The Bryan Lavender House, overlooking the banks of the Trent River and only 25 miles from the beaches of the Crystal Coast, is ready to be restored to its former glory. The town has completed a new public boat ramp just a few hundred feet from the house. Although a rare flood due to Hurricane Florence caused water intrusion of approximately six feet in the first floor, with swift intervention and removal of drywall up to two feet above the water line and careful drying out, the house is ready for its next stewards! The rehabilitation work needed includes all new plumbing, HVAC, and electrical on the first floor, along with new kitchen and baths. The second story did not flood and could potentially be occupied during the rehabilitation work.

Originally a hall and parlor plan, a wing was added to the north side and in the 1950’s a former detached kitchen was brought up to the house, but not attached. Instead, a small wooden stoop connects the two structures which are barely a few feet apart. The house retains original woodwork including chair rail downstairs, original Federal mantels (one with a detailed three-part mantel in the parlor and another two-part mantel in the upstairs bedroom), and a faux-grained door between the living and dining room. Hardware matches the era of the house. Beautiful heart pine floors are throughout the house. The side wing could be used as and office, den or bedroom and is plumbed for a bath. The back porch on this wing features a wall of windows for natural light. Upstairs there are two bedrooms connected by a shared bath.

The Bryan Lavender House is a late Federal-style home and was built around 1825 for Bryan Lavender, who lived there for approximately 10 years. Locally, the house is known as the Roscoe Barrus House. Barrus owned the home from 1835 until 1870 and was a prominent merchant and pharmaceutical salesman. While Barrus’ business grew and expanded to Baltimore and New York by the mid 1850’s, the Civil War would disrupt those businesses, and with the destruction of his warehouse and all merchandise during the war. Barrus sold all of his holdings in order to repay debts in 1867, including selling his house to his daughter. The house remained in the Barrus family until 1888.

A rare example in North Carolina of the Charleston-style porch, with two-tiered engaged porch with one end enclosed and exterior stair, the Bryan Lavender House is architecturally important for the architectural development of styles from Charleston into Eastern NC. Significant exterior architectural features include original nine-over-six windows flanking the front door including their original louvered blinds and hardware and six-over-six windows throughout, a four light transom caps the front door and the house has single concave shoulder chimney. Chamfered posts on the second story of the porch, beaded flush sheathing on the end stair, and the posts, balusters, and shaped banister on the exterior stair are all original.

For more information or to make an appointment to see the Bryan Lavender House, contact:
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Maggie Gregg, Regional Director • 252-689-6678 • mggreg@presnc.org

JOIN US! For more information about Preservation NC and other endangered properties visit www.PreservationNC.org.
**Directions:** From Raleigh, take I-40 E/US-64 E. Keep right on I-40 E and follow signs for Benson/Wilmington. In 8 miles, take exit 309 for US-70 E toward Smithfield/Goldsboro and continue onto US-70 E. In 16.5 miles, keep left to continue on US-70 BYP E and then US-70 E. In 13.6 miles, keep left to continue onto US-70 BYP E. In 19.1 miles, take the exit on the left for US-70 E. In 12.2 miles, take a slight right onto US-70 E/W New Bern Rd, and continue to follow US-70 E. In 7.8 miles, turn right on Wyse Fork Rd and continue onto 10 Mile Fork Rd (13.7 miles). In 9.1 miles, turn right onto US-17 S. The property will be on the left in 3.3 miles.

**Area Information:** The Bryan Lavender House is located in Pollocksville, a quiet little town of 325 located in the northeast portion of Jones County in North Carolina. Highway 17 runs through the town and provides fast transport to the north and south portions of the state. Largely a farming area, the ground is very fertile and most everything grows. Located on the banks of the Trent River on Highway 17, newly installed walkways provide an ideal location for fishing and other outdoor activities. Just off highway 17, Pollocksville is a short 20 minute drive from the charming and historic town of New Bern, NC. Visit www.townofpollocksville.com and www.jonescountync.gov for more information.

**Preservation North Carolina** is a statewide, private, non-profit membership organization that protects and promotes the architectural heritage of North Carolina. Through its Endangered Properties Program it acquires and sells endangered historic buildings. Preservation North Carolina sells all properties with protective covenants and a rehabilitation agreement to ensure that the historic buildings will be renovated and that they will be protected from demolition and unsympathetic changes in the years to come. For samples of these legal documents visit www.presnc.org/get-help/easements-covenants/.

**Financial Incentives:** The Bryan Lavender House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is eligible for historic preservation tax credits. In North Carolina, both state and federal income tax credits are available for the certified rehabilitation of historic structures. For the rehabilitation of income-producing certified historic structures, a 20% federal income tax credit and a tier based state income tax credit are available. For the rehabilitation of owner-occupied certified historic structures (non-income producing properties), a 15% state tax credit is available for rehabilitation expenses up to $150,000. For more information on Historic Preservation Tax Credits, please contact the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office at 919-807-6570 or at www.hpo.ncdcr.gov.

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**For general information or to join Preservation NC:**

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