



A CLASSIC PLANTATION HOME built in 1725, Orton Plantation is surrounded by 20 acres of azaleas, magnolias, camellias, and other varieties.

BEACON FILE PHOTO

History, Science, Nature Here For You To Enjoy...

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\$15 for adults and \$8 for children.

Orton Plantation Gardens

Twenty acres of azaleas, magnolias, camellias, oleander, hydrangeas, crepe myrtle and other varieties of flowers and trees surround a classic plantation home built in 1725. Features natural and formal gardens, constructed lawns, tree-lined walkways and views of the old rice fields and the Cape Fear River. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children (age 6-12) and \$6 for senior citizens. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., through August. Located on N.C. 133, 10 miles north of Southport.

USS North Carolina

Explore the decks of a 728-foot warship that saw action in every major Pacific naval offensive in World War II. A two-hour self-guided walking tour includes the crew's quarters, galley, sick bay,

engine room, pilot house, battery plotting rooms, museum and one of the three massive 16-inch gun turrets. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children age 6-11. Open for tours daily between 8 a.m. and sunset. Each night at 9 p.m. an outdoor "Sound and Light Spectacular" uses voices, music, lights and sound effects to dramatize the ship's history. Admission is \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children. Follow the signs just west of the Cape Fear River Bridge.

N.C. Aquarium

A wide range of local sea life, including popular game fish, sharks, sea turtles, crabs, shellfish other varieties are displayed in aquaria and a hands-on "touch tank." Exhibits, films and interpretive programs are offered along with guided outdoor excursions to the beach and salt marsh. Admission is free. Open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Located on U.S. 421 just north of the ferry landing from Southport.

Fort Fisher State Historic Site

Remains of the largest earthwork fort of the Civil War Confederacy and target of the heaviest naval bombardment of land fortifications in history up to that time. Begun in 1861, Fort Fisher provided cover for the blockade runners that maintained a vital supply lifeline open to the port of Wilmington. The last major stronghold of the Confederacy, Fort Fisher was the site of two major assaults by Union infantry and naval forces. A reconstructed gun battery, remains of the fort and a museum are open free of charge Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Located on U.S. 421, just north of the ferry landing from Southport.

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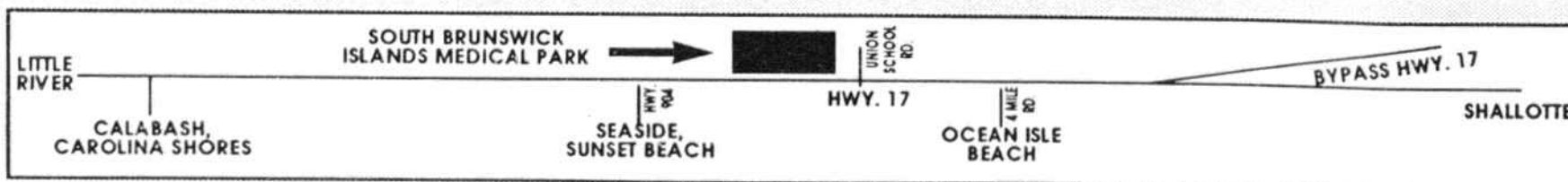
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