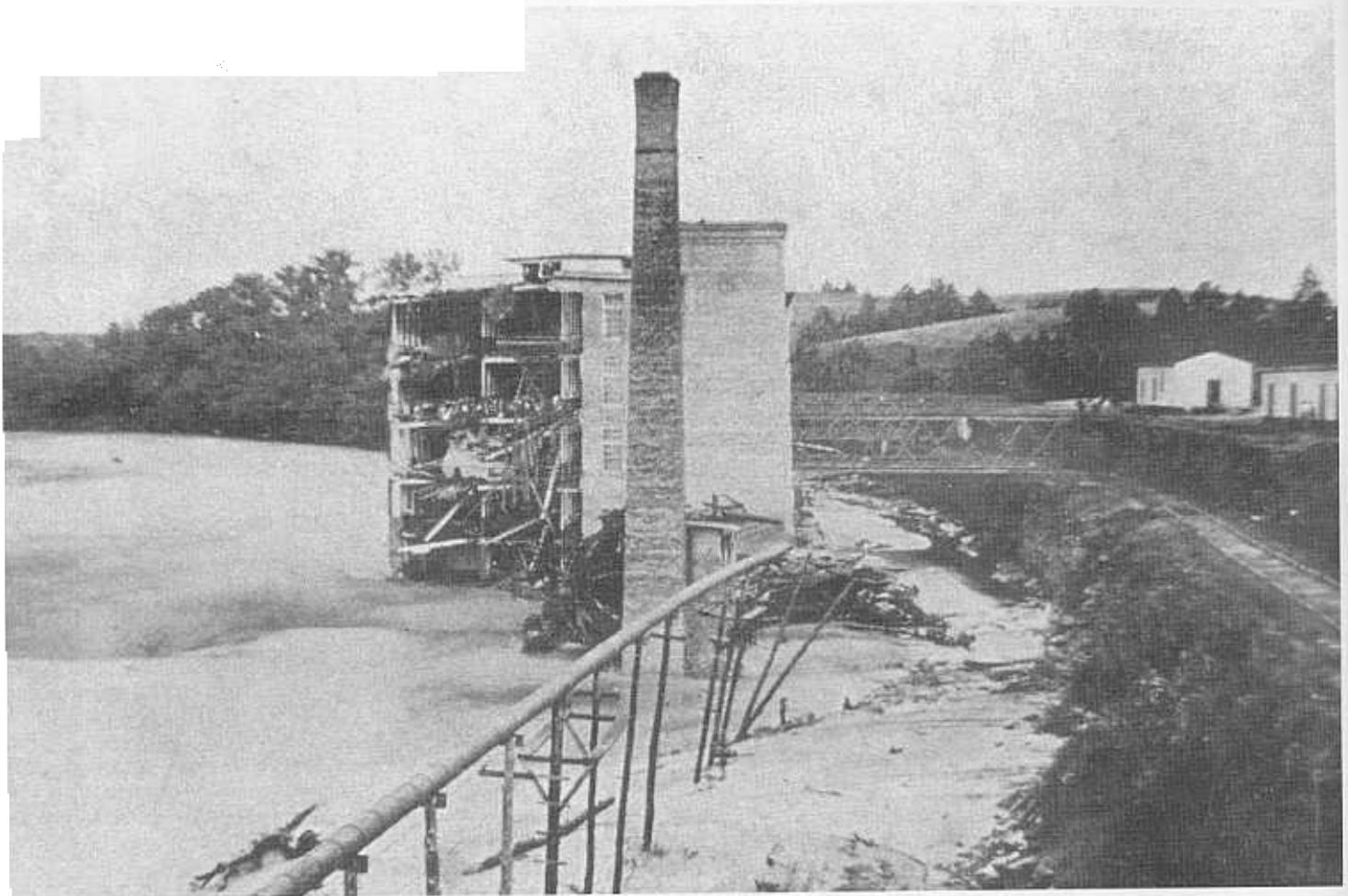
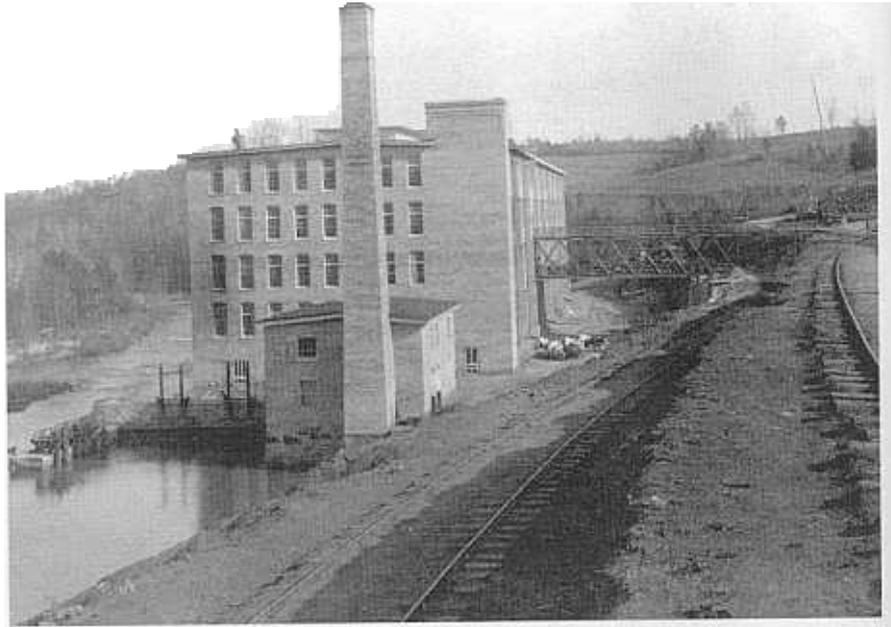
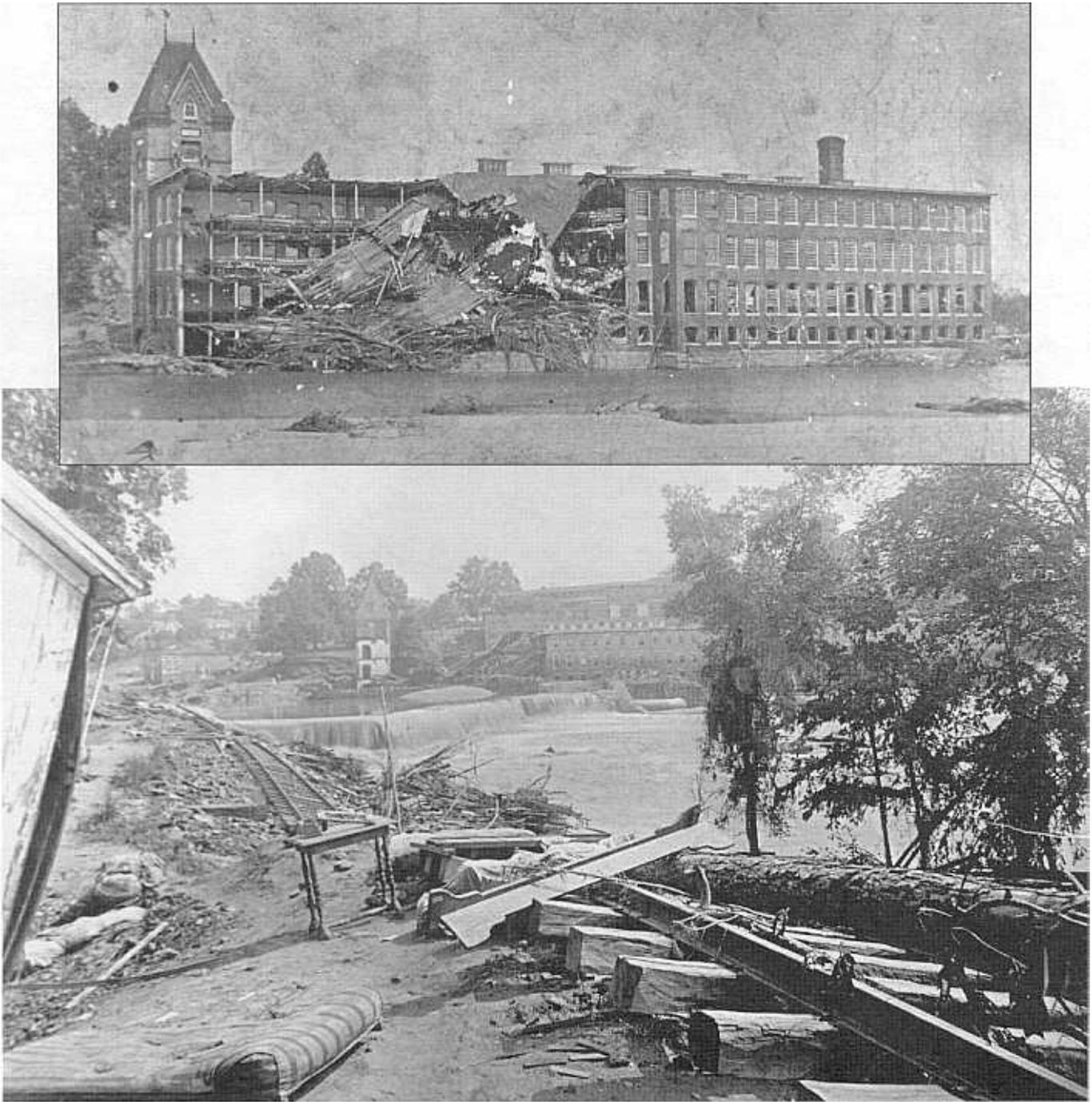


In June 1903 gentle rains fell for nearly five days prior to the torrential downpour on the night of June 6. A worker at one of the Clifton mills became alarmed during the early morning hours at the rapidly rising waters of the Pacolet River, and he gave the alarm. By six o'clock that morning, Clifton Mill No. 3 was swept downstream against Clifton Mill No. 1. In the chaos more than seventy people died. This 1882 photograph of the Pacolet Mill illustrates why the flood of 1903 was so devastating by showing how close to the regular level of the river most mills were built. Just to the right of the mill, cotton bales await processing. The lower photo shows the aftermath of the flood at Pacolet Mills. —Photographs courtesy of Lockwood Greene, Spartanburg County Regional Museum



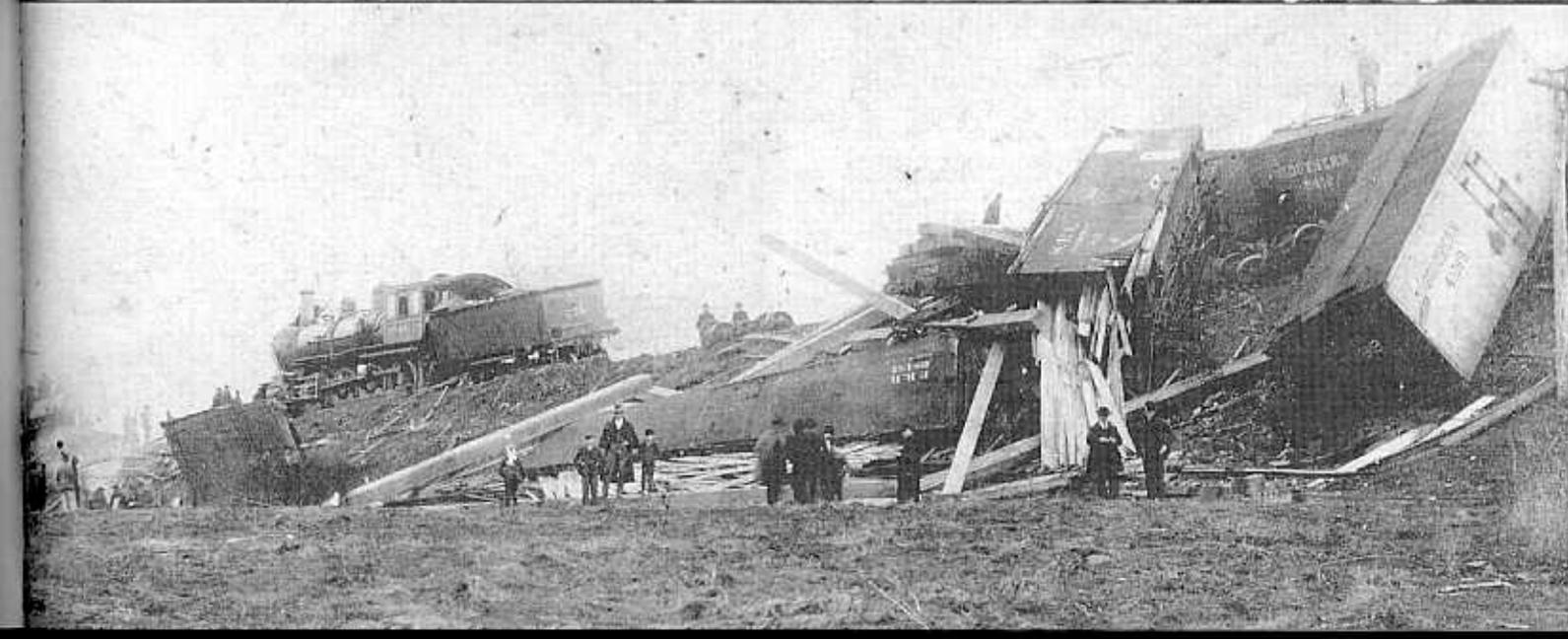
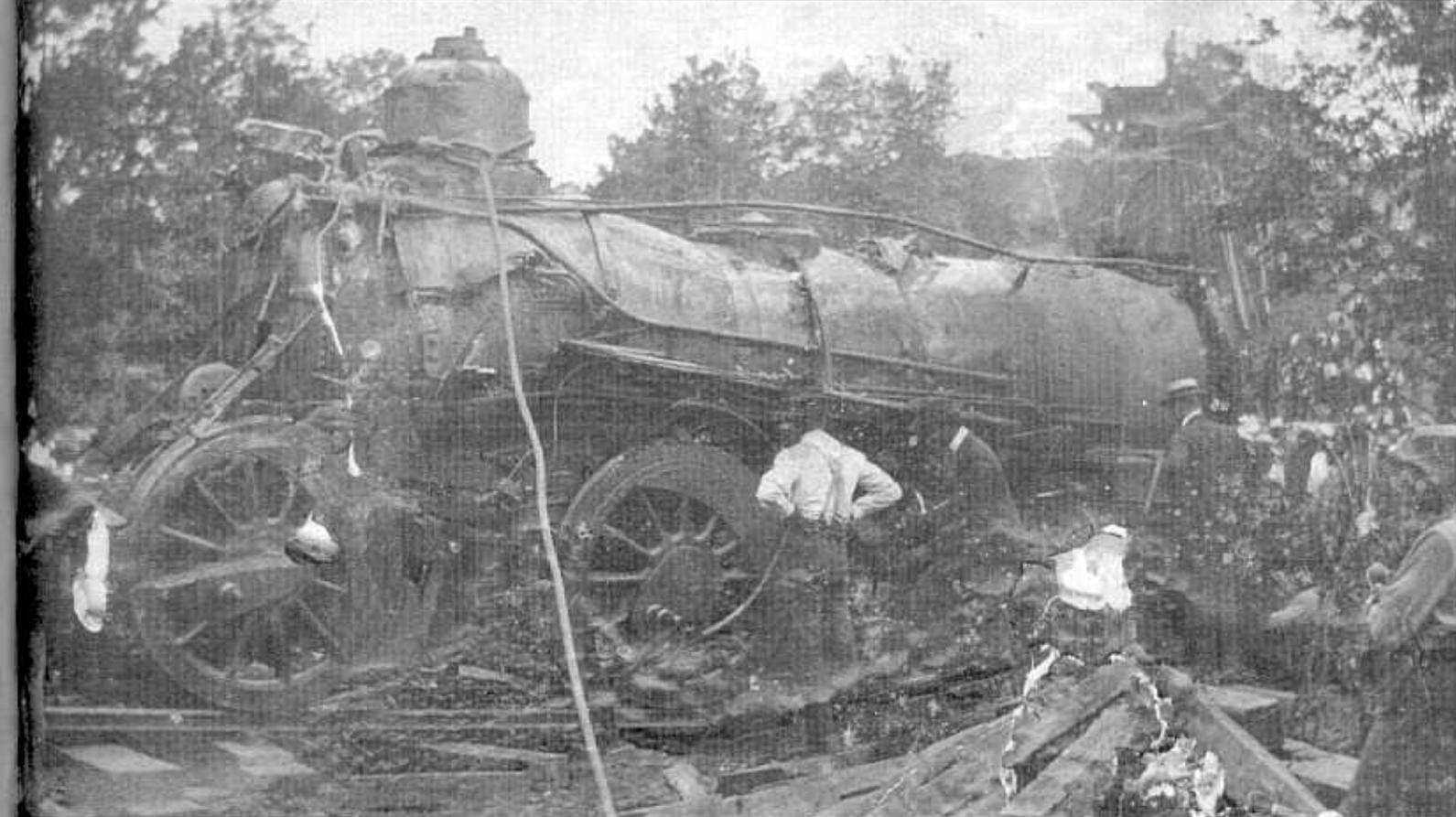
OPPOSITE PAGE: Scenes at Clifton Mill No. 3  
—Photographs courtesy of Spartanburg Regional Museum,  
Marjorie Atkins





The flood swept away bridges, roads, and houses and cut these communities off from the rest of the county. The trolley tracks to Converse were destroyed and were never rebuilt. Other rivers in the county, the Tyger and the Enoree, also flooded. The top image shows damage at Clifton No. 1, while the bottom shows Clifton No. 2. —*Courtesy of Converse College*

OPPOSITE PAGE: The flood wreaked havoc on the rail transportation system.  
—*Photographs courtesy of Converse College, the Spartanburg County Regional Museum*



# See- Spartanburg ing

*a history in images*



by  
Philip N. Racine



1999

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