

ESTABLISHED 1905

W

RICHARD WHITE SONS

CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS  
GENERAL CONTRACTORS



athletic fields



**A**

16-acre site, home of the former Henry Wood's Sons Paint Factory, was purchased by Wellesley College in 1932. Over time, extensive heavy metals contamination from the former factory site's pigmenting operations had spread to 37 acres on the northwest corner of the school's 500-acre campus. After analyzing over 4,000 soil, sediment, groundwater and surface water samples and working with many regulatory agencies over a 20 year period, cleanup plans were developed to remediate the site – deemed one of the most highly contaminated hazardous waste sites in Massachusetts.

Wellesley College chose Richard White Sons, with over 20 years of construction management experience on their campus, to manage the permitting and site remediation process, and to assemble a design and construction team for an unprecedented project of this nature carried out by an academic institution. The challenge facing the project Team was to properly remediate the contaminated site and, at the end of that process, to construct new playing fields for Wellesley's varsity athletics programs. 32 permits from 16 local, state and federal regulatory agencies were required before the work could begin.

6.5 acres of wetlands, 30.5 acres of uplands, Paint Shop Pond itself, and part of Lake Waban (a state-owned Great Pond) were all excavated, in order to remove the principal sources of contamination contained within the existing site soils. A large portion of the soils were chemically treated and then consolidated within a permanent engineered barrier, constructed well above the ground water table, to prevent any leaching of contaminants. Upon completion of extensive refilling and grading of excavated areas, all surfaces were re-vegetated, 7.3 acres of wetlands were replicated, and four new natural grass playing fields, as well as an all-weather synthetically-surfaced intercollegiate track and field facility, were created.



**Awards:**

- Build Massachusetts Performance Award sponsored by Associated General Contractors
- American Council of Consulting Engineers Merit Award
- Brownfields Project of the Year Award from the Environmental Business Council/EBEE Award.

Photography: Jim Abts



**Project:**

Paint Shop Pond  
Remediation  
and Playing Fields

**Owner:**

Wellesley College,  
Wellesley, MA

**Engineers:**

Haley & Aldrich, Inc.,  
Dufresne-Henry  
Consulting Engineers  
and Vanasse Hangen  
Brustlin, Inc.

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Photography: Michael Lutch





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***“Richard White Sons (RWS) knew us and during the 20 years that we have worked with them they have consistently done it right, on-time and on-budget. RWS assembled a team that the College had total confidence in. They organized the entire project and led us from the beginning. RWS provided the technical skills to capture all that we wanted to do: determine a way to physically move huge volumes of earth, store the soil, chemically treat it, and move it again. Richard White Sons gave Wellesley College a very high level of confidence that the project was being managed very effectively. RWS did a fantastic job managing this extremely complex remediation and construction project.”***

BARRY MONAHAN  
Assistant Vice President for Administration  
and Community Affairs, Wellesley College

[www.rwsons.com](http://www.rwsons.com)