First steps in enhancing colors and adjusting exposure
If your photo lacks color ...
You can fix it!
The following instructions are based on Photoshop Elements, version 11.

Other versions have similar tools, but the pathways may differ.

Use the “Expert” mode.
Step 1

- Follow the pathway: Enhance > Adjust Lighting > Shadows / Highlights.

- Experiment cautiously with these sliders:
  - Lighten Shadows.
  - Darken Highlights.
  - Midtone Contrast.
Step 2

- Follow the pathway: Enhance > Adjust Color > Adjust Hue / Saturation.

- Use the “Master” setting to adjust all colors at once, or adjust the colors one at a time.

- Experiment cautiously with the “Saturation” slider.
Some examples

Before and after editing
Switzerland’s Lake Ägerisee

As photographed

Edited and cropped

All editing was done in the “Expert” mode.
1. Shadows lightened.
2. Highlights darkened.
3. Mid-tone contrast increased.
4. Saturation increased.
Beach booths at Whitby, England

As scanned from an underexposed 35 mm slide (aspect ratio 3:2)

As edited and cropped to an 8x10 format (aspect ratio 4:5)

Principal editing tools used:
1. Enhance > Adjust Lighting > Brightness (increased).
2. Enhance > Adjust Color > Saturation (increased).
Remember to sharpen your edited photo. (Pathway: Enhance > Adjust Sharpness)

Then choose “Save As...” from the “File” menu, and save it with a new name.