

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Rosenbacher House

Local Historic Landmark #106
848 W. Fifth St., Winston-Salem

Construction Date: 1909

Landmark Designation Date: 12/21/1998

In 1909, Carrie Rosenbacher, widow of Sigmund Rosenbacher, purchased and built a house upon this property on W. Fifth Street; the following year, she and her children, Alladin, Fannie, Otto, and Sandel Rosenbacher were listed at this location in the city directory. The Rosenbachers were associated with Rosenbacher and Brothers, a successful clothing store in Winston. The Rosenbacher family retained ownership of the property until 1975.

The Rosenbacher House is associated with Winston's phenomenal growth period from the late 1880s through the 1920s, as tobacco and textile manufacturing reached new levels of production, ultimately leading Winston-Salem to become North Carolina's largest city. This economic growth had spin-off effects to other commercial enterprises, and enabled some of the city's citizens, such as the Rosenbachers, to build handsome residences in the most prominent and formal architectural styles of the period.

Standing atop a terraced lawn overlooking W. Fifth Street, the Rosenbacher House is one of the grandest Neo-Classical Revival dwellings in Winston-Salem and is one of only a few examples of the style in the West End neighborhood. The large two-story weather-boarded house is dominated by a monumental two-story



Drawing of the Rosenbacher House, Date Unknown
Courtesy of the Forsyth County
Historic Resources Commission's Files



central portico with Corinthian columns and a full pedimented entablature. Enhancing the Classical design of the façade are one-story curved porches with Ionic columns, turned balustrades, and modillioned cornices which run from the portico to the front corners of the house. At second-story height, a modillioned cornice encircles the house beneath the truncated hip roof. The fenestration of the house is exceptional with the central entrance boasting double-leaf doors and leaded, beveled glass sidelights and fanlight transom. Additionally, the large front and side windows of the first story have beautiful round and segmental-arched leaded glass transoms.

Once the Rosenbacher House was no longer a single-family residence, it served as home to a number of commercial enterprises, including an antique shop and a restaurant.

Today the Rosenbacher House is privately owned.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

West End Historic District National Register Nomination
<http://www.hpo.ncder.gov/nr/FY2507.pdf>



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