



Laity's Lodging

REMODELING OUR GUEST EXPERIENCE

In late 2015, Laity Lodge embarks on the most significant renovation project in our history.

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO LAITY LODGE? As news of the impending Lodge renovation spreads, this has become an increasingly common question. Some inquiries are a little more pointed: Are you going to mess with the Great Hall? Does this mean something will finally get done about the freezing air blowing up from the floor vents in the Dining Room? What will you do in the downtime?

The primary focus is guest lodging, beginning with the original Lodge building.

Early in the process, the team identified the Waterfall Patio as the most defining architectural element in the current Lodge building. There, in front of the hearth and under ample shade, multiple attributes converge to create a space we all



EARLY CONCEPTUAL RENDERING: THE LODGE BUILDING WITH NEW BREEZEWAYS

KIMBERLY RENNER '10

As the project comes into focus, exciting answers are starting to emerge. Planning is well underway with Kerrville-based architect, Mark Eubank. Mark has worked with The H. E. Butt Family Foundation on many architectural jobs throughout his career. In fact, he was part of the team responsible for the Cody Center in 1999. Kimberly Renner (designer, builder) joins Mark to provide overall design support. If you've visited the Laity Lodge Library recently, then you've experienced Kimberly's work. Glenn Echols, Executive Director of Property Planning and Stewardship, and the Laity Lodge staff round out the team.

naturally respond to: a hospitable and welcoming place that promotes conversation, a well-designed relationship between interior and exterior, an appropriate sense of scale, a proper tension between public and private, openness and protection.

The new Lodge design takes this breezeway concept, celebrates and repeats it by creating two new, smaller breezeways—openings in the midst of the current Lodge—that open up spaces for conversation, enhance foot-traffic circulation, and allow new, natural lines of sight between the river and the meadow.

In the new design, guests encounter a more picturesque arrival: the river side walking path provides the access to new private entrances that open into the new breezeways and at the ends of the building. These new breezeways and redesigned rooms frame expansive natural views of the meadow. A very modest room expansion allows for reconfigured and updated bathrooms. Importantly, the style of the roof would remain largely unchanged: the horizontal, modern lines that define this 1960s structure would only be strengthened.



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EARLY CONCEPTUAL RENDERING:
BREEZEWAY VIEW, FROM RIVER SIDE

The team took special care that the new rooms offer even more privacy. More than simply ensuring another guest isn't walking past your shower window (as in years past), it means ensuring guests each have their own place to go and reflect during retreats (a kind of retreat-within-a-retreat). The new scheme opens up more space inside the guest room and creates two discrete zones for guests.

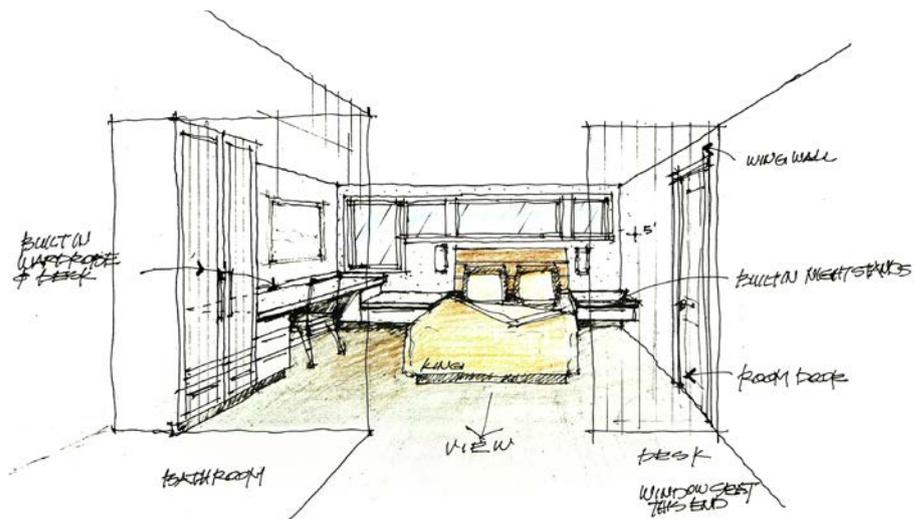
Addition of the new breezeways necessitates the relocation of four rooms from the Lodge to Cedar Brake apartments. Originally built as staff housing, a reimagined, expanded Cedar Brake provides accommodations consistent in quality with the Lodge and Black Bluff. Remodeling Cedar Brake also maintains the Foundation's environmental commitments. By building upward more than outward, we minimize our ecological footprint in the Canyon.

Black Bluff is slated for only minimal structural change but will be getting a design overhaul and energy efficiency updates. This will ultimately result in three distinct-yet-equal guest accommodations.

In addition to the guest room work described above, there are a number of other important improvements that we hope to be able to make during this time: a renovated Hostess office, updating furniture and windows in the Great Hall, Dining Room updates including new climate controls systems (yes, this should address the arctic air blasting up from the floor vents) and acoustic panels, and native landscaping. We are also committed to using more sustainable materials throughout.

Work begins in late November, and we're hoping to reopen early next fall. In the meantime, you can stay connected through regular updates we'll be posting online at laitylodge.org. We are also planning to take the show on the road and host evening events in a few cities during the downtime. Details on those will also be on the website.

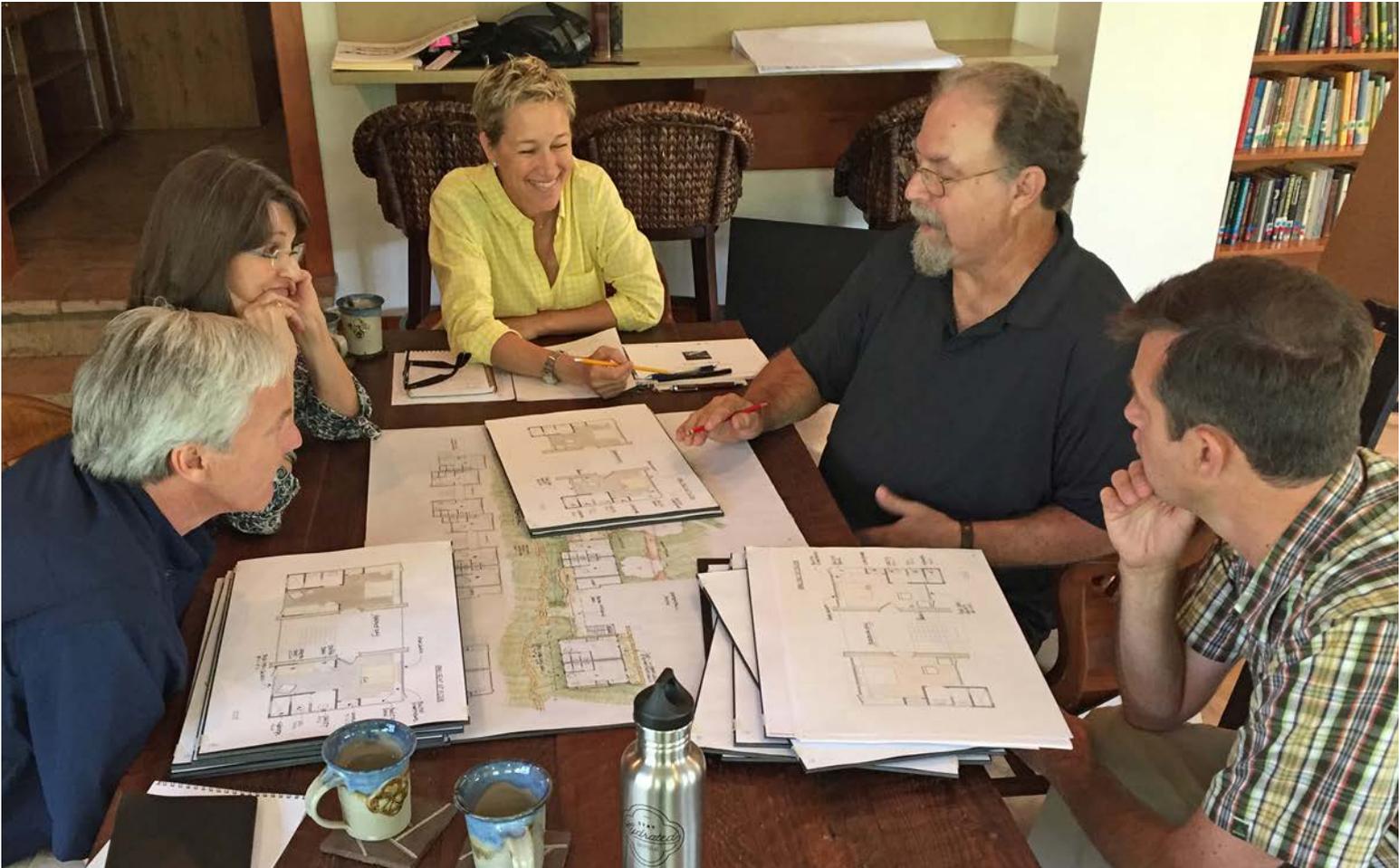
Supporting the Lodge Renovation Project is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to be a part of shaping Laity Lodge. Your gifts will enable us to pursue a comprehensive Laity Lodge remodel that will serve our guests for decades to come. Please contact Perri Rosheger at prosheger@hebff.org to find out how you can get involved.



EARLY CONCEPTUAL RENDERING:, LODGE ROOM INTERIORS



We are endeavoring to renew, restore, and improve our namesake: the *Lodge* itself. These are the bedrooms we offer our welcomed guests alongside inviting them into “the most comfortable living room in the Hill Country.”



Space-planning the Lodge room interiors: David and Deborah Rogers with designer Kimberly Renner, architect Mark Eubank, and Laity Lodge Executive Director Steven Purcell, July 2015