



COME ON IN

*A warm welcome to the
stories of our state.*



WHERE ARE WE?

The oldest surviving church building in North Carolina is — not surprisingly — in our state's oldest town. Do you recognize it? Turn the page.





St. Thomas Episcopal Church

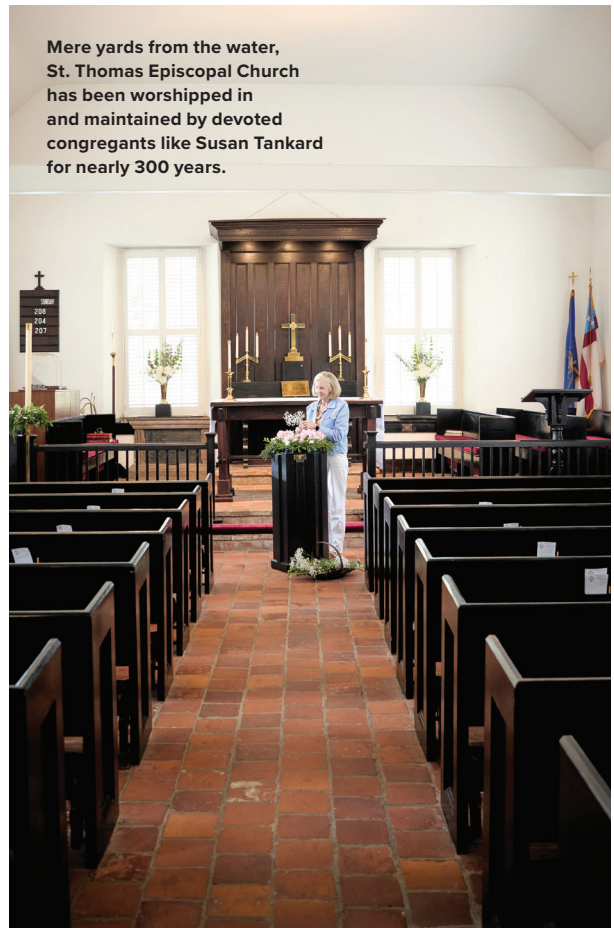
BATH

Long before steeples pierced the skyline of our state's first town, this Anglican parish held a jewel prized across the Albemarle — a library of roughly 1,000 books and pamphlets, shipped from London to sustain faith and learning on the colonial frontier. Purchased by Dr. Thomas Bray, founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the collection became the community's earliest wellspring of worship and study. When at last, in 1734, a brick church began to rise along the eastern bank of Bath Creek, its two-foot-thick walls were built in Flemish bond to serve a congregation that would endure for generations. Still standing on Craven Street, St. Thomas Episcopal Church remains the oldest church building in North Carolina, where the prayers of almost three centuries continue to rise above the waters of the Pamlico. — *Tamiya Anderson*

101 Craven Street
Bath, NC 27808
(252) 923-9141, stthomasparishnc.org



A SUMMERTIME GUIDE TO BATH
Colonial homes, historic streets, and waterfront views await. Scan the QR code or visit ourstate.com/guide-to-bath.



Mere yards from the water, St. Thomas Episcopal Church has been worshipped in and maintained by devoted congregants like Susan Tankard for nearly 300 years.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS ROGERS