

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Volz House

Local Historic Landmark #14
916 S. Main St., Winston-Salem
(Original Salem Lot 96)
Construction Date: 1816
Restoration Date: 1963
Landmark Designation Date:
10/04/1976

The Volz House, constructed in 1816, was built just beyond the surveyed boundary of early Salem. This house represents a typical farm, and because of its location outside the original surveyed area of Salem, does not align with front property lines along S. Main Street. In fact, it was the first house to sit back from the sidewalk. The Volz House featured something unique in Salem houses of that period – a full front porch. Johannes Volz was a retired farmer, and his family occupied the house until his death in 1821. Following that time, Volz's son, George, continued to live in the house with his mother. After 1831, when George's mother died, he constructed a gun shop at the northeast corner of the lot, along what is now S. Main and Walnut Streets. By the turn of the 20th century, the shop was no longer standing.



The Volz House is a 2½-story frame house on a stuccoed partially exposed cellar. The house features a full-façade, single-story front porch with Tuscan columns and a wood-shingled shed roof, which dominates the front elevation.

In 1963, Old Salem, Inc. restored the Volz House. A barn, removed from its original location near Idol's Dam on the Yadkin River, was placed to the rear of the property in 1970.

Today the Volz House is privately occupied.



Volz House in Salem, c. 1950
Courtesy of Old Salem Museums and Gardens Collection



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