

Masse Saw and Grist Mills Recordation

Masse Saw and Grist Mills represented one of Maine's oldest and longest running water powered saw and grist mills sites. Restoring native fish species to the adjacent China Lake required demolition of the site's saw mill and dam. Kleinfelder was tasked by Maine Rivers to produce a Maine Historic Engineering Recordation of the site which documented its physical attributes and historic significance.

PROJECT RESULTS

Kleinfelder was able to meet the tight deadline and provide detailed documentation for each building through in-depth research, team expertise, and strategically planned documentation and photography. Within six weeks of the signed contract, the project was successfully delivered on-time and on-budget, allowing Maine Rivers to remove the dam and saw mill within the limited time frame.



A TIGHT DEADLINE

The client was bound by time-of-year constraints due to the presence of endangered species, requiring demolition to occur within a tight deadline. In addition to time constraints, the large site consisted of 16 buildings, which required large-format photography, scaled site plans, and written description. The site posed a safety challenge as the saw mill was partially collapsed. The project could not move forward without successful completion and acceptance of the Historic Engineering Recordation by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

WORKING DIRECTLY WITH THE REGULATORY AGENCY

Kleinfelder's Architectural Historians completed research to understand how the mills and the various outbuildings worked together. This knowledge was used to capture the most critical photographs that convey the site's significance and functionality. The Team completed fieldwork in one and a half working days, which led to a quick turnaround for large format photographs. The Team also completed a thorough safety plan for the fieldwork, detailing areas to avoid and a strategy for how to best photograph the saw mill in a safe manner. Kleinfelder worked directly with the regulatory agency on behalf of the client, which resulted in efficient review and consultation.

Location:

East Vassalboro, Maine

Owner:

Maine Rivers

