

YEATESVILLE Formerly Barrow's Fork, named in honor of Congressman Yeats. First church "Yeats's Delight", which detractors renamed "Saint's Delight to Scrap and Fight" after several quarrels. St. Matthews Episcopal Church built in 1899.

Beyond Yeatesville the Highway passes through Swampland
(East Dismal Swamp to the North -and- Hell Swamp on the South)

TERRA CEIA (NC 99) Dutch country, settled in 1924-1925 by Netherlanders. Cultivate and ship beautiful flowers and have large dairy farms.

PANTEGO Bought by Phinias & Rothius Latham from the Lord's Proprietors in 1774-1775 for about \$300. First settled by Indian tribes. Old Pantego Academy built in 1877 still standing.

BELHAVEN Formerly Belle Port. Richard Granville, July 13, 1585, was the first white man to set foot on Belhaven soil. A 12-foot channel gives access to more than 7,000 vessels annually from the Intracoastal Waterway.

WINSTEADVILLE South of Belhaven on Jordan Creek. First inhabited by Indians, who later burned the town. A rural community. Clark plantation house built in 1850's remains. Yankees destroyed plantation gin and cotton and broke into the house.

WOODSTOCK Near Winsteadville. North Carolina's only buried city. In 1773 the principal settlement and county seat. Prominent during the Revolutionary War; only graveyards with curious inscriptions and ancient weather-beaten shacks remain. During low tide foundations of old buildings may be seen beneath the choppy waters.

LEECHVILLE On Pungo Creek. Former sawmill and shipping village.

BATH (NC 92) The oldest town in North Carolina, the first official point of entry, and the first meeting place of the colonial assembly of the Province. This is also Blackbeard country. For places of interest visit the N. C. Visitor's Center for information and St. Thomas Parish and Glebe House. Never large, the old town played an important part in the early political, social and economic life. Five governors and two chief justices of the colony lived here. St. Thomas Episcopal Church is the oldest standing church in North Carolina and one of the oldest in the United States. It was here the first public library in the United States was established.

HIGHWAY 264 WEST

MILL CREEK (circa 1785) Approximately 2½ miles, plantation home of J. O'Kelly Williams, who lost the home on a horse race. Later home of W. D. Grimes.

BELLEFONT (circa 1790) On Tranter's Creek, Home of Major Reading Blount of Revolutionary War fame. He is buried in old family burying ground on plantation.

HIGHWAY U.S. 17 SOUTH

(Cross bridge at the confluence of the Tar and Pamlico Rivers)

CHOCOWINITY Name Indian origin (Chocawanateth) meaning "Fish from Many Waters". Trinity Episcopal Church (1773) fifth oldest in state located here. The colonial wooden building was built for Rev. (Parson) Nathaniel Blount by Giles Shute and John Harrington. Trinity Cemetery contains many outstanding families of long ago.

AURORA Formerly South Creek on Highway 33. Now the site of large phosphate operations.

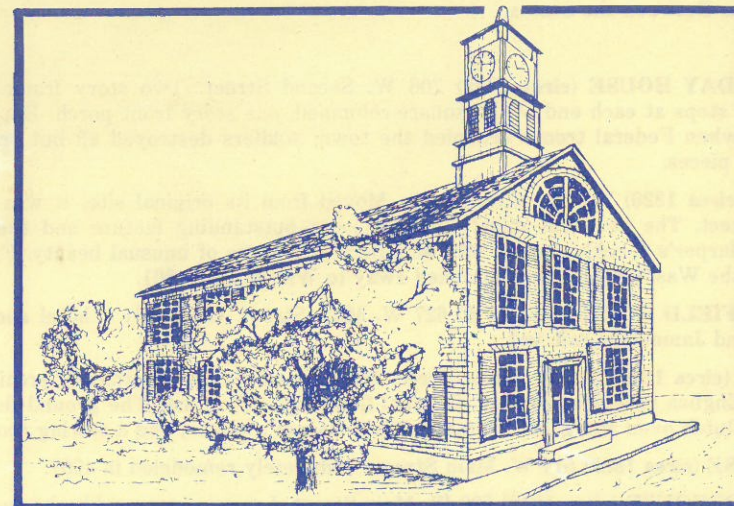
WILMAR Named for Mr. Williams and Mr. Martin. Formerly lumbering town. One room school house remains and an unusual willow tree, destroyed by hurricane Hazel and still growing.

HIGHWAY 17 NORTH

ROSEDALE West on Cherry Run Road. Plantation home of Colonel Wharton. Unusually beautiful, but rapidly deteriorating.

COWHEAD SPRINGS East off Spring Road. Early source of water for Washington, brought to town and sold in barrels. Legend said that a visitor, once taken to Cowhead Springs for a drink of water, would always return. Consequently young men made a habit of taking popular visiting girls for a drink of water. It was a lovely Sunday afternoon ride.

Welcome



Washington-Beaufort County

1776 - 1976

A SELF-DIRECTED TOUR OF SOME
HISTORIC SITES

PREPARED BY:

BEAUFORT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
B H M REGIONAL LIBRARY

Originally Beaufort County was part of Pamtecough Precinct of the County of Albemarle, which in 1696 became the Great County of Bath. In 1705 Bath was divided, the portion north of Pamtecough River constituting Pamtecough Precinct. The name was changed to Beaufort in 1712, honoring Henry Somerset, the Duke of Beaufort.

Washington is the county seat. It was first known as the "Town at the Forks of the Tar", which Colonel James Bonner later named for his commander in chief. Earliest recorded mention of the place as Washington is in an order of the council of safety at Halifax dated October 1, 1776. Washington is a colonial town, but few old houses remain as a result of twice burning during the War Between the States.

THE HOLLADAY HOUSE (circa 1840) 706 W. Second Street. Two story frame house with curving porch steps at each end of the square-columned, one story front porch. House was used as a hospital when Federal troops occupied the town; soldiers destroyed all but one of several marblemantle pieces.

ELMWOOD (circa 1820) 731 W. Main Street. Moved from its original site, it was built by an English architect. The beautiful spiral staircase is an outstanding feature and the house was described in Harper's Weekly around 1850 as a Southern house of unusual beauty. From in front of this house the Washington Grays marched away to War in May 1861.

BRYAN WINFIELD HOME (circa 1870) 627 W. Main Street. Originally a hotel and station for Washington and Jamesville railroad.

GREENHILL (circa 1825) 612 W. Main Street. Built by an English merchant, architecturally is known as an English basement cottage. Original floors are still in use. The ground floor houses a kitchen with Dutch oven and great fireplace, "housekeeper's room", and a sewing room.

LEACH HOUSE (circa 1889) 511 W. Main Street. Completely remodeled in 1907.

THE RODMAN HOUSE (circa 1848) 520 W. Main Street. Large, square, white house with upper and lower balustrades of wrought iron grillwork and enormous high-ceilinged rooms. Original chandeliers and black marble mantlepieces are in the dining and living rooms and etched red Venetian glass panels on each side of the front door.

THE JOHN FOWLE HOUSE (circa 1816) 412 W. Main Street. Three story house with beautiful spiral stairs. Used as a hospital, boy's school and hotel. Moved back from the street in the late 19th century and remodeled.

THE HAVENS HOUSE (circa 1820) 404 W. Main Street. Modeled after the Havens' ancestral homes, it has a brick veranda and curving latticed breezeway connecting the original brick kitchen to the house. The kitchen has double dutch ovens, fireplaces and a basement. During the War Between the States was used as a prison.

HAVENS STORAGE WAREHOUSE (circa 1820) Used as a naval stores building; loading tar, pitch and turpentine from the rear of the building where boats docked. One of the few buildings of its kind left standing, all of the metal doors and window covers were hand forged and are original.

THE ATLANTIC COAST LINE RAILROAD (circa 1904) Gladden Street. Being restored as an art center.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (circa 1867) 121 Gladden Street. On the site of the original which was built in 1824 and burned by the Federals, was rebuilt along original lines in 1867. Graceful fluted columns support the old slave gallery. The interior is charming.

OLD BANK OF WASHINGTON (circa 1854) 216 W. Main Street. It has 18 inch brick walls and a portico supported by 4 Ionic columns. Listed in the National Historic Register.

FOWLE WAREHOUSE (circa 1825) Respass Street. Basement and foundation built of ballast rocks.

W. C. MALLISON & SON HARDWARE (circa 1870) 162 W. Main Street.

THE TELFAIR HOUSE (circa 1795) Water Street. During the War Between the States, when Yankee gun boats shelled the town, a cannon ball passed into the house and lodged there as can be seen from the street.

THE MYERS HOUSE (circa 1760) E. Water Street. Square old town house with steps close to the street in the New England fashion.

THE WYNNE HOUSE (circa 1825) E. Water Street. Built by a sea captain. The inside walls slant toward the river and the living room is shaped like a ship. The house originally had a stoop but has been remodeled.

ST. PETERS EPISCOPAL CHURCH (circa 1848) Main and Bonner Streets. The original wooden church (1822) was destroyed in 1864 by fire. As the tower burned, heat caused the bell to toll until it fell from its supports. The graveyard is of particular interest.

Continue East on Main Street

(Cross Historic Runyon Creek which is noted in the colonial records of the town.)

WASHINGTON PARK originally site of **CEDAR GROVE PLANTATION (circa 1839)** All that remains is the original kitchen in the home of the Caleb Bells.

TOWN HALL (circa 1884) 154 N. Market Street. County Commissioners authorized construction. Used as fire station and brick stables used to house the fire horses are behind the present building. The women of the city raised funds to buy the fire bell, which is still in place.

JAIL (circa 1893) 156 N. Market Street.

BEAUFORT COUNTY COURTHOUSE (circa 1786) 158 N. Market Street. The bricks in the original structure are laid in Flemish bond. The clock in the cupola antedates the building. Listed in the National Historic Register.

MAYO LAW OFFICE (circa 1830) Market and Second Streets. First used as an office for a shipping firm, later as an undertaker parlor with a school in the front room. Charming interior with old fireplaces.

THE BURBANK HOUSE (circa 1845) Market and Fourth Streets.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY (circa 1810) 321 N. Market Street. Built by Major Thomas Blount for Margaret Brown, daughter of the physician attending General Washington at the time of his death.

THE SINGLETON PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH (circa 1870) 409 N. Market Street.

OAKDALE CEMETERY Market Street Extension. Confederate monument erected in 1888 moved from river front to mound in center of cemetery. Also contains cannon-ball memorial built by Children of the Confederacy.

SMALLWOOD (circa 1826) Market Street Extension. Back of this house are extremely old and large trees.

THE HODGES-MOORE HOUSE (circa 1824) Market Street Extension. Charming old home with high ceilings and old kitchen at the rear of the house.

HIGHWAY 264 EAST

SMAW HOUSE Unusual twin chimneys.

CAMP LEACH ROAD Right on this road is a footpath, 300 yards; left about 30 paces on this path to the Magic Horse Tracks in a little hollow. Tradition relates that on August 19, 1813, Jesse Elliott rode off to enter his horse in a Sunday race. When warned by church members against violating the Sabbath, he retorted: "I'll ride, though I ride to Hell." Here he was thrown and killed by his horse whose hoof-prints supposedly restore themselves when covered with earth.

PINETOWN North of 264. Small village; at one time had largest machine shop in the South making parts for logging equipment and locomotives. Antique store located here.