



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

March 28, 2005



Above is an aerial view of the Capitol and the East Capitol Grounds taken Thursday, March 24, 2005. Most of the work on the CVC is occurring below the roof deck on all three levels of the facility. Above ground, all of the four skylights near the face of the Capitol are in place. Meanwhile, a crane was used to remove some of the temporary cover panels on one of the two large skylights in the center of the Plaza (center of photo) to facilitate installation of the glass panel anchoring system within the skylight's sandstone border (see photo on second page). In April, workers will begin assembling formwork for the pedestrian ramps and stepped walkways that slope down from First Street NE/SE. As weather turns drier later this week, stone masons are expected to resume installation of granite pavers and curb stones on the East Plaza.

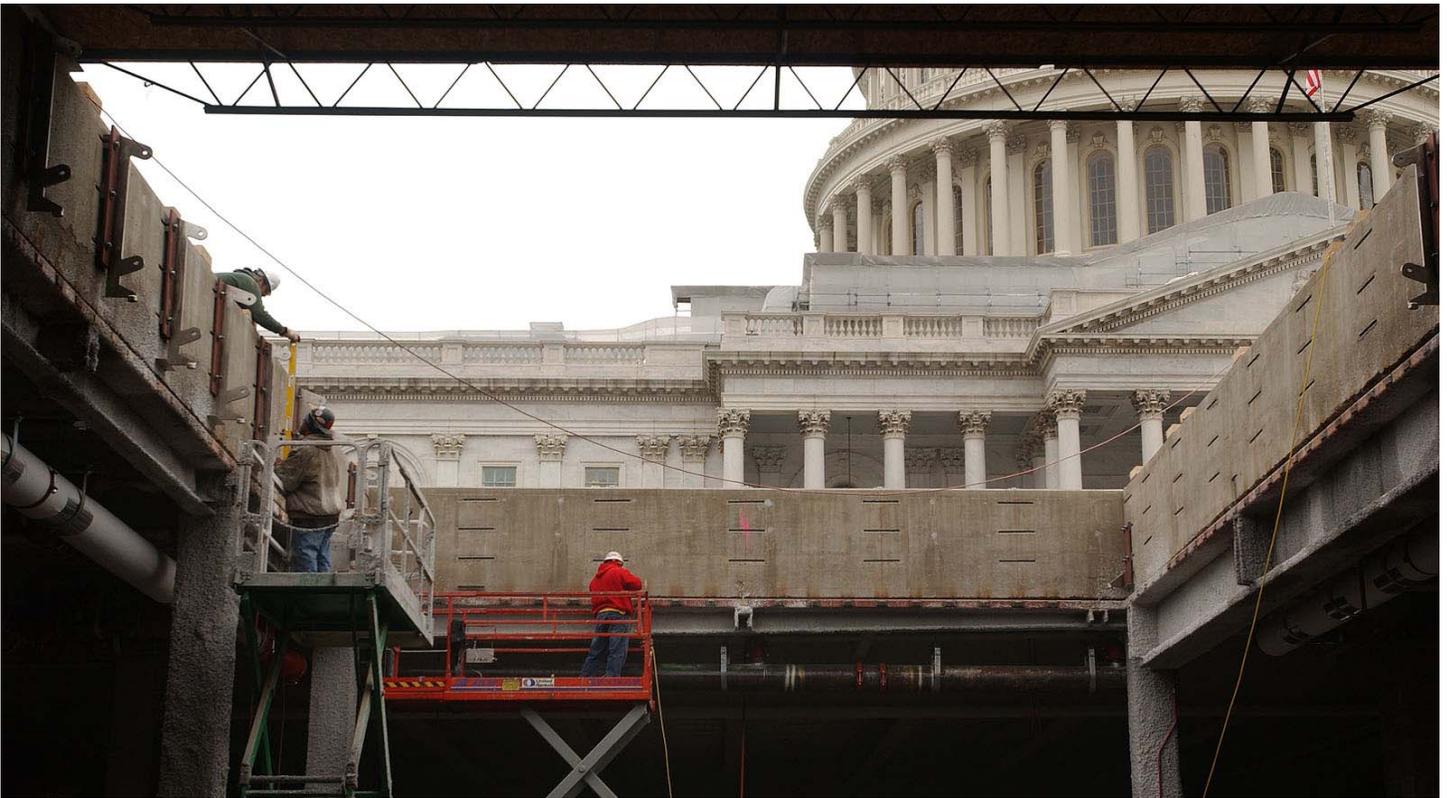
This Week – Ongoing Work – 3/28/05 through 4/01/05

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Fireproofing continues on all three levels inside the CVC, and within the Congressional Auditorium.
- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, erect interior masonry block work, and install marble and sandstone on the lower level. All four skylights near the face of the Capitol have been installed.
- Crews continue to backfill soil in the eastern half of the site to achieve the final slope for the CVC entrance zones. Installation of additional drainage elements and structural foundation work will begin in April to prepare the entrance zone for the pedestrian ramps and stepped paths that slope down to the CVC entrances from First Street NE/SE.
- Later this week, stone masons are expected to resume installation of curb stones around the House and Senate eggs and across the center of the Plaza near the monumental stairs at the CVC entrances.



Workers use shovels to facilitate the insertion of a wood plank that will help maintain the north wall of the East Capitol St. utility trench.



Within the sandstone border of one of the two Great Hall skylights, workers insert steel anchors that will help support the glass panels.

East Front Extension

- Crews will continue installing mechanical systems related to the elevators on the south side of this zone.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Steel support piles are in place and excavation is ongoing. Most of the excavation is half-way down to its final depth of 20 feet. Pre-cast concrete tunnel sections are expected to arrive in early May.

Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- All structural work for the tunnel is complete. Utility work and interior plaster and stonework will begin later this spring.

Next Week – 4/04/04 – 4/08/05

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Workers will continue placing the granite curb stones on the East Plaza in the eastern half of the CVC site.
- Crews will continue to fireproof steel elements, install utilities, build mechanical spaces, place concrete, erect blockwork, install finish stone, and prepare the CVC entrance zones for the construction of paths and steps.
- Installation of new air handling units will continue.

East Front Extension

- Some minor demolition activities may occur.
- Crews will continue to install mechanical systems and utilities, and continue elevator work in the southern half of this zone.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Excavation of the utility trench will continue. Lagging (wood planks) will be inserted between steel piles that, together, will support the trench as excavation continues to a depth of 20 feet (see bottom photo on first page).



A worker installs thermal insulation around ductwork in the lower level of the CVC.

If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, CVC project communications officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aoc.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at www.aoc.gov.