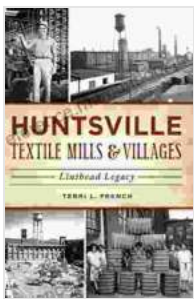


# Huntsville Textile Mills Villages: A History and Legacy of Lintheads and Landmarks

The history of Huntsville, Alabama, is intertwined with the textile industry. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Huntsville was home to a thriving textile mill industry, and the mills played a major role in the city's economy and social fabric.



## Huntsville Textile Mills & Villages: Linthead Legacy

(Landmarks) by Marie Favereau

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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The textile mills in Huntsville were built by Northern industrialists who were drawn to the city's cheap labor and abundant water power. The mills employed thousands of workers, many of whom were women and children. The workers lived in company-owned villages that were built around the mills. These villages were often isolated from the rest of the city, and the workers were often paid very low wages and worked long hours.

Despite the hardships, the textile mills in Huntsville provided a livelihood for many families. The workers were able to earn a steady income, and the

villages provided them with housing, healthcare, and other amenities. The mills also contributed to the city's economy, and they helped to make Huntsville a major industrial center.

The textile industry in Huntsville began to decline in the mid-20th century, as mills closed and jobs were lost. The last textile mill in Huntsville closed in the 1980s. However, the legacy of the textile mills lives on in the city's many historic landmarks.

### **Lintheads: The Workers of Huntsville's Textile Mills**

The workers in Huntsville's textile mills were known as lintheads. They were often young women and children who worked long hours for very low wages. The lintheads were often exposed to dangerous chemicals and machinery, and they often suffered from respiratory problems and other health issues.

Despite the hardships, the lintheads were a proud and independent people. They were often the sole breadwinners for their families, and they helped to build the city of Huntsville. The lintheads are remembered for their hard work and determination, and they are a symbol of the city's industrial heritage.

### **Landmarks of Huntsville's Textile Mill Villages**

The textile mills in Huntsville left behind a legacy of historic landmarks. These landmarks include:

- **The Huntsville Textile Mill Village Historic District:** This district is home to a collection of well-preserved textile mill villages. The villages

include houses, churches, schools, and other buildings that date back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

- **The Merrimack Mill Village:** This village was built in 1889 and was once home to one of Huntsville's largest textile mills. The village includes a number of well-preserved houses, as well as a church, a school, and a store.
- **The West Huntsville Cotton Mill Village:** This village was built in 1902 and was home to a cotton mill that employed over 1,000 workers. The village includes a number of well-preserved houses, as well as a church, a school, and a store.

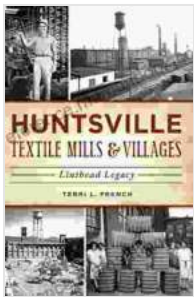
These landmarks are a reminder of the important role that the textile industry played in the history of Huntsville. They are also a reminder of the hard work and sacrifices of the lintheads who worked in the mills.

## **The Legacy of Huntsville's Textile Mills**

The textile mills in Huntsville left a lasting legacy on the city. The mills helped to build the city's economy and social fabric, and they provided a livelihood for many families. The mills also contributed to the city's industrial heritage, and they helped to make Huntsville a major industrial center.

The legacy of the textile mills is still alive in Huntsville today. The city's many historic landmarks are a reminder of the important role that the industry played in the city's history. The lintheads who worked in the mills are remembered for their hard work and determination, and they are a symbol of the city's industrial heritage.

The textile mills in Huntsville were a major part of the city's history. The mills employed thousands of workers, and they helped to build the city's economy and social fabric. The legacy of the textile mills lives on in the city's many historic landmarks and in the memories of the lintheads who worked in the mills.

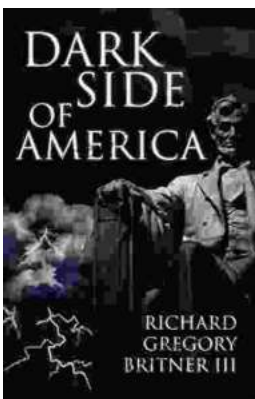


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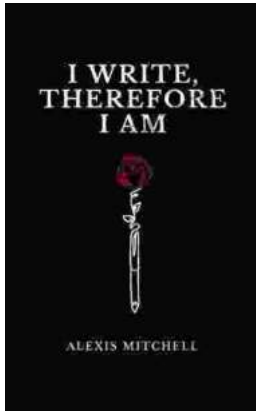
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