

# Christmas at The Ruins

December 3, 2016

10:00 am-4:00 pm

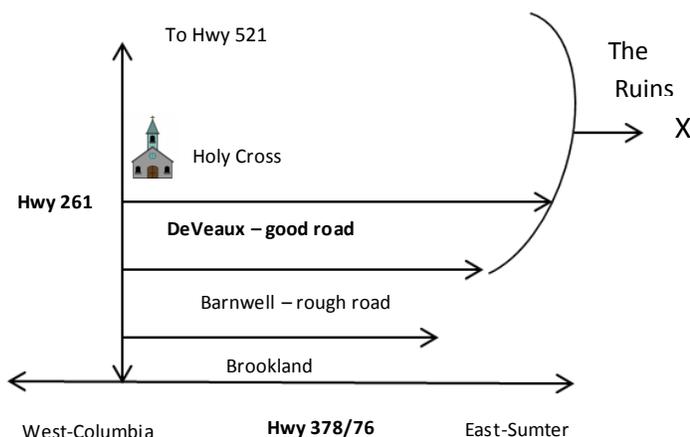


For the third year in a row, Colonel & Mrs. Rett Summerville will open their Stateburg home to kick off Christmas celebrations in the area.

Each year, there is a little something different to see and learn about at the Open House. There is a tour of the main floor which is decorated as it would have been in the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> centuries in lovely local greenery. Knowledgeable docents, some in period dress, will share histories of the residents and of the various original pieces of furniture. More information is always turning up; there is a new piece that has returned home, and a mystery has been solved with another.

Guests will be able to wander the grounds and see this year's new exhibits which focus on revolutionary times and Stateburg. The small museum is always adding "found" items; our favorite artist-in-residence for the day will return; there will be a fife-playing musician, and a meet-and-greet with a direct descendant of the original owner, John Mayrant! For the more adventuresome, hayrides off into the back country will be offered, and light refreshments will be served. (You will be urged to try a jumble, a bit of shrub and a taste of revolutionary-era gatorade.)

The house was built around 1784 by the naval hero John Mayrant on land owned by General Thomas Sumter. Mayrant served with John Paul Jones in the Revolutionary War. After passing through the hands of several owners, the house was purchased in 1838 by Robert Marion DeVeaux and Videau Marion Singleton DeVeaux who renovated it into 9,000 square feet and gave it the look it still has today.



1257 Barnwell Drive, Sumter, SC 29154

There is no admission charge however contributions to the ongoing restoration projects will be gratefully accepted. All contributions go directly to the preservation efforts and none of the money is used to offset tour expenses