REALTORIAN

Your Tour Guide in Real Estate

A HOUSE HISTORY REPORT

[redacted]

Westwood · Simpsonville, South Carolina

GREENVILLE COUNTY · TAX MAP [redacted]

1775 — 200 YEARS — 1975

This house was built exactly two hundred years after the Battle of Great Cane Brake, the only known Revolutionary War battle fought in Greenville County, about fourteen minutes by car from its front door.

Prepared by David Cole, The Realtorian

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AT A GLANCE

Two centuries, five miles

Your home sits on former Cherokee land, near a road that began as a Cherokee trail and a short drive from the only known Revolutionary War battle fought in Greenville County.

200 years
between the Battle of Great Cane Brake (December 22, 1775) and the year your home was built (1975).

7.3 miles
by car to the state historical marker for the battle on Fork Shoals Road, about 14 minutes away.

2.5 miles
by car to downtown, where the Old Stage Road met the Cherokee trail and the town of Plain was born.

3,308 to 9,037
Simpsonville's population in 1970 and 1980. The town nearly tripled in the decade your home went up.

The property today

ADDRESS	[redacted]
COUNTY	Greenville (created 1786, named for Gen. Nathanael Greene)
TAX MAP NUMBER	[redacted]
NEIGHBORHOOD	Westwood, near Fairview Road and Georgia Road
YEAR BUILT	1975
HOME	Single family, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
RECORDED PLAT	Westwood, [redacted]
LAND FIRST OPEN TO SETTLERS	1777, by the Treaty of DeWitt's Corner

TIMELINE

The story of your ground

Before 1767	Cherokee hunting grounds. The trail that becomes Georgia Road already crosses the area.
1775	**December 22: Battle of Great Cane Brake on the Reedy River, a short drive away. Snow falls the next day.**
1777	Treaty of DeWitt's Corner. The Cherokee cede the land to South Carolina.
1784	The state begins surveying and granting land; veterans claim bounty grants.
1786	Greenville County is created and named for Gen. Nathanael Greene.
c. 1820	The Old Stage Road from Laurens to Greenville becomes the main route through the area.
1838	A post office named Plain opens at the crossroads, first known as Dry Ridge. Peter Simpson arrives between 1838 and the 1840s (records differ) and opens a blacksmith shop.
1885 to 1886	The Greenville and Laurens Railroad arrives. Plain becomes Simpsonville.
1901	The City of Simpsonville is incorporated.
1908	Simpsonville Cotton Mill opens. It runs until 1989.
1953	Greenville Water Works reaches town. The Golden Strip begins to grow.
1975	**Your home is built in Westwood, 200 years after the Great Cane Brake.**
2022	The current owners purchase the home.
2026	Simpsonville marks its 125th anniversary.

CHAPTER ONE · 1767 TO 1786

Cherokee land and the Revolution

1,300	130 to 150	Nearly 30	14 min
Patriot militia in the dawn attack	Loyalists captured; accounts vary	hours of snow on the march home	drive from your home to the marker

Cherokee country

Until 1777, the ground under your house belonged to the Cherokee. It lay west of the 1767 boundary line that separated Cherokee hunting grounds from the colony, and settlers were not allowed here. The trail that later became Georgia Road was already in use.

The fight in the canebrake

In the fall of 1775, Loyalists seized a wagon of gunpowder the new Patriot government had sent to the Cherokee. South Carolina answered with more than 4,000 militia. By December, Loyalist leader Patrick Cunningham had fallen back to a thicket of cane along the Reedy River.

At dawn on December 22, 1775, Col. William Thomson's 1,300 men surrounded the camp. The Loyalists were burning cane stalks for warmth, and the popping covered the Patriots' approach. The fight was over in minutes. Cunningham escaped on horseback; most of his men did not.

A campaign named for the weather

The next day it began to snow. It fell for nearly thirty hours. Reports of the depth vary from about 18 to 30 inches. Even the low end is more than any snowfall on record in Greenville County, where the official record is 15 inches. The expedition became known as the Snow Campaign. It ended organized Loyalist resistance in the Upstate for two years.

Opened to settlers

The Cherokee ceded this land in the Treaty of DeWitt's Corner on May 20, 1777. After the war the state surveyed and sold it, and many veterans received land here as pay for their service. Greenville County followed in 1786.

CHAPTER TWO · 1820 TO 1953

From Plain to Simpsonville

2.5 mi

Your neighborhood sits near Georgia Road, which began as a Cherokee trail. Two and a half miles from your house by road, that trail crossed the Old Stage Road, and a town grew up at the crossroads.

A stagecoach crossroads

From about 1820 to 1870, the Old Stage Road from Laurens to Greenville was the main route through this area. Thomas Goldsmith (1788 to 1868) kept a stagecoach stop at his house near the spot where the road met the old Cherokee trail.

Plain, then Simpsonville

The settlement at the crossroads was first known as Dry Ridge. In 1838 a post office named Plain opened there. Farmer Peter Simpson arrived sometime between 1838 and the 1840s, as records differ, and started a blacksmith shop. Simpson served as postmaster in the 1840s, and people began calling the place after him. A railroad built in 1853 passed miles to the east and growth stalled for decades.

Everything changed when the Greenville and Laurens Railroad came through in 1885 and 1886. The post office took the name Simpsonville, Main Street was laid out along the tracks, and the town incorporated in 1901. The Simpsonville Cotton Mill opened in 1908 and ran until 1989. Today it is home to the Cotton Mill Place lofts.

The Golden Strip

In 1953, Greenville Water Works extended its lines through Mauldin, Simpsonville and Fountain Inn. Industry followed the water, the corridor earned the name Golden Strip, and the stage was set for neighborhoods like Westwood.

STILL HERE *Plain Elementary shares the name of the town's 1838 post office, and the oldest brick building in town, a pharmacy built in 1886, still stands at 101 East Curtis Street.*

CHAPTER THREE · 1975 TO TODAY

Your home, 1975

Your house went up in the busiest decade Simpsonville has ever had. Between the 1970 and 1980 censuses the town grew from 3,308 people to 9,037, as new neighborhoods like Westwood filled in around the old mill town.

SIMPSONVILLE POPULATION, U.S. CENSUS



THE YEAR YOUR HOME WAS BUILT, NATIONWIDE

$39,300
median price of a new home in the U.S.

9.05%
average rate on a 30-year fixed mortgage

549,000
new homes sold across the country

Chain of title

DATE	EVENT
April 22, 2022	Purchased by the current owners [redacted]
July 2, 2007	Sold [redacted]
March 31, 2000	Sold [redacted]
July 18, 1995	Sold [redacted]
March 29, 1988	Conveyed by the Administrator of Veterans Affairs [redacted]
1975	House built in Westwood, recorded on [redacted]

Dates and deed references from Greenville County Real Property Services records, tax map [redacted]. Deeds before 1988 are held at the Greenville County Register of Deeds.

SEE IT FOR YOURSELF

History within a short drive

SITE	WHY IT MATTERS	DRIVE
Great Cane Brake marker	The 1775 battle, Fork Shoals Road	7.3 mi · 14 min
Old Stage Road marker	The stagecoach stop and railroad story, South Main Street	2.5 mi · 6 min
101 East Curtis Street	Oldest brick building in town, built 1886	2.5 mi · 6 min
Cotton Mill Place	The 1908 cotton mill that built the town, now lofts, 300 South Street	2.5 mi · 6 min
Fairview Presbyterian	Organized 1786 by settlers on former Cherokee land, near Fountain Inn	7.2 mi · 15 min
Reedy River Falls	Where Cunningham's men hid after the canebrake	16.3 mi · 23 min

Driving distances and typical drive times from the house, without traffic.

Sources

South Carolina Encyclopedia: Greenville County; Simpsonville

South Carolina Historical Society: Treaty of DeWitt's Corner

Upcountry History Museum: Revolutionary Greenville County

Historical Marker Database: Battle of Great Cane Brake (23-3); Old Stage Road / Railroads in Simpsonville (23-49); Simpsonville

Andrew M. Staton, *Simpsonville* (Images of America), Arcadia Publishing, 2016

Carolana.com: The Snow Campaign

S.C. State Climatology Office: Greenville County climate records

Post and Courier: Snow Campaign coverage, 2025; Simpsonville at 125, 2026

U.S. Census Bureau decennial counts; 1975 housing figures via Housing Almanac

Greenville County Real Property Services: tax map [redacted], deed and plat records

REALTORIAN

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YOUR CHAPTER

The story continues with you

This report ends where your chapter begins. Use this page for the dates, names and memories that belong to your home.