Historic Pickens home gets new owners, life

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PICKENS — An antebellum home steeped in Pickens history could see new life this year.

Two entrepreneurs have purchased the Bradley-Boggs house, a large two-story home that sits on West Main Street in downtown Pickens, and are moving forward with plans to restore it and make it a vital part of the community once more.

Scott Bork and Rhonda Duncan, partners in Innovations in Healthcare who also own Dun-Burks Premier Events in a building they restored in downtown Easley, purchased the Boggs house last September for $52,000.

Bork said the building, while and dilapidated, is "just incredible."

Mike Bedenbaugh, executive director for The Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation, said he doesn't know exactly when the house was built but said he thinks the core of the home dates to sometime after the 1840s. More rooms were was added onto later.

"The front two-story framework definitely dates from the antebellum period," Bedenbaugh said.

Bork said they don't know what they are going to do with the house yet but said the house won't be torn down.

"We want to preserve it," he said. "We will not destroy it in any way."

They hope to find a concept that makes the site "a center point for Pickens that could serve the community and also be successful as a business," Bork said.

Duncan bought the Bradley-Boggs House at an auction in September that was set up by court-appointed receivers of the house, former Pickens Jaycees members Bob Lofink and Wade Greer.

The now inactive Pickens Jaycees owned the house, which they had used as a haunted house for several years as a primary fundraiser through the 1990s, Lofink said.

He said the money from the sale will be distributed to Jaycee charities including Jaycee Camp Hope and Pickens parks and recreation.

While Bork said they don't have a timeline for when the property will be finished, work has already started to clean up the grounds around the building.

"We think it will take a year just to get it to a place where we can step back and assess and say, what is this really, what kind of a project is this going to be?" he said.

Bradley-Boggs house sold



FILE / STAFF

The Bradley-Boggs house in downtown Pickens, built in the 1840s, was owned by the Jaycees and had been used as a haunted house in the 1990s.