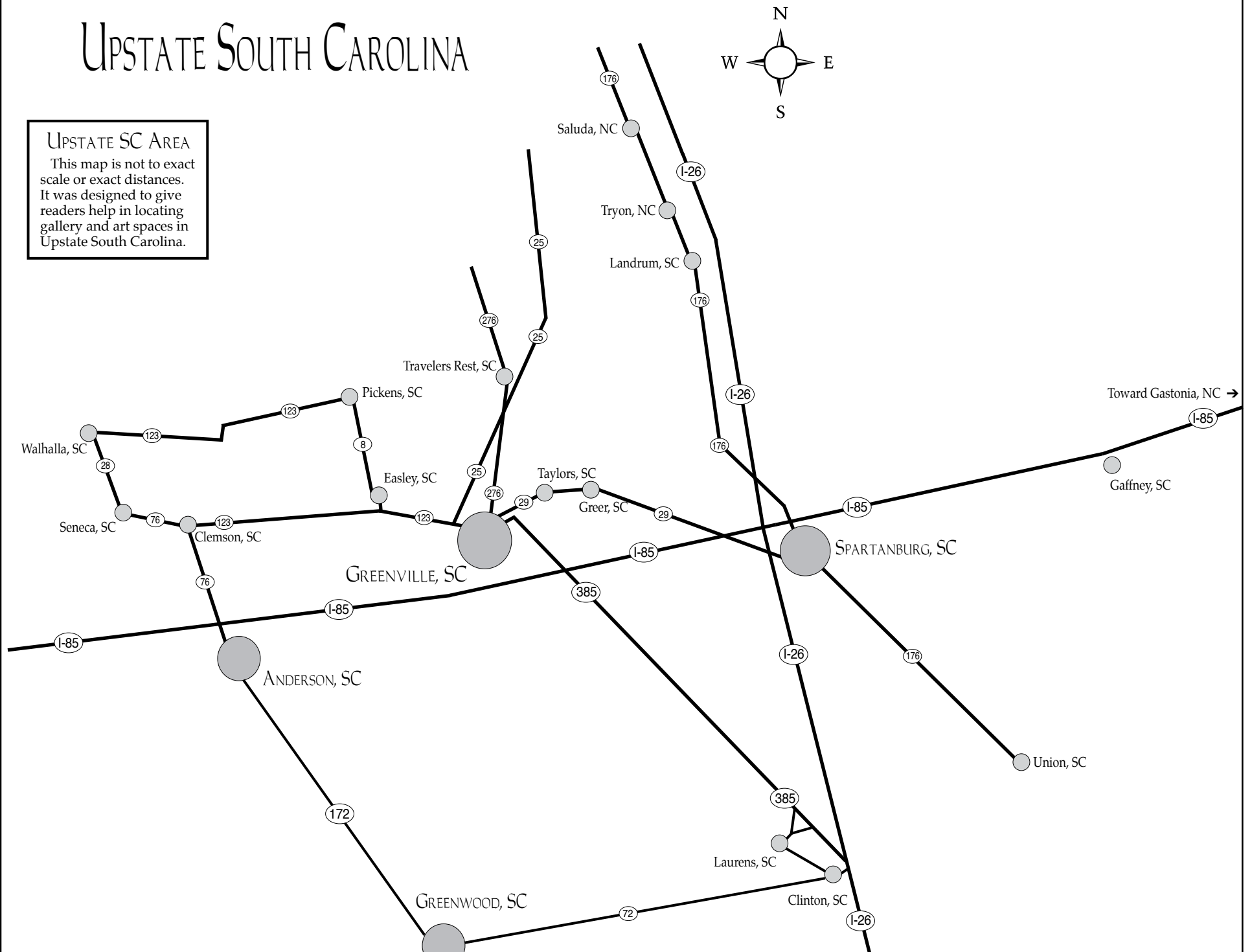


# UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA

## UPSTATE SC AREA

This map is not to exact scale or exact distances. It was designed to give readers help in locating gallery and art spaces in Upstate South Carolina.



## West Main Artists Co-op

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than wait until the end of the exhibit, making gift buying more convenient,” Committee Chair Nancy Williamson said.

While open-studio events are popular this time of year, *Open Doors* offers the rare opportunity to visit at least 25 of the member artists in their working studios and another 15 artists as they greet guests, talk about their work, or give demonstrations - all at one location. The studio tours provide an intimate view into the artist’s life and studio, plus visitors will be able to see where and how ideas are conceived and developed. The artists will discuss their work, and there will be various demonstrations throughout the evening on letterpress, printing, pottery, jewelry making, glass arts, watercolor, textile arts, and more.

To encourage seeing as many studios as possible, the refreshments will be scattered throughout the building, mostly in the artists’ studios. This will promote a “scavenger hunt” type of atmosphere as patrons search the building for their favorite artists and refreshments.

WMAC is home to six performing artists. During the Nov. 15 *Open Studio* reception, at least two members will perform. Josh Tennant, guitarist, will entertain guests with his guitar; Sandy Staggs and Proud Mary Theatre Company will entertain with show tunes.

In addition to the opening reception on Nov. 15, two other special events will give patrons the opportunity to interact with the artists while viewing *Open Doors*. On Dec. 1, the Co-op will host “Studio Saturday” from 10am-4pm. The day will include many artists working and receiving patrons in their studios, refreshments, and a 2pm performance by Sparkle City Impro.

“Some people just cannot make ArtWalk on Thursday evenings, so we have this Saturday event to accommodate people who use the weekend for community activities and holiday shopping,” Williamson said.



The exhibit’s closing reception will be on Dec. 20, from 5-9pm, during Spartanburg’s December ArtWalk. Again, many of the artists will be on hand to greet patrons, discuss their new work, and answer questions. “Even though this is closing reception, the exhibits will stay up until Dec. 29,” Williamson stressed.

“Because of the size and diversity of the exhibit, the Co-op is promoting it both within Spartanburg and throughout the region,” Williamson said. “Last year, we had a great many visitors from North Carolina and areas outside of the Upstate. It’s not often that an exhibit of this size with strictly locally made art comes around. It is not just an exhibit, it is an event and an art destination.”

The arts venue is located in a 20,000-square-foot former church building - an iconic Spartanburg landmark - with 32 individual studios that more than 50 artists call home. It is located on West Main Street in

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## TOM STANLEY: STRUCTURES



NOVEMBER 15 - DECEMBER 31, 2018

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