

The statewide advocate for Rhode Island's historic places



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Preserve Rhode Island's Philip Walker House (c. 1724) in East Providence Available to Rent

Preserve Rhode Island (Preserve RI) has listed the Philip Walker House (c. 1724) in East Providence for rent as a private home. This rare opportunity to live in one of the oldest houses in the state is perfect for those interested in history or unique living experiences.

For over 40 years, Preserve RI has been the owner and steward of Walker House. This iconic building is particularly noteworthy as a rare surviving example of an early “square-house plan”. During our ownership, Preserve RI has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in stabilizing the seriously compromised structure, and recently completed comprehensive interior and exterior restoration. These improvements have ensured that the building is structurally sound and well protected from the elements for decades to come. The rental income will be used to help recoup Preserve RI's investment in the property.

A complicating factor in the rehabilitation was the building's long use as a study house. To learn about the building's construction, students of historic preservation and architectural historians had opened walls throughout the interior to examine structural components. While facilitating valuable educational understanding, these activities significantly compromised the livability of the house.

Preserve RI partnered with Shantia Anderheggen of Preservation Strategies and Heritage Restoration on a plan to document interior architectural features and undertake a scope of rehab work for. The interior work focused on carpentry repairs, cleaning, painting, treating floors, plaster and drywall repairs, and installing a new, custom mantle

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around the central fireplace, damaged by an early structural failure. The work was completed in March of 2025.

Paul Trudeau, Preserve RI's Director of Preservation, says, "Walker House looks the best it has in decades. We are looking forward to sharing this special home with tenants who can enjoy both the conveniences of modern living and the aesthetics of an early 18th Century house."

About Preserve Rhode Island

Preserve Rhode Island is Rhode Island's statewide advocate for historic places. The 69-year-old nonprofit provides guidance for local preservation groups, finds productive and adaptive reuses for threatened buildings, advocates for the revitalization of historic places to stimulate local economies, and engages the community through public programs at Lippitt House Museum.

LISTING: [OneHome™ | Property Listing](#)

PHOTOS: (Please credit Jason Wessel Photography)

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pwp93ty6mNOfKGiS79Va7z2GUHIDONUK?usp=sharing>

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