Traugott Leinbach was a silversmith and watchmaker, whose talent as a silversmith outshone that of John Vogler, for whom he served his apprenticeship. He was one of North Carolina’s most prominent silversmiths; examples of his hollowware can be seen at the North Carolina Museum of History.

Leinbach’s house plans were approved by the Church in 1823 and construction was completed the following year. As was typical in Salem, the house featured separate entrances to Leinbach’s living quarters and shop. Three years later the Wash-Bake House was constructed. In 1854, Leinbach constructed a three-story addition to the north side of his house.

In 1860, Leinbach moved to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and gave the house to his son. The Traugott Leinbach House and Wash-Bake House were gone by 1912. The lot was subdivided into four parcels and by 1922 each parcel was occupied by a house.

During the 1970s, the four houses present on the Traugott Leinbach House site were demolished to prepare for the reconstruction of the house and wash-bake house. In 1974, the buildings were reconstructed in coordination with Old Salem, Inc.

The Traugott Leinbach House is a 1½-story, Flemish bond brick building. Its façade displays the two-entry door configuration, reflecting the house and shop under one roof. In front of each door is a stuccoed stoop. The central residential entrance has a fanlight above the door. The Wash-Bake House is a simple, one-story, side-gable frame building on a brick foundation with a wood-shingled roof.

Today the Traugott Leinbach House and Wash-Bake House are privately occupied.