

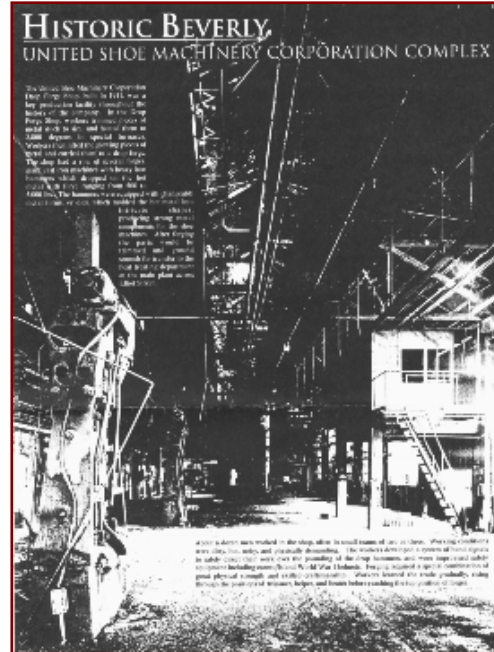


The Stop & Shop Supermarket Company Beverly, Massachusetts

Date of Performance: 1995–1999
Client: National Development of New England

From 1995 to 1999, a team of PAL archaeologists, architectural and industrial historians, and several specialized sub-consultants provided services to assist the Stop & Shop Supermarket Company in meeting compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. The company planned a new store in Beverly, Massachusetts, in an area with a complex history of land use. At the state level, PAL’s expertise facilitated the MEPA process (Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act), under which developers must consider input from the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Commission. Although the property had the potential to contain archaeological resources, an intensive (locational) survey revealed a considerable degree of disturbance caused by industrial development.

The property contained the United Shoe Machine Corporation’s (USMC) Drop Forge Shop, a National Register of Historic Places-eligible property designed by the early-nineteenth-century American reinforced concrete engineering pioneer, Ernest Ransome. PAL drafted a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Massachusetts Historical Commission and Stop & Shop Supermarket Co., outlining stipulations to eliminate, minimize, or mitigate adverse project impacts. PAL coordinated project mitigation including documentation of the complex to Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) standards; and development of interpretive signage to be located on the site of the complex. The HAER documentation included large-format photographs, engineering plans, and historical narratives for archiving at the Library of Congress, prior to demolition. Large-format photography was performed by Warren Jagger Photography, Inc. of Providence, RI.



Interpretive Signage at the Site of the USMC Drop Forge Shop, Beverly, MA

Using the photographs and historical narratives, PAL worked with Sumner Schein Architects - Engineers of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to develop a two-sided, outdoor sign that showed the location of the former USMC Forge Shop buildings, and explained their history and significance. This component of the project is an example of PAL’s innovative use of historical interpretation as part of the documentation and mitigation procedures for historical sites.

PAL SERVICES

- **SECTION 106 CONSULTATION**
- **ARCHIVAL RESEARCH**
- **HISTORIC INDUSTRIAL CONTEXT DEVELOPMENT**
- **HAER DOCUMENTATION**
- **LARGE FORMAT PHOTOGRAPHY**
- **INTERPETIVE SIGNAGE**
- **ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS**