

# LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

## Peter Blum House

Local Historic Landmark #63

111 N. Poplar St., Winston-Salem

Construction Date: 1902

Landmark Designation Date: 12/06/1982

Peter W. Blum was a well-known artisan who, in 1898, established his “Tin Roofs and Tin Ware” shop at 439 Liberty Street. Blum had served as an apprentice to a gentleman named George Seabolt; in fact, Blum ultimately purchased his tools from him. Blum was a descendant of Jacob Blum (Local Historic Landmark #12), who operated Salem Tavern during the 18th century.

Blum was an active member of Calvary Moravian Church and among his tinware are many items used by the Moravians, such as candle molds, lovefeast coffee pots, candle holders, sconces, and Moravian cookie cutters. Additionally, examples of Blum’s other work include bird cages, pet squirrel containers, garden swings, kitchen canisters, and other utensils.

Blum drew the plans for his house on N. Poplar Street and fashioned the roof parapet and the roof of tin. Irwin McIver, a prolific local builder, was the building contractor for the project.



The Peter Blum House is a one-story, frame Victorian-influenced structure erected in 1902, with a two-story addition to the rear that was constructed in 1912. It is typical of turn-of-the-20th-century residential architecture, which was influenced by the Queen Anne style. Examples of this can be seen in the house’s front porch with decorative turned posts and brackets, and a sawn work balustrade. The slate roof on the original section of the house has castellated cresting with finials. Around 1917, Blum constructed a guest house to the rear of his lot on N. Poplar Street, where he utilized the ground floor both as a garage and as a storage area for some of his tin-smithing materials.

Today the Peter Blum House is privately occupied.



*Peter Blum's Tin Shop, c. 1900*

(It is not known if this was taken at Blum's Liberty Street business or at his later Third Street Shop)  
Courtesy of Old Salem Museums and Gardens

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Holly Avenue Historic District  
National Register Nomination

<http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/FY2656.pdf>

<http://www.ourstate.com/peter-blum>



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