

## Not-So-Easy Access

### Primland Resort in Meadows of Dan, Va.

#### Christine Kerick

Owners of mountaintop golf courses face a common dilemma: How do you get water to flow uphill? For the remote Primland Resort in Meadows of Dan, Va., the solution included a pipeline and four pump stations, built to meet the water needs of this vacation resort. But another problem quickly arose: Who could build a cost-effective structure at such an isolated location to house the pump stations?

A precast concrete building was the logical choice to meet the resort's unique needs, and officials at Smith-Carolina Corp. were able to accommodate even this relatively inaccessible site.

Primland is a 14,000-acre resort for golfers, hunters, fly-fishing enthusiasts and anyone else who loves the great outdoors. The resort is set high in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains and includes The Highland Course, designed by internationally renowned golf architect Donald Steel. The majestic Pinnacles of Dan can be seen from eight holes, and the course takes advantage of numerous overlooks and scenic vistas.

Due to its remote location and rough terrain, installing the pump stations and their enclosure was a real challenge. The owner needed a structurally sound, secure, low-maintenance building, since maintenance crews would be challenged to service them. Because the area surrounding the resort included a private hunting preserve, the buildings needed to be bullet-resistant as well.

Additionally, the owner wanted the buildings to have a rough, woody appearance to blend in with the natural environment.

"Easi-Set precast concrete buildings are modular," explained Moffette Tharpe, managing director of Easi-Set Industries. "This is advantageous because they can then be customized efficiently."

John Sweigard, building sales representative at Smith-Carolina, began doing just that: customizing two Easi-Set precast concrete buildings to meet the unique needs of the Primland Resort.

The buildings had to be built around existing equipment, and the components would have to move over rough terrain to the site of the second pump station, which was located halfway up the mountain. Only a mountain access road, which crisscrossed the pipeline with tight turns, provided access to the site. Because of this, Smith-Carolina decided to build the precast concrete panels at its Reidsville, N.C., plant, then transport them individually to the site and assemble the building.



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**Top:** The picturesque Primland Resort, located in the mountains along the Virginia-North Carolina border.

**Bottom:** Pump-house buildings would need to be erected around existing equipment.



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**A crane lifts the precast panels from the truck and places them during building construction.**

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