

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Bethabara Log House

Local Historic Landmark #95

Historic Bethabara Park, Winston-Salem

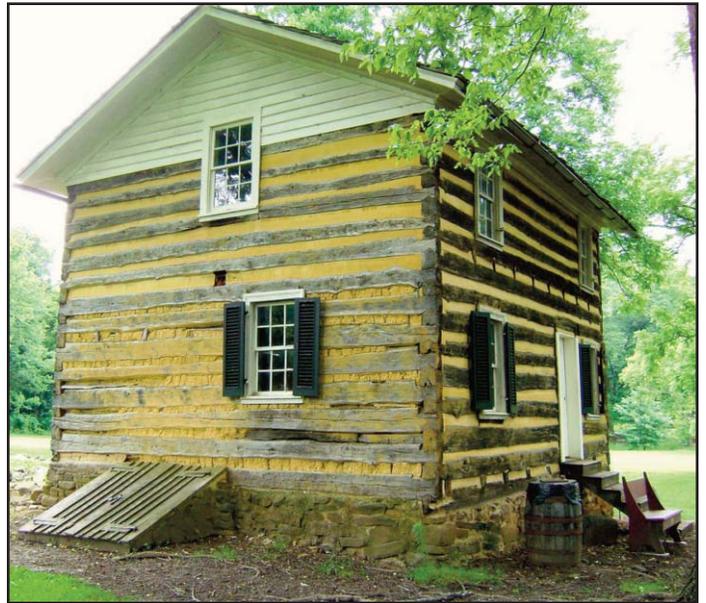
Construction Date: c. 1815

Landmark Designation Date: 12/04/1995

Bethabara was established in 1753 as the first Moravian settlement in North Carolina. The small village was the beginning of a cultural force that would play an important role in all subsequent development of North Carolina's Piedmont. Bethabara was intended from the start to be a temporary community – the name Bethabara means "House of Passage" – from which to base construction of the central town of Salem.

The Bethabara Log House survives as a rare representative of Bethabara's development during the 19th and 20th centuries. Although the primary significance of Bethabara came during the second half of the 18th century, the community did not dissolve after many residents moved to the new central town of Salem in the late 1760s and 1770s. Rather, Bethabara continued as a small farming community inhabited by both Moravians and non-Moravians.

Physical evidence suggests that the Bethabara Log House was constructed between 1800 and 1830. The house may be the one referenced in the Bethabara Memorabilia (an annual record of events in the town) in 1816: "*During this year a new, two-story, family house has been built in this village, which has not happened in many years.*" However, this cannot be documented; nor is it certain who was the first occupant of the house. Over the years, numerous revisions were made to the house.



The periods of alterations seen in the Bethabara Log House demonstrate its continued viability as a dwelling, as it was updated stylistically through the years to reflect changing tastes of the times.

The Bethabara Log House is a two-story, log house with a fieldstone foundation and a low-pitched gable roof covered with wood shingles with widely overhanging boxed eaves. The three-bay façade has six-over-six windows with 19th century louvered shutters on the first story and an off-center two-paneled door.

Today the Bethabara Log House is an interpretative property for Historic Bethabara Park.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Bethabara Historic District National Register Nomination
<http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/FY0048.pdf>

[http://www.ci.winston-salem.nc.us/Home/
Departments/RecreationAndParks/BethabaraPark/
HistoricArea/Articles/LogHouse](http://www.ci.winston-salem.nc.us/Home/Departments/RecreationAndParks/BethabaraPark/HistoricArea/Articles/LogHouse)



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