

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Eberhardt House and Shop

Local Historic Landmark #28

921 & 919 S. Main St., Winston-Salem
(Original Salem Lot 99)

Construction Date: 1832 (House), 1834 (Shop)

Restoration Date: 1951 (House)

Reconstruction Date: 1967 (Shop)

Landmark Designation Date: 10/04/1976

First used as part of the Tavern Meadow, this lot was not available for residential development until the 19th century. Lewis Eberhardt was the son of clockmaker Ludwig Eberhardt, who arrived in Salem in 1800 from Germany. Lewis was a locksmith; according to the Moravian records, he was a rather sickly man, well-intentioned, but less industrious than he might have been. He reportedly was also somewhat “fond of the grape.”

Eberhardt built the house, which also served as his workshop, in 1832, about the same time he married Catherine Blum. Locksmithing remained his primary trade, although it was not as profitable as he had hoped. Therefore, he asked permission to add to his income by becoming a blacksmith as well. His request was approved and a shop was constructed on the site in 1834. Eberhardt and his wife continued to live on the property until his death in 1854.



Eberhardt House in Salem, c. 1940-1960
Courtesy of Old Salem Museums and Gardens



The Eberhardt House is a one-story, side gable, frame house on a raised fieldstone foundation with a central chimney and a reconstructed lean-to on the north end. The asymmetrical front façade features a wood paneled entry door with a rectangular four-light transom and two nine-over-six windows with paneled shutters.

Located north of the house, the reconstructed blacksmith shop is a single-story, front gable, frame building on a stone foundation. The façade features an off-center heringbone entry door, a six-over-six window, and a four-light window in the gable end. A central brick chimney with a corbelled cap extends above the wood-shingled roof.

The Eberhardt House was the first restoration in Salem, following the creation of Old Salem, Inc. in 1950. At that time, the north lean-to was reconstructed from archaeological, architectural, and pictorial evidence. The Eberhardt Shop was reconstructed in 1967 from archaeological and documentary evidence.

Today the Eberhardt House is privately occupied and the Eberhardt Shop is used as a guest house by Old Salem Museums and Gardens.



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