



Monmouth County Park System Reptile House Renovation at Huber Woods Park PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Reptile House was built in 1927 as a garage to complement the Hans Huber House, now the Huber Woods Environmental Center. Although a simple structure, the building contributes to the historic character of the former Huber estate and shares some design features with the house. The building has housed the Park System's reptile collection since the 1990s and is a popular public attraction in Huber Woods Park. This project will renovate the entire exterior and interior of the Reptile House, including the reptile habitats and displays, in order to maintain the building in good repair, improve its overall appearance and energy efficiency, comply with accessibility requirements, and enhance the exhibit areas and work spaces.

DESIGN APPROACH:

1. Address the building's overall needs for repairs and improvements while respecting original exterior design features and materials. The character-defining architectural features include the garage form and facade, roofline and painted stucco gable end, rustic wood siding, and casement windows.
2. Create a fully accessible and more attractive, functional interior with updated and expanded exhibit space for the public and improved work areas for the staff. The south bay (10' x 23', currently used as storage) will be incorporated into the Reptile House in order to accommodate expanded exhibit areas and work areas.
3. Design the interior wall partitions and exhibits so that, to the extent possible, the building can be adapted to another use if the reptiles are relocated in the future.

PROJECT STATUS:

The construction contract for the building renovation is complete. The exhibit fabrication contract has been awarded. Design and fabrication of the habitats and displays is underway. Completion of the exhibits is expected by late Spring 2019 for re-opening of the Reptile House.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Gail L. Hunton
Monmouth County Park System, Acquisition & Design Department
ghunton@monmouthcountyparks.com

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Reptile House, before renovation (Above, in 2017)



Reptile House, renovation 90% complete (Above, in August 2018)

Reptile House, Interior Alterations

