MILL TOWNS

• Graniteville was South Carolina’s first developed mill town
• It was modeled after New England mill towns
• The great expansion in textile milling and mill towns occurred near the turn of the twentieth century
Graniteville

- Founded by William Gregg
- Opened in 1849
- Based on New England Model
- Provided Housing, Churches, Stores, Academy
- Constructed of blue granite, the original bell towers remain
Gothic Revival was a popular style of architecture in New England in the 1840s. William Gregg copied that style in Graniteville.
The buildings were framed vertically in the board and batten style.
Graniteville Canal

- Constructed 1846
- One mile long
- Five feet deep
- Fifteen feet wide at bottom
- Forty foot drop
Graniteville Canal
The original mill was encircled as mill operations expanded.
Boarding houses were constructed for unmarried workers.
Housing for the mill workers also expanded beyond the original mill village.
Vaucluse, S.C.

The textile mill is in the background. Company store, meeting hall, and post office in foreground.
The reorientation of the railroad system at the turn of the twentieth century allowed South Carolina’s textile products easy access to a national market.
Whaley Mill: Olympia in Columbia, S.C.
Whaley Mill: Buffalo, S.C.
Whaley Mill: Whitmire, S.C.
West Pelzer, South Carolina