## **Clifton Riverside Beach**

Who would have ever thought Clifton would have a riverside sunning beach?

Ceasing operations in the 1970s, the <u>Clifton No.2 Mill</u> plant was used as a warehouse for a few years after which the property was sold to an investor with the hopes that it would be developed into riverside living apartments. Repossessed from the investor, the property was placed on the market at which time Spartanburg County purchased the property in the spring of 2014.

An announcement was made by the County Officials that the property would be developed into a recreational playground for the area. The first stage of the development was the beach for sunbathing and swimming. Trees and scrubs were cleared from the area along with a walk way down to the beach, waste containers were installed on the beach. A parking area was developed across the road from the beach.









On hot sunny afternoons there will be from 50 to 100 people scattered over the beach, in the river swimming or on the bridge where some jump into the pond above the dam. It is not unusual to see the parking lot overflowing with 10 to 15 cars parked along the roadside towards the Clifton/Glendale Road.

Today, when I took the foregoing pictures, there were 50 to 60 cars with 75 to 100 people on the beach, in swimming, floating or riding in balloons on the water. Twenty one were on the bridge where they were jumping into the mill pond swimming.

Clifton Mills was founded and operated by the D.E. Converse Company of Glendale, S. C.

Written June 14, 2014 Clarence E. Crocker