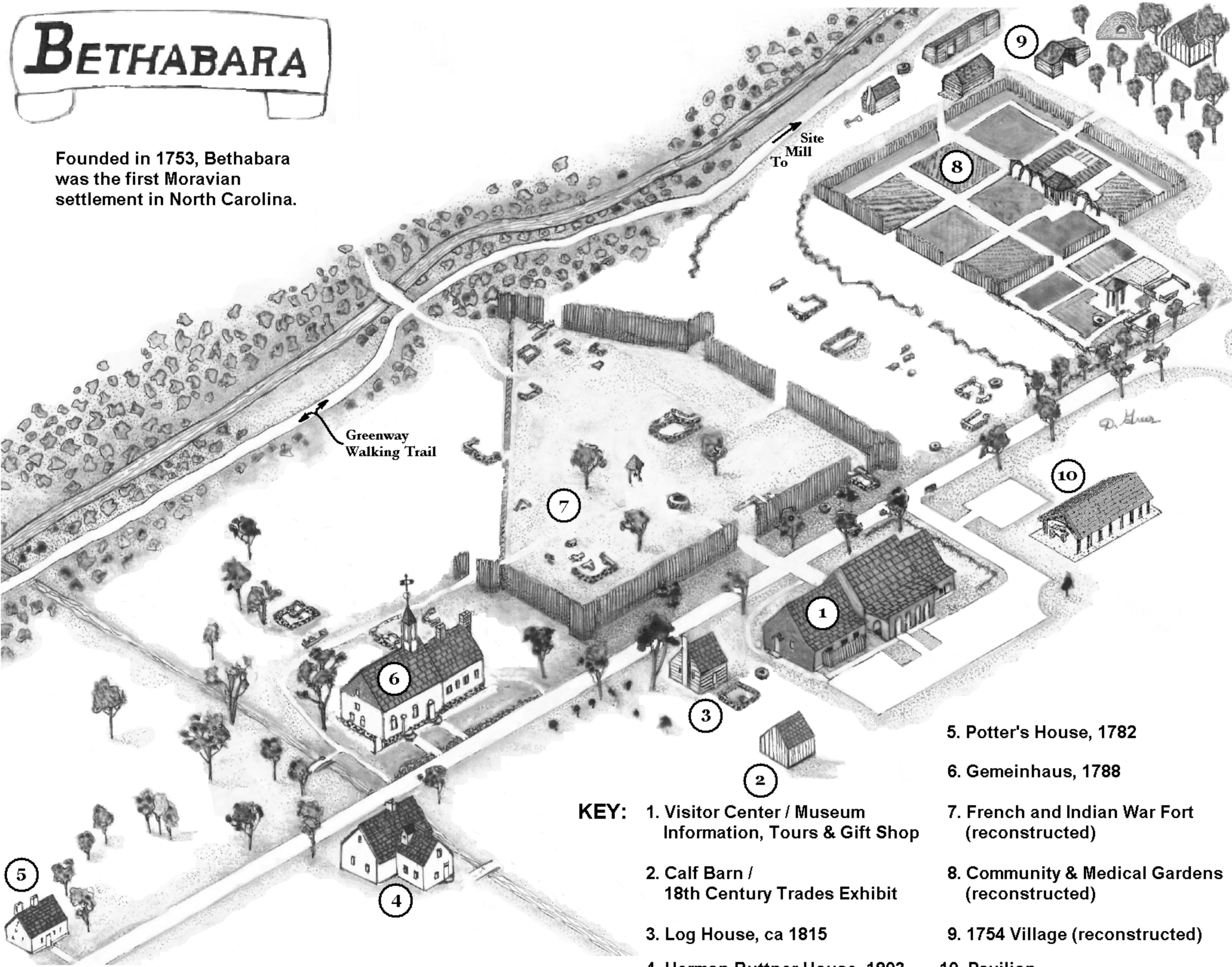


BETHABARA

Founded in 1753, Bethabara was the first Moravian settlement in North Carolina.



- KEY:**
- 1. Visitor Center / Museum Information, Tours & Gift Shop
 - 2. Calf Barn / 18th Century Trades Exhibit
 - 3. Log House, ca 1815
 - 4. Herman Buttner House, 1803
 - 5. Potter's House, 1782
 - 6. Gemeinhaus, 1788
 - 7. French and Indian War Fort (reconstructed)
 - 8. Community & Medical Gardens (reconstructed)
 - 9. 1754 Village (reconstructed)
 - 10. Pavilion

What the Bethabara Ruins Tell Us...

- The ruins that you see at Historic Bethabara Park are 18th century “refrigerators,” that is, they are dry cellars that allowed the Moravians to grow food in the summer and butcher animals, then store them in the cellars for food throughout the winter.
- These cellars helped the Bethabara community escape the usual hand-to-mouth farming on the frontier and support non-farmers in the community such as tradesmen, doctors, and other professionals.
- The cellars are just the underground portion of the foundations of the large homes. The actual footprints of the houses were much larger.
- Moravians planned their towns before they built them, so we can confirm the size and location of these ruins by matching them to historic maps.
- Stan South, a North Carolina state archeologist, excavated these foundations in the early 1960’s.
- The foundations are expressions of Moravian culture, which was perfectionist. Even though the Moravians had planned to stay in Bethabara only a few years until the town of Salem was ready, the cellar walls were built very solidly, so that they are still that way today.
- Parts of the cellars are the original walls. You can see a difference in the ones the Moravians built in the 1700s and the stonework that was done during the restoration in the 1960s.



Just the Facts . . .

Historic Bethabara Park is open for tours from April 1 to mid-December

Hours of operation:

Tuesday – Friday, 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Saturday & Sunday, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Closed on Mondays

Grounds are open from dawn to dusk, all day, all year

More information at:

www.bethabarapark.org (336) 924-8191

Did You Know...

- The restored 1788 Gemeinhaus (#6) is the only remaining German 18th century church with attached living quarters.
- The restored 1782 Potter’s House (#5) is the oldest brick house in Forsyth County.
- The reconstructed 1756 Palisade Fort (#7) is the only French and Indian War fort in the Southeast on its original site.
- The reconstructed 1761 medical garden and the 1759 community garden (#8) are the earliest known examples of well-documented colonial gardens of their kind.
- The Bethabara community contained over 75 major buildings during its first 20 years.
- Historic Bethabara is a North Carolina Birding Trail and NC WILD Education site. It is a Local Historic District, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark.

