



# BROWNFIELDS



*a success story:*

## Chalk Line Mill

Anniston, AL

Brownfields Grants including a Job Training Grant

*Renaissance in the historic downtown core  
Revitalization to a post-industrial site brings new promise to downtown*

### Project Background:

The Chalk Line Mill property was the site of a textile mill which operated from 1887 until 1994. Demolition activities in 2004 removed most of the structures on-site, but also left large, unsightly piles of debris scattered across this 14-acre property. The City of Anniston later acquired the property and conducted environmental site assessments which identified the presence of arsenic contaminated soil, asbestos-containing materials, lead-based paint and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The City applied for and received a \$200,000 Brownfields cleanup grant in 2007 to address contamination on the property and the Appalachian Regional Commission provided an additional \$150,000 in funding. During the planning stages for the cleanup, the City held numerous public meetings and charrettes which led to development of a master site plan designed to link the property to Anniston's downtown, establishing connections with the neighborhood immediately west of the property. Quite unexpectedly, an opportunity arose near the end of the cleanup to consider the property for a new Calhoun County Department of Resources facility. The new \$13.5 million building, completed in October 2012, is designed to be 30 percent more energy efficient than an average building and may become the first LEED silver certified building in Alabama to be built on a former industrial site. On March 22, 2013 an Open House was held to showcase the new building and to thank all organizations, including EPA and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), for their efforts leading to the construction of this impressive new facility.

### Key Accomplishments:

- Transformation of the post-industrial site to eventual mixed-use development that may include public buildings, open green space and a continuation of the business district.
- Removal and disposal of 220 tons of asbestos-containing debris, 300 tons of arsenic impacted soil, and approximately 15 tons of petroleum impacted soil.
- First LEED silver certified building in Alabama to be built on a former industrial site. First tenant is slated to be the Calhoun County Department of Resources.

### Project Details: Old Chalk Line Mill

**Address:** 215 West 11th Street , Anniston AL 36201

**Size:** 14 acres

**Former Use:** Textile Mill

**Current Use:** Calhoun Co. Dept. of Human Resources

### Project Partners:

City of Anniston; Calhoun County; Appalachian Regional Commission; Bullock Environmental, LLC; ADEM; US EPA

The old Chalk Line Mill, also known as the Anniston Cotton Manufacturing Company, was significant as an example of the spirit of industrialization that grew in the New South following the War Between the States. Built as a companion industry to the city's growing iron industry and as a source of employment for the wives and children of iron workers, the mill was the first textile mill built in town.



**BEFORE:** Chalk Line Mill, cir 1880s



**AFTER:** The new DHR building completed in Oct 2012

Year	Grant Type	Amount
2001	Assessment Pilot	\$200,000
2007	Cleanup (Chalk Line Mill)	\$200,000
2008	Job Training	\$200,000