

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Timothy Vogler Shop

Local Historic Landmark #56

913 S. Main St., Winston-Salem

(Original Salem Lot 98)

Construction Date: 1831

Landmark Designation Date: 12/06/1982

On May 30, 1831, Timothy Vogler received permission from the Church to build a gun shop. The shop was finished before the end of 1831 and was occupied as a temporary dwelling for the Vogler family, "later to be a workshop." Vogler had learned from his father, Christoph Vogler (Local Historic Landmark #8), the trade of gunmaking, which he was to practice throughout his long life. It was in this shop that many of the most finely-crafted North Carolina longrifles were produced during the second half of the 19th century.

Vogler served briefly as keeper of the Salem Tavern (Local Historic Landmark #48), from 1844 until 1846, but afterwards he returned full time to gunmaking, a craft which he practiced with skill and devotion for another half century, until his death in 1896.



Timothy Vogler Shop, 1882 (Shop shown on the right side)
Courtesy of Old Salem Museums and Gardens
via Digital Forsyth (<http://www.digitalforsyth.org>)



Timothy Vogler Shop, c. 1930
Courtesy of Forsyth County Historic Resources
Commission's files



One of the few original shop buildings in Salem, the Timothy Vogler Shop is a good demonstration of the fact that by the second quarter of the 19th century, Salem craftsmen were constructing separate shops rather than conducting business from their dwellings.

The Timothy Vogler Gun Shop is a single story, unpainted frame structure. The front gable building features a steep roof. The shop was built with two rooms, but the rear room of the current structure was a later addition that served as a kitchen. A central brick chimney with a corbelled cap extends through the wood-shingled roof.

Today the Timothy Gun Shop serves as a guest house for Old Salem Museums and Gardens.



Timothy Vogler Shop, c. 1920
Courtesy of Forsyth County
Historic Resources Commission's files



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