

NOKESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE STATION 25

Bristow, Virginia



The urgent need for Station 25 in a rapidly growing area of Prince William County, Va., demanded an accelerated design and construction schedule. The architects provided bid documents within nine months, and the station was constructed in approximately 12 months.

As a new headquarters for the Nokesville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, the four-bay drive-through station provides bunking for 24 personnel, offices for both career and volunteer staff, a board room, and a dividable



classroom capable of seating 80 at training tables. The volunteers specifically requested a station that was functional and durable, but also warm and residential. Family members often spend evenings and weekends at the station, and the desire to have the station be a comfortable gathering place was expressed. The design team provided a large kitchen, a dining room with a skylight, and a large vaulted ceiling day room with a fireplace at one end and built-in shelves and projection-screen television at the other. Large windows open to the treed portion of the site, away from the major roads. A patio with gas grill integrated with the chimney is accessed off the dining room. A future patio pavilion will provide a covered exterior space.

The large volume of apparatus bays afforded the opportunity to provide interior windows from the career offices on the first floor and the volunteer offices on the second floor. The board room cantilevers into the bays at the second-floor level. The apparatus bays each have a roof dormer that admits natural light. When the overhead doors are open, glass panels align with the dormers for uninterrupted natural light. A mezzanine above the apparatus support spaces provides additional storage.

Stairs continue up to the mechanical roof pit above, allowing easy access to equipment that requires regular monthly maintenance.

The exterior is intended to fit within the residential neighborhood while providing an iconic presence. The full-height bay window in the stairwell opens to a super-graphic of the station number cut out of diamond plate. The building is constructed with load-bearing masonry and steel frame. The exterior is finished in brick and glazed block, and the roof is standing-seam metal.

Firm: LeMay Erickson Architects
Design Team:
 LeMay Erickson Architects
 Ehlert/Bryan Inc.
 Mendoza, Ribas & Farinas Assoc.
 Urban Engineering
Client: Nokesville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department
Fire Chief: Brian Hickerson
Project Area: 29,720 sq. ft.
Total Cost: \$4,950,000
Cost per Square Foot: \$169
Completion Date: January 2005

