

## **Eureka Veteran Hall Virtual Tour Introduction**

The existing Eureka Veterans Memorial Building is a cast-in place concrete, steel, and wood building built in 1930. On Jan. 9, 2010, Humboldt County experienced an earthquake that damaged the Eureka Veterans Building, resulting in spalling of the concrete walls in many areas, extensive cracking, and damage to the roof and finishes.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services committed to providing 75% of the Earthquake Damage Project costs. The scope of the Eureka Veterans Building Earthquake Damage Project included all work necessary to bring the building up to current building code standards. In addition to repairing seismic damage and making major structural improvements, the project included eliminating Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 accessibility barriers, improving the life-safety and exiting systems of the building, performing hazardous materials abatement, installing fire sprinklers throughout and replacing mechanical and electrical equipment with new equipment to meet building code requirements. All work and upgrades were related to building code requirements needed to bring the building up to code. The project was designed to rehabilitate the historic facility and provide for safe and efficient use into the future. Following scoping and damage assessment, design work began in 2014. Jake Johnson, Architect, Construction Projects Manager for Humboldt County Public Works oversaw the project and was the architect of record for the project. Construction commenced on June 27, 2017, after Adams Commercial General Contracting was awarded the project by the Board of Supervisors following a public bidding process. The renovation and repairs costs total \$8,092,770.

After an extensive design process, plans for the building and site were created that allowed for accessibility compliant grade-level entries to both the basement and main floor of the building by adding an entrance at the south (also required for life safety egress reasons) and revising an existing entrance at the north of the building. A new elevator was planned to serve all floors and fits entirely within the envelope of the building. New accessible bathrooms were planned for both the basement and main floor. Plan changes to facilitate accessibility and life safety were planned to include additional exiting doors from assembly spaces and a new stairway in the north end of the building. No new square footage was added to the building as a part of this project.

Changes to the exterior include removal of the non-historic and non-compliant concrete ramp, raising the existing basement door opening at the north elevation, and installation of a new accessible door in an existing window opening at the south side of the building. Several basement window assemblies were replaced with new mechanical louvers or new windows.

Site work included new accessible parking and walkways on the north and south ends of the building, in addition to regular parking stalls.

Existing hazardous materials were abated during the construction project including, but not limited to: asbestos containing pipe insulation, plaster, window glazing and lead paint.

The existing electrical system was replaced, with the existing historically significant lighting fixtures being retained and re-lamped for reuse.

The existing boiler and HVAC system was replaced entirely with new forced air systems.

The existing commercial kitchen and bars were remodeled to comply with current code requirements and environmental health requirements, and a new grease interceptor was installed on site to collect grease waste.

Great care was taken in considering the impact the new structural components would have on the existing historic fabric of the building. Design included evaluating the options for placement of the new concrete shear walls extending from new footings in the basement up through the main floor and connecting to the upper roof structure. This care and consideration for the building by both the design team and the general contractor resulted in successfully maintaining and restoring the architecturally significant spaces in the building.

The Eureka Veterans Hall is home to the American Legion Post #212 and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #1872. The Beautiful, newly renovated Veterans Hall is available for special event and meeting room reservations. If you are interested in reserving the Eureka Veteran's Hall, please contact Bill Long at 707.499.6290

Please enjoy the tour.