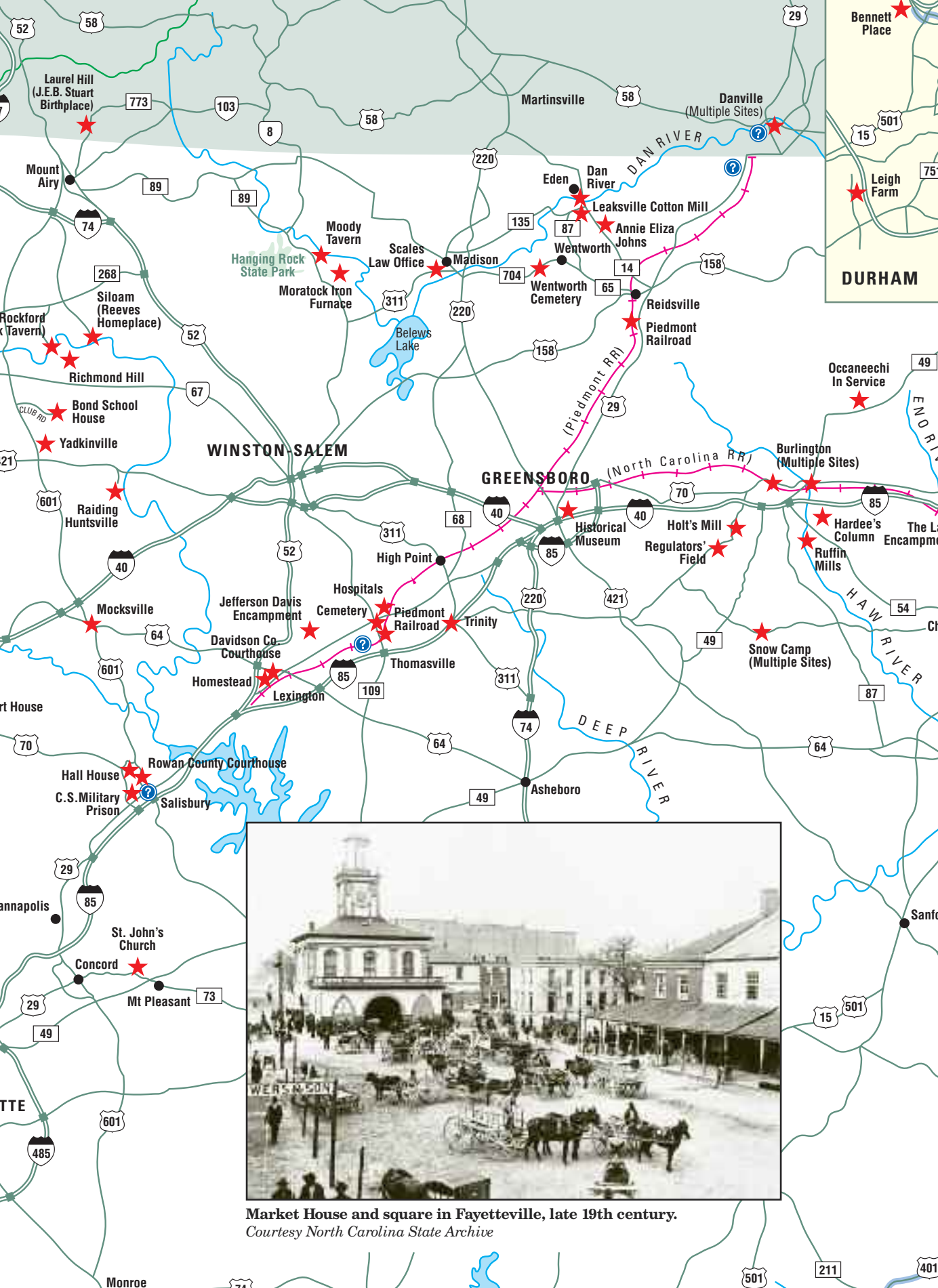
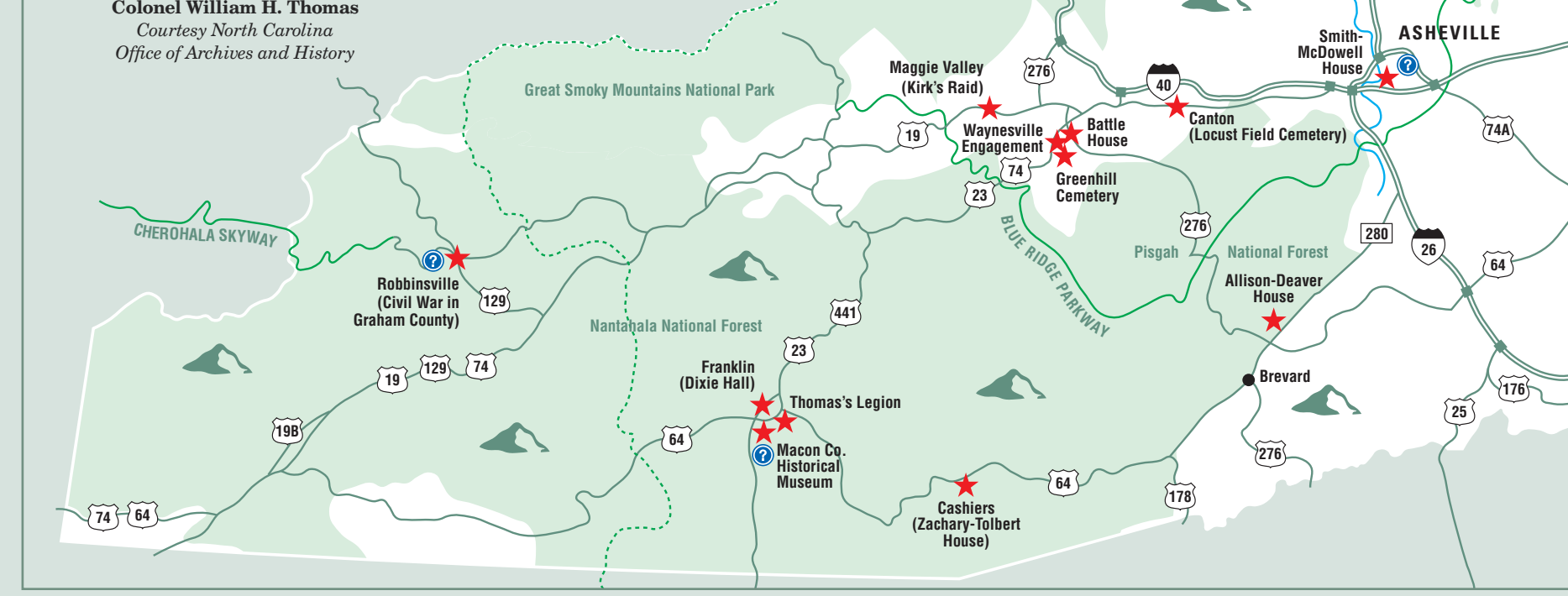


Cherokee Indian Chittahotee's rifle, Thomas's Legion
Courtesy Macon County Historical Museum



"The mountains of Western North Carolina would be the center of the Confederacy; we shall then have one of the most prosperous countries in the world. It will become connected with every part of the South by railroad. It will then become the center of manufacturing for the Southern market [and] the place where the southern people will spend their money, educate their children, and very probably make laws for the nation."

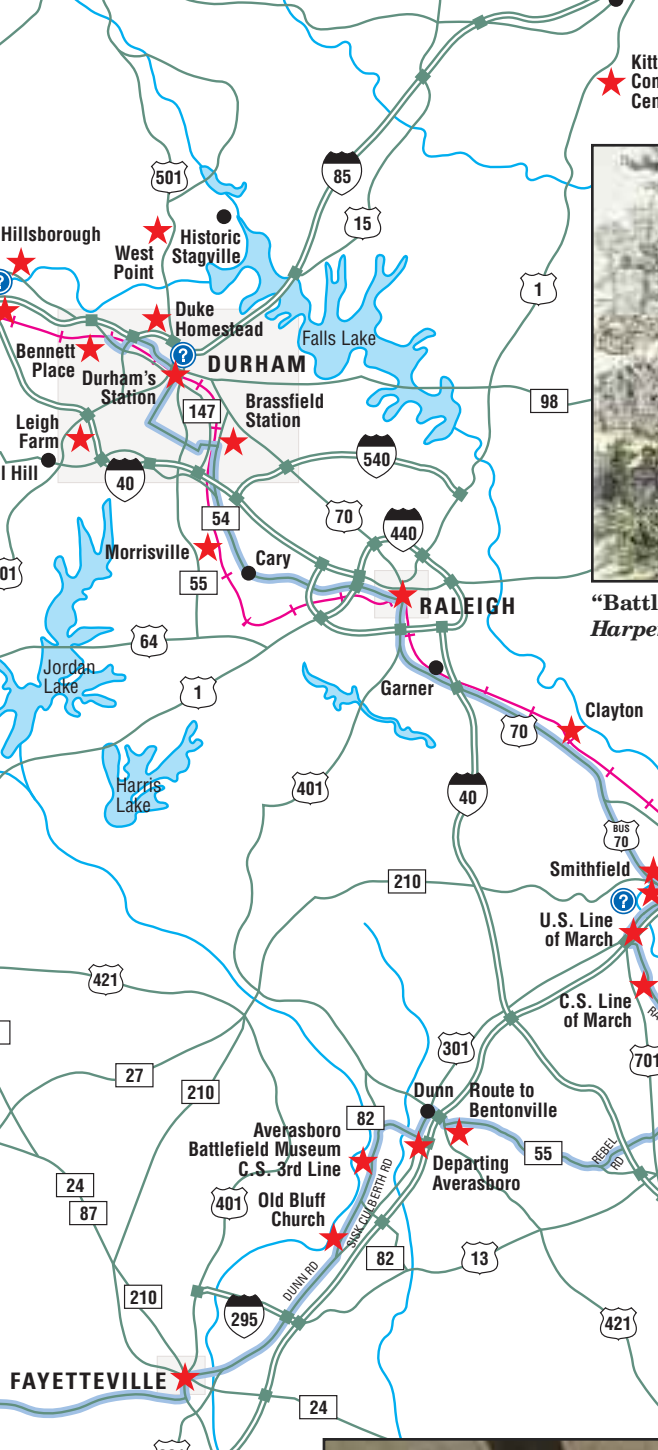
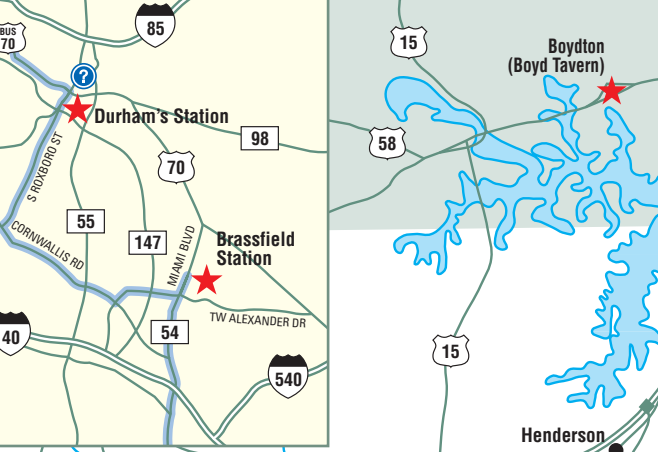
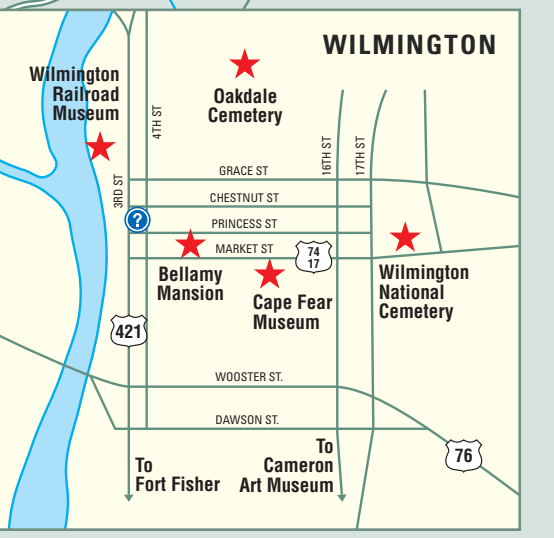
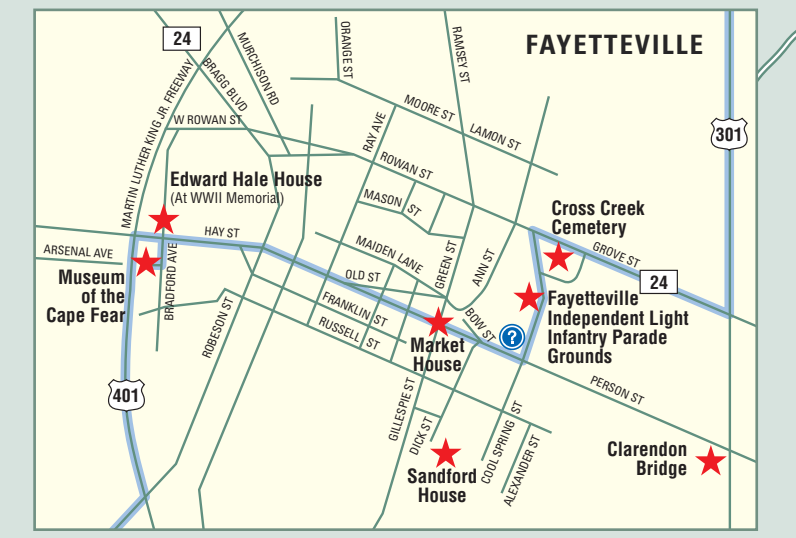
William H. Thomas to his wife, June 17, 1861



Market House and square in Fayetteville, late 19th century.
Courtesy North Carolina State Archive



Sergeant Powhatan Beatty, 5th U.S.C.T. Beatty's regiment fought at the Foxe Road engagement on Feb. 20-21, 1865, against the last Confederate stand before the Federals captured Wilmington on Feb. 22.



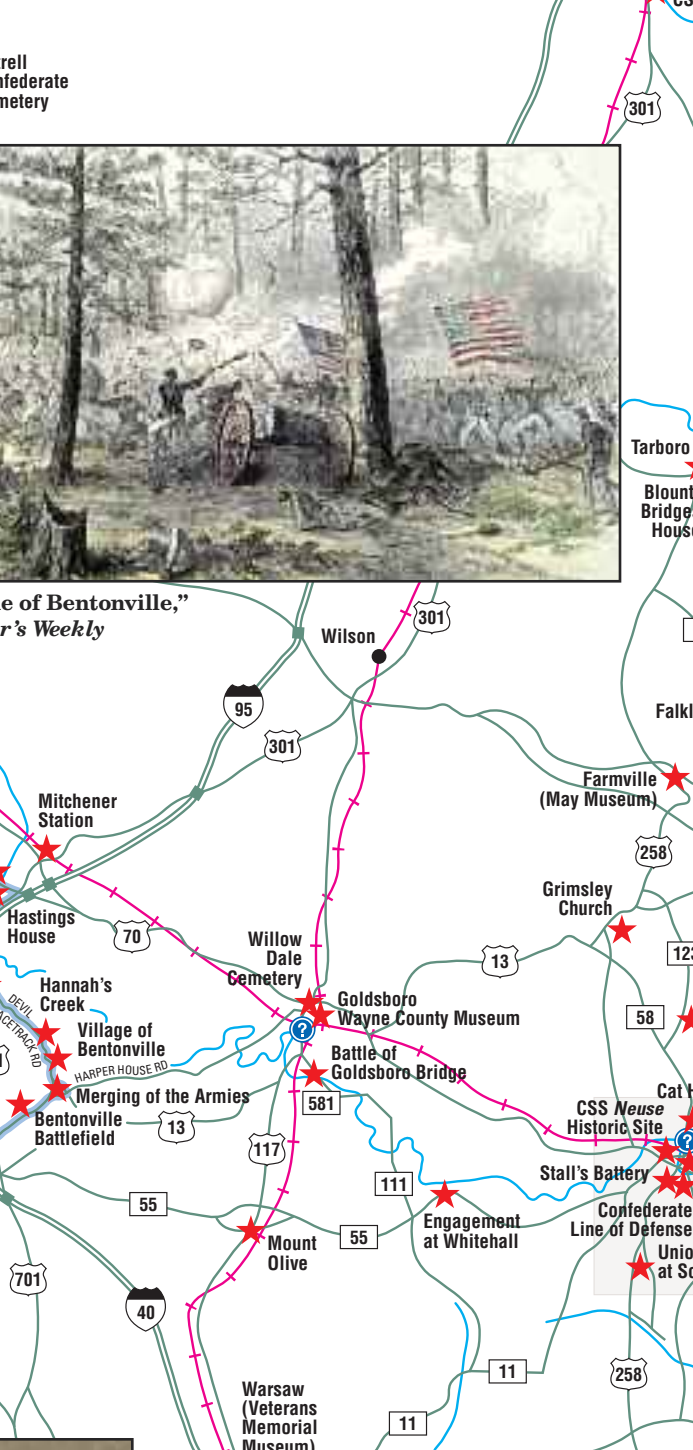
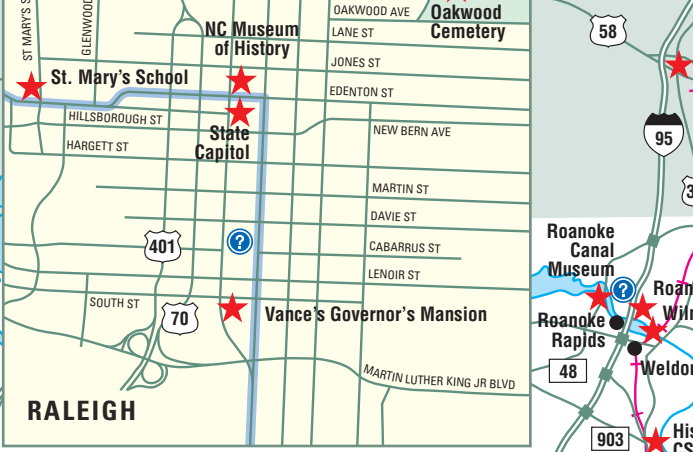
"Battle of Bentonville," Harper's Weekly



Confederate States Army sword guard cast in letters CSA, Confederate States Army, Kenansville, North Carolina
Courtesy Liberty Hall, Kenansville, N.C.



Remains of the ironclad CSS Neuse, CSS Neuse Historic Site, Kinston



Lantern recovered from the USS Monitor, Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum.
Courtesy NOAA



General Benjamin F. Butler

"The importance of the point [Hatteras] cannot be overrated. ... From there the whole coast of Virginia and North Carolina ... is within our reach. ... From it offensive operations may be made upon the whole coast of North Carolina ... extending many miles inland. ... In the language of ... an official report, 'it is the key of the Albemarle.'"

Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U.S. Army, Aug. 30, 1861

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