

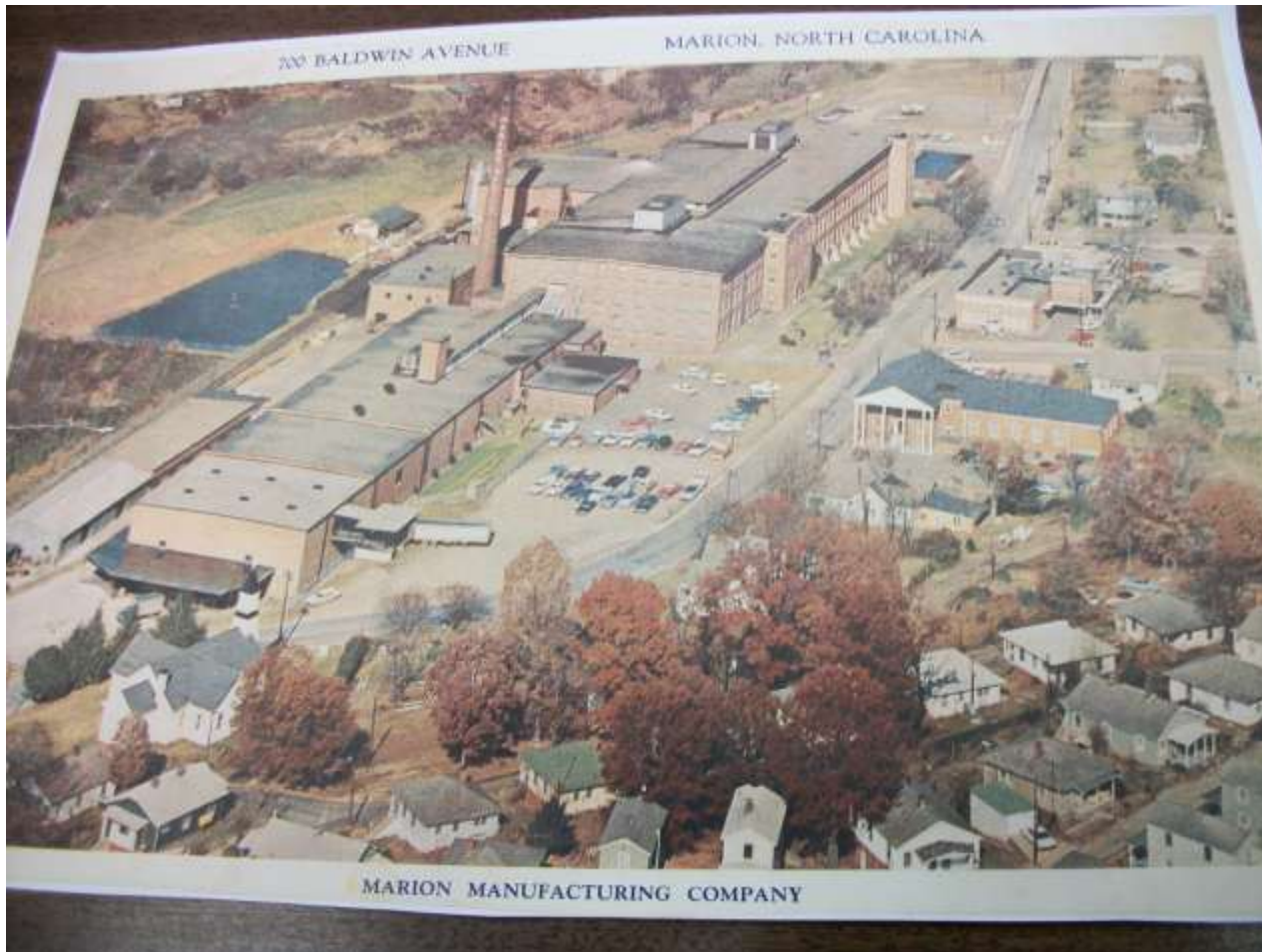
“Woven Together”

McDowell County Public Library



Marion Manufacturing Company

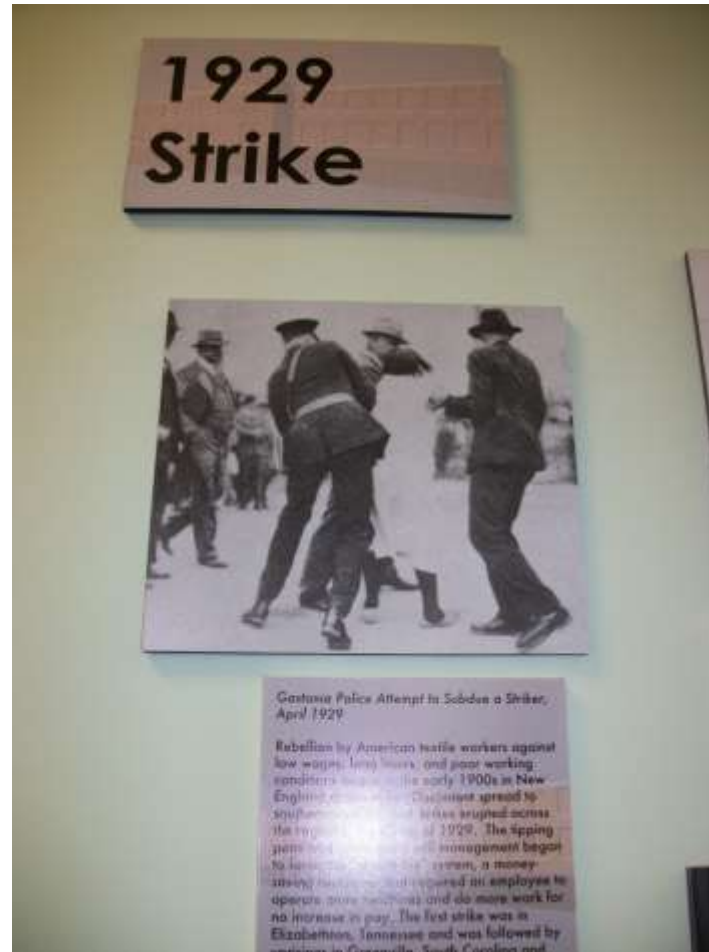
was one of Marion's largest employers for 80 years.



The idea for this exhibit began when our NC History librarian, Patti Holda, rescued some old ledger books before the building was destroyed.



The plant was the site of a 1929 Labor Strike in which 6 men were killed. Sinclair Lewis based the book *Cheap and Contented Labor* on these events.



We knew we wanted the exhibit to honor the six men who were killed, but also show a more complete picture of mill village life.



The McDowell News ran our story asking if people had additional photos and artifacts they were willing to loan for the exhibit.



Several people loaned scrapbooks, photos, clippings, and other items.



A pine needle lint brush used by weavers



Warp Comb

Flaws in the warp threads would occasionally cause the threads to break. This comb was used to remove the flaws. The metal pick on the end removed especially stubborn flaws.

Lint Brush

The pine needle brush was used by weavers to remove excess lint from the warp threads to minimize breakages. Pine needles were preferred because they were stiff and durable, and did not retain lint, making them easier to clean.

179 1844
Pine Needle
Lint Brush

Camouflage fabric made for Operation Desert Storm

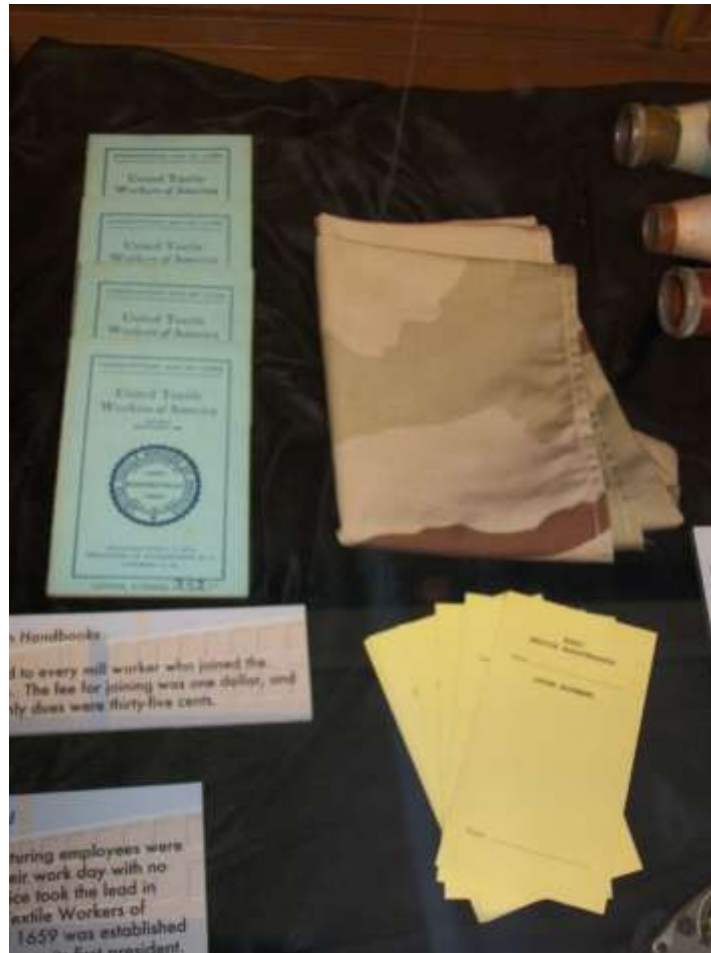


Exhibit guests poring over scrapbooks enjoyed reuniting with old friends.



The Mountain Gateway Museum in Old Fort mounted the photos for us and hosted the exhibit for an additional 6 months.



Ribbon Cutting of the permanent exhibit at the McDowell JobLink building in October 2012

