



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

December 19, 2005



Left: In a corridor on the south side of the Great Hall, stone masons set the first floor stone in the Capitol Visitor Center, a piece of Dolomite limestone from a quarry in Valders, Wisconsin. **Right:** Progress of floor stone installation two days later. Other floor stone will arrive from quarries in South Dakota, Maine, and Tennessee. Overall, close to 50,000 individual pieces of stone will be set within the Visitor Center.

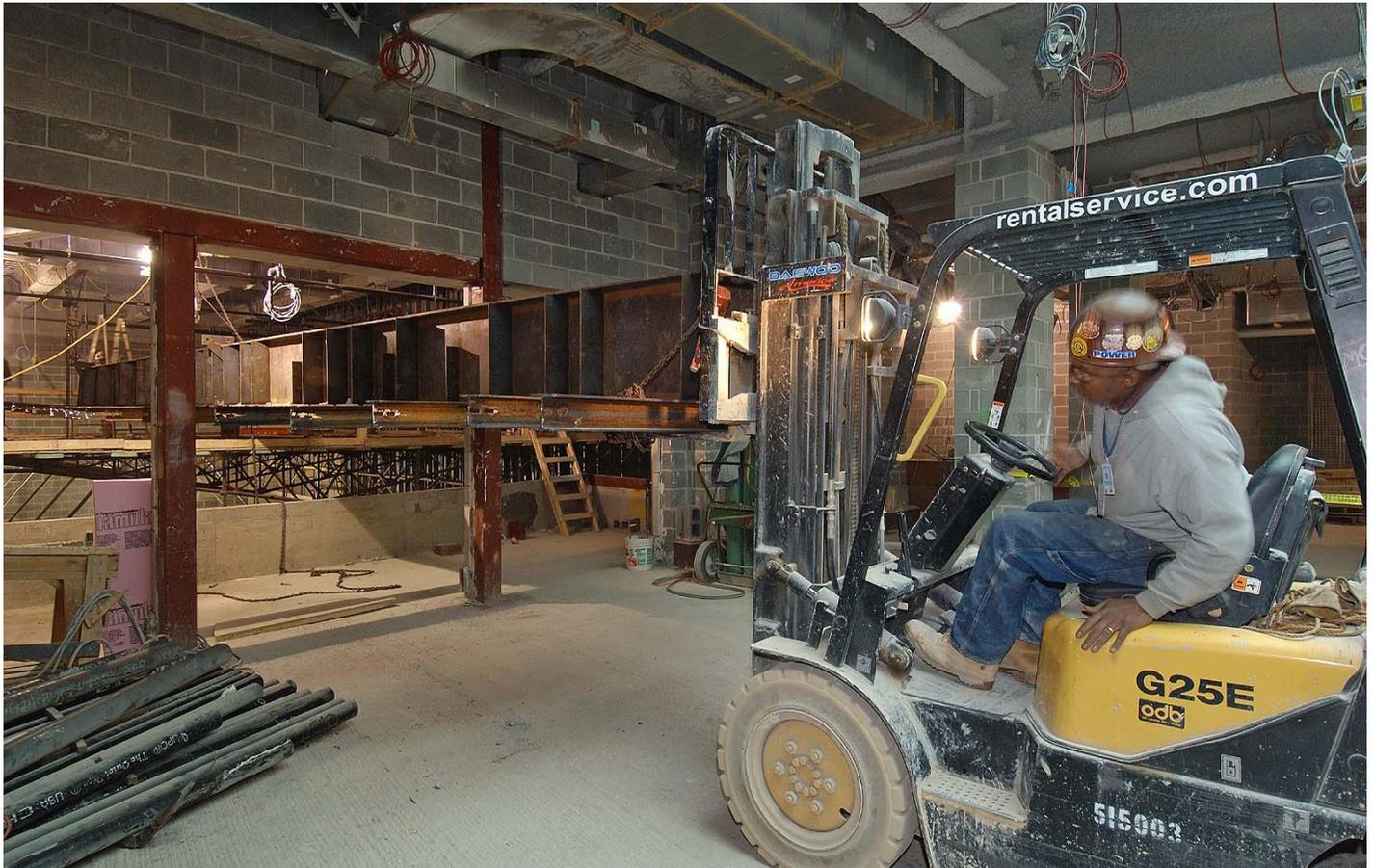
This Week – Ongoing Work – 12/19/05 through 12/23/05

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, erect masonry block work and metal stud walls, place concrete, install finish stone, and apply plaster to interior spaces.
- Stone masons will continue installing floor stone in the corridor south of the Great Hall.
- Stone crews will continue installing stone inside the Great Hall on the east-side columns and along the east walls, and in the 30-foot-high thresholds between the columns on the west side of the Hall. Other stone work continues in the corridors of the Congressional Auditorium, while several mason teams are working along the north, south and west walls in the Exhibition Gallery.
- In the orientation theaters, workers are installing the metal stud walls that will support the separate wood and acoustic fabric panels. A crew has begun installing a 6,000-lb. project screen support beam in the South Theater.
- Crews continue to install masonry block units on the basement and Crypt levels within the East Front.
- Workers are installing mechanical systems in the East Front (ductwork and electrical conduit) and are continuing to install mechanical elements for two 25-passenger elevators on the north side.
- On the Service Level, crews continue to make the electrical, duct and piping connections to the air handling units, fans and other mechanical equipment. Workers are installing insulation on all water lines.
- Inside the House and Senate Expansion Space, crews continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, place floor topping slabs, and erect metal stud walls and drywall. Much of the block work and metal stud-walls are now complete on the upper level of the House Expansion space and in the middle level of the Senate space.
- A stone crew will continue installing granite blocks on the south retaining wall leading to the CVC entrance.
- Foundation work continues below the House Carriageway as part of the effort to construct a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to House expansion space.
- Crews continue to lay granite pavers in various zones on the Senate Plaza and along the sidewalk leading to the Senate Steps as restoration activities continue.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- First Street continues to be constricted at the intersection with East Capitol Street to allow for utility work in this zone. Washington Gas has completed its efforts to reconfigure an existing gas line over the new utility tunnel. Final welding of the gas line will be completed by mid-week. Sequence 2 crews will begin assembling the formwork for the concrete walls that will be constructed around the utility connections at this location.
- The utility connections to steam and chilled water lines at Second Street are ongoing and concrete placements for the walls and roof slab at Second Street around the utility connection points have been completed. All structural work for the tunnel is expected to be completed by mid-January.



With the help of a small forklift, a CVC worker maneuvers a 6,000-pound steel beam through the door threshold of the South Orientation Theater. The beam will be anchored to the opposite wall and will support a projection screen that measures 34 feet across and 19 feet high.

Next Week – 12/26/05 – 12/30/05

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Crews will continue to install ductwork and piping for all heating, cooling, supply, waste water, fire protection, and electrical systems; build mechanical spaces, install cable trays, place concrete, erect blockwork and metal stud walls, and install finish stone in areas on the upper and middle levels of the facility.
- Installation and welding of pipe will continue inside the new utility tunnel along East Capitol Street between First and Second Streets. Related utility tie-in work and concrete placements will continue at First Street.
- Crews will continue backfilling above the utility tunnel in preparation for East Capitol Street restoration activities in February.
- Crews will continue installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, metal stud walls, drywall, underslab conduit, ductwork and floor topping slabs in the House and Senate Expansion Space.
- Demolition and removal of foundation stone will continue below the House Carriageway as part of the construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center.
- Masons will continue installing granite pavers to restore the Senate Plaza and the adjacent sidewalk.

If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, Project Communications Officer at (202) 228-1310 or by e-mail at tfontana@aac.gov. For this and previous editions of the Weekly Construction Summary, visit our web site at www.aac.gov (click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link).