

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Butner House

Local Historic Landmark #25
517 S. Main St., Winston-Salem
(Original Salem Lot 32)
Construction Date: 1829
Restoration Date: 1961
Landmark Designation Date: 10/04/1976

In 1829, four years after building his hat shop in Salem (Local Historic Landmark #23), Adam Butner constructed the Butner House, immediately north. The Church approved Butner's plans, warning him that the passage in front of the house must be kept free from obstruction: "The porch on the front side of the house, resting on columns, must not in any way damage or hamper the foot path, nor the foot path be raised, nor the stairs be wider than three feet...."

At present, the Butner House is one of only two examples in Salem of a two-story porch over the sidewalk house. It is a two-story frame house with a high side-gable roof on a full-story stuccoed stone cellar. A single staircase rises from the sidewalk to the next level on the façade and enters an off-center door. The Doric columns on the porch, and the modillioned cornice and pedimented gables give the house a Greek Revival style, unusual for the 1820s in Salem.

The house was acquired by Old Salem, Inc. and was restored in 1961.



Today the Butner House is privately occupied.



Christina Hege Butner and Adam Butner, 1800s
Courtesy of Forsyth County Public Library
Photograph Collection



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