United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory -- Nomination Form

See instructions in how to complete National Register forms.
Type all entries -- complete applicable sections.

Name

Historic
Zevelf House
And/or Common

Same

Location

Street & Number
901 West Fourth Street

City, Town
Winston-Salem

State
North Carolina

Vicinity of

Code
5th

County
Forsyth

Code
067

Classification

Category
Ownership
Status
Present Use

District
Public
X Occupied
Agriculture
Museum
X Commercial
X Private Residence
X Educational
X Private Residence
X Government
X Industrial
X Transportation
X Military
X Other

Structure
Private
X Unoccupied
Commercial
Private Residence
Educational
Religious
Entertainment
Scientific
Industrial
Transportation
Military
Other

Site
Both
Work in Progress
Accessible

Tours

Court

Public Acquisition

In Process

X No

Being Considered

Owner of Property

Name
The Periwinkle Corporation, Mr. Peter Smitherman, President

Street & Number
P.O. Box 5443

City, Town
Winston-Salem

State
North Carolina

Location of Legal Description

Courthouse,
Registry of Deeds, etc.
Forsyth County Courthouse

City, Town
Winston-Salem

State
North Carolina

Representation in Existing Surveys

Title

Date

Federal
State
County
Local

Reconstructed
Survey Records

City, Town

State
The Zevely House, typical of German-influenced North Carolina Moravian structures, was constructed about 1815. It is two stories high, three bays wide and two deep. The exterior, before restoration, had been altered by the addition of a central false gable, some inappropriate sash, and other minor but unattractive changes. The restoration rectified these in simple, sensible fashion, and retained the original shape and surviving original fabric. The walls of the brick building are laid in Flemish bond, with a high stuccoed stone foundation. Interior end brick chimneys pierce the gable roof, which is covered with wood shingles and has overhanging molded box eaves on all elevations; the gable ends are finished with eave returns. Nine-over-six sash fill the first story window openings, six-over-six sash the second story, and six-pane casements the attic level. The windows are set within simple molded architraves. The main entrance, located in the center bay of the slightly asymmetrical main (south) facade, is a door with four raised panels, hung on hand-wrought strap hinges, surmounted by a four-pane transom, and set within an architrave identical to those of the windows.

The conjectural front entrance porch is three bays wide, with chamfered posts supporting a simple, pedimented gable. A plain balustrade encloses the porch. The one-story frame shed addition, two bays deep, extends the length of the rear elevation, and houses the kitchen facilities of the restaurant. The plain wooden siding, and nine-over-six sash windows blend unobtrusively with the original main block.

The interior "Quaker" plan at both levels has been restored—with a large room to one side and two smaller ones at the other. The east half of each floor is a single large room with a fireplace in the center of the east wall. In the northeast corner, a stair rises in two flights with a landing to the second floor. The stair, with a closed string, heavy square newels, plain balusters and molded handrail, is probably a later nineteenth century replacement for a smaller, enclosed stair, which may have risen in this corner. The west half of each floor contains two rooms, each with a corner fireplace. The interior is finished with wide board floors and plastered walls and ceilings. The hand-hewn summer beam is exposed at both levels. Portions of the molded chair rails above the plaster dados are original, and the rest are reproductions. No original mantels survived, and simple molded shelf reproductions typical of Moravian houses of this period now surmount the plastered fireplace openings. The windows and the doors, some with four equal-sized raised panels, some of batten construction, are set within simple molded architraves. Throughout, the simple finish and the contrast of white plaster with the rich paint colors of the trim provide an appropriate, pleasant ambiance.
ADDENDUM TO THE ZEVELY HOUSE NOMINATION, WINSTON-SALEM, FORSYTH COUNTY

The Zevely House was moved in 1974 from its original site at 734 Oak Street, where it was endangered, to a new site at 901 West Fourth Street (northwest corner of Summit and Fourth streets). The main block of the house was completely restored on both exterior and interior, and a conjectural front porch and compatible rear wing were added. The house is furnished with antiques and functions as a gracious restaurant known as "Zevely House." The house is set in a dignified streetscape with well-maintained late Victorian houses and large hardwood trees in the West End neighborhood of Winston-Salem. It is both complemented by and complements its environment. The relocation and restoration of the Zevely House has had a minimal adverse effect upon the integrity of the building, and has insured that the building be preserved and continue to function.
In July, 1797, the records of the Moravians at Salem reported, "an outside boy, Vannimen Zively by name, has come for awhile to Br. Wohlfourt (Welfare) in the cabinet shop. Before her end his mother expressed the wish that when she died he might be brought to the Brethren." Young Zively (the more usual spelling) served as an apprentice and then journeyman cabinetmaker in the shop of William Eldridge, and finally became master of the cabinet shop in the Single Brothers' House in Salem, the Moravian settlement begun in 1766. He served in this position until 1809 when he married Johanna Sophia Shober, daughter of Gottlieb Shober, a prominent businessman in Salem and the owner of a considerable amount of property. Zively, then twenty-nine years old, went to live at his father-in-law's paper mill on Peters Creek, where he remained until about 1815.

That year he bought a 160-acre plantation from Gottlieb Shober which was located on the "Old Town Road," between the present Seventh Street and Peters Creek. Old Town Road was built in 1766 to link Bethabara-Old Town with the site of the new town of Salem. Sometime between 1815 and 1818, when a reference to the house was made in the Moravian Records, Zively built his house which stands today on the same section of Old Town Road, now called Oak Street.

Van Zively, as he was commonly referred to, lived on his Old Town Road plantation until he was 79 years of age (1859), at which time he sold his house and the 160 acres surrounding it to Robert Gray. This was the same year that the town of Winston was incorporated (February, 1859). The town corporate limits extended one-fourth mile north of and parallel to Seventh Street, thus including the Zively House. Robert Gray sold off various parcels of the 160-acre tract until only four acres and 92 poles (which included the Zively House) remained when he and his wife, Mary, sold the property to Willis E. Hall on November 14, 1874. The property changed hands five times before The Periwinkle Corporation purchased it from Joseph E. Franklin on August 1, 1974.

This sturdy, unpretentious dwelling is typical of the plain design and careful craftsmanship of the early German settlers in the Salem area. It is thought to be the oldest structure in Winston, the formerly independent city in central Forsyth County which grew up near the Moravian settlement of Salem. (The two towns were consolidated in 1913.)

The Zively House was moved in 1974 from its original site at 734 Oak Street, where it was endangered, and falling into decay, to a new site at 201 West Fourth Street in Winston-Salem, roughly one mile away. The main block of the house was completely restored on both the exterior and interior, and a conjectural front porch and compatible rear wing were added. The house is furnished with antiques and functions as a restaurant known as the "Zively House." (The restaurant appears to be most successful with a special appeal..."
deriving from its historic character.) The house, set in a dignified streetscape with well-maintained late Victorian houses and large hardwood trees, both complements and is complemented by its West End neighborhood environment. The relocation and restoration of the Zevely House has had a minimal adverse effect upon its integrity, and has insured the building's preservation and continued usage.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
Forsyth County Records, Forsyth County Courthouse, Winston-Salem, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds).
Forsyth County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds).

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4 acre
UTM REFERENCES
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
1 7 5 6 9 6 1 0 3 9 9 4 7 4 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY
NAME/TITLE Ruth Little-Stokes and
Research and architectural description by Charles Cree Suttlemyre, Jr., survey specialists
ORGANIZATION Division of Archives and History
STREET NUMBER 109 East Jones Street
CITY OR TOWN Raleigh
STATE North Carolina

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS.
NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DATE 24 March 1976

FOR THIS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

NUMBER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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