



The Universal Church
1091 Fulton Street
Brooklyn, NY 11233

Unspace, Inc.
Architect
Paradise Construction
General Contractor



The schedule for this new \$12-million church building project faced major delay by discovery of an old foundation wall that impinged on the site and lay perilously close to the Metropolitan Transit Authority's A and C subway lines, which run along the Fulton Street side of the project site.

To ensure stability of adjacent subway vault wall during excavation, Paradise Construction worked closely with the MTA to design and install a system of walers and rakers.

The walers were fixed to the vault wall 10ft below grade and extended the full 130ft length of the site. Six rakers spaced at 20ft intervals extended down to concrete deadmen placed 40ft below grade. During the nearly 5 months needed for the staged excavation and concrete work, the contractors could not build on the Fulton Street side of the site.

Concrete and steel work were subsequently resumed on an accelerated schedule to make up for lost time and the project was back on schedule less than 3 months.



Walers (A) and rakers (B) protected subway vault (C) during excavation.



Foundation and steel construction were restricted to north portion of site for nearly five months, but project is now expected to finish on time and within budget.