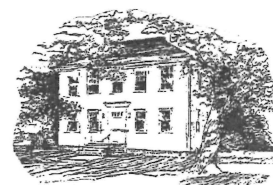


IMAGES

...THEN AND NOW

From the Indian Hill Historical Society



Buckingham Lodge
1861

The Village Administration/ Ranger Building: Then and Now

At the crossroads of the Village, the original Administration Building was constructed in 1955 and dedicated in 1956. The current renovation will ensure its ongoing role as the governmental and safety hub of Indian Hill.

Village residents, architects Richard “Dick” Taylor and Ed Porter designed the edifice with its classic style reminiscent of the colonial era. Materials used included Williamsburg handmade bricks, Ludowici Early American tile, and Tennessee quartzite.

As an aside, when Indian Hill incorporated in 1941, Council members asked Dick Taylor to design the Village Seal. Still used today, it depicts an Indian, in a natural state, standing on a rise, or small hill, endeavoring to accomplish a mighty task.

In 1977 the first addition to the Administration Building was completed. It encompassed the west wing of the Ranger station, and 1000 square feet were added to the original 10,000 square feet. Gartner, Burdick, Bauer and Nilsen were the architects.

After a 2006 study by Village officials, it was clear that the building needed to be expanded and renovated again. This is currently underway. Cole and Russell, the architects, were instructed to meld the stylistic features of the existing building with the new portion and incorporate new environmental standards. Dugan and Myers, the construction managers, are making the plans become a reality and supervising the subcontractors. Construction was divided into Phase I, which razed about 2300 square feet on the Rangers’ side and added about 9500 square feet, and Phase II, wherein 4500 square feet will be added to the Administration side. The entire project should be finished in December, 2009.

The Rangers will have a new dispatch center, larger offices, private investigation, booking, interview and evidence rooms, larger lockers, and a new garage with a sallyport, as well as an Emergency Operations Center/ training area. Council Chambers will be moved to the first floor with an adjacent conference room. There will be a larger lobby and more office space. These improvements will accommodate potential Village growth for 30 – 50 years.

Besides complying with state and federal laws, the new building has several green components. Notable is the geothermal heating and cooling system (HVAC), composed of 29 wells that are 300 feet deep. Energy efficient florescent lighting will be installed. Also, to prevent flooding, there will be a rain garden to capture storm water runoff.

Considerable efforts were made to preserve features of the original structure and landscape. The east façade is unchanged. Bricks were selected to match those used in the 1950s, and stamped concrete replicates the existing fieldstone tile. An interior corridor showcases the previous exterior wall and will contain display cases. A copper weather vane of an eagle was refurbished and reinstalled on the northwest. The old serpentine wall and Ranger porch are still there. The desk from Council Chambers will be used in the new conference room. As many trees as possible were saved, including the signature Willow Oak with its 72 inch trunk.

The renovation, whose estimated cost is \$4,500,000, will bring the building up to code and improve operations. Despite inclement weather Phase I is complete, and Phase II is underway. The new layout is more environmentally friendly and more functional for the 21st century. The Administration Building still remains as aesthetically pleasing as the edifice constructed 54 years ago.

