Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

fite - NHL

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Old Salem Historic District

AND/OR COMMON: Old Salem Historic District

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Church, Main, and Salt Streets

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Winston-Salem __VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 5th

STATE: North Carolina CODE: 087 COUNTY: Forsyth CODE:

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	XX COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	XX EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	__ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: various private owners: (See Continuation Sheet)

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: __VICINITY OF STATE:

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER: Forsyth County Court House

CITY, TOWN: Winston-Salem STATE: North Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: Inventory of Historic ~~Deeds~~ Assets

DATE: in progress __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: North Carolina Division of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina

OLD SALEM, PRINCIPAL OWNERS

Old Salem, Incorporated
Drawer F
Salem Station
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108

Salem College
Salem Station
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108

Moravian Church, Southern Province
500 South Church Street
Salem Station
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108

Wachovia Historical Society
Salem Station
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Salem Historic District, covering an area some six blocks long and three blocks wide, is located just south of the municipal center (city hall, courthouse, etc.) and Interstate Highway 40 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The Old Salem area is bounded on the north, west and south by mixed commercial/residential development (roughly along Cemetery Street and Brookstown Avenue on the north, Old Salem Road on the west, and Race Street on the south) and on the east by portions of God's Acre, the Moravian cemetery, and of the campus of Salem College (see accompanying guide map).

Development of what was to be the central town of the Moravian's Wachovia tract actually began with the arrival in 1764 of Frederick William Marshall, who had been appointed Oeconomous or chief executive of the new community by Moravian authorities in Germany. The same authorities also prepared a plan for the town, calling for a central square with major buildings grouped around it and streets radiating from it like the spokes of a wheel. However, the site chosen in February, 1765, though favorable for a settlement proved unsuitable for the German plan, which was altered under Marshall's guidance. The plan as finally laid out ran a longitudinal axis, Main Street, along the crest of a north-south ridge at the center of the side, with a secondary street parallel to it on either side. Cross streets were run at regular intervals, creating a gridiron pattern for the town. The central square, the heart of the new town, was located on the north side of the axial street at its mid-point. Land for the cemetery, God's Acre, was reserved at the northeastern corner of the town; the first burial took place in 1771.

Despite subsequent development in and around the historic district and its eventual incorporation in the city of Winston-Salem (see significance), the street pattern of the original Moravian congregation town remains unaltered. Within the historic district forty of the first sixty buildings constructed for Salem are extant, including ten of the eleven public buildings erected before 1811. These range from the Fourth House (1768), a half-timber cottage whose design clearly reflects the German origins of its builders, to the John Vogler House (1819), which shows the skill of Moravian builders combined with elements of Federal design. Among the latest buildings in the district, post-dating Salem's period as a congregation town, is the Belo Home (1860), whose large scale and Classical Revival design indicate the complete disappearance of Moravian influence.

While the Old Salem Historic District is officially supervised by a local historic district commission, Old Salem, Incorporated, a nonprofit organization created in 1950, also plays a significant role in the management of the historic area and of the museum buildings in particular. The goal of both commission and corporation is to restore and preserve the town of Salem as it developed in the period 1766 to 1840. The major resource for their work has been the archives of the Moravian Church, which contain

(Continued)

not only written accounts of the town's history, but also building inventories, plot plans, drawings, and photographs. Since 1951 the majority of the original buildings have been restored and eight buildings and structures have been reconstructed, including the Market-Firehouse, two shops, and several residences. Only two buildings have been brought into the historic area--the Salem Tavern Barn, constructed c. 1800 and moved to its present location in 1961, and the Denke House, built by a Moravian in 1832 and moved from a location near the district to prevent its demolition.

Several intrusive buildings have been removed from the district. Those that remain are located primarily at its northwestern corner and are still in active commercial use. Adjacent on Main Street are several residences whose character (Victorian and later), while not intrusive, does not appear to be related to that of the original Salem buildings. A reception center, restaurant, and visitor parking area have been constructed at the western edge of the district; these are effectively screened from the historic buildings by their location, at a low elevation, and by mature trees and shrubs.

A list of representative buildings in the Old Salem Historic District follows; numbers or letters in parentheses correspond to those on the accompanying guide map.

Fourth House (4). This 1 1/2-story, half-timbered cottage with center chimney and steep gabled roof was constructed in 1768 and is the oldest extant building in the district; it was restored in 1966. Adjacent to the Fourth House and similar to it in style are reconstructions (both 1969) of the First and Third Houses (5,6), built in 1766 and 1767 respectively. All three buildings serve as private residences.

Belo Home (3). Constructed by Edward Belo in 1800 as his store and residence, this large 3-story building consists of a wooden center section with brick wings and features pedimented Corinthian porticoes on the west and south elevations; it was restored in 1961 and currently is used as an apartment house.

Lick-Boner House (18). This 1 1/2-story log house with attached shop was built by Martin Lick, a carpenter, in 1787 and represents the less pretentious type of residence in the old town; it was restored in 1952. One room is furnished as a memorial to John Henry Boner, North Carolina poet, who was born there in 1845; the remainder of the house is a private residence.

(Continued)

Winkler Bakery (C). This 2-story, gable-roofed building with double attic, of stone on the first floor and brick above, was constructed in 1800 by John Gottlob Krause, the best of Salem's master builders. Christian Winkler, from whom the house derives its name, came to Salem in 1807 to operate the town bakery; his descendants continued to run a bakery in the building until well into the 20th century. The house was restored in 1968 and is open to the public; early baking methods are demonstrated using Winkler family recipes.

Miksch House and Tobacco Shop (B). This 1 1/2-story weatherboarded log building, constructed in 1771, was the first privately-owned house in Salem. There Matthew Miksch lived with his family and ran a shop where he sold tobacco, garden seeds, molasses, toys and other items. The house and adjacent manufactory (c. 1783) were restored in 1960 and are open to the public.

Boys School (D). This 2 1/2-story, gable-roofed building, of stone on the first floor and brick above, was erected by John Gottlob Krause in 1794 and housed Salem's boys' boarding school until 1896. It is one of the finest examples of Moravian ornamental brick construction in the United States and retains its original tile roof. Restored in 1954, the building, along with a northern annex added in 1937, houses the extensive collections of the Wachovia Historical Society.

Home Moravian Church (9). This rectangular gable-roofed brick church, the spiritual center of the Salem community, was constructed in 1800; architectural details include an arch-hooded entrance; round-arched, multi-pane windows; an octagonal cupola with open arcade and onion dome; and cove cornices on the long sides of the auditorium. The congregation, officially established in 1771, is now the largest in the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America.

Main Hall (20) of Salem College. This 4-story brick building with 1-story Doric portico and heavy bracketed cornice was constructed in 1854 on the site of Salem's Gemeinhaus, or Congregation House, where the pastor lived and religious services were held prior to the building of the church. Both Salem College and the adjacent Salem Academy, a preparatory school, are outgrowths of the girls' school founded by the Moravians at Salem in 1772.

Single Sisters House (23). In this 2-story brick building, constructed in 1786, the unmarried women of the Salem congregation lived and taught the domestic arts to the young girls. Architectural details include the original gabled, tile roof with dormers, sash windows capped by segmental

arches, and floors of wide plank and stone. The building serves as a dormitory for Salem College.

Salem Square Market-Firehouse (E). The original building on this site was erected in 1803 to serve as a market for the sale of meat and to house Salem's two fire engines, first demonstrated in 1785 and the first of their kind in North Carolina. The present 1 1/2-story brick building with gabled roof was reconstructed on the original foundation in 1955.

Single Brothers House (A). This 2-story building with full basement (above ground on the rear) and double attic was constructed in two sections, the half-timbered northern section in 1768, the brick southern section in 1768. Architectural details include a high gabled roof, a pent eave above the half-timbered first floor, and blind arches above the windows of the brick section. The building originally housed living quarters, chapel, and craft shops for the unmarried men of the congregation. Restored in 1964, the building is now open to the public with craft demonstrations in some of the shops; the upper floors serve as the offices of Old Salem, Incorporated.

Community Store (24). This 1 1/2-story stone building with high gabled roof broken by two interior chimneys and a single dormer was constructed in 1775 as the trading center for Salem and residence of the storekeeper. It was restored in 1955 and now houses a store and professional offices.

John Vogler House (F). This 2 1/2-story brick house with gabled roof, interior chimneys at either end, and a triangular entrance hood was constructed in 1819 by John Vogler, Salem's silversmith and clockmaker; it was the first building in Salem to combine Moravian and Federal architectural elements. Restored in 1955 and furnished with authentic Moravian pieces, including many which belonged to Vogler, the house is now open to the public.

Christoph Vogler House (29). Built in 1797 as the home and shop of Salem's gunsmith, this is the oldest brick residence in the district. The house is 1 1/2-stories with a high gabled roof broken by two interior chimneys and a dormer (the latter a mistake in restoration, which will eventually be removed). Both panelled entrances on the front (east) elevation are topped by lattice-work fans, one semicircular, one elliptical. Restored in 1955, the house continues to be used as a private residence.

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Salem Tavern (G). This was the first brick building in Salem, erected in 1784 to replace an earlier frame tavern on the same site (destroyed by fire). The tavern is 2 1/2 stories with a high gabled roof broken by twin interior chimneys and a single dormer; 6/6 sash windows topped by blind arches; and a 1-story wooden porch which spans the front (east) elevation. Restored in 1956 and furnished with authentic Moravian items, the tavern is now open to the public as a museum. At its rear (west) is a large wooden barn with fieldstone foundation and leanto roof (see above), which houses a collection of early agricultural equipment.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	XX SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	X COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Salem Historic District, covering an area some three blocks wide and six blocks long at the southern edge of the modern city of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, is an authentic and well-preserved example of an 18th century, planned community. Established by the Moravians in 1766, Old Salem (then Salem) grew with the surrounding piedmont region and rapidly became its chief commercial and industrial center. The Moravian buildings, two-thirds of which survive (including ten of eleven public buildings constructed before 1811), reflect not only the German origins and communal organization of their builders, but also their gradual absorption of English and later American styles of architecture and society.

Today Old Salem is effectively protected under the provisions of a local historic district ordinance. Under the auspices of Historic Salem, Incorporated, a nonprofit organization established in 1950, more than forty historic buildings have been restored or reconstructed and several non-conforming structures have been removed from the district. A number of buildings, including the Winkler Bakery and the Community Store continue to serve their original purposes. Others, including the Salem Tavern, Misksch Tobacco Shop, Single Brothers House, and Boys School (Wachovia Historical Society Museum), are open to the public. Still other historic buildings serve as private residences or as part of the campus of Salem College. Visitors are admitted to exhibit buildings on weekdays from 9:30 to 4:30, on Sundays from 1:30 to 4:30.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The town of Salem was founded in 1766 by the Moravians--devout Germanic people who traced their faith to the 15th century Bohemian martyr John Hus. After Hus was burned at the stake, his followers formed the Unitas Fratrum (Unity of Brethren), one of the earliest Protestant groups. During the next 300 years, there were periods in which the Unity flourished across Bohemia, Moravia, and Poland, but religious persecution eventually forced the Brethren into hiding. In the early 1700's a few escaped from Moravia (hence the popular name "Moravian") and found refuge on the estate of a Saxon nobleman, Nicholas Lewis, Count Zinzendorf. There the Brethren established a new town, Herrnhut, where the Unity was reborn and where many of the present Moravian traditions had their beginning.

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Within a few years the Moravians began to send missionaries to America. They went first to Georgia but soon moved on to settlements in Pennsylvania, where Bethlehem became the central Moravian town. In 1749 the British Parliament recognized the Unitas Fratrum as "an ancient Protestant Epsicopal Church" and granted it privileges previously enjoyed only by the Church of England in the English colonies. Shortly afterward the governing board of the Unity decided to attempt another southern settlement and sent Bishop Augustus Gottlieb Spangenberg, with other members of the Bethlehem community, to locate a suitable site on lands owned by the Earl of Granville, last of North Carolina's Lords Proprietors. On August 7, 1753, the Earl conveyed 98,985 acres to the Moravians in nineteen separate deeds. A stock company, Der Nord Carolina Land Und Colonie Establissement, was formed to finance the enterprise and the land was named Wachau or Wachovia, after an estate of the Zinzendorf family.

The first Wachovia settlers, fifteen men picked by the governing board, arrived from Pennsylvania on November 17, 1753, and occupied an abandoned log cabin. The next day they began construction of a town, which they called Bethabara, or "House of Passage", since they knew a permanent site for their main town would be chosen later. These pioneers were soon joined by other Moravians from both Pennsylvania and Europe. By 1756 Bethabara was a thriving, hospitable community, whose citizens included a minister, business manager, carpenter, cooper, shoemaker, blacksmith, millwright, potter, tanner, tailor, baker, surgeon, and a number of farmers. Even the surrounding Indians viewed the settlement as a place where "there are good people and much bread."

Active planning of what was to be the central town of Wachovia began in 1764 with the arrival of Frederick William Marshall, who had been appointed Oeconomous or chief executive of the new town by church authorities in Germany. A favorable site was located on February 14, 1765, on a ridge about six miles from Bethabara, and actual construction of the community began on January 6, 1766; according to tradition its name, Salem, meaning peace, had been chosen by Count Zinzendorf before his death in 1760. With the exception of the building crews, no one lived at Salem until 1772 when the essential buildings were completed; then most of the craftsmen and professionals of Bethabara moved there.

Salem was both a planned community (see physical description) and a communal congregation town in which the economic as well as the spiritual affairs of the residents were directed by the church. Members of the congregation were divided into "choirs" according to age, sex, and marital status. Their daily lives were made up of skilled work, frequent worship services, and much music, both sacred and secular. The means of production--land,

tools, and machinery--were owned by the community as a whole; members contributed to the common stock according to their ability and shared the goods produced according to need. Building lots were not sold but leased on an annual basis, with the understanding that the lease would be renewed so long as the tenant remained acceptable to the congregation. Improvements on the land belonged to the tenant, who might sell them to a person approved by the congregation at a price it stipulated.

As the piedmont region of North Carolina filled with settlers German, Scott-Irish, English, and others--during the late 18th century, there was an increasing demand for markets where those settlers could trade or sell their surplus goods and purchase those items they could not manufacture for themselves. Thus, Salem with its professionals and craftsmen, filled an important need in the back country. Located two hundred miles inland and far from any navigable river, the Moravian community became within a few years the chief commercial center for the North Carolina Piedmont as well as a stopping point and trading center for frontiersmen heading westward. In its secular life, the entire town was geared either to producing trade items or to supplying the needs of visitors. To those crafts and industries transferred from Bethabara, Salem added the services of a tobacconist, papermaker, printer, pewterer, silversmith, cabinet maker, fine leather worker, and others as needed.

With the settlement of the Piedmont, the close-knit, controlled life of Salem's early days became less necessary and the town's communal principles gradually relaxed into a form of socialism. While certain businesses--the store, tavern, tannery, pottery, mill, and two adjacent farms--continued to be operated for the benefit of the community, the craftsmen and professionals worked for themselves. Except for the annual rent payed on the land they leased (which took the place of taxes in Salem), their earnings were their own and within a short time men like John Vogler, the clockmaker and silversmith, became quite well-to-do. The final separation of town and church affairs came when Salem was incorporated by the North Carolina legislature of 1856-57 and the lease system was abandoned in favor of private ownership of land.

When Forsyth County was formed in 1849, Salem lay near its center and was the natural choice for a courthouse site. The Moravian congregation agreed to sell some fifty-one acres just north of Salem as the location of a county town on condition that the courthouse should be placed on the crest of a hill and that the streets of the new community should be continuous with those in Salem. The count seat was named in honor of Major Joseph Winston in 1851 and incorporated in 1859. An act of the legislature in 1913 formally joined the former congregation town and the county seat in the city of Winston-Salem.

Two factors were particularly important for the preservation of Salem's historic buildings. First, the Moravians who established the town were master craftsmen whose work was both skillful and made to last. Second, after the mid-19th century, the new area of Winston proved far more attractive as a site for commercial and industrial development. Thus, though time and neglect had left their mark on the area, two-thirds of the buildings in the original congregation town were still standing at the close of World War II. An attempt to construct a supermarket in the heart of the old town in 1947 resulted in the first of several historic district zoning ordinances (the most recent was adopted in 1968) and by 1950 a nonprofit corporation, Old Salem, Incorporated, had been organized to preserve and restore the historic areas. Since that time some forty buildings have been fully restored and another eight reconstructed, all following the detailed records in the Moravian congregation archives, and several nonconforming structures have been removed. The result has been the accurate recreation of the atmosphere as well as the appearance of Old Salem in the period 1766 to 1840.

Davis, Chester S. Hidden Seed and Harvest: A History of the Moravians (Winston-Salem, 1973).

Fries, Adelaide L. The Road to Salem (Chapel Hill, 1944).

Griffen, Frances. Old Salem: An Adventure in Historic Preservation (Winston-Salem, 1970).

Lefler, Hugh T. and Newsome, Albert R. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill, 1954).

Murtagh, William J. Moravian Architecture and Town Planning (Chapel Hill, 1967).

Wertenbaker, Thomas J. The Old South: The Founding of American Civilization (New York, 1942).

Works Progress Administration, American Guide Series. North Carolina: A Guide to the Old North State (Chapel Hill, 1939).

The boundaries of the national historic landmark designation for the Old Salem Historic District, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, are concurrent with the boundaries identified in the local zoning ordinance for an Old Salem Historic District approved by the city of Winston-Salem in 1968. Boundary lines are shown in red on the accompanying photocopy of a guide map published in Old Salem: An Adventure in Historic Preservation (Winston-Salem, 1970, p. 74).

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the center of the Main Street-Brookstown Avenue intersection, proceed west along the center line of Brookstown Avenue 100', more or less, to a point; thence in a southwest-south-southeast direction along the western curb of Old Salem Road 3100', more or less, to a point; thence east 750', more or less, to a point; thence 3000', more or less, north to the southern curb of Cemetery Street; thence west along the southern curb of Cemetery Street 500', more or less, to the center of Main Street; thence south to the point of origin.

Old Salem, boundaries

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 75

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	17	568280	3994240	B	17	568420	3993270
C	17	568140	3993220	D	17	568020	3994200

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Polly M. Rettig, Historian, Landmark Review Project; original form prepared by Horace J. Sheely, Jr., Historian 11/

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service	March 1976
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
1100 L Street NW.	202-523-5464
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Washington	D.C. 20240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Landmark Nominated: Nov. 13, 1964
Found in N.R.: July 20, 1978

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE 7/21/78

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

LANDMARKS

(NATIONAL HISTORIC