

**SITE**

The House of Seven Gables

**SITE LOCATION**

Salem, Massachusetts

**VISTA® PRODUCT USED**

SpectraSelect VS70

## Everything Old Is New Again



New ultra performance spectrally selective window film has been installed at the famous House of Seven Gables to protect its irreplaceable artifacts and provide a cool, comfortable interior year round.

The House of Seven Gables, listed on the register of National Historic treasures, was built in 1668 and is the oldest surviving 17<sup>th</sup> century wooden mansion in New England. The house inspired Nathaniel Hawthorne to write his legendary novel of the same name.

The original building, a two room, two-and-a-half story construction with cross gables and a massive central chimney, now forms the middle of the house. A new wing added in 1680 introduced the signature double casement windows.

Over the years, the House showed its antiquity in the aging of the furnishings, floors, and fabric wall coverings as the costs for heating and cooling skyrocketed with the sun's heat pouring in through the windows in the summer and heat escaping in the winter.

Curator and Director of Preservation and Collection Care for Seven Gables, Alexandria Mason, took action to preserve the historic site. At the annual Traditional Building Conference, she met with solar control experts at the Vista® window film exhibit and commissioned an independent energy audit to be led by a graduate engineer from the University of Cambridge in England. The auditors recommended the installation of Vista® SpectraSelect® film on storm windows as the condition of the casement windows precluded the installation of film on the individual panes.

# protection



Vista® VS70 SpectraSelect blocks 49% of the sun's heat from entering the House and yet allows 70% of visible light to shine through the windows. The film also totally (99.9%) blocks the sun's ultraviolet light, which was, together with heat, the principal cause of the fading and deterioration of the precious 17<sup>th</sup> century furnishings, furniture, and floors.

Alexandria Mason now finds that the utility bills are lower; the House of Seven Gables has a uniform temperature comfortable at all times and can take comfort in the knowledge that the House is protected from the sun's damaging rays to help block further deterioration of the interior furnishings.

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Vista® Window Film is pleased to have strict quality systems and has been ISO 9001 Certified  
(Certificate Number FM 35957)  
The nature of certain delicate fabrics and dyes will lead to premature fading regardless of the  
application of any window film protective treatment.  
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**VISTA®**   
W I N D O W F I L M