

## BATES MILL COMPLEX

Lewiston, Maine  
Assessment Grant

### *Former Mill Complex Redeveloped for Light Industrial Use, with a 300,000 Square Foot Convention Center Planned*

<b>ADDRESS:</b>	15-28 Canal Street, Lewiston, ME 04240
<b>PROPERTY SIZE:</b>	10 Acres
<b>FORMER USE:</b>	Textile Mill
<b>CURRENT USES:</b>	Tenants include large corporations, an education center, other non-profits, and a restaurant.
<b>EPA GRANT RECIPIENT:</b>	<b>PROJECT PARTNERS:</b>
City of Lewiston received a \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment Grant and \$300,000 in Supplemental Assistance funding	Lewiston Mill Redevelopment Corporation; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Economic Development Administration; U.S. Department of Agriculture; private industry



For additional data and geographic information for this and other Brownfields Grants, please visit EPA's:  
**Envirofacts** - [www.epa.gov/enviro/html/bms/bms\\_query.html](http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/bms/bms_query.html)  
**Enviromapper** - [www.epa.gov/enviro/bf](http://www.epa.gov/enviro/bf)

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Lewiston's Bates Mill was once the largest employer in Maine, with activity dating back to the mid-1850s. The enormous textile complex served as both the geographic and cultural center of downtown Lewiston, as most of its workers lived and shopped within walking distance. The gradual decline of the textile industry led to the mill's closure and abandonment. By the time the city took ownership of the 10-acre site, Lewiston's poverty rate had climbed as high as 50 percent.

#### KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Created a plan to redevelop the historic site into a modern office and light industrial complex
- Cleaned up Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Leveraged a total of \$35.7 million toward cleanup and redevelopment efforts
- Leveraged more than 1,200 jobs through the completion of redevelopment

#### OUTCOME:

The Bates Mill site provides prime office and light industrial space with the interiors and exteriors of the buildings preserving the historical setting with large windows, exposed beam, and brick exteriors. The Grantee leveraged a total of \$35.7 million for cleanup and redevelopment and leveraged more than 1,200 jobs through completion of redevelopment. Future plans for the site include utilizing a 300,000 square foot mill building for convention space, expanding arts and entertainment venues along the adjacent canal, and creating pedestrian paths to the nearby river and a local recreational park.



The newly restored Bates Mill Complex in Lewiston, Maine.