The Shoreline

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## **Preservation of Historic Sites**

The New Bern Historical Society will resume its "Lunch and Learn" series on Thursday, September 10, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. at The Chelsea restaurant with a fascinating program, entitled "Preservation Around the Edges," about the many homes restored by Newsom Williams and Ben Parrish.

Afterabriefdiscussion of preservation issues in New Bern during the 1970s and early 1980s, Williams and Parrish will show slides of several early projects on Pollock St. Slides will typically show the progression of each house, from the initial state at purchase through North Carolina colleges, relocated to the rehabilitation process and then the finished product. The program will then move to rehabilitation work in the Queen St. area (including a house moved to 407 Queen Street, Rhone Apartments at 512 Queen St., the Lawrence Davis House at 532 Queen St., and the latest project on North Cool Ave).

Both Parrish and Williams are North Carolinians, but neither are native New Bernians. Parrish grew up on a farm outside Louisburg, attended

New Bern in 1975, where he served as CPA and manager with the firm of RSM McGladrey, Inc. for more than 20 years. Williams grew up in Murfreesboro, attended North Carolina colleges, taught at Guilford College, moved to New Bern in 1973 to work as a psychologist and director of an evaluation and treatment clinic for young children and served as director of the New Bern Historical Society until he retired in 2008. The pair formed their business partnership in 1981 and since

have rehabilitated or restored over 30 historic properties in New Bern's downtown historic district-in their spare time.

Prepaid reservations are required for this "Lunch & Learn" program. The fee is \$15 for members and \$17 for non-members. Call 638-8558 for reservations as seating is limited. Meal choices are The Chelsea's famous Shrimp & Grits and Chicken Bruschetta with diced tomato and basil pesto over pasta.



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