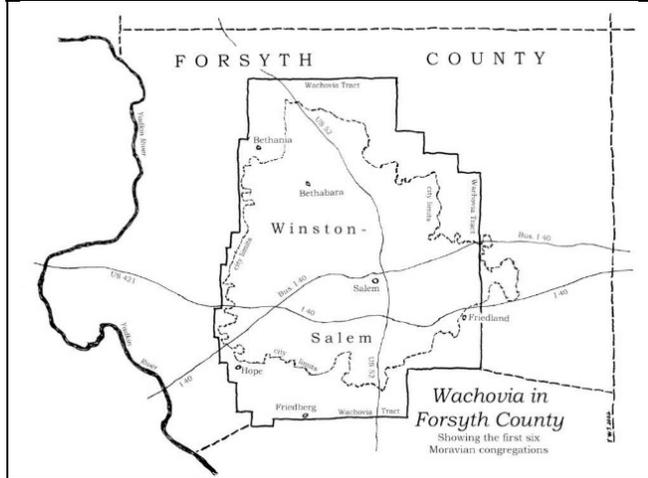


# The Founding of Salem, 1766, a Time Line

1753: 17 November: The Moravian Church begins Bethabara after purchasing 100,000 acres in the North Carolina Colony. The Moravians call their land Wachovia, encompassing almost all of today's Winston-Salem.

1759: 12 June: The site for Bethania, the first planned community in Wachovia, is selected.

1765: 14 February: The site for Salem is selected. The scripture text for the day is "Let thine eye be opened toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there" (1 Kings 8:29).



1766: 6 January: The first trees are felled where the builders' cabin and the first house will be built in Salem. The scripture text for the day is "I will defend this city" (Isaiah 37:35).

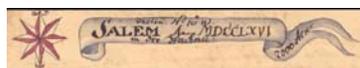
13 January: A herd of 75 pigs is driven from Bethabara to the new town site. They find Salem so unfit for porcine life they all hightail it for home.

19 February: Eight Single Brethren move from Bethabara to occupy the builders' cabin and become the first residents of the new town. For many years this, and not 6 January, will be considered the anniversary date of the founding of Salem.

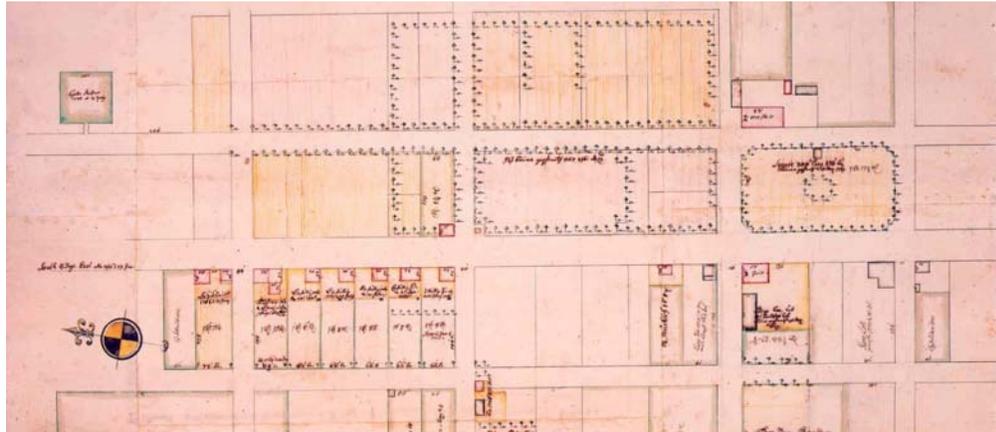


*The builders' cabin, traditionally called the "First House" in Salem.*

20 February: A preliminary survey is made for Salem Square, the heart of town around which the town's principal buildings — Brothers House, Gemein Haus, Community Store, Sisters House, Boys School, church, Girls Boarding School — will be constructed. Already thought is given to shifting the Square one block north, and the first five single family houses will be constructed in



accordance with that thought, in the block to the north. Until Salem Square is permanently located no principal buildings in Salem will be begun.



*C. 1772 map detail of Salem. Corner-rounded Salem Square is on the right; the first single family houses are on the lower left, a block to the north of Salem Square. God's Acre, the Salem Moravian Graveyard, is on the upper left.*

13 March: An apple tree and about 40 peach trees are planted in Salem.

6 June: The foundation stone for Salem's first house is laid on Main Street in the block just to the north of the second proposed site for Salem Square.

18 August: For the first time Moravian Sisters visit Salem, and while they are there the first lovefeast in Salem is held in the partially completed first house. The service concludes with the singing of "Now Thank We All Our God."

10 October: The first house is far enough along that Br. Gottfried Praezel sets up his loom inside. This marks the beginning of industry in the city of Winston-Salem.

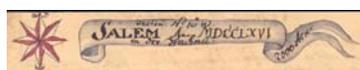


*The First House (reconstructed) in Salem, a single family dwelling on Main Street.*

31 October: The first company of Older Girls and Single Sisters arrives in Bethabara. They have "walked most of the way" from Bethlehem in Pennsylvania, a distance of 500 miles.

1767: September: Wine is made in Salem from the wild grapes.

19 September: Royal Governor William Tryon and "his Lady" tour Salem and "approved of the regular manner in which the building had been begun."



1768: 18 April: The site for Salem Square is finally determined at its preliminary site, not the block to the north. Construction of Salem's principal buildings around the Square can now proceed.

30 August: The foundation stone for the Single Brothers House in Salem is laid.



*The Brothers House (half-timbered section), consecrated December 27, 1769.*

1769: 27 December: The Brothers House (northern section) is consecrated in Salem.

1770: 17 April: The foundation stone is laid for Salem's Gemein Haus — the town's congregation house for worship services and ministers' residence. Salem College's Main Hall will replace the Gemein Haus in 1856.

4 July: Salem's God's Acre — the burial ground — is laid out. The avenue to the graveyard was laid out 15 February, and trees from Bethabara planted along it.



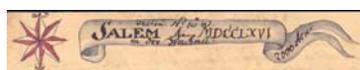
1771: 31 March: The first Easter Sunrise Service is held in Salem, but indoors, as it is rainy and God's Acre has not yet been consecrated with a burial. The first Easter service to be held on God's Acre will take place on April 11, 1773.

7 June: The first burial takes place in Salem's God's Acre: John Birkhead, a Single Brother and a native of Yorkshire. He is the first of the Single Brethren "Town Builders" to die.

13 November: It is a memorable day for Salem, as the Gemein Haus is consecrated and the congregation — today's Home Moravian Church — is organized. During the day of services, Sam, a slave, is baptized. He receives the name Johannes Samuel.



*The Gemein Haus of Salem*



3 December: Minister Paul Tiersch proposes opening the first school in Salem. It is for little boys. He will conduct the school until his death in 1774. The Boys School will continue with only one interruption during Reconstruction until it closes its doors for the last time in 1910.

1772: 13 January: Br. and Sr. Traugott Bagge move from Bethabara to Salem, where he will keep the church-owned Community Store until his death in 1800.



*The Community Store in Salem, operated by Traugott Bagge, 1775-1800.*

24 January: Salem's "choir of musicians" plays for the first time, and the tune is 151 A, "Passion Chorale." This is the beginning of the Salem Congregation band, and it still plays 151 A.

17 February: The Salem Tavern opens. It will burn in 1784 and be replaced by the current Salem Tavern, where President George Washington will spend two nights on his Southern tour, May 31 and June 1, 1791.

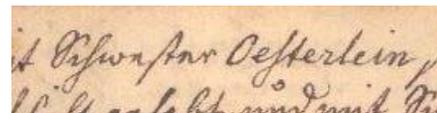


*The second Salem Tavern. It replaced the first tavern, which burned in 1784.*

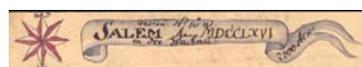
24 February: Four Single Sisters come from Bethabara to prepare for their permanent move to Salem. With them comes the church Archives.

30 March: Five Single Sisters move from Bethabara to Salem, establishing their permanent residence in Salem. Their temporary quarters are in the Gemein Haus until their own Sisters House can be built in 1785-86.

April: Sister Oesterlein begins looking after little girls in a "school room" of the Gemein Haus. From this humble beginning Salem Academy and College of the future will grow.



1773: 12 May: Salem adopts its "Rules and Regulations," setting the pattern of church governance of the town. The North Carolina Assembly will grant incorporation on December 13, 1856, allowing for election of civil government on January 5, 1857.



*Present-Day Salem*  
 Showing Buildings  
 Erected by 1771

- A Salem Square
  - B Proposed site of Salem Square
  - a The first structure, a log cabin for the Brethren
  - b A cabin for the non-Moravian day-laborers
  - 1 First house
  - 2 Second house, two stories; contained a Saal; converted in 1771 to the community store
  - 3 Third house
  - 4 Fourth house; oldest structure still standing in Salem
  - 5 Fifth house
  - 6 Pottery
  - 7 Blacksmith
  - 8 Single Brothers House, north portion
  - 9 Mattheaus Miksch house
  - 10 Warehouse ("skin house")
  - 11 Gemein Haus
  - 12 Tavern (burned in 1784)
- In addition, the tannery was on present-day Academy Street west of Old Salem Road

