

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Anna Catharina House

Local Historic Landmark #4
8 West St., Winston-Salem
(Original Salem Lot 64)
Construction Date: 1772
Reconstruction Date: 1954
Landmark Designation Date:
10/04/1976

Anna Catharina started her Salem life in this small frame house built for her in 1772 by her second husband, the surveyor Philip Christian Gottlieb Reuter. In 1762, Reuter married Anna Catharina Antes Kalberlahn, who was the widow of Martin Kalberlahn, Bethabara's doctor. The house was originally located at the southwest corner of what is today S. Main Street and West Street (West Street had not been opened at the time of the house's construction). Unfortunately Reuter died in 1777, only five years after he and Anna Catharina had moved to Salem from Bethabara. In 1780, the Moravian elders determined she would marry the Reverend Johann Casper Heinzmann and move with him to the Moravian country congregation of Friedland. After his death, Anna Catharina moved back briefly to her house in Salem. She then married the Reverend Johann Jacob Ernst and moved to Bethabara. Following the turn of the 19th century, she and Ernst, now retired, returned to Salem, again occupying her old house. In 1805, after Ernst's death, Anna Catharina again went to Friedland, taking charge of certain ministerial duties until



a full-time pastor went there. She stayed in Friedland for three months and then returned to her Salem home for the last years of her life. In 1816, John Vogler purchased the house and by 1819, he moved it to the rear of the lot in order to construct his house on Main Street. Over the years, the house served several uses, including an outbuilding and a barn.

The Anna Catharina House is a 1½-story dwelling, featuring weatherboard siding, and a wood-shingle side-gable roof with a center chimney. The façade contains a single-leaf wood entry door and three six-over-six windows and wood shutters. The house is unique with its gable end facing the street, common for early Salem shops but unusual for early Salem residential buildings. Its orientation is due to the fact that it was originally located on the eastern end of the lot and was moved to its current location on West Street.

In 1947, the Colonial Dames dismantled and stored the house. In 1954, Old Salem, Inc. reconstructed the building using what was remaining of the old timbers.

Today the Anna Catharina House is privately occupied.



Anna Catharina House in Salem, Date Unknown
Courtesy of Old Salem Museums and Gardens



This information is also available
at the Forsyth County
Historic Resources Commission's web site:
<http://www.ForsythCountyHRC.org>