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## A Connection to the River

The Androscoggin River is as important to the site today as it was to the original planners of the Bates Mills. Lewiston remained an agricultural village well into the American Industrial Revolution. In the 1790s, the Slater Mill in Pawtucket Rhode Island became the first weaving mill in the US. The plans and equipment came from England but the capital came from the Boston aristocracy.

Although these investors recognized the hydraulic potential of the site, it was not until 1950 when two men consolidated the farm land and sold it to Mr. Bates.

Today the site retains that great potential being located close to hydroelectric power and a steady stream of cooling potential.

This diagram represents that potential. (Units in Megawatts)

