

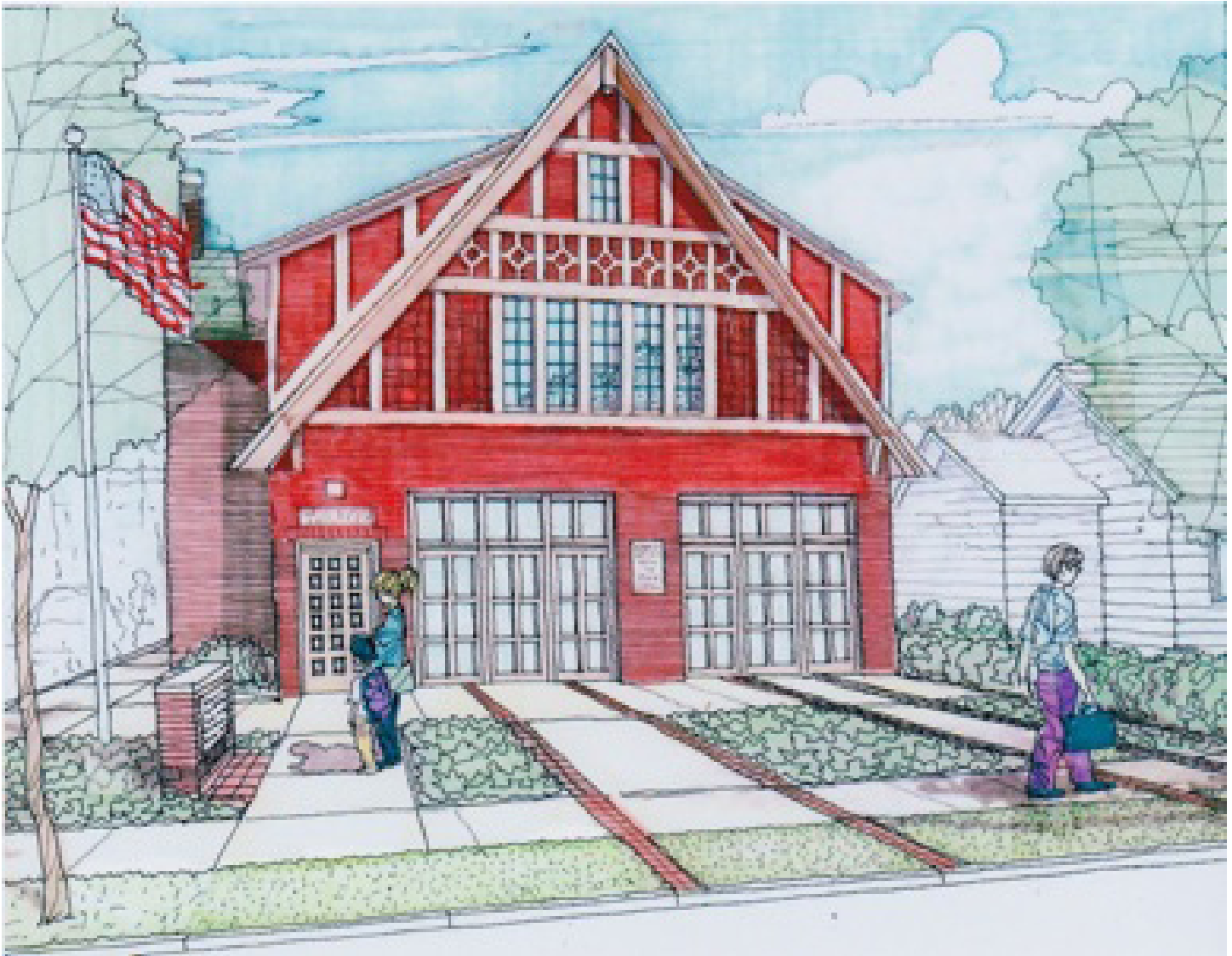
FREDERIC A. DUGGAN MEMORIAL BUILDING

The Frederic A. Duggan Memorial Building is a Tudor Revival building, designed by Henry Schmieder, and donated to Spring Lake Borough by Frederic Duggan's wife, Florence, and his young son on May 13, 1930. The building is also known as the Spring Lake First Aid and Emergency Squad Building. This eighty six year old historic structure was the second oldest building in North America to be used continuously by a First Aid Squad. In 1998, it was registered in the National and the New Jersey Registries of Historic Places.



The Frederic A. Duggan Memorial Building had deteriorated over time. It had no elevator, handicap accessible restrooms, or air conditioning, which today are all needed to serve senior and disabled residents and visitors.

The restored First Aid Building is used as a seniors and visitors interpretive center and a community meeting facility. The visitors interpretive center is coordinated with local groups to provide information and exhibits about the history of Spring Lake and points of interest, such as, other National Registry Historic Buildings, the Historical Society Museum, the Community House with its popular theater, library, and meeting rooms. There are many flyers and free publications to help



visitors learn about the area, in addition to free WiFi. The restored building contains public and handicapped accessible restrooms, a baby changing room, and an elevator. The Borough envisions the building as an educational and learning resource center for Spring Lake and New Jersey history, aiding school children, visitors, and local residents. There is a display area for pamphlets and maps to promote local businesses and volunteer organizations.

This summary hopefully is enlightening and conveys the history of the building and its rebirth. The rebirth of this grand old building for a new use while retaining its historic qualities and significance is the best honor Spring Lake can bestow upon it. As Marcus Tullius Cicero said, “Memory is the Treasury and Guardian of all Things.”

DUGGAN HALL TODAY AND HOW WE GOT HERE

by Joseph Rizzo

Following the June 6, 2015 Grand Opening celebration for the Duggan project we thought it would be timely to provide a brief description of its current and proposed future uses, as well as a recap of the design and the construction process.



We recently met with an Umbrella Group of local organizations to begin planning for the many uses the facility will provide. Several groups are already making use of the facility, and their rent is helping to support its operation and maintenance. These include Common Ground, a local bereavement group that gathers on Monday evenings in the second floor meeting room, and the Chamber of Commerce, which arranged a lease with the Borough and has occupied and furnished the first floor rear office of the addition. The Coast Star has reported that the Spring Lake Library is using the meeting room for several new programs including Adult Meditation, Photography Classes, and a Kid's Cooking Class.

The meeting room will also be used for other activities such as Mahjong, borough tours and Third Avenue Merchant events. In addition, the building will provide a convenient information center, rest stop and way station for downtown shoppers,

and for events like our town's popular Garden and House Tours, sidewalk sales and the Irish & Italian Festivals.

Last Stages of the Project

Previously discussed have been the origins of the mass effort to preserve and renovate the Duggan Building, including the several grants applied for and awarded to the Borough with the donations and help of many individuals and groups throughout Spring Lake. Once the architect Robert Cassway, from the firm spg3 in Philadelphia completed the plans for the renovation, the Borough requested bid proposals from State pre-qualified contractors early in 2013. The contract was awarded to Cypreco Industries Inc. of Neptune, NJ, and construction began in August of that year. The building was completed in March of 2015. The Borough work force, headed by Superintendent Frank Phillips helped reduce project costs by completing exterior and interior painting and finish work. The work force will be finishing its paving and landscaping this Spring, in time for our Grand Opening celebration on June 6th.

A new extensively glazed Washington Avenue entry door and window wall have replaced the original garage doors, but mimic their dimensions, layout and color. The result is that the Duggan Building remains a beautiful and rather intimately scaled reminder of Spring Lake's storied past that fits comfortably next to the attractive residences that surround it.

The most important and easily recognizable room of the existing building is the Interpretive Center, which had been the original equipment room just inside the garage doors. It has restored glazed tile brick walls and old fashioned pressed metal ceiling, with new track mounted display lighting and exposed HVAC ductwork, and new high quality stone tile flooring. An attractive new interior doorway and sidelight panels lead into the addition and can be used to secure the room when required. The room will be furnished with a convenient Information/Help Desk, museum-style exhibit cases, two pamphlet and map display racks, a large screen high-tech digital TV wall unit, a public computer workstation and comfortable lounge seating area for visitors.

The BID has purchased one display case, and the Chamber has funded one display case in the Interpretive Center. There are two storage closets, and the space provides direct access to an ADA accessible restroom.

The most important room in the restored second floor of the existing building is the light-filled 775 square foot flexible Meeting Room. It can accommodate approximately 30 in a classroom/training room layout, about 45-50 for dining or presentations, or approximately 100 standees. The room has a beautifully refinished hardwood floor, a new high quality acoustic tile ceiling and suspended florescent lighting fixtures with recessed display lighting - and it will have a new wall-mounted high-tech large screen digital TV. It is provided with a 20 square foot closet for storage of stackable chairs and card tables, and a totally refurbished 95 square foot serving kitchen. Ideal Kitchens and Stohrer Appliances have generously donated the kitchen cabinets and appliances.

The project involved major code and safety related issues and related improvements, especially due to its advanced age and its reclassification as a Type - A-3 Assembly Building. It now provides two new ADA accessible entry/exits, a new grand stairway to serve as a second means of egress, and required exit signs and emergency lighting throughout. Other important code and convenience improvements include a new ADA accessible elevator in the addition, and expanded ADA accessible unisex restroom and baby changing station on the 1st floor of the existing building, and another on the 2nd floor of the addition. All the rooms in both the existing building and new addition are now ADA accessible. This will be a major benefit for our seniors and for everyone visiting downtown.

Additionally, these design modifications and improvements had to satisfy the close review and scrutiny of SHPO (the State Historic Preservation Office) for the charming looking Tudor Revival building, which had been placed on the National Register of Historic Places as a result of the efforts of PASL founder Patricia Florio Colrick.

The most extensive modifications to the front of the facility, the elements of greatest concern to the Historic Trust, were to the paving and landscaping.

Given the dramatic change in its use the architect devised a clever paving and landscaping scheme that replaced the old concrete curb cut and entry drives with an extensively landscaped brick paver and concrete plaza. Its walkways will mimic the tire track pattern of the old rescue vehicles with brick edging that identifies many of the donors to the project. A freestanding brick donor wall and plaque will identify the project's major contributors, and a new flagpole has been provided though a donation from Roseanne McCusker.

With the building up and running, I thought it would be useful to provide a few photos of the spaces, new finishes and amenities now provided in what we now call "Duggan Hall":



THE SECOND FLOOR MEETING ROOM



THE NEW KITCHEN



THE OLD EXTENSION



THE NEW EXTENSION

Needless to say, the members of the Preservation Alliance are very proud of the results achieved in our and our many partners efforts to save, restore, expand and improve the historic Duggan Memorial First Aid & Emergency Building of Spring Lake. We see this as a wonderful example of the importance of our mission, to recognize and save the historic buildings in Spring Lake, and we all look forward to a new lifetime of public use for Duggan Hall.

For those wishing to schedule one of the meeting rooms at Duggan Hall, please call Spring lake Borough Clerk Dina Zahorsky at (732) 449-0800, extension 620.