

New Bern in Fiction:
Works of fiction about or mentioning the New Bern area
Compiled by Victor T. Jones, Jr.

Arthur, Donald. The River Basin (Victoria, B.C. : Trafford Publishing, 2004, 250 p.) Location: R NC F ART (also copy at Pamlico NC F ART)—Time seemed to stand still in the sleepy little town of New Bern. The river that flowed through this peaceful place was a life source for its residents; however, something lay beneath its depths that would change their lives forever. (Cover)

Boyd, James. Drums (New York: Scribner's, 1925, 490 p.). Location: NC F BOY—Johnny Fraser, the piney-woods hero of this classic novel of the Revolution in N.C., goes from Edenton to London, and in sentiment from Toryism to supporting John Paul Jones in his great sea battle. Boyd's historical realism and dimensional characters make this a great novel of its genre. (*North Carolina Fiction*).

Carroll, Ruth. Tough Enough's Pony (New York: H. Z. Walck, 1957, 64 p.). Location: NC J CAR—Beanie's little dog Tough Enough finds one of grandfather's ponies injured on the beach (Shackleford Banks, Carteret County), and when the little horse is well he follows Beanie, the family, and his good friend Tough to their home in the Smoky Mountains. (*North Carolina Fiction*)

Carter, Jimmy. The Hornet's Nest (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2003, 480 p.). Location: F CAR (also Book on CD, CD F CAR)—A novel of the American South during the Revolutionary War follows Ethan Pratt, his wife Epsey, and their neighbors, Kindred and Mavis Morris, as they become caught up in the conflict and the problems confronting local Indian tribes. Governor Tryon and New Bern are mentioned throughout the early sections of the book. (NoveList)

Castlemon, Harry, pseud. Marcy, The Refugee (Philadelphia: Henry T. Coates, 1892, 432 p.). Location: R NC F CAS—Young Marcy Gray, his mother, and brother, live near New Bern during the Civil War but are Unionists. Loyalist neighbors join them in various perils. Marcy's final triumph is leading the Union fleet, as pilot, to the capture of Roanoke Island. (*North Carolina Fiction*)

Conroy, Pat. The Great Santini (Boston: Houghton, 1976, 536 p.). Location: F CON—Eighteen-year-old Ben's attempts to stand up for himself, his mother, and his sister are resisted by his intolerant father, a fighter pilot and inflexible disciplinarian. (NoveList)

- Darby, Ada Claire. Island Girl (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1951, 215 p.). Location: NC J DAR—Carolina Leigh, 14 years old, lives on the Outer Banks with her grandmother, has tamed a wild pony, and rescued a cat from a shipwreck. Her uncle moves them to New Bern where Carolina becomes involved with the Patriots in the Revolution. (*North Carolina Fiction*)
- Dodd, Karen E. Down East on Nelson Island (Raleigh, N.C.: Pentland Press, 2001, 147 p.). Location: NC F DOD—The heartwarming tale of a grandfather whose life is shaken and enriched by an extended visit, one summer, from the granddaughter he has never met. Set on fictional Nelson Island (supposed to be near Harker's Island).
- Douglas, Charlotte. Darkness at Fairwinds (New York: Leisure Books, 1993, 346 p.). Location: NC F DOU—Sent to care for a young widower's son, Varina Cameron (of New Bern) was captivated by Florida's Gulf Coast. But the paradise of Andrew McLaren's plantation harbored dark secrets—not the least of which was whether Andrew's wife had died of natural causes. Trapped in a maze of murder and mystery, Varina turned to McLaren for protection only to discover that the handsome botanist's passionate nature offered a different kind of comfort. Although Varina wanted nothing more than Andrew's love, a near fatal accident led her to suspect that in his powerful embrace she might meet her own untimely demise.
- Drysdale, William. Pine Ridge Plantation; or The Trial and Successes of a Young Cotton Planter (New York: Crowell, 1901, 320 p.). Location: R NC F DRY—Colonel Andrews, a big North Carolina cotton planter, persuades Huntley Robertson, a young man working on a New York farm, to start out on his own near New Bern in 1900. With little money but much determination to succeed, Huntley becomes one of the "crack cotton planters of Craven County. (*North Carolina Fiction*)
- Fletcher, Inglis. Men of Albemarle (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1942, 566 p.). Location: NC F FLE—In the Albemarle area during 1710-1712 Pollock, Cary, and Hyde contend for the governorship. Provincial law and order evolve amid Cary's Rebellion and the Tuscarora massacres in Bath Town. Wealthy planter Roger Mainwaring has an affair with Mary Tower (Tudor), natural daughter of Charles II. (*North Carolina Fiction*)
- Fletcher, Inglis. Wind in the Forest (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1957, 448 p.). Location: NC F FLE—In 1768 Hillary Caswell in Tyrrell County on his way to serve Governor Tryon at New Bern, falls in

- love with Cecelia Chapman. Later he is present at the Regulator's riot in Hillsboro, the opening of Tryon's Palace, and the Battle of Alamance (1771). (*North Carolina Fiction*)
- Forster, Gwynne. Blues From Down Deep (New York: Dafina Books, 2003, 300 p.). Location: NC F FOR—Arriving in New Bern, North Carolina to meet the extended family she never knew she had, Regina Pearson finds her dreams of a warm, loving family shattered when she is unwittingly pulled into the pain, secrets, and betrayals that have plagued this family for years until she meets a special man who shows her the true meaning of family and love. (NoveList)
- Fosdick, Charles Austin. Marcy, the Refugee. See Castlemon, Harry, pseud.
- Fowler, Robert H. Jim Mundy (New York, NY : Harper & Row, 1977, 470 p.). Location: NC F FOW—After Jim Mundy joins Confederate forces, he loses an eye at Gettysburg and is sent to prison, but escapes to Canada before returning to his losing side. (NoveList)
- Gabaldon, Diana. Drums of Autumn (New York : Delacorte Press, 1996, 880 p.). Location: F GAB—From 1767 to 1770, Claire, a 20th-century woman, and her 18th-century Scottish husband, struggle to set up their home in South Carolina. (NoveList)
- Gabaldon, Diana. The Fiery Cross (New York, NY : Delacorte Press, 2001, 979 p.). Location: NC F GAB—In 1771, Scotsman James Fraser and his wife Claire Randall, a time-traveler from the twentieth century, have emigrated to the Royal County of North Carolina. Dissidents are stirring throughout the colonies. Claire forewarns James of the impending war and the dangers it may bring them. Will her knowledge of America's tumultuous revolution be enough to guide them through a dangerously uncertain future? (NoveList)
- Gilmore, James R. (as Edmund Kirke). My Southern Friends (New York, Carleton, 1863, 308 p.). Location: R NC F KIR—A New York businessman forms close ties of friendship with several North Carolina families [Jones and Craven counties]. They assist each other in solving personal and financial problems and at the same time come to appreciate opposite points of view on national questions just before the war. (*North Carolina Fiction*)
- Hargrave, Will Loftin. Wallanah (Richmond: B.F. Johnson Publishing Co., 1902, 429 p.). Location: R NC F HAR—John Cantwell is not the good, honest man the people of New Bern think. His life is one

black lie after another with schemes affecting several people whose lives become very much involved. The plot covers nearly 30 years, the main part being in Tryon's administration. (*North Carolina Fiction*)

Herrington, W.D. The Deserter's Daughter (Raleigh: N.C. Dept. of Cultural Resources, 1990, 27 p. also includes The Captain's Bride: A Tale of War [22 p.], originally published in 1865 and 1864, respectively). Location: R NC F HER (also copy at Bogue Banks, NC F HER)—Several southern officers are troubled about conditions at Dover Swamp (between New Bern and Kinston), where deserters and Northern sympathizers are making things difficult for the Confederacy. A deserter's loyal daughter helps Captain Forrester expel them from their stronghold. (*North Carolina Fiction*)

Kline, Lisa Williams. Eleanor Hill (Chicago, IL : Front Street/Cricket Books, 1999, 249 p.). Location: NC J KLI—In the early years of the twentieth century, inspired by a free-thinking teacher and determined not to get married and stay trapped in her North Carolina fishing village (Beaufort), teenage Eleanor sets out to seek her chosen path of living as an independent woman, and includes visits with her relatives in New Bern.

Maron, Margaret. Home Fires (New York: Myterious Press, 1998, 243 p.). Location: NC F MAR, also CA F MAR (unabridged cassette)—While campaigning, judge and occasional sleuth Deborah Knott joins forces with ex-Black Panther Wallace Adderly to discover who is responsible for the fiery destruction of two African American churches--one of which caused the death of a young man. (Novelist)

Maron, Margaret. Killer Market (New York, NY: Mysterious Press, 1997, 273 p.). Location: NC F MAR, also CA F MAR (unabridged cassette)—Judge Deborah Knott is filling in for a district court judge in High Point, North Carolina, when she is cleverly framed for murder, and must clear her name while searching for the real killer. (Novelist)

Maron, Margaret. Shooting at Loons (New York, NY: Mysterious Press, 1994, 229 p.). Location: NC F MAR, also CA F MAR (unabridged cassette)—In a picturesque North Carolina village (in Carteret County), a struggle between commercial fishermen and real-estate developers leads to murder—and Judge Deborah Knott's ex-lover is implicated. (Novelist)

- Maron, Margaret. Storm Track (New York, NY: Mysterious Press, 2000, 260 p.). Location: NC F MAR, also LP F MAR (Large Print), and CD F MAR (unabridged compact disc)—When the embittered wife of a local attorney is found strangled in a motel by her own skimpy undergarments, Judge Deborah Knott searches for clues as a deadly hurricane bears down on the coastal town. (Novelist)
- Maron, Margaret. Uncommon Clay (New York, NY: Warner Books, 2001, 288 p.). Location: NC F MAR, also CD F MAR (unabridged compact disc)—In order to catch a killer, Judge Deborah Knott must unravel a local family's tragic, shameful past, but she may not be able to solve the mystery in time to prevent further bloodshed. (Novelist)
- Maron, Margaret. Up Jumps the Devil (New York : Mysterious Press, 1996, 278 p.). Location: NC F MAR, also CA F MAR (unabridged cassette)—Colleton County, North Carolina judge Deborah Knott embarks on a Thanksgiving Day investigation into the murder of a man from her father's moonshine-making past. (Novelist)
- McCrum, Sharyn. Ghost Riders (New York, Dutton, 2003, 233 p.). Location: NC F MCC, also LP F MCC (large print)—Disguising herself as a boy to join the Union army alongside her husband, Malinda Blalock raids the farms of Confederate sympathizers and promotes the efforts of governor Zebulon Vance, who would protect Appalachian interests. (Novelist)
- Munger, Katy. Legwork (New York, Avon Books, 1997, 220 p.). Location: F MUN (Carteret only)—She's smart, talented and durable, but Casey Jones has had more than her share of bad luck in her life -- including a short stretch in a Florida pen that haunts her still. In Raleigh, N.C., where Casey now lives, a prison record means no private investigator's license. So she's doing legwork for legit p.i. Bobby D -- a blimp-sized eating machine with a bad toupee, who exercises few muscles below the jaw line. Casey's latest assignment is to guard Senatorial hopeful Mary Lee Masters -- a tough-as-nails politico with a reputation for perfection and a long list of adversaries, including one who just dumped a shotgunned corpse into the candidate's Jeep. With her campaign on the horizon, Mary Lee turns to Casey for help -- the kind that soon has the unlicensed sleuth swimming in an unsavory southern stew of treachery and dirty politics...with a large pinch of murder thrown in for flavor. (Novelist)
- Munger, Katy. Out of Time (New York, Avon Books, 1998, 265 p.). Location: (not in collection)—Meet Casey Jones--an unlicensed, no-

nonsense private detective who hides 160 pounds of muscle with an in-your-face femme fatale style. She's bold, she's bad and, most of all, she's nobody's fool. Underneath her wise-cracking, 100% Southern exterior, there beats a 14-karat heart with a definite spot for life's losers. With the brains to take on any challenge and the guts to impose her own brand of justice, Casey Jones has what it takes to be your best friend--or your very worst enemy. This time around, Casey takes on a case that batters her once-sturdy body and threatens to expose her closest held secret. When her investigation into the case of a woman on death row sets her at odds with her hometown police force, Casey quickly learns that true blue friends aren't necessarily clad in blue. One by one, bodies begin to fall, while Casey holds her ground. She must race to uncover the truth before more people die--and before she takes the rap for their murders. With the help of an unlikely pair of bloodhounds and even more unlikely pair of bloodhounds and even more unlikely allies, Casey battles back to reclaim her client's life and her own, and to set a trap for a very clever killer. . .before time runs out. (Novelist)

Sanders, Madelyn. Sarabande (New York: Harlequin Intrigue, 1992, 250 p.). Location: R NC F SAN—After spending her first night in Sandor Szelazeny's spooky house in New Bern, North Carolina, physical therapist Bruce MacLauren sensed that something was very wrong. But she didn't heed the warning in her famous patient's brooding silences.

Sparks, Nicholas. A Bend in the Road. (New York: Warner Books, 2001, 341 p.). Location: NC F SPA—Devastated by the death of his wife in a hit-and-run accident, Miles, deputy sheriff of New Bern, North Carolina, discovers new meaning in his life when he meets Sarah Andrews, a woman struggling to rebuild her own life. (NoveList)

Sparks, Nicholas. A Walk to Remember. (New York: Warner Books, 1999, 240 p.). Location: NC F SPA—A love story that tells the story of Landon Carter and Jamie Sullivan, two teenagers in a small southern town (Beaufort) who eventually fall in love. (Nicholas Sparks Website)

Sparks, Nicholas. Nights in Rodanthe. (New York: Warner Books, 2002, 212 p.). Location: NC F SPA—After her husband leaves her for a younger woman, forty-five-year-old Adrienne Willis reconsiders her entire life, until a trip to Rodanthe in North Carolina's outer banks leads to an encounter with successful surgeon Paul Flanner. (NoveList)

Sparks, Nicholas. The Notebook. (New York: Warner Books, 1996, 214 p.). Location: NC F SPA--A love story in two different time periods, that tells the story of Noah and Allie; how they fell in love in the 1940s, and how they fall in love again in the 1990s, when Allie is suffering from Alzheimer's and no longer remembers him. (Nicholas Sparks Website)

Sparks, Nicholas. The Wedding. (New York: Warner Books, 2003, 256 p.). Location: NC F SPA—With the preparations for his daughter's wedding serving as a catalyst, Wilson Lewis realizes that his relationship with his wife of thirty years is threatened, and sets out to make his wife fall in love with him once again. (NoveList)

Styron, William. Sophie's Choice. (New York: Random House, 1979, 515 p.). Location: F STY—As the fierce lovemaking and fights of Nathan, a paranoiac Jewish intellectual, and Sophie, a Polish-Catholic concentration-camp survivor, intensify, Stingo, a writer who lives below them in a cheap rooming house, becomes more and more involved in their lives. (NoveList)

Trotter, William R. Fires of Pride. (New York, Carroll & Graf, 2004, 555 p.). Location: NC F TRO—Chronicles events of the Civil War in the South following the disaster at Gettysburg, focusing on the clash between Union and Confederate ironclads that not only affected the outcome of the war, but changed the course of warfare. (NoveList)

Verne, Jules. Facing the Flag. (New York: F. Tennyson Neely, 1897, 217 p.). Location: R NC F VER—In the early 1890s, from Healthful House, a sanitarium on the Neuse River opposite New Bern, an insane French inventor, Thomas Roch, is kidnapped by pirate Ker Karraje and taken to remote Bermuda island to build a weapon 100 times more destructive than anything known. The first fourth of the novel takes place in North Carolina. (*North Carolina Fiction*)

Wilder, Robert. Mr. G. Strings Along. (New York: Putnam, 1944, 217 p.). Location: R NC F WIL—Mr. Grafton made jumping frogs at Two Folks, a small town near New Bern, until the government put him into war production. Christine, a blonde from Washington, eventually converted Mr. G. Satirical humor for sophisticated readers. (*North Carolina Fiction*)