(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.

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