

For Immediate Release

SCENIC PARIS MOUNTAIN PROPERTY PRESERVED

January 5, 2004

A richly scenic 15-acre tract on Paris Mountain has been preserved through a conservation easement granted to Upstate Forever by the late philanthropist Allen Graham. The heavily wooded property can be easily seen by visitors at Paris Mountain State Park and by travelers along Altamont Road.

"This is wonderful news for the Park. The easement will preserve one of the Park's most scenic vistas forever," said Park Manager Ty Houck. "Often, the critical need for viewshed protection is overlooked because it is an intangible, but it is just as important as many other conservation factors. It would greatly diminish the park experience if our pristine views were compromised."

The easement provides that the existing home on the tract may be maintained and that only one additional house may be built. Stringent controls are placed on lighting and tree removal.

Protection of this stunning property is yet another legacy left to our region by Allen Graham, a founding donor to the Peace Center for the Performing Arts and a benefactor and leader to many other local organizations and initiatives that improved the quality of life in Greenville County. Mr. Graham passed away shortly after the granting of the easement. Upstate Forever is among the many who mourn his loss, while celebrating the generosity and achievement for which he will always be remembered.

Upstate Forever is a nonprofit organization that administers and manages a land trust program for the Upstate region of South Carolina. The organization now holds 13 easements protecting over 3,000 acres.

Contacts: Dana Leavitt, Upstate Forever, 864-250-0500
Ty Houck, Paris Mountain State Park, 864-244-0860