

HIGH POINT

THOMPSON – GLENN – JETER

The HIGH POINT property goes to a land grant from the King of England, dated 1773. The grant was to William Thompson who was the builder of the present house in 1800.

HIGH POINT is the name that Thompson chose for his new home and plantation. It is very well named for the house stands on the highest point on the ridge between Columbia and Spartanburg, an elevation of some five hundred feet or more. The view from this site is majestic. High hills and valleys extend to the horizon on all sides, their vivid greens melting into various tints of purple against the clear blue sky and billowing white clouds.

The house is a typical plantation home of the period, a large, rectangular, two storied building. On one side is a mammoth chimney that is completely covered with English ivy, well-trimmed beds of which cover the ground on the front and sides. The house is unique in that it has large inside chimneys also. A wide porch extends across the front. It is supported by generous, square, panelled columns. There are two entrance doorways on the front. All of the windows are flanked with the original, hand-made louvered shutters. Giant magnolia trees provide a shady coolness for this friendly, homey old house, and when in bloom their fragrance permeates the air. A well-pruned crepe myrtle hedge screens the yard from the road.

Except for the handsomely carved oversized mantel the interior is simple but spacious. The drawing room is furnished with priceless family heirlooms, some of which were among the original furnishings of the house.

In 1845 Mrs. William Thompson deeded the place to her son-in-law, H. A. Glenn. The present owners are Miss Kitty Glenn and her sister, Mrs. E. Claude Jeter reside in the comfortable old home. They are descendants of the Thompson's and the Glens who have lived here for more than one and one-half centuries.

During the War Between the States this old house was visited by the invaders but its treasures were successfully hidden and saved. In the guest room ceiling is a trap-door, the only opening into the attic. The valuables were secreted here; and the tall, canopied, cedar-poster bed was placed under it and completely hid the opening. In their search for an entrance into the attic the plunderers smashed several of the closet doors and the walls in some of the rooms but to no success.

An interesting family cemetery, containing the grave of William Thompson, is near the house. It is well kept and is used by the descendants of this pioneer.

The old house is in excellent condition and is cherished and well cared for by its owners and members of their family, whose people have ranked among the first families of the county down through many generations.



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