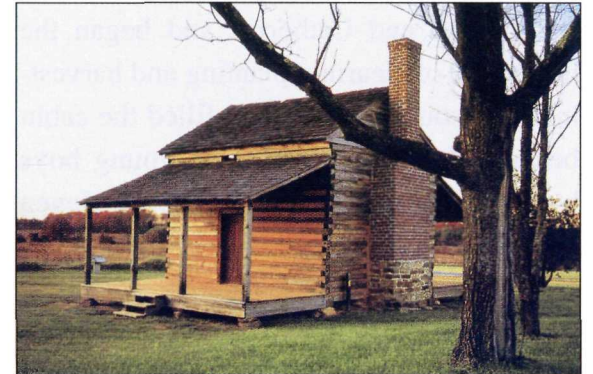


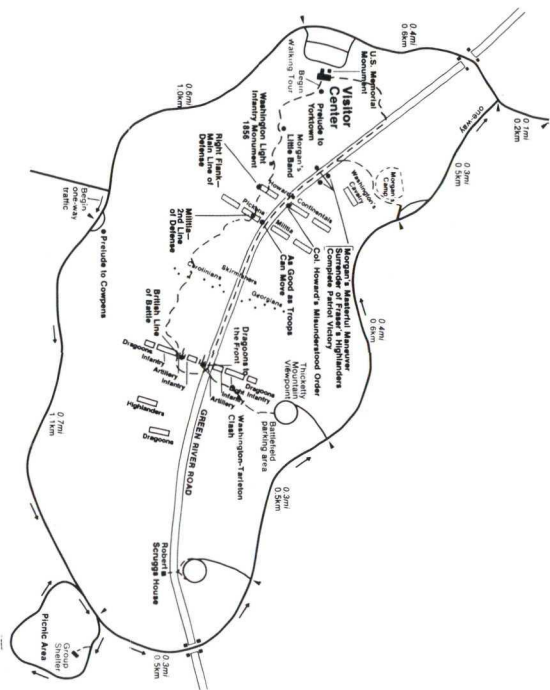
The ROBERT SCRUGGS House

COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD
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COWPENS National Battlefield

Cowpens National Battlefield



Robert Scruggs, the builder of this cabin, was born just across the state line in North Carolina in 1800. Around 1805, Robert's father, Richard Scruggs, moved his family to South Carolina and began farming near the Cowpens Battlefield. The Richard Scruggs home site is located about one half mile south of this cabin. Robert grew up working on his father's farm. Upon reaching manhood during the 1820's, the young farmer married Catherine Connel. In 1828, the new couple was given 200 acres of land by Richard Scruggs. On part of his 200 acres, Robert Scruggs raised this cabin for himself and Catherine and began the hard work of clearing, planting and harvesting. The sounds of children filled the cabin because the couple had three young boys by 1830 and eventually a total of eleven children.

The fields of the Scruggs farm were mostly planted in corn. Smaller plots were planted in wheat, rye, oats and sweet potatoes. Pigs and cattle were raised on the farm, but, they were not as numerous as the sheep grazing in the pastures. The farm was the main source of income for Robert Scruggs, however, he also ran a country store. His store stood on the other side of the Green River Road which runs directly in front of the cabin. In May of 1847, Robert Scruggs was appointed postmaster of the newly established Cowpens Post Office. He retained this position until

August, 1859, when James H. Ezell replaced him and soon the Post Office became known as Ezells.

Robert Scruggs died in 1890 at the age of ninety. Catherine died less than two years later at the age of eighty-seven. The house passed down to their youngest son, James Scruggs and his wife, Mary. The expanded building remained in the family after their deaths when their daughter, Rosa Scruggs Garrett, inherited the home place. The National Park Service purchased the house and property from the granddaughter, Rosa, during the expansion of Cowpens National Battlefield in the mid 1970s.



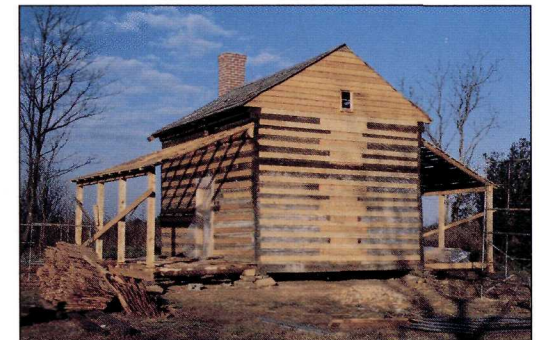
Rosa Scruggs Garrett

The appearance of the Scruggs cabin had changed over the years from the time it was built in 1828. Log walls had been covered with paneling and additional rooms had been added onto the cabin.



Circa 1970's

Beginning during the earliest years of settlement before the Revolutionary War and continuing throughout the 1800s, cabins such as this one provided homes for most of the people living in the South Carolina Backcountry. Additions and modern improvements to the cabin were removed and the original cabin of Robert Scruggs was then restored. The sparse furnishings in the cabin are indicative of the type that might have been used in the 1850's. Take a few minutes to look back on the history of the Carolina Piedmont and our nation as you reflect on the life and times of the Scruggs family.



During Re-Construction