



Interstate 195 Relocation Project Providence, Rhode Island

Date of Performance: 1992–2002

Client: Rhode Island Department of Transportation

The relocation of Interstate 195, currently under construction, is proposed to address present and future traffic demands between the west end of the Washington Bridge, which spans the Providence River, and Interstate 195 in Providence, Rhode Island. The existing alignment, constructed in the late 1950s, suffers from structural deterioration, safety deficiencies, and inadequate capacity. The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) proposed the relocation project as a means to insure safe and efficient movement of traffic around the city of Providence. The project is also linked to the City of Providence's Old Harbor Plan, a future downtown development that will establish multi-modal connections between highway, water, pedestrian, and bicycle transportation.

PAL has provided RIDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) with cultural resources services since 1992. Initial reconnaissance surveys resulted in the identification of significant aboveground and archaeological resources along the preferred alignment. PAL has completed National Register of Historic Places Determinations of Eligibility for industrial structures,



An Abandoned Providence Warehouse



*View of I-195 and the Downtown
Providence Skyline*

archaeological reconnaissance and intensive surveys, and prepared cultural resources report sections for the Interstate 195 Relocation Environmental Impact Statement. To further assist the Rhode Island Department of Transportation in fulfilling requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Environmental Policy Act, and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as well as the project Memorandum of Agreement, PAL completed Rhode Island Historical Resources Archive narrative and photographic documentation of three industrial buildings. Archaeological data recovery along the Providence River will also occur prior to construction.

PAL SERVICES

- **SECTIONS 106 AND 4(f) CONSULTATION**
- **ARCHIVAL RESEARCH**
- **HISTORIC CONTEXT DEVELOPMENT**
- **HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SUREY**
- **INDUSTRIAL PHOTODOCUMENTATION**
- **NATIONAL REGISTER DETERMINATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY**
- **ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS**