

Hilton Garden Inn

State College, PA



Project Description: A four-story Hilton Inn was built on a site with 5 to 10 feet of fill laden with cobbles and underlain by dolomitic limestone. Due to the variable nature of the weak fill the foundation options included overexcavation, stone columns or Geopier elements. Overexcavation was not feasible due to the high groundwater and concern for impact on the adjacent wetlands. Of the remaining options, Geopier elements were found to be approximately 30% less expensive than the stone column option. Geopier elements supported individual strip footings with loads of 3 kips per lineal foot and floor slabs in the deeper fill areas. A total of 269 Geopier elements were installed in late summer 2001.

THE GEOPIER ADVANTAGE

- Geopier elements improved the soil above the dolomitic limestone allowing for conventional spread footings to be used
- The use of Geopier elements saved time and money over competing systems
- Design/Build package focused on engineering settlement control

Owner: Green Hotel Associates, State College, PA

General Contractor: Strickler Construction, LLC, State College, PA

Structural Engineer: Newcomer & Associates, Chambersburg, PA

Geotechnical Engineer: CMT Laboratories, State College, PA