

APPLICATION FOR TAX DEFERMENT
ON HISTORIC PROPERTY

1. Property owned by: OLD SALEM, INC.
2. Location of Property (Street Address): 724 South Main Street
3. Tax Block No. 571 Tax Lot No. 201

4. Historical significance of property and why it should be considered:

Within the Old Salem Historic District (now declared a Registered National Historic Landmark by the National Parks Service) are both restored and reconstructed buildings which as a whole present a visual and authentic representation of the community of Salem between 1766 and 1850. This structure is considered by Old Salem, Inc. an integral part of the total landscape. Subject to Zoning Ordinance Section 29-1, any exterior changes to or interior uses of this property are strictly governed by the local Historic Districts Commission.


The Blum House was originally built as a one-and-a-half- storey house by Johann Christian Blum in 1815. The building later became the home of Salem's first newspaper, the Weekly Gleaner, and Blum's Almanac. Around 1850 the full second storey was added.

5. Describe present condition of property. What restoration, if any, is planned or has been done? Submit 2 x 2 slides showing exterior of property on all four sides and interior slides, if important:

This building is in an excellent state of preservation and reflects the growth of Salem buildings through the middle of the 19th century. At this time no restoration is planned as the building does not seriously conflict with the pattern of buildings in that part of the district.

6. I have read G.S. 105-277(f) and understand that this is a tax deferment and not an exemption, and if I fail to comply with the requirements of G.S. 105-277(f), I will be liable for the deferred taxes for the preceding five years plus interest.

The information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Signature R. Arthur Spaugh, Jr.
President, Old Salem, Inc.

June 6, 1976

Date

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Date

[Handwritten Signature]
2/28/77

1815 Blum House
Block 571, Lot 201



Blum House - 05

571, 201

Lot 67 (724 S. Main St.). Johann Christain Blum built a one-and-a-half storey house, the BLUM HOUSE, on this property in 1815. He had succeeded his father, Jacob, as tavernkeeper, and was now retiring from this position to become agent for the Cape Fear Bank. The central hall four room plan afforded a separate banking room entered through a second front door just north of the present entrance. This part of the house later became the home of Salem's first newspaper, the Weekly Gleaner, and Blum's Almanac. We are not certain when the house was raised to a full two-storey structure with rebuilt outside north chimney, but the style of the trim and roof line indicate about 1850. Levi and Edward, sons of Christian, carried on this printer's business until late in the 19th century, eventually moving the printing shop to an outbuilding to the rear and on the south property line, devoting the old shop space as sales room. The house was renovated by Mr. and Mrs. Richard in the 1940's. The front property passed to Old Salem in 1952, the back half in 1965, and awaits further restoration.

