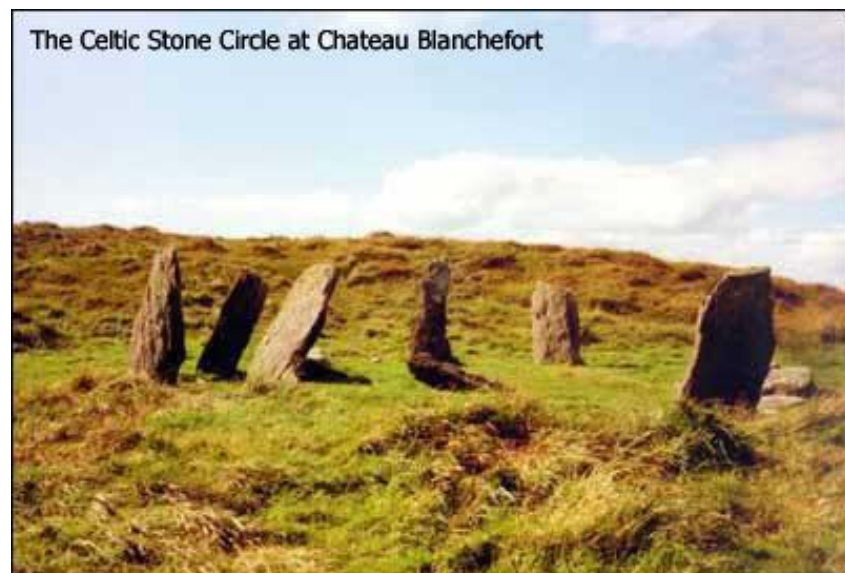
From Hell Court



Sleepy Hollow Woods

Is it purely a coincident that so many mystical beings have gathered in this Californian town? Or is there some sort of

mystical energy drawing them there? There are no clear evidence pointing either way, however, the Celtic Stone Circle in Commander Portsmouth's back-yard ("imported" from Bretagne) is tuned towards something dark and mystical (not that mystical beings are necessarily dark). So perhaps the answer to the overwhelming assembly of mystical beings in Deppville lies within the grounds of Chateau Blanchefort and its inhabitant who, to top it off, is a great supporter of the secret organization "The Order".



The Celtic Stone Circle at Chateau Blanchefort

Despite the darkness brewing in Deppville, it is still a lovely town and well worth a visit. The surroundings are truly amazing and it is my impression that the majority of the citizens – with or without mystical powers - are very warm people who will instantly make you feel welcome in their small town. So book a room at the *Chez Roux* inn and spend a few days taking in the sights of Deppville. But if you have any desires for a long and peaceful life, limit your Deppville experience to vacations. ■

*Text and photos by Isabella Martin.*