

Granite monument dedicated Tuesday at Congaree Boat Ramp

Mrs. Barnie A. Jordan, right, admires monument to her husband, a Columbia contractor.

Columbia anglers celebrate Congaree Boat Ramp opening

By PETER O'BOYLE III State Staff Writer

It's been a long time coming, but Carl Simpson can now go fishing anytime he wants.

Simpson, a Shandon resident, first proposed to elected officials 12 years ago that a boat ramp be built for Columbia anglers and canoers.

The project overcame bureaucratic inertia, landowner opposition and even protests from sportsmen's groups before finally becoming a reality Tuesday with the dedication of the Congaree Boat Ramp.

"My son and I can leave our house and be fishing in 15 minutes," said a pleased Simpson after Tuesday's dedication ceremony. "I feel like I live in a resort area."

Former state Sen. Hyman Rubin, who officiated at the dedication, said the ramp "has been a long time coming. But I've learned that to accomplish many fine and outstanding things, first you have to live a long time."

At Tuesday's ceremony, the boat ramp officially was dedicated in memory of Barnie A. Jordan Jr., a Columbia general contractor, school board and hospital trustee and member of the Public Service Authority. The family of Jordan, who died in 1980, was at the dedication ceremony, and Mrs. Jordan unveiled the granite monument that bears her husband's name and a map of the river.

A convenient access point to the Congaree, at the end of Rosewood Drive behind an industrial and warehouse area, first was proposed nearly 10 years ago. Until the dock opened, local anglers had to drive 20 miles to S.C. 601 to put their boats in the river.

And once the legislative delegation decided the dock would be built, controversy arose. Property for the

See Ramp, 5-C

Congaree Boat Ramp Dedication

Tuesday, April 2, 1985

In Memory of

BARNIE A. JORDAN, JR.

FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS COMMUNITY AND TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA: DO HEREBY DEDICATE THE "BARNIE A. JORDAN, JR. MEMORIAL BOAT RAMP" ON THE CONGAREE RIVER IN RICHLAND COUNTY AS A PERMANENT EXPRESSION OF OUR APPRECIATION AND RESPECT FOR A MAN THAT DID SO MUCH TOWARD THE PROGRESS OF HIS COMMUNITY AND STATE: HE WILL BE LONG REMEMBERED BY ALL WHO KNEW AND LOVED HIM.

"Rivers have what man most respects and longs for in his own life and thought — a capacity for renewal and replenishment, continual energy, creativity, cleansing."

John M. Kaufmann, "Flow East"