



Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Linda A. Carlisle, Secretary

North Carolina
Department of Cultural Resources

News Release

Contact: Kaeli Spiers (252) 473-655
Fay Mitchell (919) 807-7389

Release: February 4, 2011

The Lighthouses at Bodie Island: Third Time's The Charm at Outer Banks History Center

MANTEO – Recently the Bodie Island Lighthouse has been encased in more than 2,000 pieces of scaffolding while undergoing restoration. The current lighthouse, first lit in 1872, is the third beacon to bear the name Bodie Island Lighthouse. Learn the history of all three sea coast lights next month in the exhibit, *The Lighthouses at Bodie Island: Third Time's The Charm*.

Join the Friends of the Outer Banks History Center, staff, and members of the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society for the opening reception, “First Friday” March 4, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Enjoy the simple but hearty fare of a lighthouse keeper’s supper -- biscuits and beans and Hatteras-style chowder. The event is free and open to the public.

The Lighthouses at Bodie Island exhibit explains early navigational aids in America, how the first Bodie Island Lighthouse sank on one side due to a poor foundation, and the demise of the second tower at the hands of Confederate troops during the Civil War. There will also be profiles of the principal keepers of the lighthouses and the way of life on Bodie Island before roads and bridges facilitated travel in the region. Recent restoration work on the ironwork, stairs and windows will also be highlighted along with status reports of the project’s progress.

The Lighthouses at Bodie Island: Third Time's The Charm will be on display daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. in the History Center Gallery, March 5 through Dec. 31. It is made possible through support from the Frank Stick Memorial Fund of the Outer Banks Community Foundation and The Friends of the Outer Banks History Center. The National Park Service and the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society have provided expertise and resources.

For additional information call 252-473-2655. The gallery is located across from the Manteo waterfront at Roanoke Island Festival Park. The Outer Banks History Center is a regional archives and research library administered by the N.C. State Archives. It is part of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, the state agency with the mission to enrich lives and communities, and the vision to harness the state’s cultural resources to build North Carolina’s social, cultural and economic future. Information is available 24/7 at www.ncculture.com.