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Not-So-Easy Access

Primland Resort in Meadows of Dan, Va.

Christine Kerick

Swiegard also was able to provide an aesthetically pleasing building solution. "We were able to make a building that, when stained, resembled an old barn-board structure," Swiegard said. "It had the look of an old wooden building, but was made of precast concrete. It had the woody, remote look the owner wanted."

When planning and manufacturing were complete, the Smith-Carolina team delivered the buildings. Installation of the first pump station, located at the bottom of the mountain, went off without a hitch. However, installation of the second pump station would prove to be more difficult.

"The ability to handle the precast components without damaging them was a major concern of ours," Swiegard said. Because of this, a new, direct road to the site was developed.

However, the 40-degree slope still posed a challenge.

Installation took place over a two-day period. Using a double staging area, the team off-loaded panels using a crane located at the bottom of the mountain onto a truck. A bulldozer pulled a second crane up to the installation site, then pulled the truck carrying each precast concrete panel up the steep slope.

The building itself was assembled on the first day. The team returned on the second day to finalize the caulking and install a roof hatch. This would accommodate a wooden structural roof that would give the building an even more remote look.

"The ability to accommodate a planned future modification, in this case the wooden structural roof, demonstrates the versatility of these buildings," Swiegard said.

The precast buildings cost significantly less than comparable built-in-place construction and can be continuously relocated as requirements change.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Primland Resort:
www.primland.com

Easi-Set Industries:
www.precastbuildings.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF EASI-SET INDUSTRIES

Top: The crane places the roof on the precast concrete pump house.
Bottom: The finished pump houses were installed in only two days, and were ready for planned roof modifications. The stained barnboard finish allowed the precast concrete buildings to blend in with the natural, woody environment.