

Wanton Lyman Hazard House

They Just Don't Make 'em Like They Used To

Newport, Rhode Island

The Wanton Lyman Hazard House was originally constructed in 1692, making it not only older than the United States of America, but the oldest surviving house in Newport, Rhode Island. The home was passed down between some of Rhode Island's most historic families for generations. The domicile provided shelter to all kinds of folks, from British Loyalists to Revolutionary War Veterans. The building underwent numerous additions throughout the years with each generation of home owner contributing something to the buildings storied history.



The home was eventually sold to the Newport Historical Society in April of 1927, nearly 100 years ago, in a sorry state of disrepair. When restored, the architects emphasized the progression of architectural styles imbued into the home throughout its numerous additions, rather than any one particular moment in history. It's because of this that the home retains Jacobean architectural elements like the steeply pitched roof and rounded plaster cornice alongside revolution-era Georgian pediment and pilasters.

Despite the history, the Wanton Lyman Hazard House is still undergoing renovations, including its newest addition supported by ECP Helical Piers. To work on such an archaic structure, extreme caution and skill was required, and traditional footings just wouldn't cut it due to lead contamination in the soil. The Atlas Systems of New England team were brought in for their expertise in restoring delicate, historic structures.



Atlas Systems of New England installed (16) 2-7/8" light wall helical piers using a E-35 Bobcat and Prodig 12k IntelliTork gearmotor to a capacity of 25 kips each. With the help of an onsite Archeologist and GZA's geotechnical services, the team was able to successfully install the piles without any issues, leaving a reliable foundation for future generations to admire and learn from.