

The town of Acton was located in Shelby County near the Cahaba River, partially located within the later-formed City of Hoover in what is now Riverchase. It is not to be confused with the village of Acton which is 6 miles northeast and located in Jefferson County.

Coal Mines were established in this part of Shelby County and the town of Acton grew up around one. A post office was established in 1908. Acton Mine #2 was conveniently located on a branch of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. A tragedy occurred at this mine on November 18, 1913, when twenty-four people were killed in a mining explosion with only five men escaping. A recovered watch indicated that the time of explosion was likely 3:21 p.m. The mines closed in 1926.

Part of the land where the town of Acton existed was developed into the Riverchase residential planned community in the 1970s which was then annexed into Hoover, Alabama in 1980. Part of the former train bed can be seen where a golf-cart path now leads toward golf-hole #6 along a cut through the rocks.

LLJ