

THE SOUTH'S PRETTIEST SMALL TOWN

HISTORIC  
*Edenton*  
and  
CHOWAN  
COUNTY

ACTIVITY GUIDE

*history*  
*nature*  
*architecture*  
*dining*  
*shopping*



# History

So does charm. Outdoor activities. Arts and antiques, festivals and celebrations.

Dining, shopping, good conversation and gracious

hospitality. A rich heritage of living well, dating back more than 300 years.



History lives here... in Edenton and Chowan County.

We invite you to start at our Welcome Center, the 1782 Penelope Barker House. There, you'll receive a warm welcome and an introduction to the town's history and heritage—including the 1767 Courthouse and the 250-year-old Cupola House—as well as public and private homes, inns, churches, the Roanoke River Lighthouse, a Maritime Underground Railroad site... even an historic ballpark!

# *Lives Here.*

You may also want to take advantage of the many opportunities for outdoor fun, including kayaking, fishing and other water sports, hiking and golf.

We invite you to visit us here in northeast North Carolina. You may fall in love with our town and decide to stay, as folks have done since the 17th century.



So come sit by our waterfront and savor the day. Explore and enjoy.

*Yes, history lives here in Edenton and Chowan County.*

# *The Edenton Tea Party*

was the earliest organized women's political action in American history. On October 25, 1774, fifty-one women in Edenton formed an alliance wholeheartedly supporting the American cause against "taxation without representation." Learn more about this important event at the Penelope Barker House Welcome Center.

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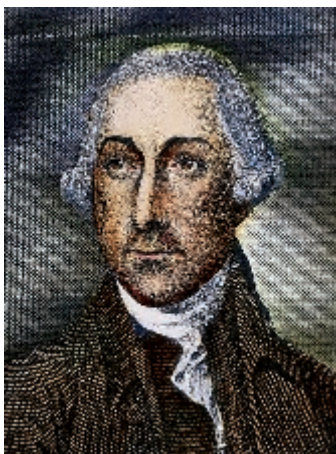
## *Harriet Jacobs*

Edenton native, escaped slave, abolitionist and writer—hid here for seven years as a fugitive. Her memoir, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, was one of the first narratives about the struggle for freedom by a female slave.

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## *Joseph Hewes*

The first colonial Secretary of the Navy, Hewes also signed the Declaration of Independence. Edenton's beautiful waterfront was Joseph Hewes' inspiration to create a colonial navy and break the British blockade of Boston.







## AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE

*'African-American Life in Edenton, 1700s to the Present'—a self-guided walking tour brochure—is available at the Historic Edenton State Historic Site. You may also request a guided Harriet Jacobs-themed tour there.*

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# Chowan County's 350th

Founded in 1668, Chowan County is one of the oldest in the state. Chowan will participate in the 350th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of North Carolina's Albemarle region in 2018. Chowan County was very important to the development of North Carolina's—and, indeed, the nation's—history. The promise of personal liberties and the establishment of a near-utopian society attracted settlers whose descendants would become Colonial leaders.

Chowan's population during the frontier era included rebels and people of questionable character such as Blackbeard and Governor Charles Eden doing business together with Quakers and the largest free population of blacks and mulattos in the New World.

# Sites to Visit...

## 2 1767 Chowan Courthouse

The most intact Colonial courthouse in America, the structure has been restored and is now open for guided tours and community events. Joseph Hewes, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was one of the commissioners appointed to raise money for its construction. Judges James Iredell and Samuel Johnston, prominent Revolutionary patriots, heard cases here. The Courthouse Green runs from the Courthouse to the Revolutionary War cannon fronting Edenton Bay, and is lined with historic private homes. Part of the Historic Edenton State Historic Site walking tour.

**A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK**

117 E King St • 252.482.2637

[edenton.nchistoricsites.org](http://edenton.nchistoricsites.org)

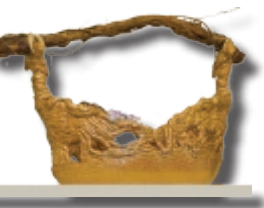


## 3 Chowan Arts Council Gallery

Gallery and shop with fine arts and crafts by regional artists, and changing exhibits.

504 S Broad St • 252.482.8005

[chowanarts.com](http://chowanarts.com)



## 4 Chowan County Courthouse

The office of the Register of Deeds holds genealogy records and a complete cemetery survey of more than 5,000

grave sites from the early 1700s to the present.

101 S Broad St • 252.482.2619 • [chowancounty-nc.gov](http://chowancounty-nc.gov)

## 5 Chowan County Jail

One of the oldest jail in North Carolina, opened in 1825, is newly open to visitors. The jail housed criminals and served as a debtors prison. At the time it closed in 1980, it was the oldest jail in continuous operation in the US. The jail, located behind the 1767 Chowan Courthouse and the Jailors House, can be visited by contacting the Penelope Barker House Welcome Center.

behind 117 E King St • 252.482.7800 • [ehcnc.org](http://ehcnc.org)

## 6 Cupola House

Built in 1758 for Francis Corbin, an agent for Lord Granville, one of the eight Lords Proprietors of the Province (colony) of Carolina. Enjoy the Cupola House gardens, restored from plans dated 1769, open daily. The house may be seen as part of Historic Edenton State Historic Site walking tours, which leave multiple times a day.

**A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK**

408 S Broad St • 252.482.2637

[cupolahouse.org](http://cupolahouse.org)





Penelope Barker House  
Welcome Center porch

## 7 Edenton Cotton Mill Village & Museum of History

Donated to Preservation North Carolina in 1995, this intact mill complex has been preserved and is now a thriving residential neighborhood. Stroll the streets of historic cottages and the boardwalk located behind the mill, and explore the Edenton Cotton Mill Museum of History, open Sat-Sun, 10AM-2PM.

**ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
420 Elliott St • [millvillagemuseum.org](http://millvillagemuseum.org)

# Colonial Waterfront Park

## 8 1886 Roanoke River Lighthouse

The lighthouse was originally located on screw-pilings in the Albemarle Sound marking the entrance to the Roanoke River near Plymouth. The lighthouse is believed to be the last extant example in the United States of a square frame building built for a screw-pile base. The lighthouse was in commission from 1887 until 1941. Open daily, 10AM-4PM.

## 9 Edenton Harbor

Offers protected dockage with nine transient **boat slips**, **rest rooms** with showers, a **playground**, **picnic tables** and **grills**, as well as **kayak and paddleboard rentals and launch**.

### History Signage

Learn about Edenton's place in the history of the **Maritime Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Trail** and the **Civil War Battle of the Albemarle Sound**.

S Broad St at W Water St

*lighthouse information:*

252.482.2637,

[edentonlighthouse.org](http://edentonlighthouse.org)

*harbor & park  
information:*

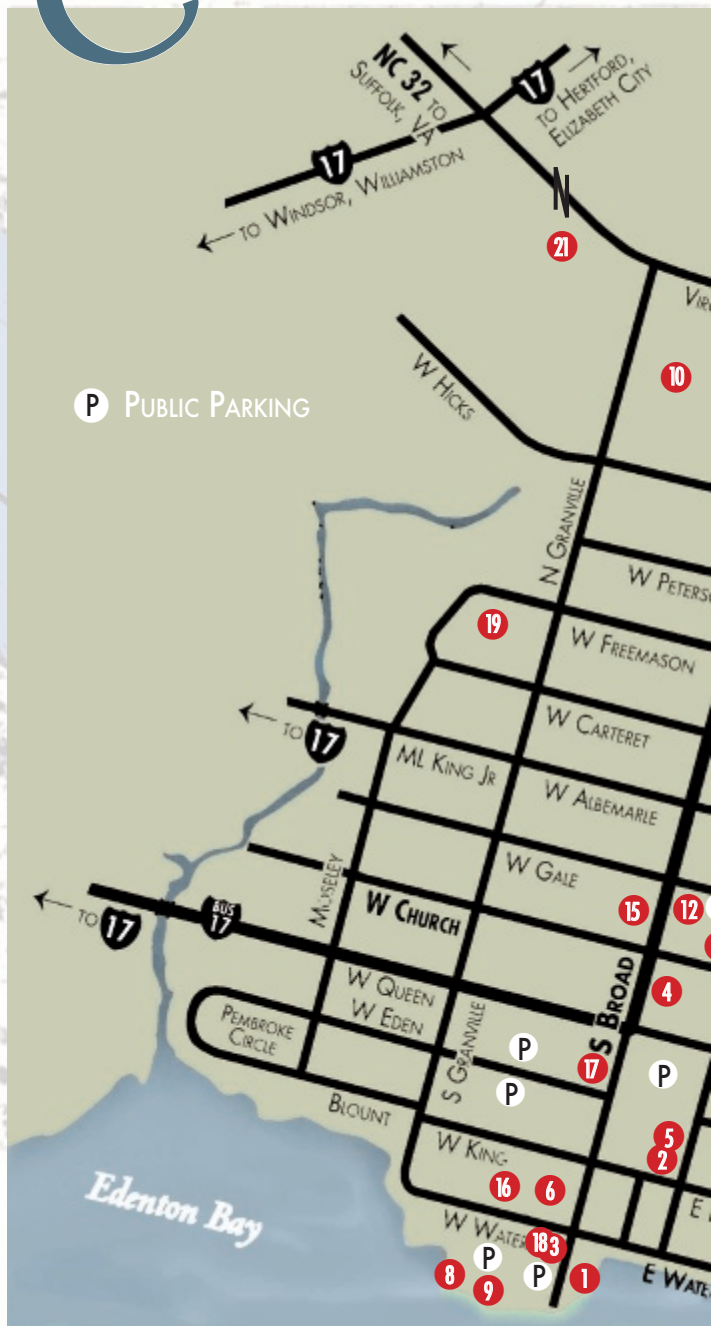
252.482.2832

252.337.4488



# Edenton

P PUBLIC PARKING







# Start here—

## 1 The Penelope Barker House Welcome Center

Waterfront historic house offering information and maps, trolley tours of historic sites, exhibits, restrooms and a book/gift shop. Known as 'Edenton's Living Room', a nice place to relax and enjoy views of Edenton Bay. Open daily 10AM-5PM

**ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

505 S Broad St  
252.482.7800  
ehcnc.org



## **10 Edenton Farmers Market**

Local produce, seafood and meats, personal care and craft items, often accompanied by live music. Sat mornings.

**730 N Granville St • 252.209.4792**

**[edentonfarmersmarket.org](http://edentonfarmersmarket.org)**

## **11 Elizabeth Vann Moore Park**

Waterfront park with picnic tables, fishing and kayak launch, Hugh Williamson monument.

**210 E Water St • 252.482.7352**

**[townofedenton.com](http://townofedenton.com)**

## **12 Historic Edenton State Historic Site**

Guided walking tours of historic sites, film presentation, exhibits, information and maps and rest rooms. Handicap accessible; two wheelchairs available. Group tours available with advance notice. Tues–Sat, 9AM–5PM.

**108 N Broad St • 252.482.2637**

**[edenton.nchistoricsites.org](http://edenton.nchistoricsites.org)**

## **13 Historic Hicks Field**

Hicks Field was built as a WPA project in 1939. Its wooden grandstand is the only one remaining in North Carolina.

During the summer season, Hicks Field is home to the Edenton Steamers, a Coastal Plain League baseball team.

**ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**500 Woodard St • 252.482.4080**

**[edentonsteamers.com](http://edentonsteamers.com)**

## **14 Iredell House Homesite**

1800/1827 home of James Iredell, Associate Justice on the first US Supreme Court, and NC Superior Court Judge and Attorney General during the American Revolution.

Birthplace of James Iredell, Jr., Governor of North Carolina, 1827–1828. The house may be seen as part of Historic Edenton State Historic Site walking tours, which leave multiple times a day.

**ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**107 E Church St • 252.482.2637**

**[edenton.nchistoricsites.org](http://edenton.nchistoricsites.org)**

## **15 St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

The second-oldest surviving church building in North Carolina, 1736–1760. This still-active parish, organized under the first Vestry Act of 1701, holds the oldest charter in the state. Three colonial governors are buried in the historic churchyard cemetery.

**ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**101 W Gale St • 252-482-2637**

**[edenton.nchistoricsites.org](http://edenton.nchistoricsites.org)**

## **16 Shepard–Pruden Memorial Library**

Public access computers, a courtyard garden, genealogy records and a North Carolina collection. Mon-Sat, times vary. Preschool story hour, Wed mornings, 11AM. Harry Rosenblatt Memorial Speakers Series, call for schedule and topics.

**106 W Water St • 252.482.4112**

**[pettigrewlibraries.libguides.com/PRL/SPML](http://pettigrewlibraries.libguides.com/PRL/SPML)**

## **17 Taylor Twin Theater**

1925 movie theater offering first-run matinee and evening shows.

**208 South Broad Street • 252.482.2676**

## **18 Edenton–Chowan Chamber of Commerce**

Offices of the Chamber, Economic Development & Tourism Development

**101 W Water St • 252.482.0300**

## *Emergency Information—*

### **19 Chowan County Sheriff's Office**

**305 W Freemason St • 252.482.8484**

### **20 Edenton Police Department**

**301 North Oakum St • 252.-482.5144**

### **21 Vidant Chowan Hospital**

**211 Virginia Rd • 252.482.8451**

## *The Active Life*

### **Albemarle Regional Paddle Trail System**

Five designated canoe/kayak trails through scenic creeks and streams. **252.482.7437**

### **John's Island Camping Platforms**

Two single platforms and a cluster of three for groups, close to Edenton's waterfront and downtown. **252.482.8595**

### **ECO–TOURISM**

For information on outdoor activities in Edenton and Chowan County, call 252.482.0300 or 800.775.0111 or visit [visitedenton.com](http://visitedenton.com) .



# Chowan

**1 American Legion Post 40 & Chowan County Fairgrounds**  
1317 W Queen St Ext • 252.482.4057  
[chowanfair.com](http://chowanfair.com)

**2 Bennett's Millpond**  
NC Birding Trail, canoeing and kayaking, primitive camping, boardwalk and pavilion.  
2100 Rocky Hock Rd  
252.482.8595

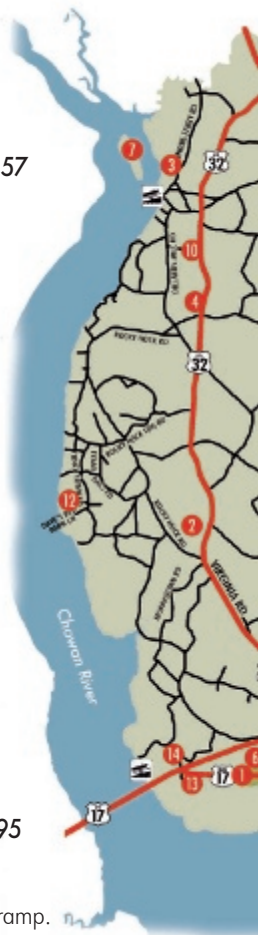
**3 Cannon's Ferry Heritage River Walk & J. Robert Hendrix Park**  
A Civil War trail marker 'War on the Chowan River: Buffalo Country', picnicking, paddling and fisheries exhibit.  
315 Cannon's Ferry Rd  
252.482.8595

**4 Dillard Creek Paddle Trail**  
4-mile course through tall trees.  
408 Dillard's Mill Rd • 252.482.8595

**5 Edenton Marina**  
Limited service marina facility with boat ramp.  
621 W Queen St • 252.482.7421

**6 Edenton National Fish Hatchery & Boardwalk Birding Trail**  
Aquarium, fishery exhibits and ponds, as well as an accessible boardwalk, which is a North Carolina Birding Trail.  
1104 W Queen St • 252.482.4118

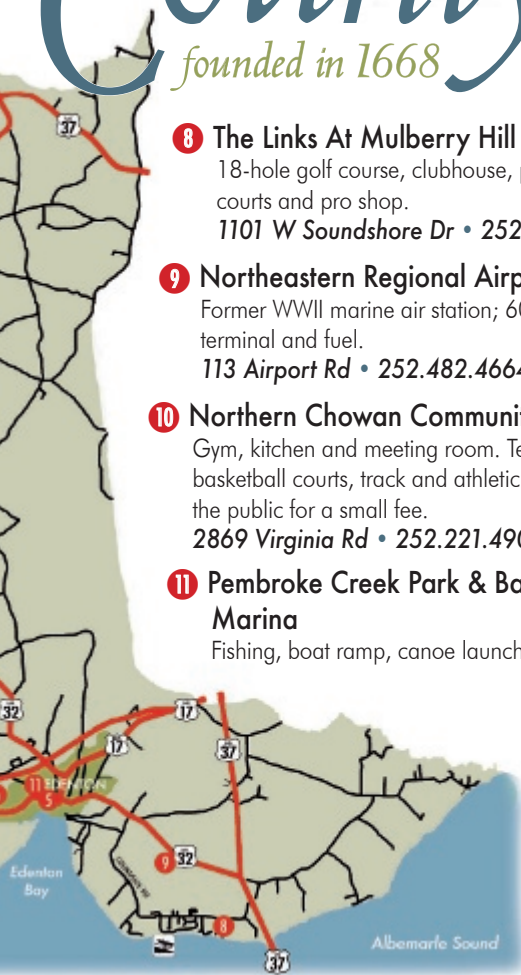
**7 Holladay's Island Camping Platforms**  
Holladay's Island was found by explorers on a 1586 expedition of the Chowan River. Virtually unchanged for more than 400 years, it is now on the Albemarle Regional Canoe/Kayak Paddling Trail and has 5 camping platforms.  
315 Cannon's Ferry Rd • 252.482.8595





# County

*founded in 1668*



**8 The Links At Mulberry Hill**

18-hole golf course, clubhouse, pool, tennis courts and pro shop.

1101 W Soundshore Dr • 252.482.3606

**9 Northeastern Regional Airport**

Former WWII marine air station; 6000' runway, terminal and fuel.

113 Airport Rd • 252.482.4664

**10 Northern Chowan Community Center**

Gym, kitchen and meeting room. Tennis and basketball courts, track and athletic field. Open to the public for a small fee.

2869 Virginia Rd • 252.221.4901

**11 Pembroke Creek Park & Bayside Marina**

Fishing, boat ramp, canoe launch, restaurant,

fishing supplies and tournaments.

802 W Queen St • 252.482.5343

**12 Rocky Hock Campground**

Full RV hookups with water, sewer and electricity.

1008 David's Red Barn Lane • 252.221.4695

**13 Wharf Landing Marina**

Self-service marina with boat ramp and fuel.

Captains Cove Rd • 800.783.8289

**14 Wildlife Access Area**

600' fishing pier, double boat ramp and restrooms.

248 Wharf Landing Rd • 252.482.8595



boat launch

# Accommodations—

**America's Best Value Inn** • 501 Virginia Rd  
252.482.2017

**Captain's Quarters Inn** • 202 W Queen St  
252.482.8945 • [captainsquartersinn.com](http://captainsquartersinn.com)

**Coach House** • 823 N Broad St • 252.482.2107

**The Cotton Gin Inn** • 110 Old Hertford Rd  
252 368-4881 • [thecottongininn.com](http://thecottongininn.com)

**Granville Queen Inn** • 108 S Granville St  
252.482.5296, 866.482.8534 • [granvillequeen.com](http://granvillequeen.com)

**Hampton Inn** • 115 Hampton Dr • 252.482.3500

**Inner Banks Inn** • 103 E Albemarle St • 252.482.3641,  
757.580.8538 • [innerbanksinn.com](http://innerbanksinn.com)

**Mulberry Hill Bed & Breakfast Inn** • Soundside Rd  
252.509.1450 • [mulberryhillinn.com](http://mulberryhillinn.com)



Museum of the Albemarle  
Elizabeth City



*And within a short  
drive from Edenton...*

**Dismal Swamp Canal Welcome Center**

South Mills • 252.771.8333

**Dismal Swamp State Park & Natural Area**

South Mills • 252.771.6593

**Hope Plantation** • Windsor • 252.794.3140

**Livermon Park & Mini Zoo** • Windsor • 252.794.5553

**Merchants Millpond State Park**

*Canoe rentals, hiking and biking trails*

Gatesville • 252.357.1191

**Museum of the Albemarle** • Elizabeth City

252.335.1453

**Newbold-White House** • Hertford • 252.426.7567

**Pettigrew State Park** • Creswell • 252.797.4475

**Roanoke/Cashie River Center**

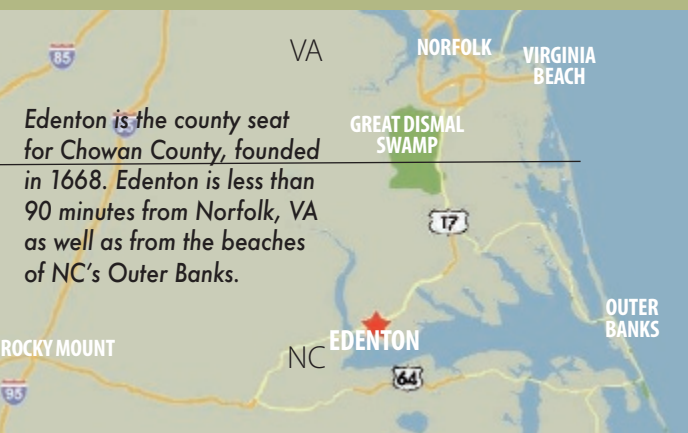
*Canoe Rentals* • Windsor • 252.794.2001

**Scuppernong River Walk**

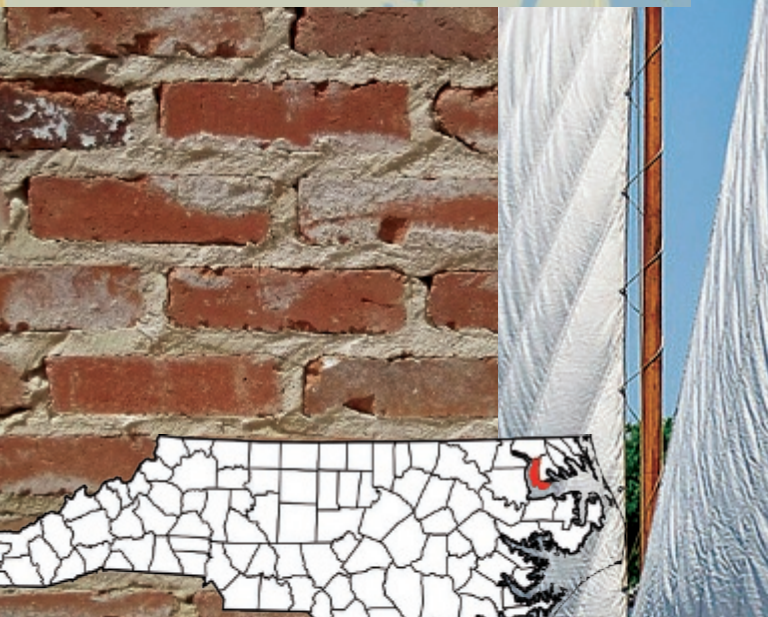
*Visitor Center* • Columbia • 252.796.0723

**Somerset Place** • Creswell • 252.797.4560





Edenton is the county seat for Chowan County, founded in 1668. Edenton is less than 90 minutes from Norfolk, VA as well as from the beaches of NC's Outer Banks.



WWW.VISITEDENTON.COM  
252.482.0300 • 800.775.0111

CHOWAN COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA