Zevely Inn
Local Historic Landmark #62
803 S. Main St., Winston-Salem
(Original Salem Lot 23)
Construction Date: 1844
Restoration Date: c. 1993
Landmark Designation Date: 12/06/1982

The large, two-story house that today operates as the Zevely Inn was originally built by David Blum after he acquired the lot in 1842. Blum insisted on his right to operate a small store in his new home; however, the Church rejected the proposal on the grounds that such a store would provide Salem with one too many such commercial enterprises. Blum and the Church haggled over the dilemma and, in the meantime, the house was completed in 1844. Resolution came one year later when Blum agreed to sell the property to Dr. Augustus T. Zevely. Unlike Blum, Zevely had no reservations about signing a required lease agreement with the Church.

Zevely was a saddler, born in Salem in 1816. As a saddler, he found little work in Salem and moved to Lincolnton while still remaining a member of the Church. In 1836, he opened a shop in Salem, but soon went to Philadelphia where he studied medicine and became a doctor. By 1840, he had established a practice in Salem. Zevely rented the Traugott Bagge House (Local Historic Landmark #7) in 1844 until he bought David Blum’s house.

In this house, Zevely operated an inn for travelers that Salem Tavern could not accommodate. The Church relinquished control over the Tavern in 1850; following that time, the Zevely Inn became the primary place for accommodations. Over the years, several major additions and alterations were made as it continued its hotel use. The Zevely family owned the house until 1905.

The Zevely Inn is a 2½-story, five-bay, brick building on a stuccoed, partially-exposed cellar. The rear of the house features a sizeable two-story gabled ell, with a two-story, two-tier porch. The front elevation of the house has two single-leaf, wood-paneled entry doors, both with three-light transoms. The windows are nine-over-six with paneled shutters. Interior end chimneys flank the side-gable roof, which is finished in wood shingles.

In 1941, the Zevely House was reduced to its original size and partially restored by Salem Academy and College. Old Salem, Inc. acquired the property in 1976; it was used as apartments until 1993, when it was sold. Concurrent with the new property ownership, the property was restored.

Today the Zevely Inn operates as a bed-and-breakfast under the name the Augustus T. Zevely Inn.

Leinbach House and Zevely Hotel – Lots 22 and 23, 1890-1900
(Zevely Inn is located to the left)
Courtesy of Old Salem Museums and Gardens

Want to know more?
http://www.winston-salem-inn.com/

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