



GE Reaves Engineering

CIVIL ENGINEERS

· STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

· LAND SURVEYORS

WHY HIRE A STRUCTURAL ENGINEER?

Hiring a structural engineer before authorizing any work on a foundation is critical to ensuring the integrity, safety, and long-term performance of a structure. Unlike foundation contractors—who are not licensed or regulated by the state—a structural engineer is a licensed professional trained to evaluate the underlying causes of foundation movement or distress.

The engineer begins by performing a comprehensive foundation assessment, which typically includes a micro-elevation survey to measure the levelness of the interior floor. This survey provides a crucial baseline to compare against after any foundation work is completed and for monitoring future movement. Based on the findings, the engineer will issue an objective, professional opinion and recommendation for stabilization, which may include repair strategies—or, in some cases, a "do nothing" approach if no immediate action is warranted.

A structural engineer not only ensures that foundation issues are properly diagnosed but can also serve as the inspector during construction or repairs. They can provide a signed and sealed letter certifying that the work was completed in accordance with approved plans and specifications. This certification is often required by municipalities to meet permitting and inspection standards.

Engaging a structural engineer from the outset offers peace of mind, protects your investment, and ensures that any corrective measures are both necessary and properly executed.