



Our Mission. Moravian Archives is the official repository for records of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province. The Province includes Moravian churches and fellowships in North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia. Our records begin with the establishment of the first southern Moravian settlement in 1753 at Bethabara, NC (now part of Winston-Salem), and continue until the present day. While our main function is to serve the Church in the collecting, cataloging, and safekeeping of those materials, we also make many of our holdings available for research by genealogists, academics, cultural institutions, and the general public.

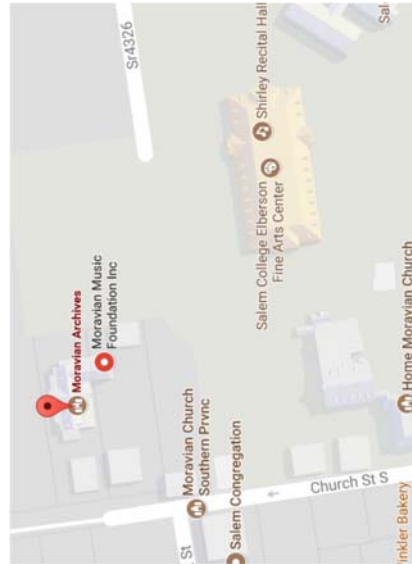


Arriving as German-speaking immigrants, building a faith-centered community at the mid-eighteenth-century American frontier, Moravians kept detailed records in order to maintain ties with Church leadership in both Bethlehem, PA, and Herrnhut, Germany. But in diaries of church and daily life, reports from missionary work with the Cherokees, and life stories of a community of church members, Moravians recorded their living witness to the surrounding world.

Since 2001, our Archives has been housed at the Archie K. Davis Center, a state-of-the-art facility located between the main offices of the Southern Province and God's Acre cemetery at the northern edge of Old Salem.

Moravian Archives
457 S. Church St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Parking is in the northwest corner of the lot at the western end of SR 4326 (Rams Drive) off Salem Avenue. The same street serves as entry to the Elbertson Fine Arts Center at Salem College (Image: Google Maps).



The Archie K. Davis Center, home of the Moravian Archives and the Moravian Music Foundation, in Winston-Salem, NC

ABOUT OUR ARCHIVES

Fall 2017



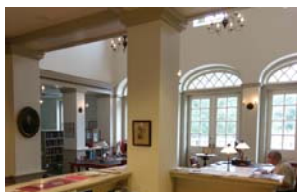


Our Church and its Records. The Moravian Church is a Protestant denomination founded in 1457 as the *Unitas Fratrum*, first led by followers of dissident Czech priest Jan Hus.

Dispersed by the Thirty Years' War, the Church was renewed in 1722 at Herrnhut, in Saxony, under the leadership of Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf, whose own Lutheran family had been exiled from Wachovia, on the Danube in modern Austria. Moravians sent missionaries worldwide, and in America their activity centered in Bethlehem, PA. In 1752, Bishop August Spangenberg led a group from Bethlehem to survey land purchased by Zinzendorf for a Moravian home in the North Carolina Piedmont, a new "Wachovia" based in Salem. The Southern Province today has 15,000 members and 55 churches. Our holdings include manuscript German, books, photographs, typescript, and publications.



Family History. Computers in our reading room allow guests to review historical maps, graveyard lists, church diaries and minutes, military service records, and individual member memoirs—which in the Moravian tradition are a blend of autobiography, obituary, and testimony. We have translation and staff research services available for a fee.



Academic and Community Research.

In addition to church documents, our Archives contains letters and ephemera from individual Moravians and their businesses. We also have local newspapers and periodicals collected by the Wachovia churches. These narrate changes as the initially church-owned settlement in North Carolina became more secular like that of its neighbors. Our materials have been used to describe the switch from craft-based economy to factory town, to probe the effects of slavery on the Moravian ideal of community, and to help recreate and interpret the living history at Old Salem Museum and Gardens.



Our Publications and Presentations:

Many of our earlier church materials have been translated by our Archives and published as *Records of the Moravians in North Carolina, vols. 1-13*, whose first volumes are now out of print but

available online at www.archive.org. Our Archives continues an active publication schedule, with over two dozen books and booklets in print on church history and life. This year welcomes Volume 7 of *Records of the Moravians Among the Cherokees*, and the Cherokee Nation is a major sponsor of the book series. The work offers one of the most complete early glimpses of Cherokee daily life. Our staff and outside speakers also appear at the in-house monthly *Lunchtime Lecture* series, sponsored with the Moravian Music Foundation. And our Archivist is glad to share a talk with your organization or church group, or to arrange for them a tour of our facility.

Supporting Our Work. Three-fourths of our funding comes from our Church's giving: half from the budget of the entire Southern Province, half from thirteen local churches which are the Salem Congregation. For the remainder, we are dependent upon annual and endowment gifts by individual Friends. Friends also help with volunteer staffing and project work. We welcome your support as a Friend of our Archives.



Our Staff: Interim Archivist J. Eric Elliott, Assistant Archivist Nicole Crabbe, Records Transcriber Grace Robinson, and *Records of the Cherokees* Editor and Former Archivist Richard W. Starbuck.

Contact Us to Plan A Visit

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 Winston-Salem, NC 27101
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www.moravianarchives.org
 Follow us on Facebook

Hours: 9:30-4:30 M-Th (excepting holidays); by appointment only from noon-1:30pm. Closed to the public on Fridays.