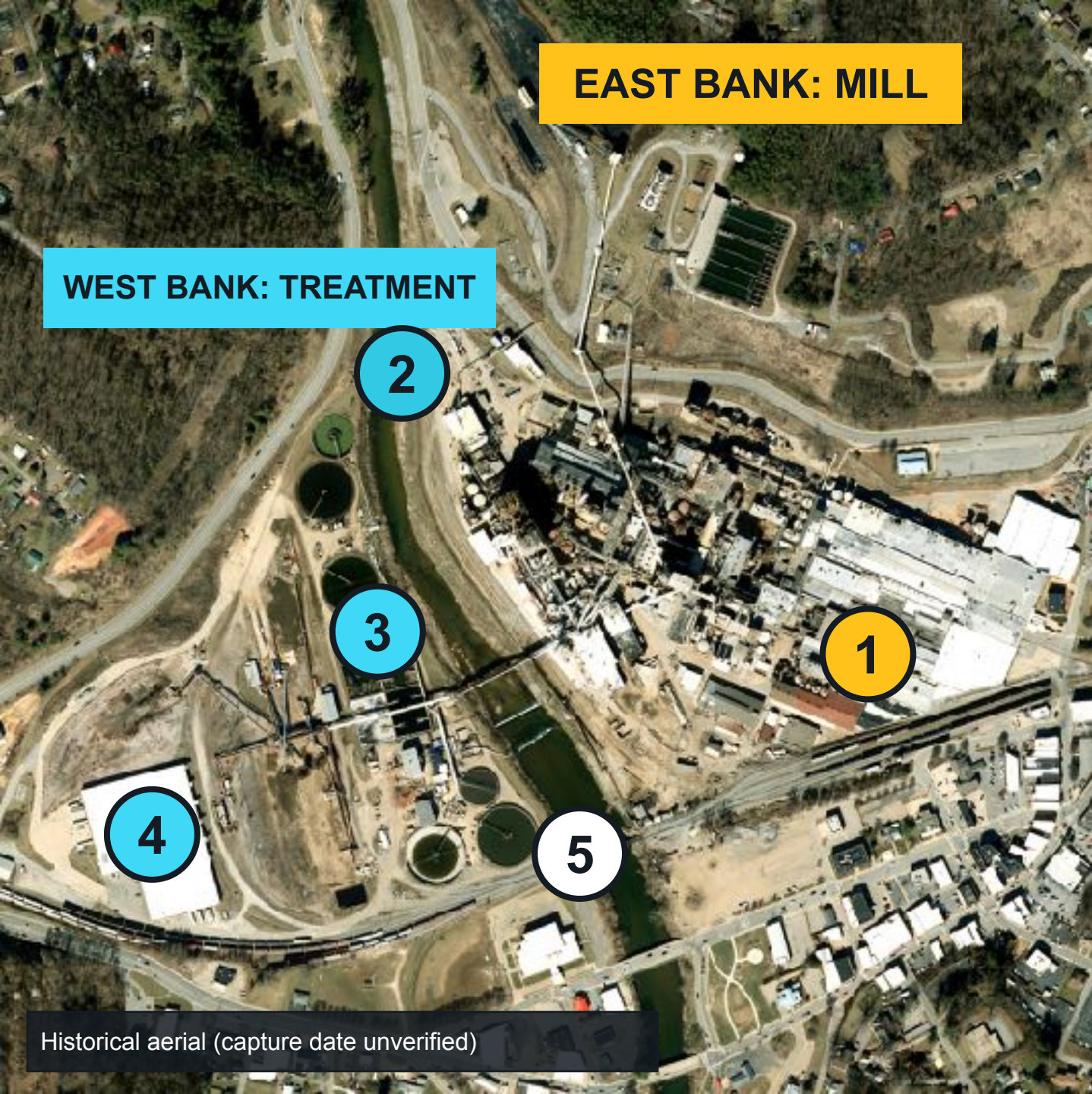


An aerial photograph of the Former Canton Paper Mill Site. The map shows a river (Pigeon River) flowing through the site. Various industrial structures, including a large mill complex, a wastewater treatment plant with circular tanks, and a chip yard with a warehouse are visible. A railway line runs along the bottom of the site. Five numbered markers are placed on the map: 1 (yellow circle) is on the mill complex; 2 (blue circle) is on the river; 3 (blue circle) is on the wastewater treatment plant; 4 (blue circle) is on the chip yard; and 5 (white circle) is on the river improvement plan area.

EAST BANK: MILL

WEST BANK: TREATMENT

Former Canton Paper Mill Site

Canton, NC. Historic site: about 185 acres
Status as of October 13, 2026

1

Former mill complex

Closed June 2023. Demolition ongoing.

2

Pigeon River

Flows north through the site

3

Existing wastewater plant

Continues municipal sewage treatment

4

Chip yard + warehouse

Town plans new plant in the chip yard

5

River improvement plan

Proposed dam removal and benching

Historical aerial (capture date unverified)

Markers show general areas, not parcel boundaries.
Esri imagery credited in original. Sources in notes.

The Plant: local enterprises and community gathering

Pittsboro, North Carolina



Entrance and tenant directory



Community gathering, 2024



Metal Brixx Cafe

Reported measures

17 acres

Site area

Nearly 24

Small businesses

2023

NC Business Council
Sustainable Business of the Year

Project highlights

Food and beverage producers, shops and creative businesses share the campus.

Markets, public art, trails and events bring community activity to the site.

1940s

Sunshine Gardens
flower farm

Later

Metal alloys plant

Early 2000s

Conversion toward
a business village

Canton idea: leased production spaces, shared gathering areas and markets

Business count is approximate. Site area and the award show scale and recognition; job totals and owner returns were not established.

Eden Campus: university and industry partnership

Guardbridge, Scotland



Redeveloped campus and waterfront



Former paper mill archive



Rapid Prototyping Centre

2008

Paper mill closes

2010

University acquires
the site

2023

Entrepreneurship
Centre opens

Reported measures

£168M

Investment reported by the university

1,100+

Jobs reported; job mix unspecified

6,000 t/yr

Carbon reductions
(university estimate)

Project highlights

An institutional anchor links business tenants with research and entrepreneurial support.

Battery technology, energy research and prototyping support applied industry.

Canton idea: committed employers with a college or university training partner

Investment and jobs are university-reported; timeframe and job breakdown are unspecified. Staff housed include existing university staff.

Evergreen Brick Works: markets and public space

Toronto, Ontario, Canada



Preserved brickworks and quarry ponds



Saturday Farmers Market, 2025



Outdoor learning and nature play

Reported measures

191,583

Farmers Market visits in 2025

CA\$3.77M

Direct market vendor income in 2025

9,315

Children in nature programs in 2025

Project highlights

Markets, events and education help fund this social enterprise’s public space.

Waste diversion reached 91.66% in 2025. Flood and accessibility upgrades continue.

Industrial era

Brickworks and clay quarry

2010

Community campus opens

2025

Children’s Garden reopens

Canton idea: flood-compatible public space, markets and outdoor learning

Visits can include repeat attendance. Vendor income measures market activity; it does not establish property-owner returns.

Groveton Industrial Park: a manufacturing anchor

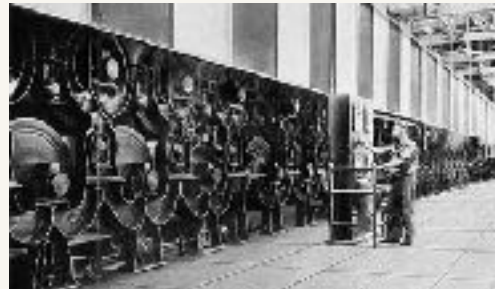
Groveton, New Hampshire



Former mill and river; uploaded in 2008



Recruitment announcement, 2016



Historic papermaking machinery

Reported measures

100+

Jobs created at the facility
(reported 2018)

73,000 ft²

Manufacturing space
(leased 2016; later purchased)

US\$3M

Initial equipment investment
(reported 2017)

Project highlights

Utility improvements and workforce recruitment helped attract a manufacturer.

The lease led to a building purchase; broader site investment exceeded US\$15M by 2019.

2007

Wausau paper mill closes

2014

Chapman acquires the site

Jan 2017

NSA manufacturing begins

Canton idea: recruit a manufacturer, then match workforce training and utilities

Employment and investment figures are historical; current facility headcount was not established. All three photographs are archival.

MASS MoCA: industrial reuse and a creative economy

North Adams, Massachusetts



Historic factory campus becomes an arts destination



Before: Sprague Electric

2025 study, FY2023-24 averages

177,000

annual visits

522

regional jobs supported

\$83.5M

annual regional economic output

\$33.4M

annual offsite visitor spending



Solid Sound festival, 2024



Sol LeWitt galleries, 2008



Working artist studios

Culture + commercial tenants

100,000+ sq. ft. of leased business space

Phase III: \$65M budget
\$25.4M state + about \$40M private giving

Donations and sponsorship support operations

1860

Textile printing

1942

Electronics

1985

Factory closes

1999

Museum opens

2017

Building 6 opens

Canton idea: a cultural anchor with business tenants and phased reuse

Jobs include regional ripple effects and mixed full/part-time work. Economic output is separate from owner profit.