



# Maple-Leaf News

Summer 2015

Laugh a little, learn a little & take a break from the daily grind

## Need To Locate A Siberian Mammoth?

**W**ho do you call when you need to locate a lost time capsule, unearth a Siberian mammoth or find a Patagonian dinosaur?

You might want to call Geophysical Survey Systems Inc. (GSSI), a manufacturer of ground penetrating radar (GPR), soon to be located in Nashua, N.H.

In business for more than 40 years, GSSI provides GPR survey solutions for concrete inspections, utility locating, and road/bridge inspection, as well as geological and archaeological applications. Past company projects have included surveying the west terrace of the White House for foundation durability; finding the lost Tomcat flights of 1942 (which were found 250 feet below an ice cap in Greenland); and discovering the capsule of King Kamahameha in Honolulu.

Having outgrown their Salem, N.H., office building, GSSI purchased an existing 70,000-square-foot office/research and manufacturing building in Nashua, and worked with Maple-Leaf Construction to revamp the interior and exterior of the facility.

Working as a team, Dennis Mires, P.A. The Architects of Manchester; Roth and Roth Consultants of Wilton; GSSI and



GSSI purchased an existing 70,000-square-foot office/research and manufacturing building in Nashua, and worked with Maple-Leaf to revamp the interior and exterior.

Maple-Leaf held a series of project scope vs. budget meetings over several months, until the drawings reflected GSSI's agreed-to scope, and costs were within their budget recommendations.

With the final proposed drawings in hand, Maple-Leaf developed a construction schedule to handle landscaping clean-up, repairs to the parking lot, and loading dock additions prior to the onset of winter. Interior renovations were coordinated in time for an April 1st move-in date to meet GSSI's lease expiration.

While subcontractors performed interior demolition, structural steel fabrication was underway for the new loading dock structure, and 22 new HVAC rooftop units

were being manufactured. Fire sprinkler modifications were made after interior demolition was completed in order to meet the new layouts.

With four conference/training areas being developed in the new space, as well as antenna, environmental, testing

and utility areas, Maple-Leaf began a series of three interior excavations to develop test areas (pits) within the new facility. These fiberglass strand-reinforced concrete pits—some measuring 20 feet wide by 40 feet long and eight feet deep—allows GSSI professionals, department

staff, and clients to test GPR scanning tools in locating objects within their new headquarters. Buried in layers of concrete



Looking down at the first floor lobby, the building offers larger and more modern facilities.



**MAPLE-LEAF CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY INC.**

5 Congress Street • P.O. Box 443  
Nashua, NH 03061-0443  
TEL (603) 882-7498  
FAX (603) 595-8688  
www.maple-leafnh.com

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at different test depths, objects included a filled garden hose, Styrofoam, wire mesh, PVC, copper pipe and other metals, manhole covers, rebar, and clay.

Designed to produce high-resolution images in concrete, a GPR system offers a non-destructive method to locate and mark buried service utilities such as gas, electric and sewer lines. The system can also locate the depth and position of rebar, cable and conduits before drilling, cutting or coring.

According to company president Christopher Hawekotte, "It's kind of a niche market, and about half of our business right now is in infrastructure applications."

Other improvements to the first and second floors included the remodeling of the entire executive offices, marketing, research and development labs, conference rooms and office spaces. Additional renovations were made to the machine shop, field services office, environmental and training labs, storage room, lounge and café area.

Most interior doors and windows were replaced with new ones while others

were reused in certain areas. Drywall was installed along with ceiling grids in selected areas and new ceiling tile in others. Throughout the entire building, brand new carpeting and ceramic tile were installed, and concrete floors were polished to a beautiful shine.

All eight bathrooms were completely revamped with updated wall and floor tile, fixtures, toilet partitions, and enhanced lighting. The entire locker area was refurbished with paint and floorings.

In the research/development, environmental/testing labs, and the manufacturing and engineering spaces, the exposed bar joist ceilings were painted, lighting was added, and concrete floors were polished and sealed for a modern high-tech appearance.

Electricians rewired the entire building for updated light fixtures, ceiling speakers, and humidification equipment. Miles of data and phone lines were added. Freshly painted walls and new countertops positioned in the fax/copy and mail rooms completed the renovations.



*Adjoining the client training areas, a lounge was constructed for use between training sessions.*

The building, with its larger and more modern facilities, and the company's up-to-the-minute GPR training technology, will allow the firm to continue to handle a wide range of challenging projects that require their special expertise.

When you're looking to locate the next Siberian mammoth, GSSI is your go-to supplier of GPR systems. If you are looking for a construction manager to assist you with your new facility, Maple-Leaf is here to assist you.

 We're doing our part. This newsletter is printed on environmentally-friendly paper.

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Happy 50<sup>th</sup> To Us!



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CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.

5 Congress Street  
P.O. Box 443  
Nashua, NH 03061-0443