

A MOUNTAINS TO SEA

Bicycle Laws and Safety Tips

In North Carolina the bicycle is legally classified as a vehicle. This means that bicyclists have full rights and responsibilities on the roadway and are subject to the regulations governing the operation of a motor vehicle. North Carolina traffic laws require the rider of a bicycle to:

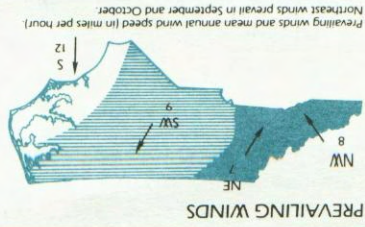
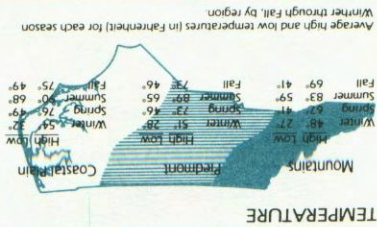
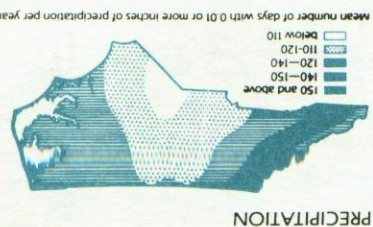
- ride on the right, in the same direction as other moving traffic;
- obey all traffic signs and signals, including stop and yield signs and one-way directional signs;
- use signals to communicate intended movements;
- yield to pedestrians and emergency vehicles;
- equip the bicycle with a front lamp visible from 300 feet and a rear reflector or lamp which is visible from a distance of 200 feet at night;

In addition, bicycles are prohibited from all interstate highways.

Traveling by bicycle can be an exhilarating experience, but requires a great deal of care on the part of the cyclist. Motor vehicle drivers often do not see bicyclists on the road and many do not realize that the bicyclist has a legal right to be there. It is important, therefore, to ride defensively and in a predictable manner. The bicycle always loses in a conflict with a car. Stay alert and keep safe.

To insure a safe trip along the back roads of North Carolina, please note the following suggestions:

- always wear a bicycle helmet;
- avoid riding at night, especially in rural areas;
- when riding in a group, ride single file;
- do not ride during periods of low visibility, particularly at dusk, in dense fog or during heavy rain;
- do not attempt trips which are beyond your capabilities;
- wear bright clothing for visibility;
- be courteous to other drivers; keep traffic flowing by helping them pass you in a safe manner.



"This guide is published by the Department of Transportation as an aid to bicyclists. The Department of Transportation in no manner warrants the safety of the highways indicated on these maps for use by bicyclists. These roads are suggested only as more suitable than others for use by bicyclists as connecting routes. All roads suggested are regular roads of the highway system used by automobiles and trucks, with no special lanes provided for bicycles. As no separate lanes are provided for bicycles and therefore are dangerous for use by bicyclists, the bicyclist assumes the risk for his own safety when using the routes indicated on these maps."

It is urged that no one under 15 years of age attempt to ride all or any portion of these routes without adult supervision.

NORTH CAROLINA



BICYCLING HIGHWAYS

Bicycling Highways

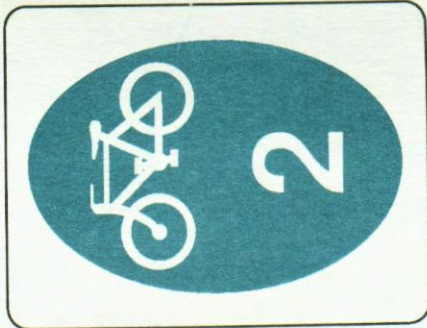
North Carolina is an ideal place to bicycle tour. Climate, terrain and the many miles of pleasant country roads combine to provide an exciting trip for every type of bicyclist . . . long-distance tourist, week-end rider or day tripper.

Many people are unaware of the unlimited cycling opportunities in North Carolina. For this reason, the Department of Transportation Bicycle Program created a system of "Bicycling Highways", routed along 3,000 miles of lightly traveled back roads throughout the state. Ten different routes have been developed, selected according to strict criteria based on the safety needs of cyclists. These "Bicycling Highways" routes generally parallel major highways, thus offering a good alternative to those busy roads.

Mountains to Sea

From Murphy to Manteo, the extremes of North Carolina--that's where this 700-mile route takes you. On the way you'll pass the loftiest peaks east of the Rockies, traverse portions of the Blue Ridge Parkway, then drop 2,000 feet from the Blue Ridge escarpment to the rolling foothills of the piedmont. Quiet lanes take you through lush farm country to most of the major cities of the state. Once past Raleigh, the flat land of the coastal plain makes the ride to the coast seem easy. Seventy miles from the end of the route you have the choice of taking the ferry to Ocracoke and the Outer Banks or continuing to Manteo. Either way, you can't lose. Wide Atlantic beaches are your reward at the end of the trip.

The Mountains to Sea route is designated as NC Bike Route 2. Signs like the one to the right mark the way. But don't put your maps away, just in case a sign is missing. Otherwise you could find yourself a long way off the route or on a road not suited for cycling.



6,000 copies of this map set were produced at a cost of \$1.08 per set.

Using This Guide

The information presented in this guide has been compiled to help you prepare for and take a bicycle trip along one of the North Carolina "Bicycling Highways" routes. Included is information on state laws which pertain to bicycles, safety tips, weather information, sources for additional tourist information, a campground directory and a set of strip maps detailing the route.

These maps provide a wealth of information. To orient you to your general location, the road network, prominent physical features, cities and towns and county boundaries are shown. A north arrow and scale of miles/kilometers are also included. The actual route you follow is highlighted with color. An enlargement of any section of the route which is confusing or difficult to follow is shown in a special inset on the appropriate map segment. Match lines are provided to show how the segments of the route fit together. If another "Bicycling Highways" route intersects the route you are following, it is identified with dashed lines in color and the appropriate map series/segment number is shown.

All roads which are a part of the route or which intersect the route are numbered. To help differentiate the numbers of the secondary roads which are a part of the route from those which are not, the numbers of the secondary roads which you follow are enclosed in a rectangle (1342). US and NC numbered highways which are a part of the route are not differentiated in this way. On the road, secondary road numbers can be found on posts at all intersections. These numbers are small and sometimes obscure, so look carefully. Also important to note is that although you may be going straight, secondary road numbers can change at county lines, major intersections and sometimes when going through a town.

Much additional information pertinent to your safety, travel needs and interests is highlighted in color on the maps. This information includes the locations of country stores (▲); full service towns with motel or inn accommodations, laundromats, supermarkets, restaurants, post offices, banks, etc. (★); and hazardous areas (✱). Special pictographic symbols mark the location of bicycle shops, campgrounds, recreation areas, historic sites, and other points of interest.

Narrative information is provided for each map segment to explain or expand the information symbolized on the map. Included is a general description of the terrain; the overall distance of each segment; an assessment of roadway conditions; potentially hazardous areas, noting approximate distance of any problem; availability of services along the route or within reasonable biking distance of the route; bike shop locations; and, descriptive information on each point of interest.

This guide was produced by the North Carolina Bicycle Program through the efforts of:

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 Mary Paul Meleliou - Assistant Bicycle Coordinator
 Bruce Burgess - Cartographer
 Mark Smith - Graphic Designer
 Joanne Cavallo - Secretary

We welcome your comments or further questions. Contact:

Bicycle Program
 North Carolina Department of Transportation
 P O Box 25201
 Raleigh, NC 27611
 (919) 733-2804

For More Information

Travel and Tourism
 Department of Commerce
 430 N. Salisbury St.
 Raleigh, NC 27611

Provides Accommodations Directory,
 Camping and Outdoors Directory,
 Plus brochures on major points of
 interest.

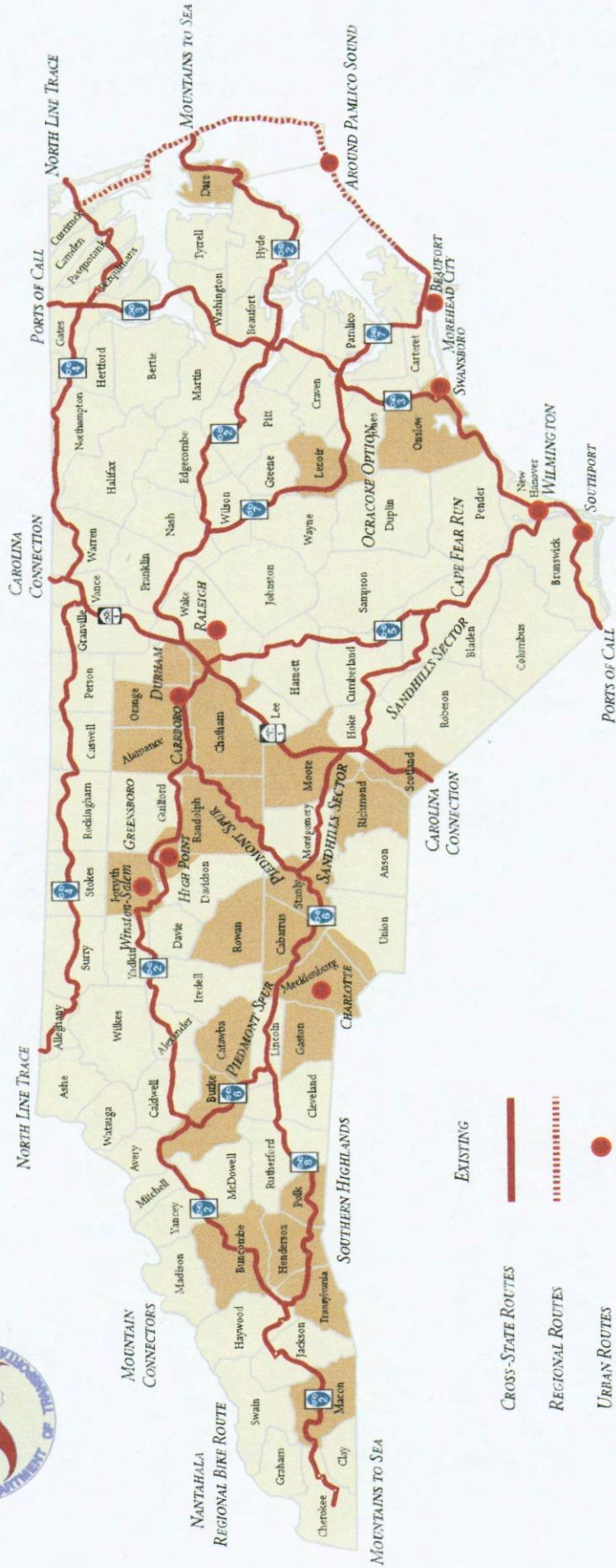
Location and Surveys
 Department of Transportation
 PO Box 25201
 Raleigh, NC 27611

Provides official State Highway maps
 and Coastal Boating Guide. Also, de-
 tailed maps of each county, for which
 a nominal fee is charged.

Provides information on State Parks
 and recreation trails.

Trails Coordinator
 Department of Environment,
 Health and Natural Resources
 17700 Bayleaf Church Rd.
 Raleigh, NC 27614

NORTH CAROLINA BICYCLE ROUTE SYSTEM



- EXISTING**
- CROSS-STATE ROUTES
 - REGIONAL ROUTES
 - URBAN ROUTES
 - COUNTY/REGIONAL SYSTEM

UPDATES - 2011

**Mountains to Sea/Carolina Connection – alternate route due to road closures in
Morrisville**

From the North/East

Coming from the north (at the intersection of Ebenezer Church Road and Westgate Road): south on Ebenezer Church Road, across Glenwood to Graylyn Drive, through Umstead to the trail that goes northwest to Old Reedy Creek Road, cross I-40 on Old Reedy Creek, turn right on Weston Parkway, left on Evans Road, right on Cary Parkway, right on High House Road to rejoin the route (at the intersection of High House Road and Davis Drive).

From the South/West

From Davis Drive/High House Road intersection in Morrisville – east on High House Road, left on Cary Parkway, left on Evans Road, right on Weston Parkway, left on Old Reedy Creek Road, cross I-40, go through Umstead Park to connect with Graylyn Drive, continue north on Ebenezer Church Road, right on Westgate Road to rejoin the route.

SEGMENT A-9

Oak Hollow Park
see above

Hagen Stone Park
Parks and Recreation Department
Drawer W-2
City of Greensboro
Greensboro, NC 27402
(919) 674-0472
open all year

Cedar Rock Park
Alamance Co. Parks Department
610 N. Main Street
Graham, NC 27253
(919) 227-8298 or 228-0506
open all year for primitive camping
only, Wednesday through Sunday.
Contact ranger at above number to
make arrangements for camping on
Monday or Tuesday.

SEGMENT A-10

Parker's Creek Campground
Jordan Lake State Recreation Area
Rt. 2, Box 159
Apex, NC 27502
(919) 362-0586
open all year

SEGMENT A-11

Umstead State Park
Rt. 8, Box 130
Raleigh, NC 27607
(919) 787-3033
open mid-March - November
Sunday - Thursday only

Rolling View Campground
Falls Lake State Recreation Area
12700 Bayleaf Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614
(919) 846-9991
scheduled to open Spring '89

SEGMENT A-12

Kampers Lodge of America
Rt. 4, Box 519A
Wilson, NC 27893
(919) 237-0905
open all year

SEGMENT A-14

Whichard's Beach Campground
Rt. 2, Box 656
Chocowinity, NC 27817
(919) 946-1748
open all year

Goose Creek State Park
Rt. 2, Box 372
Washington, NC 27889
(919) 923-2191
open all year

Krek-Vue
Rt. 1, Box 107
Bath, NC 27808
(919) 923-5311
open April mid-October

SEGMENT A-15

Riverside Campground
Rt. 1, Box 101
Belhaven, NC 27810
(919) 943-2849
open all year

Bayside Marina
Rt. 1, Box 69
Scranton, NC 27875
(919) 926-6621
open all year

**Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant
and Campground**
Oyster Creek Road
Swan Quarter, NC 27885
(919) 926-4271
open all year

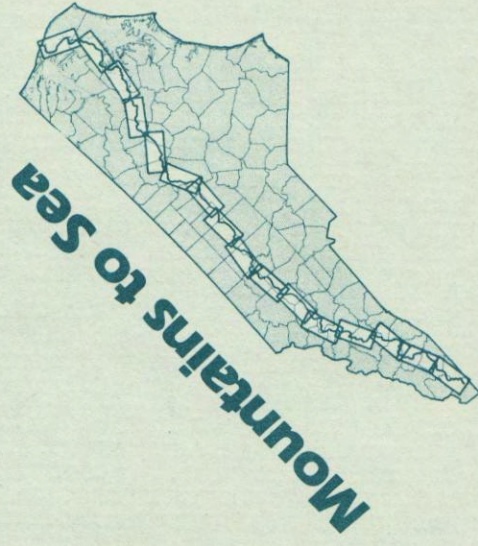
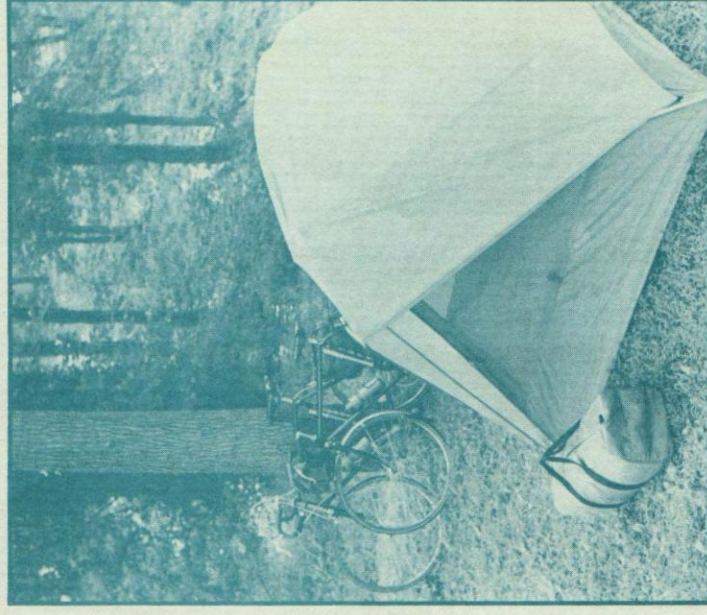
Big Trout Marina
Hill Top Road
Englehard, NC 27824
(919) 925-3471
open all year

SEGMENT A-16

Shallowbag Bay Campground
Manteo, NC 27954
(919) 473-3588
open all year

Cypress Cove
Rt. 1, Box 1675
Manteo, NC 27954
(919) 473-5231
open all year

NC Bicycling Highways Campground Directory



Bicycle Camping in North Carolina

Touring by bicycle has become more and more popular as a way to see and experience North Carolina. Many bicycle tourists have come to prefer the added flexibility afforded by camping. Whether your destination for the night is a state park, a private campground or an impromptu roadside location, self-contained bicycle travel is the way to go. But in order to fully enjoy the experience, you must be well-prepared.

In North Carolina, a tent with a fly is a must. Rain showers are frequent and sometimes occur at night. Mosquitos abound. Raccoons, possums and other small creatures roam the woods at night looking for food. A good tent provides shelter from all these problems.

A lightweight stove and cookset are other nice conveniences. Because most of our bicycle routes follow lightly-traveled back roads, restaurants are not always readily available. But, there is usually a country store near your evening's destination, where you can obtain the items necessary to prepare a simple, nutritious supper.

Campgrounds along our routes are generally spaced a day's ride apart. If, for some reason, you must seek a campsite on private land, be sure to ask permission first. Most landowners are very cooperative. Always leave the area clean and express your appreciation to your host before you leave. A good impression will make it easier for the next touring cyclist who might need help.

Wherever you plan to camp, try to reach your destination well before nightfall. Your evening will be much more enjoyable if you have time to set up camp, prepare your meal and clean up while there is still light. Early arrival also reduces the chance that the campground will be full when you get there. This occasionally happens on summer weekends at the more popular state parks.

We hope you will enjoy bicycle camping in North Carolina. If you have any additional questions about touring in the state, contact the Bicycle Program or the Division of Travel and Tourism, Department of Commerce, PO Box 25249, Raleigh, NC 27611.



NC Dept. of Transportation Bicycle Program
PO Box 25201, Raleigh, NC 27611, (919) 733-2804

Mountains to Sea Campgrounds

SEGMENT A-1

Hanging Dog Recreation Area
District Ranger's Office
201 Woodland Drive
Murphy, NC 28906
(704) 837-5152
open all year

Riverbend Campground

P. O. Box 606
Murphy, NC 28906
(704) 837-6223
open April-October

Brookside Campground

P. O. Box 93
Topton, NC 28781
(704) 321-5209
open all year

SEGMENT A-2

Cartoogeehaye Creek Campground

678 Murphy Highway
Franklin, NC 28734
(704) 524-8553
open May-October

Kountry Campground

655 Georgia Highway
Franklin, NC 28734
(704) 524-4339
open mid-April October

Vagabond Village

10 Prentiss Bridge Road
Franklin, NC 28734
(704) 524-6223
open May-October

Mi Mountain Campground

29 Kirkland Road
Franklin, NC 28734
(704) 524-6155
open April-October

Cowee Valley Vistas

168 Ruby Mine Road
Franklin, NC 28734
(704) 524-2321
open May-October

Fort Cannon Campground

24 Lopes Circle
Franklin, NC 28734
(704) 524-6988
open all year

Smokeseege Lodge Hostel

P. O. Box 179
Dillsboro, NC 28725
(704) 586-8658
April-October

Old Corrumdum Mill

8 Nickajack Road Box 33
Franklin, NC 28734
(704) 524-4663
open April-October

Moonshine Creek Campground

P. O. Drawer 10
Balsam, NC 28707
(704) 586-6666
open April-October
cannot accommodate large groups

SEGMENT A-3

Pisgah National Forest

Davidson River, North Mills River, and Lake Powatan.

District Ranger's Office
1001 Pisgah Highway
Pisgah Forest, NC 28768
(704) 877-3265
open May-early October

Mt. Pisgah Campground

Blue Ridge Parkway
P. O. Box 9098
Asheville, NC 28815
(704) 259-0779
open May-October

Lake Julian Campground

Buncombe County Parks
and Recreation
Hwy 25
Skyland, NC 28732
(704) 684-0376 or 684-5923
open May-October

SEGMENT A-4

Lake Julian Campground

see above

Black Mountain/Carolina Hemlock

District Ranger's Office
P. O. Box 128
Burnsville, NC 28714
(704) 682-6146
open May-October

Mountain Cove Campground

800 Still Fork Creek Road
Burnsville, NC 28714
(704) 675-5362
open May-October

Crabtree Meadows

Blue Ridge Parkway
P. O. Box 9098
Asheville, NC 28815
(704) 259-0779
open May-October

SEGMENT A-5

Spruce Pine Campground

P. O. Box 354
Spruce Pine, NC 28777
(704) 765-7007
open May-October

Bear Den Campground

Rt. 3, Box 284
Spruce Pine, NC 28777
(704) 765-2888
open April-October

Linville Falls Trailer Lodge and Campground

P. O. Box 203
Linville Falls, NC 28647
(704) 765-2681
April-October

Linville Falls Campground

Blue Ridge Parkway
P. O. Box 9098
Asheville, NC 28815
(704) 259-0779
open May-October
primitive camping only during winter months

Daniel Boone Campground

Rt. 7 Box 407
Morganton, NC 28655
(704) 433-1200
open April-October

Steel Creek Park

Highway 181
Morganton, NC 28655
(704) 433-5660
open all year

Rose Creek Campground

Rt. 7, Box 420
Morganton, NC 28655
(704) 437-0803
open April-October

Pisgah National Forest

Mortimer Campground
Grandfather Ranger District
P. O. Box 519
Marion, NC 28752
(704) 652-2144
open May - mid-October

SEGMENT A-6

Cheatham Ford Campground

Rt. 2, Box 127
Hiddenite, NC 28636
(704) 632-6928
open all year

SEGMENT A-7

Old Water Mill Campground

Rt. 1
Union Grove, NC 28689
open April-October

Fiddler's Grove Campground

Box 11
Union Grove, NC 28689
(704) 539-4417
open April-November

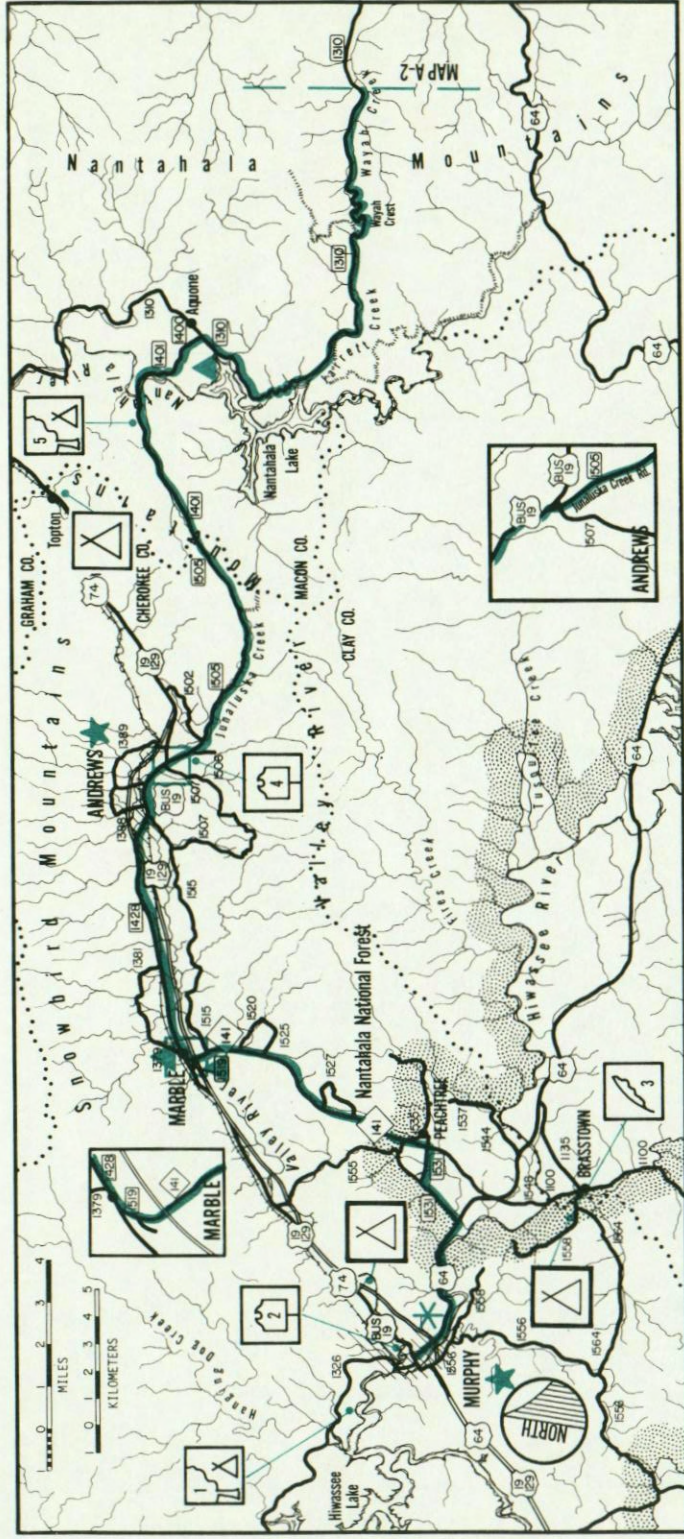
SEGMENT A-8

Tanglewood Park

P. O. Box 1040
Clemmons, NC 27012
(919) 766-0591 (ext 231)
open all year

Oak Hollow Park

City of High Point
1400 Oakview Road
High Point, NC 27260
(919) 869-6711
open all year



Trail of Tears

A-1

General Description

Leaving Murphy, you will be following the Hiwassee River for a short distance. As you turn north toward Marble you begin to climb gently and to encounter some rolling hills. Between Marble and Andrews you will be riding along the Valley River. Beyond Andrews you begin a 7 mile climb alongside Junaluska Creek. A 6 mile descent brings you to the Nantahala River Valley and Nantahala Lake. Beyond the lake you will climb through a remote and heavily wooded area approximately 9 miles to Wayah Crest. No facilities are available here. A descent of about 6.5 miles through an equally remote area ends this segment. This is an arduous ride and is recommended only for experienced, well-equipped and well-prepared cyclists. Approximately 48 miles/77 kilometers.

Hazardous Areas

Traffic volume on U.S. 64 East from Murphy is higher than is desirable. 4 miles.

Roadway Condition

The roads throughout this segment are generally well-paved and in good repair with grassy shoulders which are even with the road surface. Watch for stray gravel on curves.

Services

This is a remote area with few services outside the populated areas. Full services are available in Murphy and Andrews. Camping is available at Hanging Dog National

Forest recreation area and at private campgrounds near Murphy and Topton. The campground at Topton can be reached only via US 19/129/74, a busy, narrow road. Camping facilities are also provided at Apple Tree Group camp, but use is limited to organized groups of ten or more, by reservation only.

Points of Interest

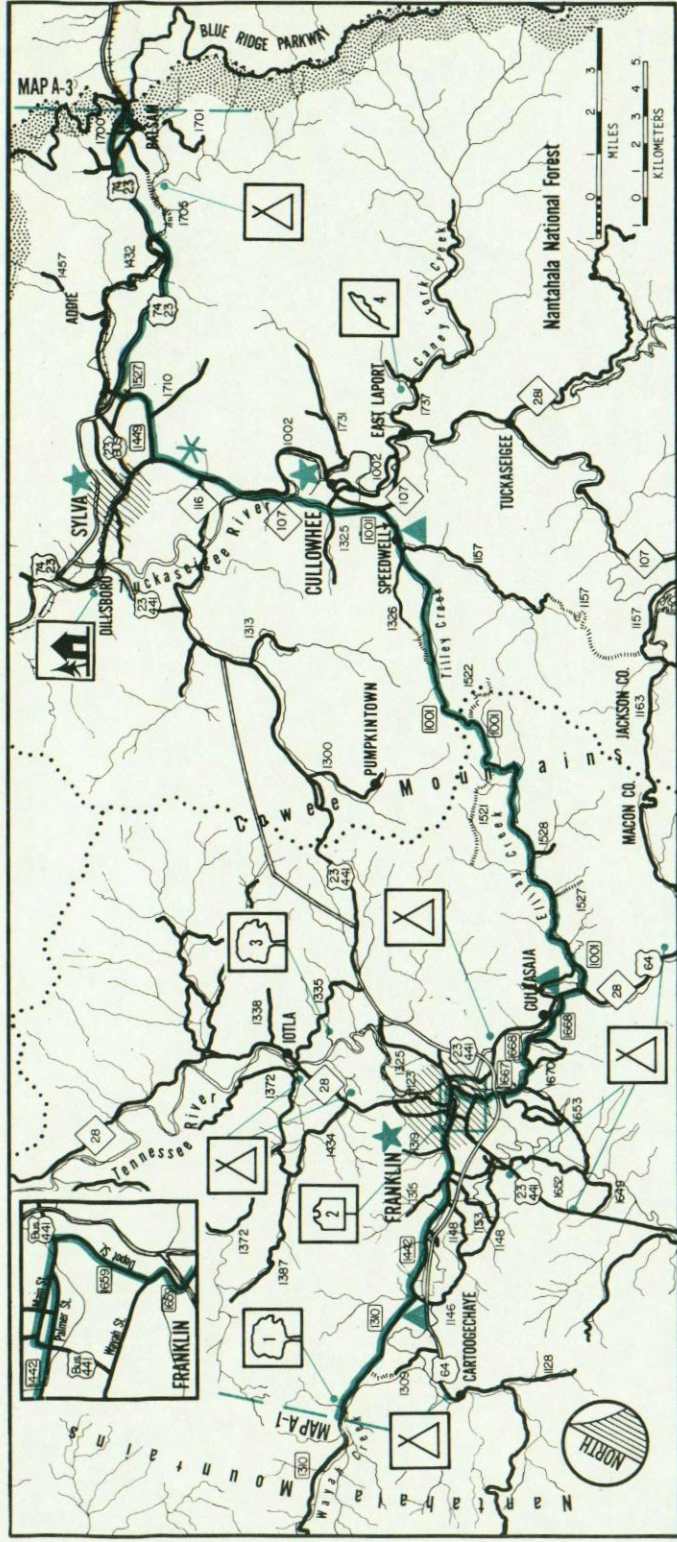
- 1 Hanging Dog National Forest Recreation Area. Camping, boating and fishing are offered here.
- 2 Murphy Historic Sites. The Murphy Courthouse, built of locally quarried blue marble, and the Episcopal Church of the Messiah, built in 1896 are interesting attractions in the area.
- 3 John C. Campbell Folk School. Located in Brasstown, the school was founded in the 1920's to interest young adults in the life of their home community and thereby contribute to its development. Courses are still taught here on various mountain crafts including woodcarving, weaving, pottery, folk music and folk dancing. Informal camping arrangements can be made at the school.
- 4 Walker's Inn/Chief Junaluska. Built in 1840, this inn served as an overnight state-coach stop during the years after the Civil War. The land on which it stands previously belonged to Junaluska, a Cherokee chief who distinguished himself as a national hero during the war of 1812. He was one of nearly 1,000 Cherokee warriors who allied themselves with Andrew Jackson at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, and assured his victory against the Creek Indians. Jackson's response to the allegiance of his Indian allies was to dictate cession of some of their land for white settlement and to bear

at once to insist that not only the Creeks, but all southern Indians be removed to the far west. Through the years Jackson used his influence to this end. Cherokee removal became a reality.

Nearly 17,000 Cherokees were rounded-up and crowded into stockades. They were divided into detachments of roughly 1,000 for convenience in management en route, and a Cherokee commander was appointed to head each, the first detachment set out October 1, 1838. It is estimated that 4,000 Cherokees died either during confinement in the stockades or on their dreaded 800-mile journey to Oklahoma, a route which in Cherokee memory became known as the Trail of Tears.

Apple Tree Group Camp

Located in the Nantahala National Forest, this campground is administered by the U.S. Forest Service and is limited to tent camping by organized groups of 10 or more by reservation only. For details or reservations, contact the District Ranger, U.S. Forest Service, P.O. Box 469, Franklin, North Carolina 28734. 32 miles of signed hiking trails provide an opportunity to explore the area, which was once the site of a Cherokee Camp. Hunting parties in search of food and fur, war parties repelling invasion of their hunting grounds and chieftains sacking packs of men-of-war all passed this way. Later, pack trains of traders from Charleston, South Carolina followed the route through this area, bringing calico, beads, gunpowder, knives and kettles to be exchanged for furs.



Nikwasi

A-2

General Description

Continuing to descend for 2 miles, you will enter the Cowee valley, in which Franklin is situated. Hiding out of Franklin, you will climb alongside Ellijay Creek for a total of 9 miles, with 4 miles along a steep and winding road through a remote area. Then, descending 5½ miles alongside Tilley Creek to the Tuckasee River Valley you will reach Cullowhee. Following the river out of Cullowhee, you will have a fairly level ride all the way to Sylva, where you will begin a gentle climb to the Blue Ridge Parkway. This segment is recommended only for experienced riders as much of the terrain is difficult.

Approximately 49 miles/79 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

The roads throughout this segment are in very good condition.

Hazardous Areas

NC 107 just south of Sylva is somewhat congested. 2 miles

Services

Few services exist outside the populated areas. Franklin, Cullowhee and Sylva offer full services. Private campgrounds are available in the Franklin area and east of Sylva.

Points of Interest

- 1 Arrowood Glade

This is a national forest recreation area offering picnicking and fishing. Drinking water is available. Camping is not permitted.

- 2 Nikwasi

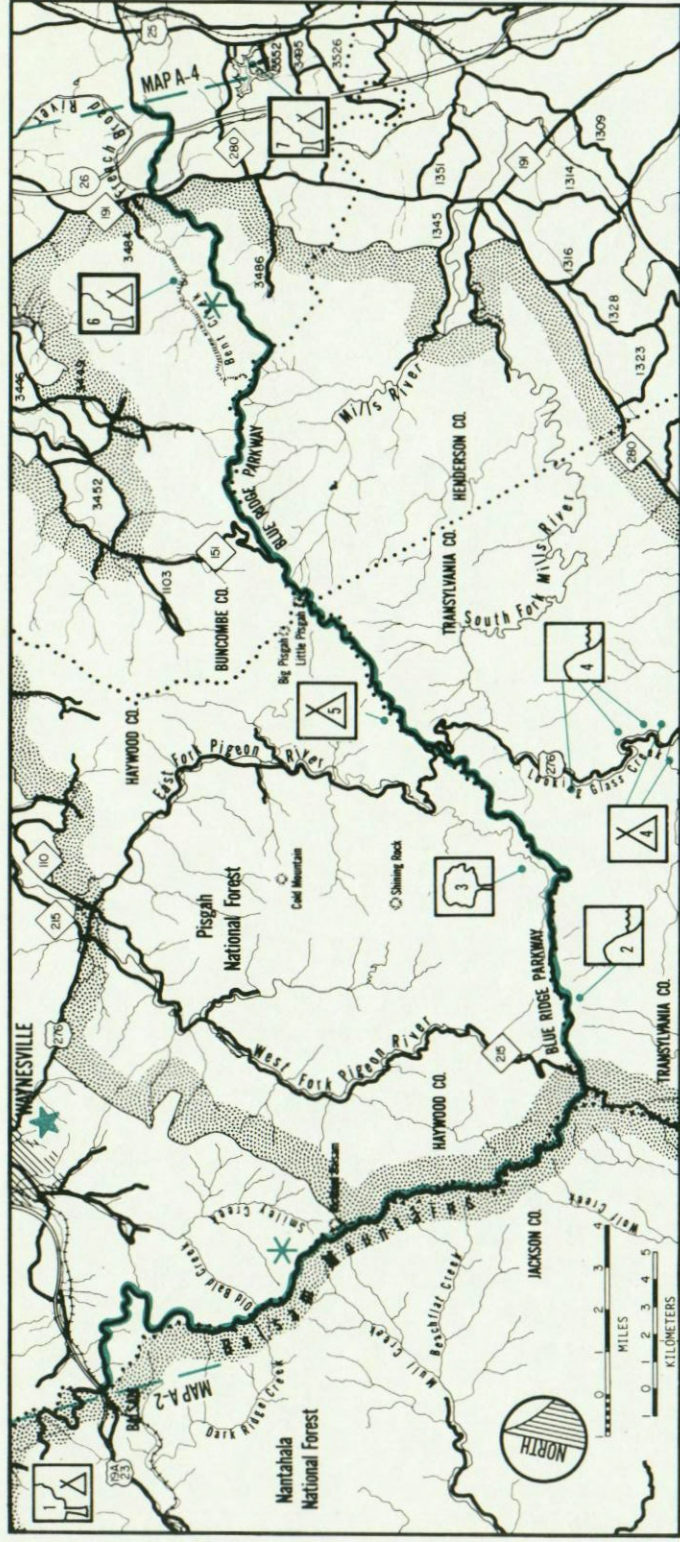
The town of Franklin is on the site of an old and sacred Cherokee Indian settlement which was called Nikwasi. There was a mound here which the Cherokees believed was inhabited by immortals called Nunnehi. According to a legend, the existence of this sacred town was threatened by a powerful rival tribe. The invaders greatly outnumbered the defending Cherokees and the situation seemed hopeless. As the Cherokees were retreating, a stranger appeared and shouted that he and his warriors would save the town. At first he was thought to be a neighboring Cherokee chief bringing reinforcements. Actually, he was a Nunnehi chief who was leading a large company of braves, fully armed and painted for war, from the side of the ceremonial mound. Since the Nunnehi were invisible to the invaders, they could not fight them, and fled. Thus the sacred town was saved on this and other occasions.

- 3 Rockhounding Sites

More than a dozen gem mines offer a chance to dig for precious and semi-precious stones such as rubies, sapphires, garnets, and amethysts. Most of these mines are open from May through October, some year round.

- 4 Judaculla Rock

This rock, formed from soft sandstone, is about 20 feet square, and is covered with mysterious Indian hieroglyphics which, to this day, have defied interpretation. A Cherokee legend says that these marks were made by a giant leaping from his home on the nearby mountaintop to the creek below.



Sliding Rock

A-3

General Description

For this entire segment, you will ride on the Blue Ridge Parkway, a road which runs along the crests of the southern Appalachian Mountains for 469 miles. Although the terrain is quite difficult, the parkway offers a unique cycling experience. Built for recreation, the maximum speed limit for automobiles is 45 mph, and commercial vehicles are prohibited. Bicycling is permitted with the following guidelines: 1) Bicycles may be ridden only on paved road surfaces and parking areas. Bicycles, including mountain bikes, may not be ridden on trails or walkways. 2) The bicycle operator must exhibit a white light or reflector visible at least 500 feet to the front and a red light or reflector visible at least 200 feet to the rear during periods of low visibility, between the hours of sunset and sunrise, or while traveling through a tunnel. 3) Bicycles must be ridden in single file except when passing or turning left, and well to the right-hand side of the road. 4) Bicycle speed must be reasonable for control with regard to traffic, weather, road and light conditions. Upon entering the parkway you begin a 1.2 mile climb to Richland Balsam, the highest point on the parkway. A 3 mile descent and a 2 mile climb bring you to Devil's Courthouse. A 14 mile descent, interspersed with some short, gentle climbs takes you through Shining Rock Wilderness Area to Mount Pisgah. A 19 mile downhill ride brings you to Asheville. This is a difficult, remote segment and recommended only for experienced cyclists.

Approximately 55 miles/89 kilometers.

The Southern Highlands route originates along this segment at

the intersection of US 276 and the Blue Ridge Parkway. This route connects with the Piedmont Spur at its eastern terminus, providing several mountain touring alternatives.

Hazardous Areas

A series of short tunnels with no interior lighting presents problems of visibility. A headlight is recommended.

Roadway Condition

The Parkway is well-constructed and well-maintained.

Services

Services are available along this segment only at Mt. Pisgah, where an inn, restaurant, small store and camping area are open. May through October. Camping is also available off the parkway at several Pisgah National Forest Recreation Areas. Waynesville, Brevard and Asheville are nearby cities which offer full services. Bike shops are available in Asheville.

Points of Interest

- 1 Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Follow the parkway 25 miles west for access to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The park has a total land area of nearly 800 square miles, and provides ample opportunities for camping, hiking, and nature study. Deep blue haze rising from the valleys gives the Great Smokies their name.
- 2 Devil's Courthouse
The summit of Devil's Courthouse affords a 360° panoramic view across the mountains of four states.
- 3 Shining Rock Wilderness Area

The "shining rocks" are snow-white quartz rock outcrops that

cap Shining Rock Mountain. Elevations along the 25 miles of hiking trails in the area range from 3,500 feet to 6,030 feet.

4 Pisgah Forest Recreation Area

Miles of hiking trails, sparkling trout streams and magnificent waterfalls make this an appealing area to explore. Of special interest is Sliding Rock, a refreshing attraction for hot, tired cyclists. The Davidson River Campground provides a convenient overnight stopover.

5 Mount Pisgah

Mount Pisgah was once part of the 100,000-acre estate owned by George W. Vanderbilt, where the first forestry school in America was established. This area now offers a large campground, picnic area, inn restaurant, and hiking trails. A small camp store offers limited food supplies. May through October.

6 Lake Powhatan Recreation Area

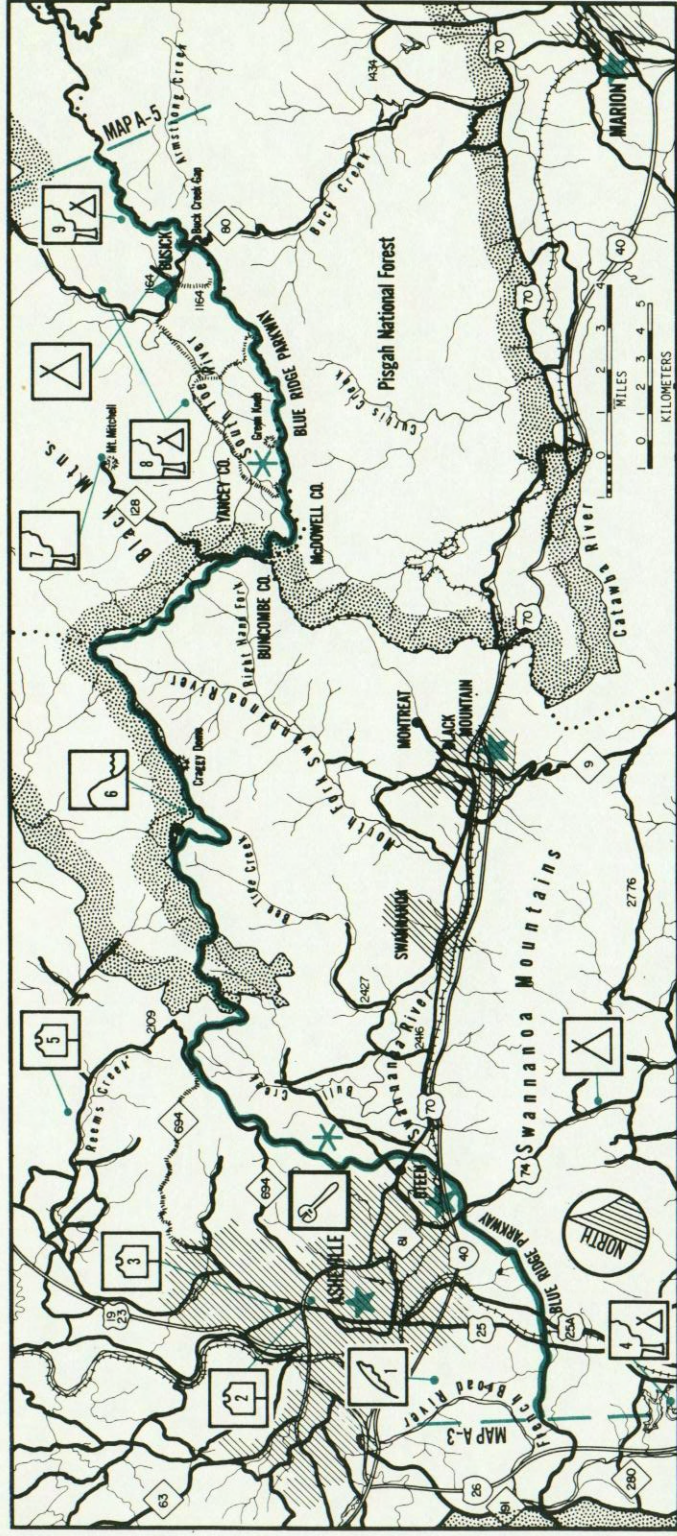
Part of the Pisgah National Forest, this area offers camping, swimming, and hiking.

7 Lake Julian Recreation Area

This seventy acre park offers many recreational opportunities including camping, fishing and rental boats, with swimming at a nearby county recreation area.

8 North Mills River Recreation Area

Also part of the Pisgah National Forest, this area offers camping, fishing and hiking.



Craggy Pinnacle

A-4

General Description

This entire segment is along the Blue Ridge Parkway (see segment A-3 for additional information). Asheville, near the beginning of this segment, is in the valley of the French Broad River. From Asheville you begin a 30-mile climb to the crests of the Black Mountains, gaining approximately 3,000 feet in altitude. A 1.4-mile downhill ride, interspersed with a few short climbs, brings you to Buck Creek Gap. A 4-mile climb ends this segment.

Approximately 53 miles/85 kilometers.

Hazardous Areas

Tunnels on the parkway present visibility problems both for the cyclist and the motorist. The parkway administration requires that, for your safety lights be used in these tunnels—most are very dark in the middle.

Roadway Condition

This road is excellent. The parkway is well-constructed and well-maintained.

Services

As there is no commercial development on the Parkway, services are available only at designated locations. Asheville and Marion provide full services, including bike shops. Camping is offered by Buncombe County at Lake Julian. A National Forest Recreation Area provides two more campgrounds. A large campground is available at Crabtree Meadows, right on the Parkway.

Points of Interest

1 **Biltmore House and Gardens**
This 250-room mansion, built for George W. Vanderbilt in 1895, is filled with priceless treasures which he collected from all over the world. The estate is made up of 12,000 acres including formal gardens, greenhouses, lakes, waterfalls, and a dairy operation. It has been called the finest castle in the United States. An entrance fee is charged.

2 **Asheville Points of Interest**
Asheville, situated on a plateau rimmed by the Blue Ridge, Pisgah and Newfound Mountains is the economic and cultural center of the mountain country of North Carolina. The land on which the city is situated was once a part of the Cherokee Indian hunting grounds.

The city offers many interesting attractions. At Biltmore Handweavers raw wools are washed, combed, dyed and woven into homespun; the houses of Biltmore Village, a restored English-style village built in the 1800's, now contain quaint shops; the botanical gardens display flowers and plants of the southern highlands; the National Weather Records Center houses weather records for the world; Colburn Mineral Museum offers a complete display of gems and minerals of the southern Appalachians; a city zoo and art museum round out Asheville's points of interest.

3 **Thomas Wolfe Memorial**
This site is a national historic landmark and a North Carolina State Historic Site. This house was Wolfe's boyhood home and served as a model for the setting of his first novel, *Look Homeward Angel*.

4 **Lake Julian Recreation Area**

See description in segment A-3.

5 **Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace State Historic Site**
Vance was a prominent political figure of his time, serving both in the state legislature and the United States Congress, plus three terms as governor of North Carolina. A restoration of the house and the farm outbuildings on this site gives an interesting glimpse into life after the close of the American Revolution.

6 **Craggy Gardens Scenic Area**

Visitors center provides water and sanitary facilities, although no food is available. Several interesting exhibits on wildlife of the area are on display along with an extensive collection of local herbs and wildflowers. A trail leads to Craggy Pinnacle, a point of scenic interest.

7 **Mt. Mitchell State Park**

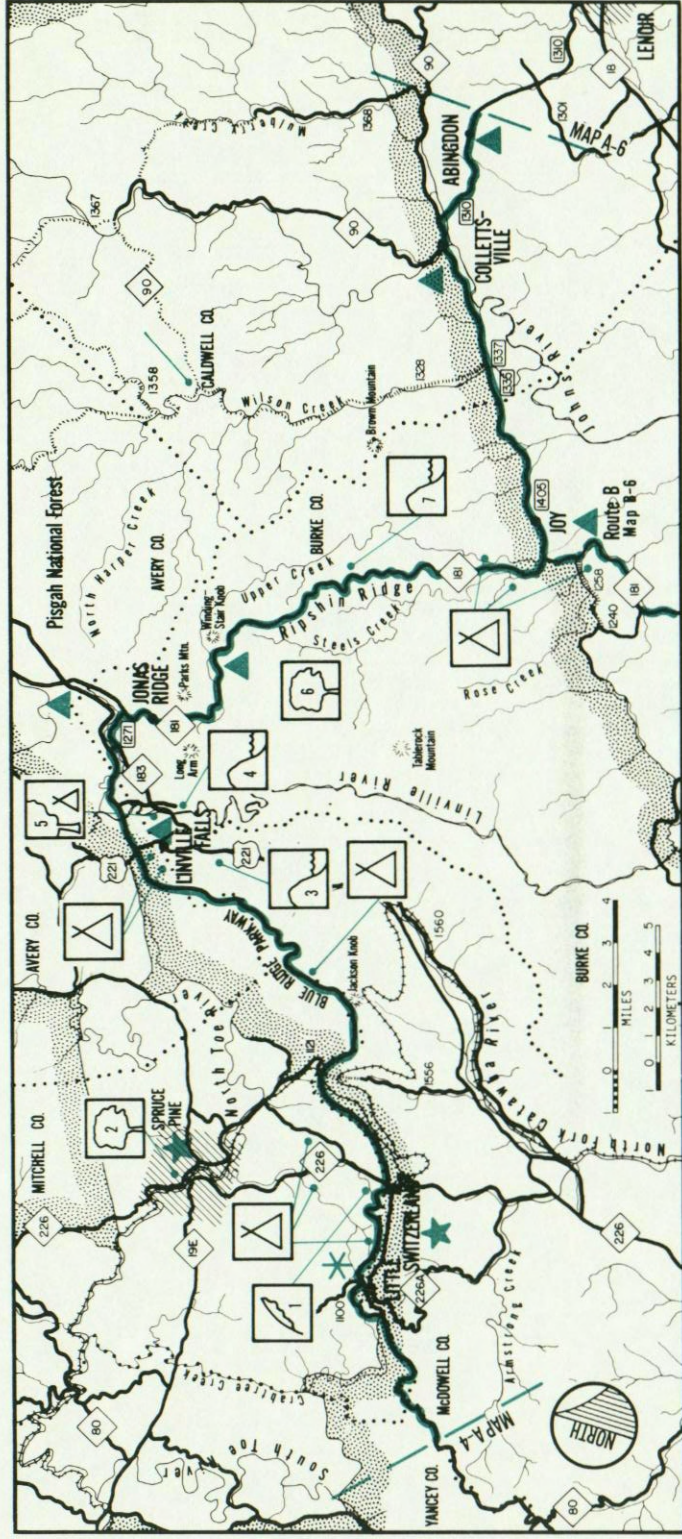
In 1915, this area became the first North Carolina State Park. Mt. Mitchell, elevation 6,684 feet, is the highest peak east of the Mississippi River. The road leading from the parkway to the park is a very strenuous 5-mile climb.

8 **Pisgah National Forest Recreation Area**

Follow N.C. 80 north to this area. Two sites, Black Mountain and Carolina Hemlock, offer camping and fishing.

9 **Crabtree Meadows**

Right on the parkway, this area offers camping facilities, picnic area and a small camp store and restaurant which are open May 1 through August 31.



Brown Mountain A-5 Lights

General Description

Continuing to ride on the parkway (see Segment A-3 for additional information), a gentle 7 mile descent followed by an 8 mile climb and another 5 mile descent will bring you to the Linville Falls area. From here you climb gently for 3 miles to the point where you leave the parkway. At this point you drop quickly from the Blue Ridge escarpment into the foothills, with a 15 mile downhill ride. Here you intersect with Route B, the Piedmont Spur, which turns south-eastward. Continuing along the route, you will ride in a valley for the remaining 10 miles of this segment.

Approximately 52 miles/84 kilometers.

Hazardous Areas

Tunnels on the parkway continue to present problems. Be sure to use your headlight.

Roadway Condition

The portion of the route along the parkway is excellent. The descent from the Blue Ridge escarpment is along a well constructed road which has paved shoulders of a rough surface type and periodic passing lanes. The remainder of the roads in this segment are also in good condition.

Services

Services are readily available just off the Parkway. Little Switzerland and Spruce Pine offer full services. Camping facilities are provided on the Parkway at Linville Falls, at several private campgrounds along the route, and at a National Forest Campground.

Points of Interest

- 1 Museum of North Carolina Minerals
This museum features the great variety of minerals found in North Carolina. A collection of 700 catalogued specimens is available for study.
- 2 Rockhounding
Numerous mines offer the rockhound a chance to "strike it rich". In this area you can hunt for moonstones, garnets, emeralds, aquamarine, quartz, uranium minerals, mica and several other lesser known gems.
- 3 Linville Caverns
About 100 years ago the mysterious appearance of fish swimming out of the mountains led explorers to follow a stream deep into Humpback Mountain where rooms whose ceilings "looked like the arch of some grand old cathedral" were discovered. During the Civil War, Linville Caverns served as a hiding place for deserters from both the Union and Confederate armies.

- 4 Linville Falls
The falls are reached by a foot trail near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Upper Falls cascade over a smooth 12-foot rock shelf, then the water plunges 90 feet at Lower Falls into a rock-encircled pool at the head of Linville Gorge.

- 5 Linville Gorge Wilderness Area
This is one of eastern America's most scenic and rugged gorges and is reputed to be the wildest and most treacherous area in the Blue Ridge. Plant life includes a large number of rare species. A nearby Parkway campground provides a convenient

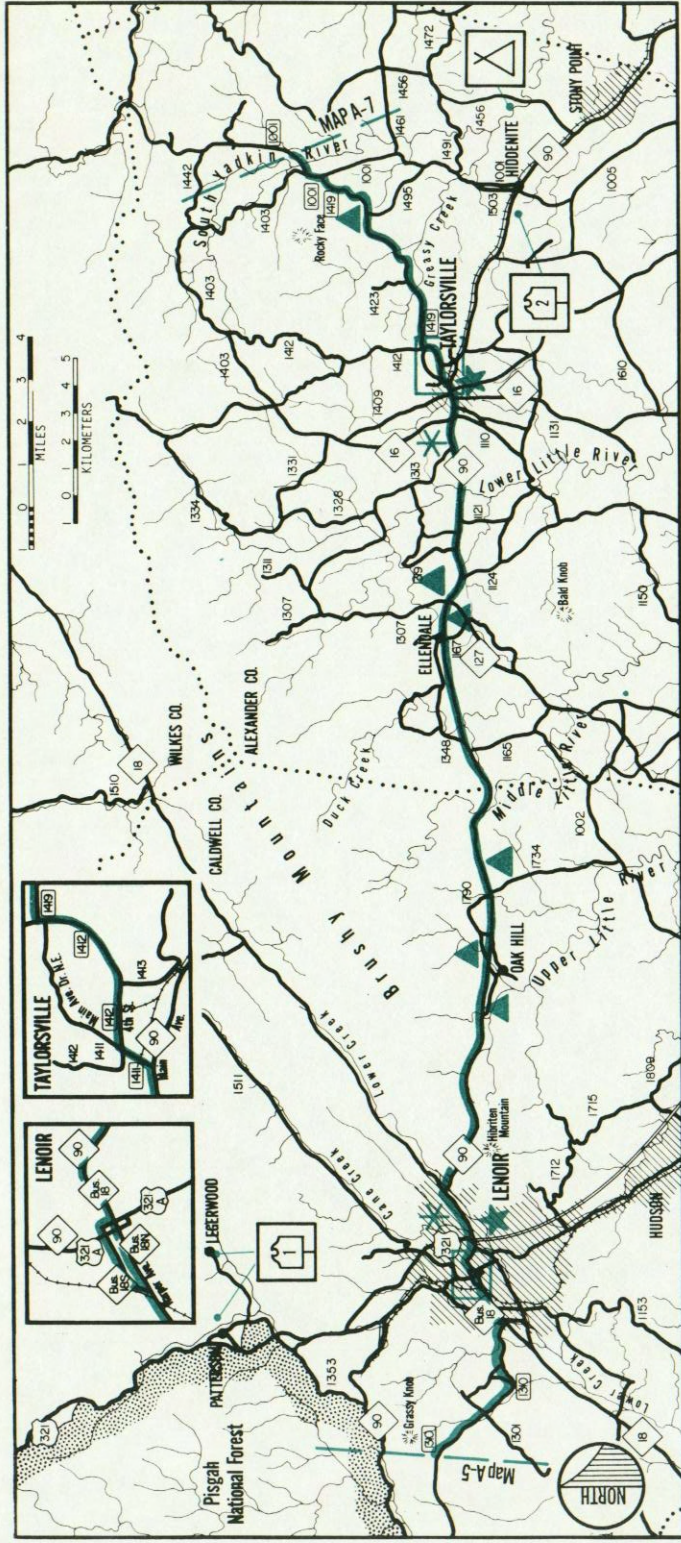
base camp from which to explore the area. Primitive camping is also permitted along the trail into the gorge; a permit must be obtained from the district ranger's office.

- 6 Barkhouse Recreation Area
This is a picnic area, with no camping permitted. Water is available here.

- 7 Brown Mountain Lights
The unsolved mystery of the Brown Mountain lights has intrigued scientists and historians for more than two centuries. The U.S. Geological Survey has conducted two studies to determine the cause of the lights. The first study, conducted in 1913, concluded that the lights were locomotive headlights from the Catawba Valley. However, in 1916, a great flood knocked out the railroad bridges preventing locomotive travel for several weeks. The lights continued to be observed during this time. The second survey report concluded that the lights are due to the spontaneous combustion of marsh gases. However, there are no marshy places on or near Brown Mountain. This same report ruled out that the lights are a reflection of mountain moonshine stills.

According to Cherokee Indian legends, these lights were sighted as far back as the year 1200, when a great battle was fought near Brown Mountain between the Cherokee and Catawba Indians. The legend explains that the lights are the spirits of Indian maidens who have continued to search through the centuries for their husbands and sweethearts who died in this battle.

- 8 Mortimer National Forest Recreation Area
Part of the Pisgah National Forest, this recreation area offers camping, fishing and hiking.



Carolina Emerald

A-6

General Description

Rolling hills and farmland characterize the terrain of this segment.

Approximately 36 miles/58 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

N.C. 90 between Lenoir and Taylorsville has a high quality pavement, the remainder of the roads in the segment are of a rougher pavement type but all are in good condition and well-maintained.

Hazardous Areas

Traffic in Lenoir is somewhat congested, N.C. 90 between Lenoir and Taylorsville has a moderate amount of truck traffic and a higher volume of automobile traffic than is desirable, 22 miles.

Services

Numerous country stores offer needed services along the route. Lenoir and Taylorsville provide full services. Camping is available at a private campground near the route.

Points of Interest

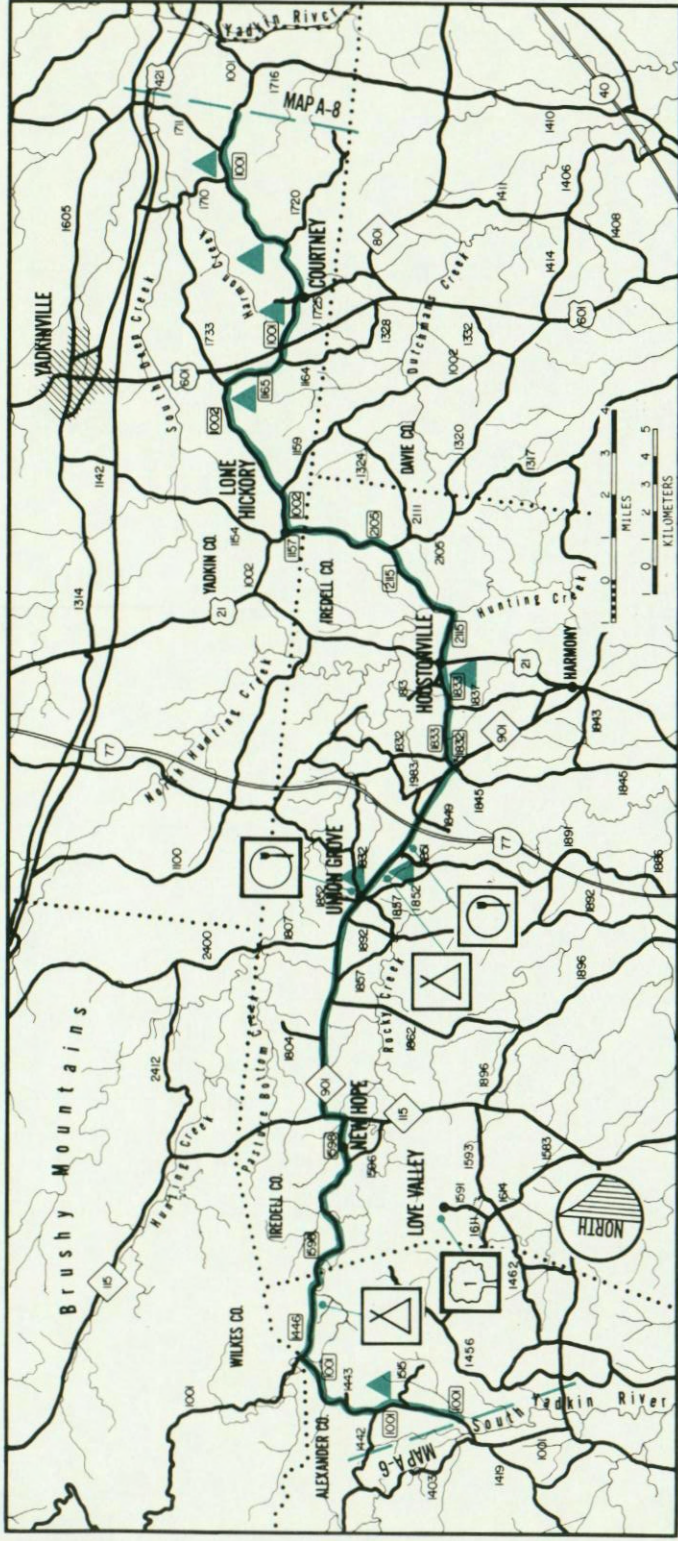
1 Happy Valley
This fertile valley was once the home of the Saura Indians. Settled in the mid-1700's by the white man, the area contains several homes of interest, from different periods in its history. One of these, Fort Defiance, named for a frontier fort which previously stood on the site, is being restored as a museum of period history. It was built between 1788 and 1792 and belonged to General William Lenoir, a prominent leader in the Revolutionary War. Another home, Clover Hill, which was built in 1846, is an exceptional example of the Greek Revival Architecture of that period. Both of these homes are on the National Register of Historic Places.

2 Hiddenite and the Emerald Valley Mines
North Carolina, "nature's sample case", contains a little of nearly all the precious stones and minerals, but not very much of any one. The state is, however, the only known source of hiddenite, an emerald green variety of spodumene.

Hiddenite and emerald were first found in the soil of this area in 1879, by a farmer plowing a field. W.E. Hidden, a mineralogist of note, who happened to be in the area, became interested as he had never seen a crystal of this kind. With the help of a few men, he did some prospecting and found more of this mineral in the ground. He bought the farm and two other tracts of land ad-

joining it and established the Emerald and Hiddenite Mining Company in 1881. Systematic mining was undertaken and proved profitable for many years. Other gems have also been found in the area, including beryl, emerald, quartz, pyrite, and tourmaline.

Today several mines in the area are open to the public for prospecting. Many precious gems have been taken from these mines and are on display in museums throughout the world. The largest single uncut emerald crystal in North America, a 1,438 carat gem, was found in this area in 1969. In 1970 the "Carolina Emerald," now owned by Tiffany and Company was found here. When cut to 13.14 carats, this stone, valued at \$100,000 became the largest and finest cut emerald on this continent.



Bushy Mountains

A-7

General Description

Gently rolling hills change gradually to steeper climbs as you begin to skirt the Brushy Mountains in the western part of this segment. After a few miles of such terrain, the hills diminish and you find yourself riding along a level ridge. A few gentle hills complete the segment.

Approximately 42 miles/68 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

Most of the roads in this segment have a roughly-paved surface but are in very good condition and are well-maintained.

Hazardous Areas

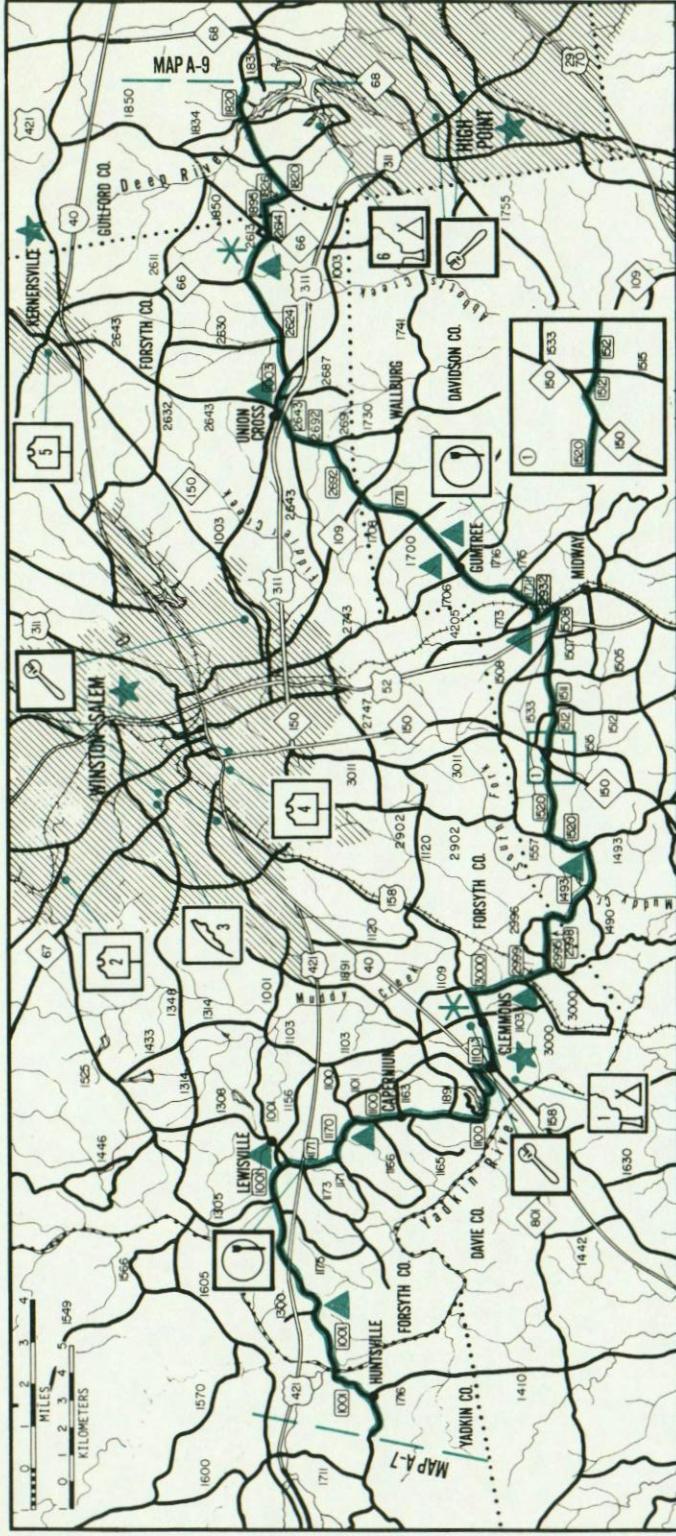
This is a very rural area in which you encounter little traffic and virtually no hazards.

Services

Numerous country stores furnish needed services. There are no full service towns in this segment. Camping is available at two private campgrounds in the Union Grove area.

Points of Interest

- 1 Love Valley
This is a re-creation of an old western town complete with wooden sidewalks and local "cowboys."



Wachovia Tract A-8

General Description

Gently rolling hills are characteristic of the terrain in this segment, as you travel past old family farms and through newer rural housing developments.

Approximately 48 miles/77 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

The roads in this segment are generally good and are well-maintained, but have a roughly paved surface.

Hazardous Areas

The roads in the vicinity of Clemmons are congested, 2 miles. N.C. 66 near the Forsyth/Guilford county line has a high volume of traffic, including significant amounts of truck traffic, 1.1 miles.

Services

Numerous country stores provide needed services. Clemmons, Winston-Salem and High Point offer full services, including bicycle shops. Overnight camping facilities are provided at Tanglewood Park and Oak Hollow Park.

Points of Interest

- 1 Tanglewood Park

Formerly a private estate, the 1,117 acre park offers camping, motel accommodations, picnicking, horseback riding, swimming, fishing, and other recreational facilities. An historic church, built in 1809, an arboretum and rose garden, and a deer park are also within its boundaries.

- 2 Bethabara

Early in 1753 Moravians from Pennsylvania purchased a tract of nearly 100,000 acres of land in "the three forks of Muddy Creek." They called it Wachau (in English, Wachovia) which means meadow-stream. Later that same year fifteen men, carefully chosen for their particular skills—minister, warden, physician, baker, tailor, shoemaker, tanner, gardner, three farmers, and two carpenters—left Pennsylvania to settle the Carolina wilderness. They set about to build a town, which they named Bethabara, "House of Passage." By 1756 the town had become a center of commercial activity.

In 1766, the Moravians founded their central town, Salem, and by 1772 when the essential buildings there were completed, most of the industries and residents of Bethabara moved to the new town, leaving Bethabara a small, quiet community.

On the site of this first Moravian settlement are several restored homes and buildings and a museum showing artifacts of the old town.

- 3 Reynolda House

Formerly the home of the founder of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, this was the center of a self-sustaining village and farm. In 1965 it was opened to the public and dedicated to the advancement of education and the arts. Of note are the extensive collection of American paintings and the elegant furnish-

ings from many countries and periods, which are displayed throughout the house.

- 4 Old Salem

Designated as a national historic landmark, Old Salem is the preservation of an entire town, which was formed in 1766 by Moravians. The industrious nature of these people is evident in the style and quality of their dwellings and in their everyday lives, as re-created in the setting of Old Salem.

Although many of the restored buildings are privately owned, seven are open to the public. Of particular interest are Salem Tavern, which still serves meals, and Winkler Bakery, where early baking methods are demonstrated and baked goods are sold.

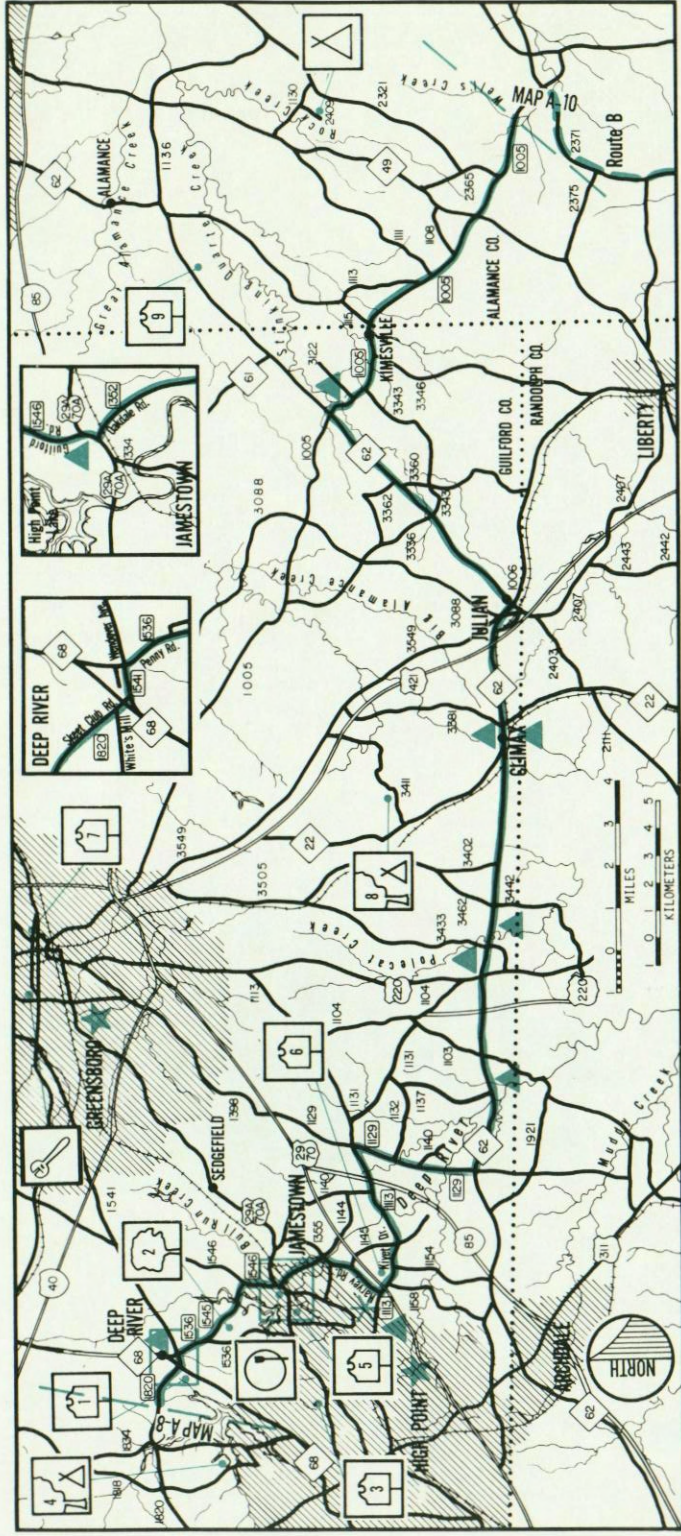
Also in the historic area is the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts which displays the interior furnishings typical of various sections of the South during the time from the first settlements in Virginia through the first decades of the new independent nation. Fifteen period rooms, rebuilt from southern homes, reflect the tastes, way of life, styles, craftsmanship and technology of the years 1600-1820.

- 5 Korner's Folly

Built in 1880, this unusual house of 22 rooms has seven different levels. Originally the home of artist Jule Korner, many interesting and innovative features were incorporated into its design. The house changed and grew with the Korner family, and in 1897 the top floor was converted into a theater—the "little theater" in the United States. The house is open on the second Sunday of the month, April through October, from 1 to 5 p.m.

- 6 Oak Hollow Park

This large park offers camping, picnicking and boat rentals.



Quaker Backcountry A-9

General Description

Gently rolling farm and pasture land, interspersed with some relatively flat stretches characterize this segment. There are a few very short, steep hills in the easternmost portion.

Approximately 44 miles/71 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

The roads in this segment are generally very good and are well-maintained.

Hazardous Areas

Along U.S. 29A and 70A in Jamestown there is heavy traffic in the commercially developed area. .1 mile.

There is sporadically heavy traffic beginning on S.R. 1352 near the intersection with S.R. 1113, extending along S.R. 1113 (Kivette Drive), beyond the intersection with U.S. 29 and 70. 1.5 miles.

Services

Numerous country stores can be found along this segment. Several restaurants and grills are also available. Full services, including bicycle shops are provided in High Point and Greens-

boro. Camping areas are available at Oak Hollow Park, Hagen Stone Park and Cedar Rock Park.

Points of Interest

- 1** Deep River Friends Meeting
Quakers settled this area in the 1750's and the Friends Meeting was established in 1754. The present building was erected in 1875.
- 2** Jamestown Park
This is a newly developed park which offers a free picnic area.
- 3** High Point Historic District
A historic restoration of this area is underway. Presently there is a museum, an operating blacksmith shop and a spinning and weaving house open to the public free of charge. In addition there is the Haley House, built in 1786 and now restored and furnished to its original state. Admission is charged here.
- 4** Oak Hollow Park
This large park offers camping, picnicking and boat rentals.
- 5** Old Jamestown
First settled in 1857 by Quakers, this area grew to be an important center of religious activity. Several privately-owned homes from that period still remain and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Two medical schools operated in the area during the mid-nineteenth century.
- 6** Gardner Hill Mining Company
About 1815 gold and copper were discovered on this site. The ruins of the mine have been overgrown with vegetation and are barely visible now. Before the discovery of gold in California in 1849, North Carolina was the largest gold-producing state.

7 Greensboro Historical Museum

Formerly a Civil War hospital, the Greensboro Historical Museum houses exhibits of local history, featuring the Dolly Madison and O. Henry collections. Also on display is a late 19th century village, as well as period rooms, and exhibits on transportation and military history. Admission is free.

8 Hagen Stone Park

Camping, picnicking, fishing, horseback riding and other recreational activities are offered here. A museum and nature trail provide interpretative information on the area's natural habitat.

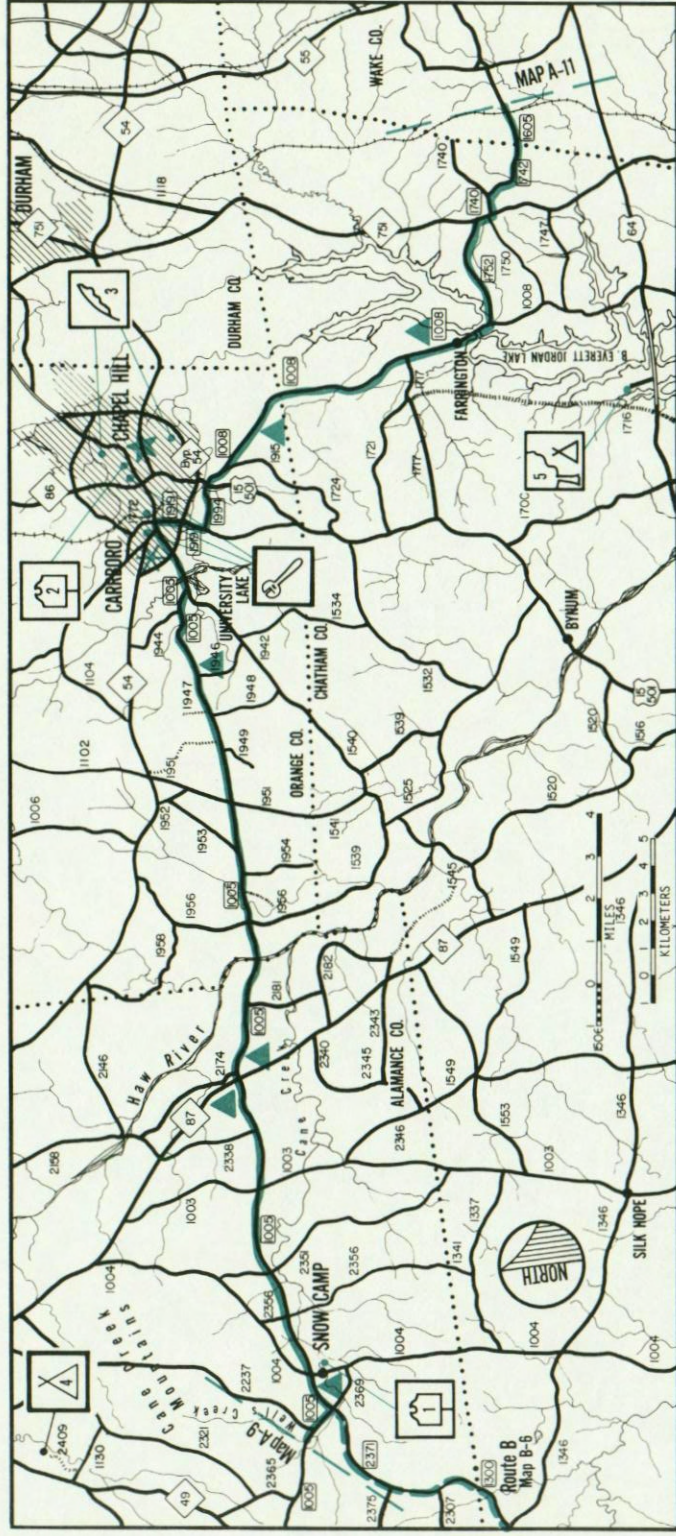
9 Alamance Battleground Park

By the late 1760's, unrest was growing in the backcountry of the royal colony of North Carolina. Gold and silver was being siphoned from the colonies by Britain, while the printing of colonial currency to relieve the money shortage was prohibited. Unscrupulous county officers, appointed by the distant New Bern-based government, often confiscated property for non-payment of taxes or pocketed the taxes they had collected.

The local settlers, by that time organized as "Regulators," tried to effect reforms through legal and peaceful methods but Governor William Tryon remained unresponsive. Armed conflict was imminent. On May 6, 1771, the battle began.

After two hours of fighting, the Regulators broke and fled. Twelve were captured and tried for treason; all were convicted.

The site of the Battle of Alamance has been designated as a state historic site. There is a visitor center here which features an audio-visual presentation of the Regulators and the Battle of Alamance. The Allen House, a restored log cabin built about 1782, is also on exhibit here.



Point Prospect A-10

General Description

Rolling farm and pasture land characterize the terrain of this segment. Route B, the Piedmont Spur, intersects near Snow Camp.

Approximately 40 miles/64 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

Most of the roads in this segment are of good quality and are well-maintained.

Hazardous Areas

Traffic on 1005 just west of Carrboro is somewhat heavy due to traffic from a suburban residential area. 1.5 miles.

Services

Basic services are available at country stores all along the route. Carrboro and Chapel Hill, a university town, provide full services, including good bicycle shops. Camping is available at Cedar Rock Park (see below), 8 miles north of the route.

Points of Interest

- 1 Sword of Peace

This outdoor drama depicts the conflict of conscience of the North Carolina Quakers, caught between their religious convictions and the birth of patriotism in the American Revolution. The show is presented Thursday through Sunday evenings at 8:45 pm, from July 4 through August 29. A fee is charged.

2 Chapel Hill Historic District

On December 11, 1789 the General Assembly chartered the University of North Carolina declaring that "in all well-regulated governments, it is the indispensable duty of every legislature to consult the happiness of a rising generation, and endeavor to fit them for an honorable discharge of the social duties of life, by paying the strictest attention to their education." Thus, the first state university in the country was established. Money for land and buildings was appropriated and the location was fixed at Chapel Hill, chosen because of the "healthfulness" of the area. According to a contemporary account, "the seat of the university is on the summit of a very high ridge... the ridge appears to commence about half a mile directly east of the building, where it rises abruptly several hundred feet. This peak is called Point Prospect. The flat country spreads out below like the ocean, giving an immense hemisphere in which the eye seems lost in the extent of space."

The cornerstone of the first building, now known as Old East, was laid in October, 1793. Formal opening exercises were held in January, 1795, but the first student did not arrive "on the hill" until mid-February of that year. For two weeks he was the entire student body. By the end of the term there were two professors and forty-one students.

The university has grown steadily and over the years has played an essential role in the history of the state. The life of the small town of Chapel Hill has always centered around the university. The old part of the campus and several of the nearby residential areas retain a considerable degree of their earlier appearance and charm and the area is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

3 The University of North Carolina

The university campus offers many interesting attractions. The Coker Arboretum, a five-acre naturalistic garden, contains hundreds of varieties of ornamental plants and shrubs. The area functions as a park, as well as an outdoor laboratory for teaching purposes.

The Morehead Planetarium houses equipment which can produce a realistic representation of the sky at any date for thousands of years past or future, as seen from any position on earth. Since 1960, American astronauts have been trained in celestial navigation beneath the 67-foot planetarium dome.

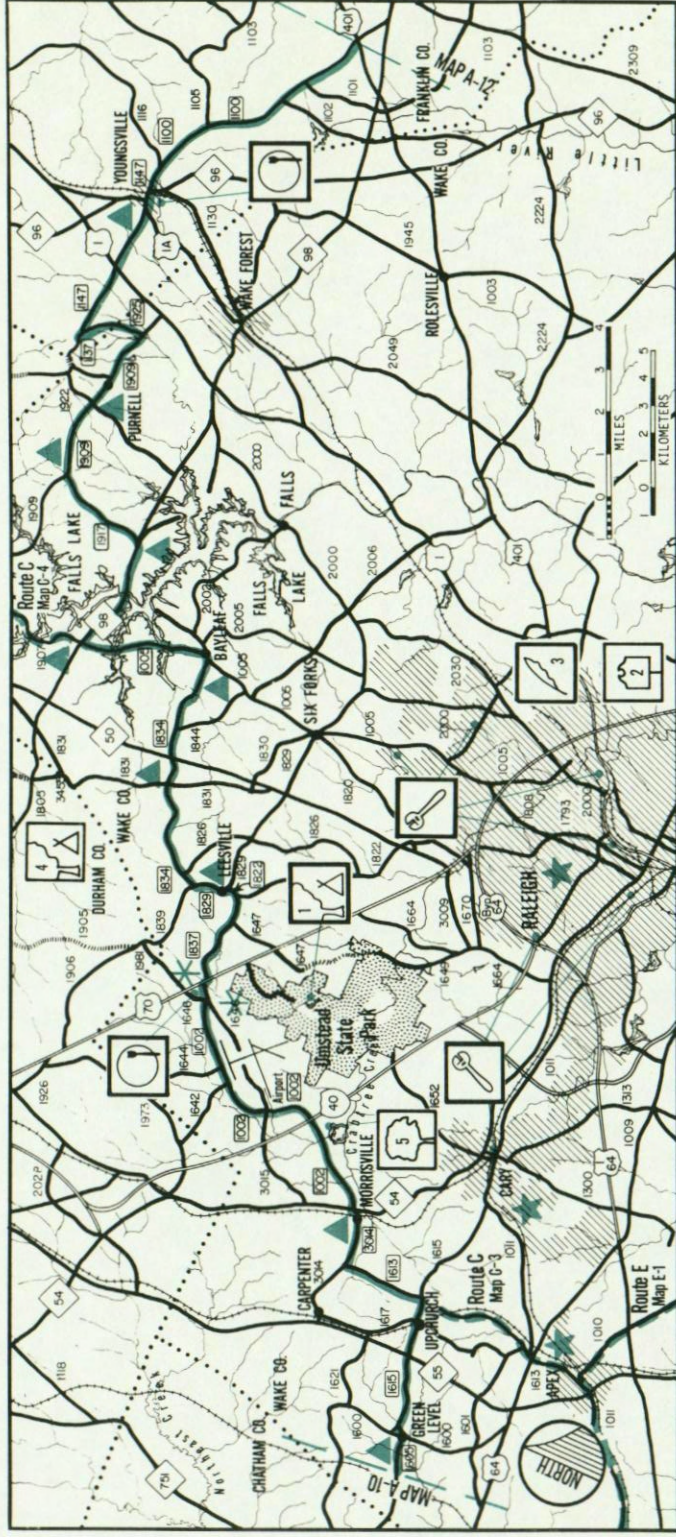
There are three walking trails at the 329-acre North Carolina Botanical Garden. Several special habitats have been created to display the distinctive vegetation of both the coastal plain and the mountains. A sandhills habitat is projected for the future. In the coastal plain demonstration garden and greenhouses can be seen rare insectivorous plants such as the pitcher plant, sundew, and venus's-flytrap, which grows in its natural state only within a small area of North Carolina.

4 Cedar Rock Park

Operated by the Alamance County Parks and Recreation Department, this 450 acre park offers picnicking, hiking trails and primitive camping accommodations. The park is open Wednesday through Sunday, all year. Contact the Park Ranger to make arrangements for camping on Monday or Tuesday.

5 Jordan Lake State Recreation Area

The 150 miles of shoreline provide ample opportunities for water sports such as fishing and swimming. Camping facilities are also available.



New Tryon A-11

General Description

Gently rolling hills are interspersed with flat stretches in this segment of the route as you begin the transition from the piedmont to the coastal plain of North Carolina.

Approximately 43 miles/69 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

Most of the roads in this segment are of a rougher pavement type but are in excellent condition and are well-maintained.

Hazardous Areas

S.R. 1002 provides access to a regional airport and therefore has a high volume of traffic. 3.5 miles.

U.S. 70 has a high volume of traffic. .2 miles

Services

Numerous country stores and small restaurants provide needed services along this segment of the route. Raleigh provides full services including several bike shops. Motel accommodations are also available in the airport area. Camping is available at Umstead State Park, and at Falls Lake State Recreation Area (see below).

Points of Interest

1 Umstead State Park

This 5,000 plus acre park offers camping, boating, fishing, nature study and hiking, with approximately 15 miles of trails.

2 Raleigh Historic Sites

During much of the colonial period, North Carolina was without a designated capital city. Governors generally lived in their own homes; legislators moved from place to place, first meeting in private homes, then in courthouses when available. In 1722, Edenton was fixed as the capital, but years passed before any governmental facilities were provided. By then the state's center of population had shifted southward, and the government again became migratory. Various other efforts to establish a seat of government failed until New Bern was selected in 1766. Tryon Palace was built there to house the governor, and as a meeting place for the government representatives. A few years later when New Bern became exposed to attack during the American Revolution, the government took to the roads once again. Tryon Palace was neglected and, in 1798, was ravaged by fire.

Meanwhile, the center of population had shifted westward so in 1788, a site in Wake County was selected to become the seat of government. In 1792 the city of Raleigh was founded, one of the few cities in America planned from the beginning to be a capital city.

Significant historic sites abound in the area. The North Carolina State Capitol building completed in 1840, is one of the finest and best preserved examples of a major civic building in the Greek Revival style of architecture. Restoration of the building is in progress and upon completion the non-office areas will serve as a historic shrine.

Of particular historic interest is the Governor's Mansion, which was built in 1891. An excellent example of Victorian architecture,

the executive mansion with its gables and balconies, its spacious halls and reception rooms, its grand stairway and sixteen-foot ceilings is a gem from a by-gone era. Tours are available daily, Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. - 12 noon, October through May.

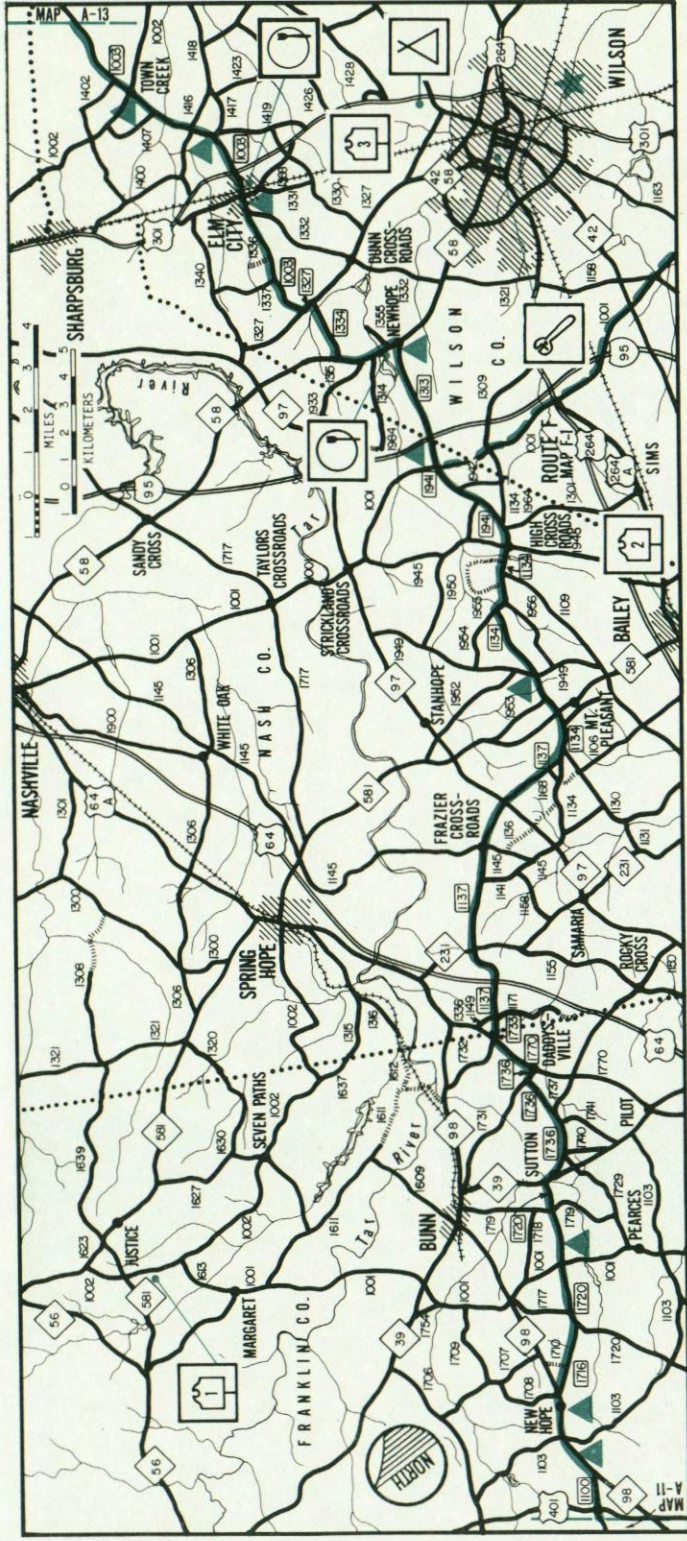
Other sites of historic significance include Mordecai Historic Park, a restoration of an eighteenth century country manor complete with kitchen garden, Oakwood historic district, a residential area near the Governor's Mansion, which provides a glimpse into the past with its many restored period homes; the Joel Lane House, oldest house in Raleigh; and Christ Church, an impressive Gothic Revival structure built in the 1840's.

3 North Carolina State Museums

The North Carolina Museum of Art is one of the nation's top-ranked art museums and boasts of the finest collection in the Southeast. Among its treasures are an impressive collection of Renaissance and earlier Italian paintings, one of the best collections of Spanish still life paintings in the country, a strong representation of Dutch and Flemish 17th century works, as well as a fine group of English portraits.

The Museum of Natural History began in 1879. Fossils and other rare items are exhibited to show the animal and the plant life which has lived in this area. There are also live specimens of poisonous snakes, earth science exhibits, and exhibits of pre-historic Indian tools and artifacts.

The North Carolina Museum of History was established to promote and encourage a knowledge and appreciation of North Carolina history. A "stone age to space age" exhibit chronicles North Carolina history from 11,000 B.C. to the present. Other exhibits feature life styles of the past, communications, and North Carolina folk art.



Green Gold A-12

General Description

Gently rolling hills in the western portion of this segment give way to flat farmlands as you continue the transition from the piedmont to the coastal plain. Just west of Wilson there is an intersection with route F, the Ocracoke Option, which gives access to New Bern and the Outer Banks via the Cedar Island ferry.

Approximately 40 miles/65 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

The roads in this segment are generally well-paved and well maintained.

Hazardous Areas

There are no unusual hazards along this section of the route.

Services

Numerous country stores provide basic services. Full services are available in Wilson, which also has a bicycle shop. Overnight camping facilities are available just south of the route, near Wilson.

Points of Interest

Cypress Hall
 This plantation complex, built in the early 1800's for Archibald Davis, is unusually complete and well-preserved. An early Greek Revival dwelling and an excellent collection of outbuildings still stand on the property, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Country Doctor's Museum

This is the only medical museum in the nation which is entirely dedicated to the family doctor. The museum houses two restored doctor's offices circa 1857 and 1890, complete with instruments of that day. There is also a medical garden featuring herbs and plants widely used during this period. Limited visiting hours are from 2-5pm on Sundays and from 10 am to 5 pm on Wednesdays.

Tobacco Cultivation

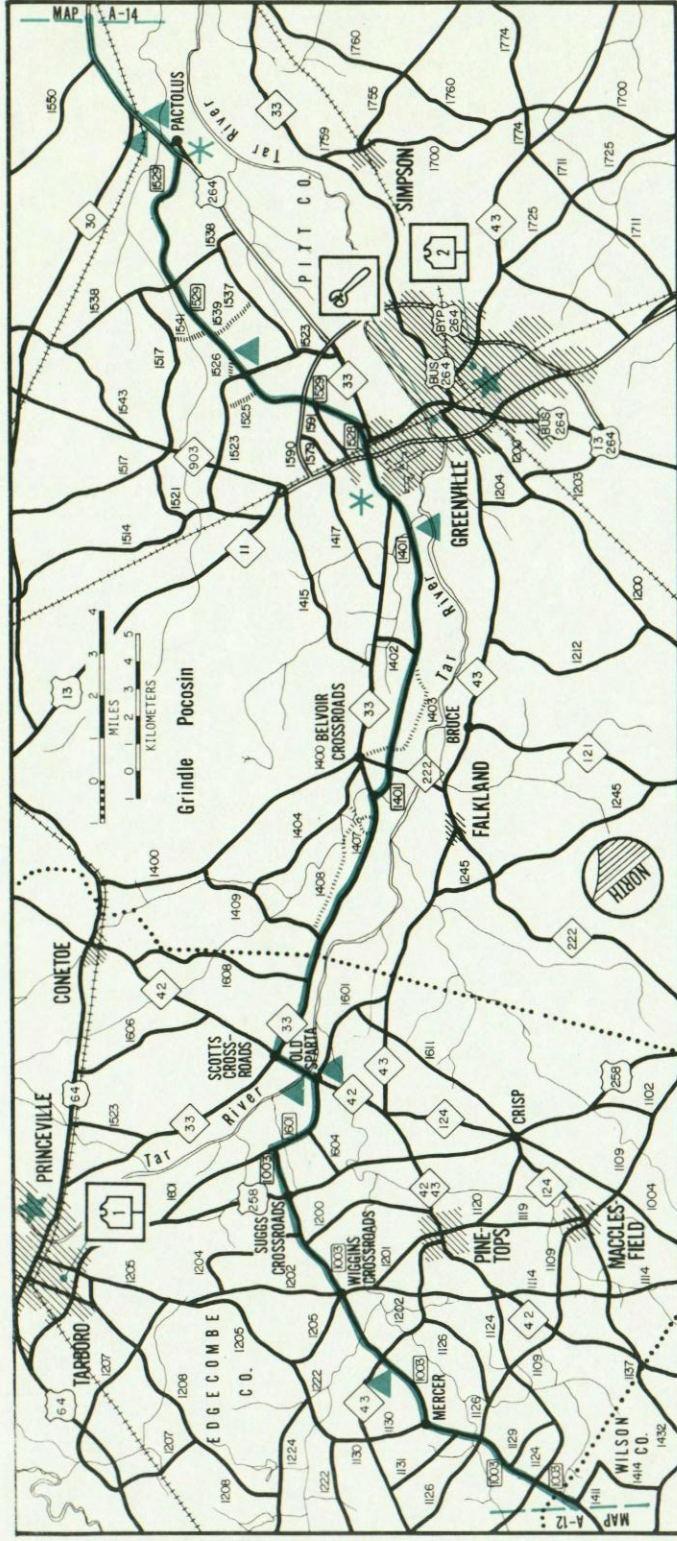
Long a center for marketing tobacco, Wilson still boasts the largest tobacco warehouses in the world. Tobacco cultivation has been an ongoing pursuit in this area since early Colonial days.

When the English first settled North America, the only tobacco plant they found was a shrubby little plant which bore faint resemblance to the lush plant now cultivated. Indians of the region cultivated it for smoking and ceremonial purposes, sometimes mixing the dried leaves with leaves of other plants because the smoke of the native tobacco was so strong.

The English had long been acquainted with tobacco through the Spaniards, who cultivated it in the West Indies and Venezuela. Because the Spaniards held an exclusive trade monopoly, the cost was very high, with the best tobacco selling for \$125 per pound.

In 1612, in order to provide themselves with smokable tobacco and to produce a commodity that could be exported, settlers in Jamestown, Virginia obtained seeds of Spanish tobacco. The crop flourished. When cured, the leaves of the tobacco plant were shipped to London where smokers welcomed the new "Virginia" and proclaimed it as good as Spanish.

Because the early planters thought that tobacco would grow well only in virgin soil, tobacco cultivation rapidly spread into present-day North Carolina. Tobacco remains, to this day, the highest-value agricultural commodity in the state.



Town Common A-13

General Description

The terrain in this segment is virtually flat. Paralleling the Tar River for much of this segment, you will travel through farming areas where tobacco and soybeans are the major crop.

Approximately 46 miles/74 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

The roads in this segment are of high quality and are well-maintained.

Hazardous Areas

NC 33 through Greenville has a higher traffic volume than is desirable, 2 miles.

US 264, at the eastern extreme of this segment, has a higher traffic volume than is desirable, 4 miles.

Services

Well-spaced country stores provide needed services. Full services are available in Tarboro and Greenville, with a bicycle shop in Greenville. There are no campgrounds on or near the route in this segment.

Points of Interest

1 Tarboro Historic Sites

In the eighteenth century there were a number of planned towns developed in North Carolina, many of them featuring undeveloped spaces designated as markets or courthouse squares. The Tarboro Town Common is one of these. As such it is a unique survival of early urban planning in the South. A cotton press built about 1840 and operated by mule power is on display at the Town Common. It is one of the few remaining examples of the type of machinery used by cotton growers of that time.

There are a number of other interesting sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Tarboro. The Calvary Episcopal Church, built in the mid 1800's, is a fine example of the Early English style of Gothic Revival architecture. The churchyard, which contains many rare species of trees and shrubs, is one of the most sophisticated examples of landscape design in the country.

Restored homes such as the Blount House, The Barracks, the Coats House and the Redmond-Shackleford House represent various styles of homes built throughout the 1800's by prominent families of the area.

2 Greenville History

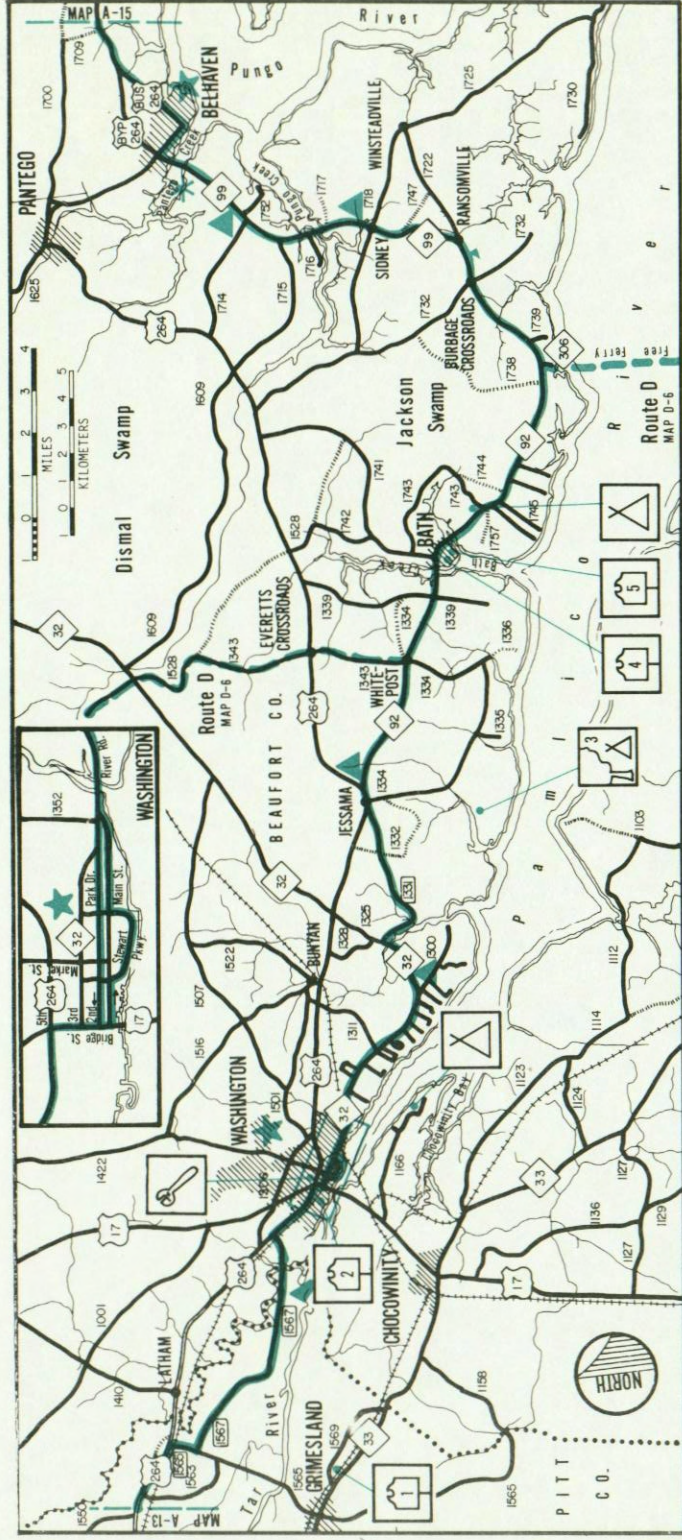
In 1760, the North Carolina General Assembly passed a resolution establishing Pitt County, naming it for William Pitt the Elder, Earl of Chatham, a noted British statesman who was a sympathetic friend of the Colonies.

Fourteen years later, in 1774, a courthouse was established in Martinborough. In 1786, the name was changed to Greenville in honor of the Revolutionary War General Nathaniel Greene.

From the beginning Greenville's citizens were interested in education. Pitt Academy was established in 1774, followed by Greenville Academy in 1814, Greenville Female Academy in 1830 and East Carolina Teacher's Training School in 1907, now East Carolina University.

In those early days, the Tar River was a major asset. Narrow in places but suitable for inland boats of the day, it provided a feasible route to Washington, the Pamlico Sound and on to the Atlantic Ocean. Products of the area such as tobacco, cotton, peanuts, potatoes and livestock were floated up and down the river.

In 1850, the Greenville and Raleigh plank road was chartered. Stage coaches transported people and goods by land. The Atlantic Coast Line built the first railroad in 1892. Because of these transportation links, Greenville was established as a major marketplace for Eastern North Carolina.



Queen Anne's Revenge

A-14

General Description

Flat terrain characterizes the land in this segment, as you near the coast. Sleepy villages along the Pamlico River provide harbors for the commercial fishermen of the area. An intersection with Route D, Ports of Call, gives you an opportunity to turn north or south to explore the sounds and coves of the coastal region.

Approximately 44 miles/70 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

The roads in this segment are generally well-paved and well-maintained.

Hazardous Areas

NC 92 in the Belhaven area has more traffic than is desirable. 3.5 miles.

Services

Numerous country stores provide needed services along the route. Full services are available in Washington, Bath and Belhaven, with a bicycle shop in Washington. Several private campgrounds are available, one across the Pamlico river from Washington and a seasonal one near Bath. Camping is also available at Goose Creek State Park (see below).

Points of Interest:

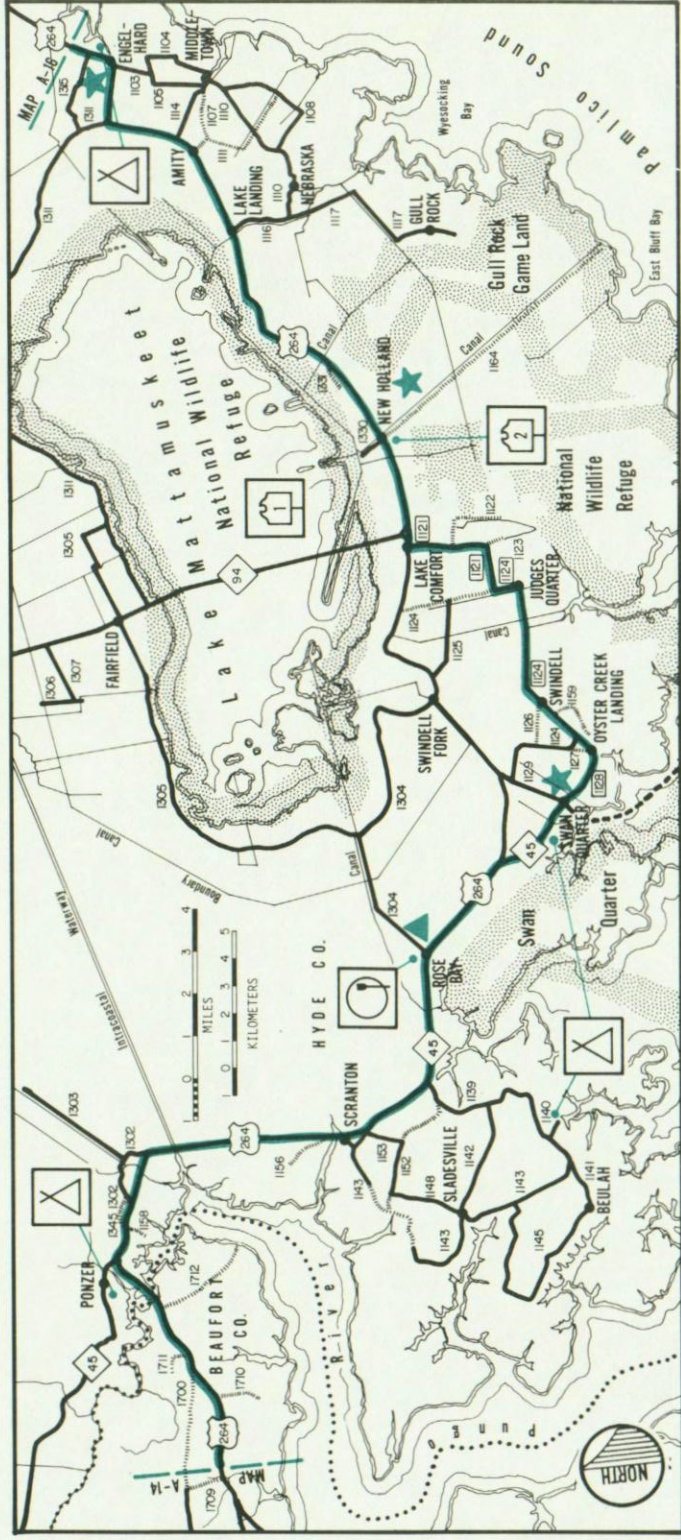
- 1 Grimesland Plantation
Built in the late 1700's this plantation was the home of Civil War General Bryan Grimes. This property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- 2 Washington History
The early history of Beaufort County and Washington begins with a grant of land from King Charles II of England to the eight Lord Proprietors of North Carolina. Land in the area passed to various owners over the years. In the mid 1700's, James Bonner, a wealthy Beaufort County farmer laid out 60 lots on the south end of his extensive farm, which he disposed of by lottery. This area, known as Bonner's Old Part, was the foundation of present day Washington.
- 3
Because the town was burned by Northern troops as they evacuated the town at the end of the Civil War, Washington has few historic buildings standing. Of interest is the County Courthouse, built in 1786 and the Old Bank of Washington, built in 1854. Both of these properties are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- 4 Goose Creek State Park
This large, 1300 acre park offers overnight camping facilities, fishing, canoeing, day hiking and bird watching.
- 5 Historic Bath
In 1705 Bath became the first incorporated town in North Carolina. For hundreds of years before Bath was established that spot had been inhabited by Indians. The Pamlico region began to attract settlers during the 1690's. Soon farms and plantations dotted the banks of the river.

Designated as a State Historic Site, the historic district of Bath includes a number of significant structures which have been preserved and restored with period furnishings and artifacts. They are open to public viewing. These structures include the Palmer-Marsh House, a National Historic Landmark, St. Thomas Church, the Williams House, the Van Der Veer House, and the Bonner House.

6 Blackbeard: Knight of the Black Flag

Born Edward Teach, Blackbeard was one of the most colorful characters in early American History. He made his headquarters in Bath from 1715 to 1718. No vessel was safe from the pillage of Blackbeard's ship, the "Queen Anne's Revenge." The pirate's interests were well guarded by North Carolina's Governor Charles Eden of Bath who granted him political protection from the law and arranged prospects for his booty. In 1718, an outraged Virginia governor dispatched a company of men who surprised and killed the pirate at Ocracoke Inlet.

The Outdoor Drama, "Blackbeard: Knight of the Black Flag" plays each weekend, Friday through Sunday at 8:45 pm, June 29 - August 19.



Mattamuskeet A-15

General Description

The flat terrain along the Pamlico Sound makes it easy to explore the numerous inlets and bays of the area. At Swan Quarter, you can take a toll ferry to Ocracoke and the Outer Banks. The ferry leaves Swan Quarter daily at 9:30 am and 4:00 pm, year-round. Crossing time is 2½ hours. The charge for bicycle and rider is \$2.00. Approximately 48 miles/77 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

The roads in this segment are generally well-paved and well maintained.

Hazardous Areas

There are no unusual hazards in this segment.

Services

Country stores are more widely spaced than in most other segments but are frequent enough to provide needed services. Full services are available in Swan Quarter and Englehard. Camping facilities are available at several private campgrounds on or near the route.

Points of Interest

1 Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge. For hundreds of years, many varieties of birds have used Lake Mattamuskeet as a wintering ground. Geese, ducks, egrets, herons, swans, terns, grebes, cormorants, bitterns, eagles, ospreys and quail have all been regular visitors to the huge 75 square mile lake.

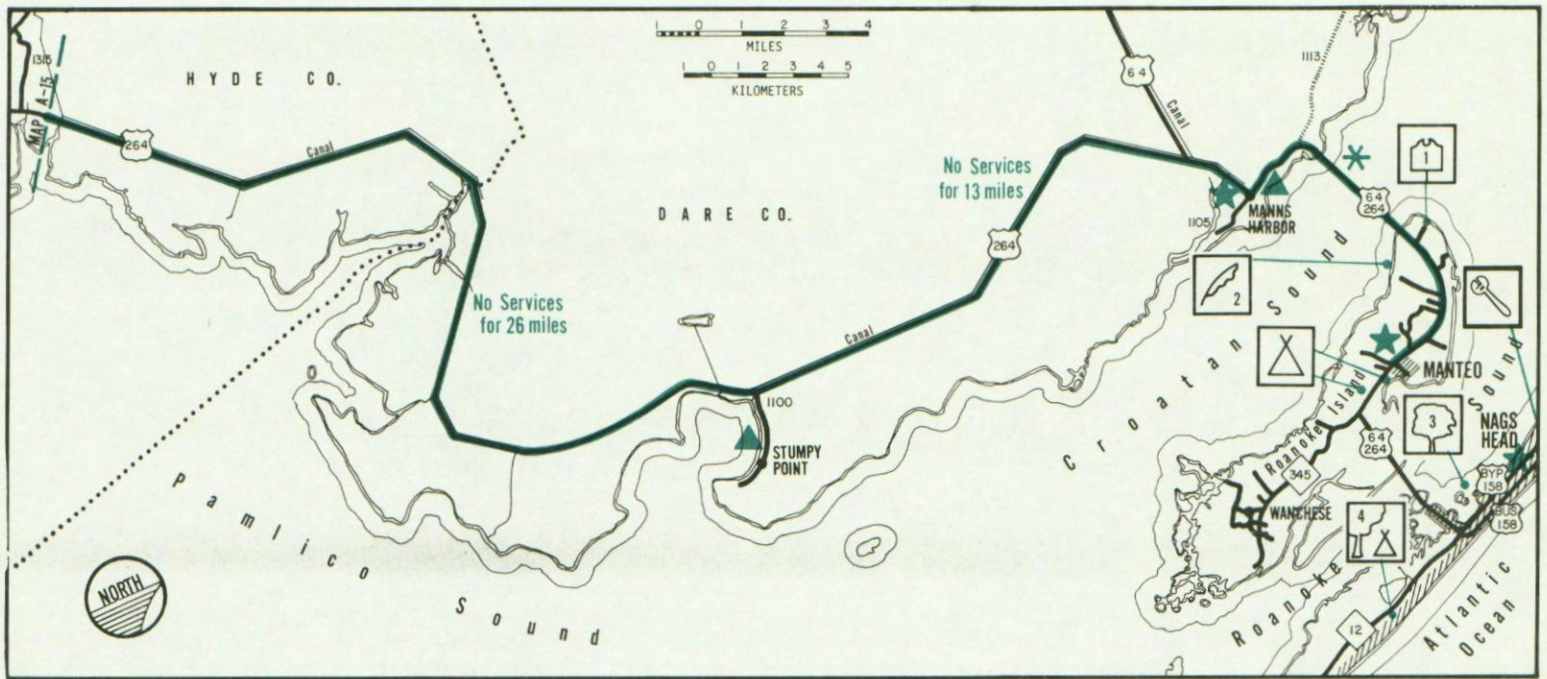
Lake Mattamuskeet, which means "Great Dust" in the local Indian dialect, was probably created by fire. Indian legends say that long ago there was no lake at all. One year there was a great drought and the woods and swamps were disastrously dry. To propitiate the rain gods, a huge ceremonial fire was built. The gods looked with disfavor on this worship and caused the fire to spread and burn for thirteen moons. The game fled and the Indians faced starvation, until one day a maiden invoked the mercy of the rain gods. Almost instantly rain began to fall. The burned area filled with water, creating the lake. Fish filled the waters and abundant game lived on the shores. Thus the Indians were saved.

In 1934, the Federal Government purchased the lake and surrounding land as a game preserve.

2 New Holland Corporation

In 1913, members of a stock company conceived the idea of pumping out Lake Mattamuskeet to get to the rich soil beneath the water. A huge pump, with a capacity of 1,250,000 gallons per minute, was erected on the south shore of the lake. A canal, seven miles long, was dug and water pumped into it flowed into Pamlico Sound. Bumper crops of corn, rice, soybeans and vegetables were produced but the high cost of keeping the water out forced the company to abandon the project. Slowly, part of the lake bed was reclaimed by the waters.

During the 1920's, the project caught the imagination of a New York millionaire who purchased the property and started the pumps going again. He named his company the New Holland Corporation. His plans were even more ambitious than those of the previous company. On a grandiose scale he planted flax, corn, rice, sweet potatoes and soybeans. But, nature took revenge. Before much of the yield could be harvested, grasshoppers, army worms and corn borers appeared in hordes and desiccated the crops. This reverse, coupled with the low price of farm commodities during the Depression, forced the company out of business. These two attempts to farm the lake-bed had cost the promoters over \$17,000,000.



Unknown Destiny

A-16

General Description

The terrain in this segment is flat. Most of the land is swampy, with drainage canals paralleling the road on both sides.

Approximately 48 miles/77 kilometers.

Roadway Condition

US 264 is in fair condition, with some rough areas in need of repair.

Hazardous Areas

The bridge over Croatan Sound is long (2.6 miles) and narrow and subject to crosswinds.

Services

For the first 39 miles of this segment, there is only one place to get food and water. This is one mile off the route at a small grocery store in Stumpy Point, which is closed on Sundays. Manteo provides full services. Camping is available in the Manteo area and at Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

Points of Interest

1 The Lost Colony

In 1584 Captain Philip Amadas and Arthur Barlowe, sailing under a patent granted to Sir Walter Raleigh by Queen Elizabeth I, landed on the shore of what is now known as Roanoke Island, and claimed the land for England. After two months of exploration they set sail for England.

In 1585, Sir Richard Grenville, Raleigh's cousin, brought over a group of 108 men to colonize the area. Grenville sailed back to England for supplies; the men built a fort and began to explore the surrounding islands and mainland, searching for pearls, copper and gold. Trouble with the Indians and near-starvation ensued. When Sir Francis Drake's ships appeared in 1586, the colonists accepted his offer of passage to England.

Shortly afterward, Grenville returned with supplies. He searched for the departed colonists and not finding them, he settled 15 men on the island to hold England's claim until another colony could be established. Raleigh immediately made plans for a new colony and in 1587 more than 100 men, women, and children, under the leadership of Governor John White, landed on Roanoke Island.

As the colonists began to establish themselves, the ships which brought them were readied to return to England; Governor White was persuaded to go for additional provisions. When White reached England he found the country in danger of Spanish invasion. To insure defeat of the Spanish Armada, the queen refused to allow any large ships to leave England, thus it was nearly three years before White could return to Roanoke Island. By then, the colony had disappeared. According to White, he "found the houses taken down and the place very strongly enclosed with a high palisade of great trees . . . very fortlike; and one of the chief trees or posts at the right side of the entrance had the bark taken off, and five feet from the ground, in fair capital letters were graven 'Croatan'; without any sign or cross of distress." There have been numerous conjectures as to the ultimate fate of the "Lost Colony" but it remains a mystery to this day.

Fort Raleigh National Historic Site was established to commemorate this earliest attempt at English colonization of the continental United States. Parts of the settlement sites of 1585 and 1587 are included within the 144-acre area, and the fort, itself, has been restored. A Visitor Center displays artifacts uncovered during the archaeological excavation of the fort. In summer, the "Lost Colony", a symphonic-drama is produced in the waterside theater.

2 Marine Resource Center

The Marine Resource Center is designed as a learning lab for everyone interested in sea life. Displays depicting many facets of marine life, archeological exhibits, field trips, lectures, seminars and short films are features of the center.

3 Jockey's Ridge State Park

Jockey's Ridge at 138 feet, is the highest coastal sand dune on the Atlantic coast. It has been preserved as a state park.

4 Cape Hatteras National Seashore

Extending 70 miles from Whalebone Junction to Ocracoke, this preserve offers many exciting recreational opportunities. Fishing, swimming, beachcombing, and boating are, of course, important attractions. Camping is offered at several National Park Service sites. Wildlife abounds in the area and provides unlimited opportunity for nature study, particularly birdwatching.