NEW BERN

HISTORIC HOMES TOUR

The Historic Homes District is a precious gem set in the prongs of downtown New Bern. If you like history, fine architecture, and the gracious ambiance of Southern living, you'll be charmed by these lovely residences. They are the pride of their present owners, as well as those of the past. Civil War figures, political leaders of the era, and respected dignitaries walked through these doors and lived in these homes. Also, the inventor of Pepsi-Cola and other interesting individuals are part of the colorful history. If these walls could talk, what stories they might share. You're invited to take a stroll down memory lane and allow yourself to be transported back in time. Along the way, you'll find outstanding examples of architectural features including Neo-Classical Revival, Federal, Georgian, and Italianate styles.

This walking tour covers a distance of approximately 1.3 miles and takes an estimated 26 minutes to complete on foot.

1 ISAAC TAYLOR HOUSE

The Isaac Taylor House (1792) is located at **228 Craven Street**. Constructed by the merchant, shipowner, and planter Isaac Taylor, this charming dwelling incorporated a "counting house" on the first floor. Note the fine Federal woodwork. This is one of the earliest side-hall Federal brick dwellings in New Bern. The doorway is beautifully detailed.

2 COOR-BISHOP HOUSE

You'll find the Coor-Bishop House at **501 East Front Street** (1770-1778). This stately house was built by James Coor; however, its subsequent owner, George Pollock, entertained dignitaries like President James Monroe and Mrs. James C. Calhoun here. It was remodeled in Neo-Classical Revival style and actually turned toward the water in 1907.

3 LARRY I. MOORE HOUSE

A brief walk will bring you to the Larry I. Moore House (1908) at **511 East Front Street**. This Herbert Woodley Simpson- designed house features a Neo-Classical Revival portico and restrained Colonial revival detailing. Its lovely Corinthian columns, broad front, and side porches are inviting features that create images of the South's famous sweet tea or perhaps a mint julep served in style on a fine afternoon.

4 ELI SMALLWOOD HOUSE

The Eli Smallwood House (1810) at **524 East Front Street** is one of the finest of New Bern's Federal brick side-hall houses. This unique residence is noted for its handsome portico and elegant interior woodwork. If you look closely, you'll find ghost marks of a second entry visible over the north front window.

5 CHARLES SLOVER HOUSE

The Charles Slover House (1848-1849), located at **201 Johnson Street**, is New Bern's grandest Greek Revival Style residence. During the Civil War, Union General Ambrose Burnside selected the house to serve as one of his headquarters. It was purchased in 1908 by Caleb D. Bradham, inventor of "Brad's Drink" now known as Pepsi-Cola.

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6 JERKINS-RICHARDSON HOUSE

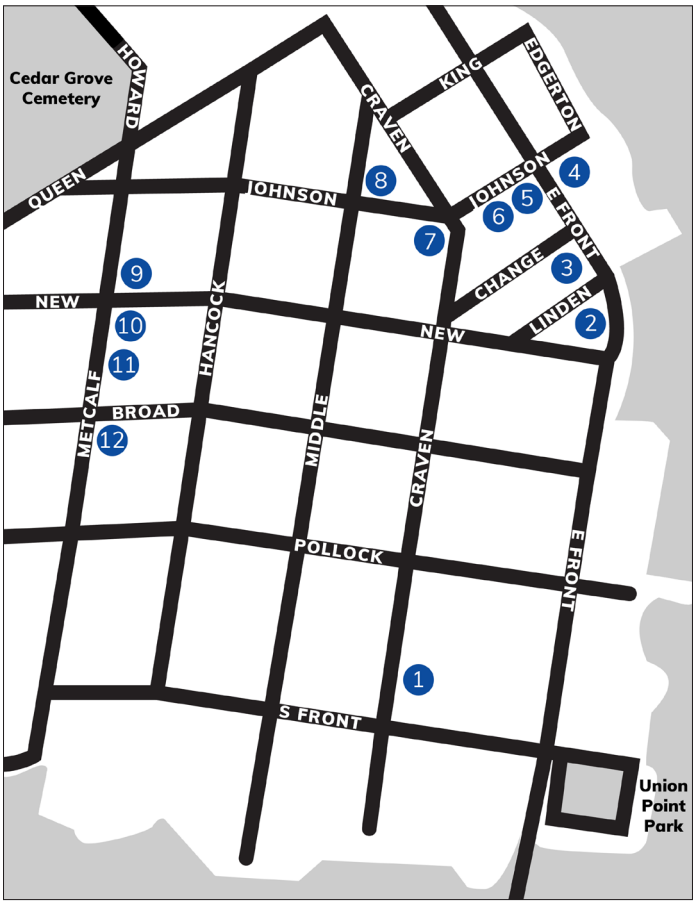
Don't miss the Jerkins-Richardson House (1848-1849) at **520 Craven Street**. This classic house is one of New Bern's latest examples of a gable-roofed side-hall Federal-style. Be sure to notice the "Captain's Walk" between the fully enclosed interior end chimneys. Also referred to as a "Widow's Walk," this rooftop structure was a common feature of early seafaring towns. Imagine anxious family members drawn there in search of a ship sighting that would signal the return of a loved one.

7 JOHN D. FLANNER HOUSE

The John D. Flanner House (1855; enlarged 1880) is located at **305 Johnson Street**. The construction of the house marked the introduction of the Italianate style to New Bern. This popular style had the most lasting influence on the town's architecture. It is evident in the overhanging cornice supported by elaborate sawn brackets.

8 W.B. BLADES HOUSE

Also part of the Historic District is the W.B. Blades House (1903) at **602 Middle Street**. This elaborate Queen Alme House was designed by Herbert Woodley Simpson for lumber magnate, William B. Blades. It combines elements of Queen Anne and Greek Revival, making it one of the most elegant mansions in New Bern.



9 PALMER-TISDALE HOUSE

The Palmer-Tisdale House (1767) can be found at **520 New Street**. The Georgian front section of this interesting home was built by Col. Robert Palmer. It was purchased in 1776 by goldsmith and patriot William Tisdale, who was active in local political affairs and who engraved the great seal of the State of North Carolina in 1778.

10 HAWKS HOUSE

Right across the street is the Hawks House (1760-1770) at **517 New Street.** The western part of this attractive house is Georgian and consists of four bays. The eastern section is Federal-style and was added in the early 1800s by Frances Hawks, son of John Hawks, the architect of Tryon Palace.

11 ULYSSES S. MACE HOUSE

You don't want to miss the Ulysses S. Mace House (1884) at **518 Broad Street**. This stately home is one of the town's most elaborate Italianate style houses, displaying intricate sawn work on its wide porches. It was built for Ulysses S. Mace, a local druggist.

12 ATTMORE WADSWORTH HOUSE

Also built for Ulysses S. Mace is the Attmore Wadsworth House (1855) at **515 Broad Street**. This unusual one-story Italianate style house has several interesting features. Note the elaborate bracketed cornice with ventilators, used in conjunction with the more traditional Greek Revival door and window surrounds.

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