

# LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

## (Former) Bethania Moravian Church Parsonage

Local Historic Landmark #94

2180 Grabs Dr., Bethania

Construction Date: 1852

Landmark Designation Date: 12/04/1995

Bethania is the second oldest Moravian settlement in North Carolina. It was founded in 1759 as a self-sufficient farming community and was the first planned town in the Wachovia Tract.

The Bethania Moravian Church Parsonage was constructed between 1851 and 1852. For over one hundred years, the dwelling only housed ministers of Bethania Moravian Church. Over time, ten ministers lived in the house; together with their families, they contributed to the growth of the Bethania community, Moravian heritage, educational activities, Church leadership, and missionary efforts.



In 1964, the house was moved to its current location on Grabs Drive, which runs perpendicular to the church site. At that time, a new front porch, a rear addition, and a basement were added to the house. Since its relocation, the property has been used as a private dwelling.

Architecturally, the parsonage is the purest example of the Greek Revival style in Bethania and includes the latest example of brick nogging in the town. The two-story, frame house features a slate shingle roof, pedimented gable ends, interior end chimneys, nine-over-six double-hung windows on the first story and six-over-six windows on the second story. Additional features include one-panel window shutters and a front, pedimented gable porch with chamfered posts.

Today the (former) Bethania Moravian Church Parsonage is privately occupied.

The parsonage was constructed on one of the originally-designated town lots in Bethania. It was located on the town's main street, directly south of the Bethania Moravian Church.



*Easter Sunrise Service at Bethania Moravian Church, 1950*  
Courtesy of Forsyth County Public Library Photograph Collection via Digital Forsyth (<http://www.digitalforsyth.org>)



*Bethania Moravian Church and Parsonage, c. 1960-1970*  
Courtesy of Old Salem Museums and Gardens via Digital Forsyth (<http://www.digitalforsyth.org>)

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Bethania Historic District  
Amendment and Boundary Increase  
National Register Nomination  
<http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/FY2044.pdf>

<http://www.townofbethania.org/visit.htm>

<http://www.forsythnchistory.com/bethania.html>



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