

# PUTNAM

## THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT ACT SUCCESS STORIES

No  
129



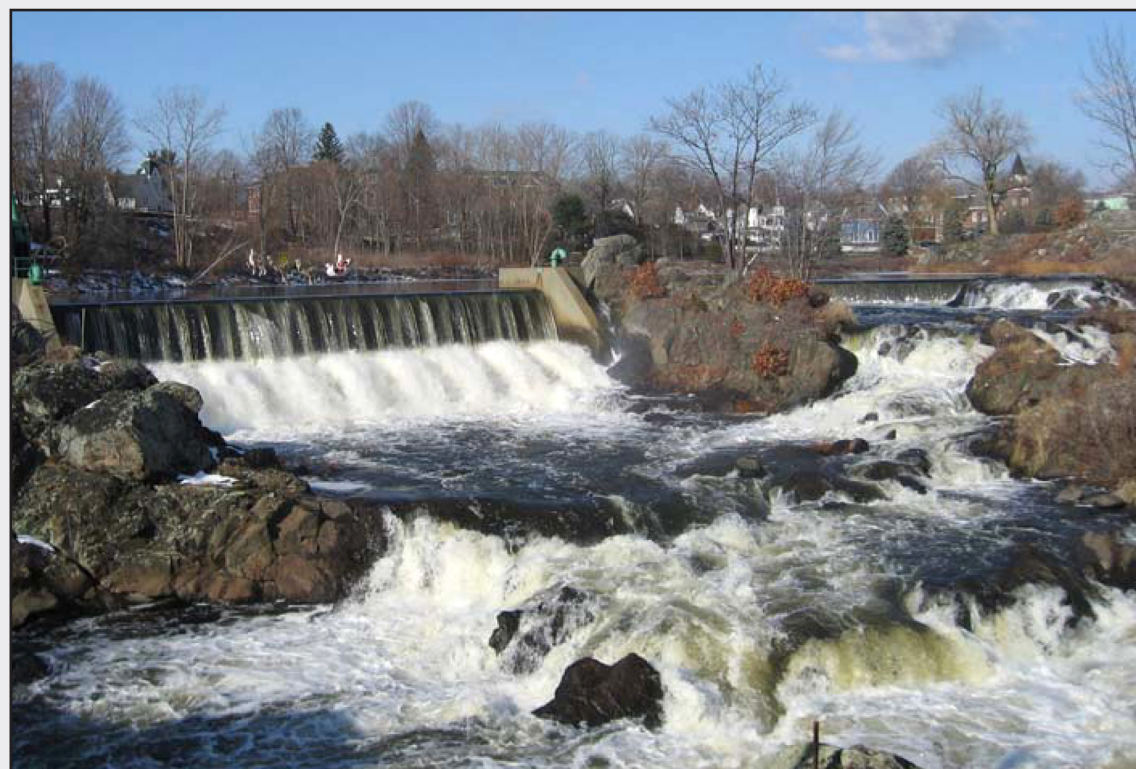
**CARGILL FALLS MILL**  
Putnam, CT  
Historic Preservation



A \$20,000 pre-development grant from the **Community Investment Act (CIA)** through the Commission on Culture & Tourism and the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation has supported the Town of **Putnam** in its efforts to help redevelop the historic Cargill Falls Mill. **Four project-related jobs were created.**

The project defines a path for development which preserves and restores a vital example of Connecticut's historic industrial architecture while promoting responsible growth initiatives and downtown revitalization for Putnam. Cargill Falls Mill has tre-

mendous historic significance, starting with a grist mill in 1730, and then the Pomfret Cotton Mills were built on the site in 1807, making it the oldest such site in the nation.



The Mill complex has been underutilized and in disrepair for many years. Its prominent location makes it ideal for redevelopment. It is expected that redevelopment of Historic Cargill Falls Mill will serve as a model for other industrial sites in Putnam, Killingly, Thompson and the region. Redevelopment of Connecticut's mills helps to promote economic and cultural diversity, creates a sense of place for community and preserves our historic heritage.

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The Community Investment Act, enacted in 2005, stimulates private investment to protect our natural, agricultural, and historic resources, and to assist affordable housing. CIA funds come from a surcharge on real estate document recording fees. They are then invested in agriculture viability, dairy farm support, historic preservation, open space, farmland, affordable housing, Local Capital Improvement Projects and Town Clerk records management.