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NJIT TAB, in collaboration with EPA Region 1, conducted the first webinar in the four-part Roadmap to Redevelopment webinar series. “New England Mills: Now and Then” was held on September 24th.

The webinar series is focused on the redevelopment of New England’s iconic mills. This series, to be held from late September through October 2020, will feature many, repurposed New England mills, as experts (all from New England) delve into the trials and triumphs of mill redevelopment.

The first webinar, “New England Mills: Now and Then”, was a look back at the importance of mills in New England’s history, and then a look forward to their new prominence. The webinar began with a welcome from Region 1’s Regional Administrator Dennis Deziel who not only discussed EPA’s brownfields program and Region 1’s focus on the repurposing of mills, he provided a personal family connection to the history

of these mills. That set the stage for the first speaker whose presentation “Conspicuous Industrial Relics and Engines for Adaptive Re-use” shed light on the historical significance of mills to community settlements and the industrial prominence of New England. The second presenter discussed community and place driven design at the Woonsocket Millrace District in Rhode Island.

NJIT TAB: designed the webinar series, secured speakers, marketed the event, hosted the webinar on NJIT’s Webex platform, and facilitated the webinar.

Approximately 120 people attended the webinar including representatives from EPA, state and local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, nonprofits, consulting firms, real estate development firms, and the general public. While New England was the focus of this webinar, many of the attendees were from states beyond New England, with one attendee from Ireland.

NJIT TAB posted the webinar recording on the TAB website: www.njit.edu/tab.