



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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All major finish work is complete in the CVC public spaces, including the North Gift Shop. Cabinetry and display cases in both the North and South Gift Shops will be installed later this winter. Fire alarm testing and punch-list work is now occurring throughout the CVC.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 1/14/08 through 1/18/08

- The final acceptance testing process on the CVC's fire and life-safety systems continues on schedule.
- Painters, carpenters, plumbers, masons, electricians, carpet installers, and other professionals continue to address punch-list items throughout the facility.
- Way-finding and room signs have been installed throughout the CVC public spaces. A crew also installed the bronze letters above the entrances to the North and South Gift Shops (see photo above).
- In the Exhibition Hall, all of the major exhibitry components are in place. This week, technicians will work on plans to modify the specialized fire suppressant system for the Wall of Aspirations based on tests completed last week.
- Audio-visual technicians will work on adjustments to the projection screens in the North and South Orientation Theaters. Carpenters are completing minor finishing work to stage components in the Congressional Auditorium.
- In the House stairwell atrium, masons have completed the major stonework at the lowest level of the atrium and continue to install the pre-cast terrazzo stair treads. Stair tread installation is complete in the Senate stairwell atrium.
- A crew has installed the terrazzo floor through the length of the Cannon connector tunnel and the terrazzo has been grinded to its finished appearance. Crews are now grinding the floor in the smaller house connector tunnel.
- In the East Front, crews have completed the Gallery Level ceiling plaster work and have removed the scaffolding. Masons have completed the installation of stone around the Rotunda Door and continue setting the stair tread stones for the south side staircase. Floor stone installation is expected to begin at the Gallery Level.



Both the north (above) and south entrance approaches to the CVC will welcome visitor gradually and gracefully to the entrance doors. Grass fields and 85 new trees will help recreate the open spaces and tree-lined views envisioned in the original Frederick Law Olmsted plan of 1874.

- Workers have completed placing the aggregate concrete for the south curving approach ramp to the CVC entrance zone.
- A crew will continue grinding the terrazzo floor in the House connector tunnel.
- All of the major plaster and stone work is complete in the tunnel to the Library of Congress and in the portion of the transition zone that lies within the Jefferson Building. Some concrete work remains at both the east and west ends of the tunnel before crews can begin the installation of a terrazzo floor through the length of the tunnel.

Next Week – 1/21/08 – 1/25/08

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Punch-list work will continue throughout interior spaces as millwork, wall stone, floor stone, grout lines, painted surfaces, ceiling panels, plaster work, carpeting, doors, and other finish materials are inspected.
- The AOC Fire Marshal will continue the final testing process for the fire and life-safety systems.
- Workers will continue ceiling work at the Rotunda and Crypt levels in the East Front of the Capitol while masons set stone stair treads on the south stair in this zone and begin floor stone installation at the Gallery Level.
- Efforts will be made to remove stone palettes and other construction materials from the East Front Plaza near the face of the Capitol to clear the way for State of the Union activities.
- Workers will continue finishing work on the bronze hand rails in both the House and Senate stairwell atria while masons complete the adjacent stone work and terrazzo stair landings.



An audio-visual technician makes adjustments to the state-of-the-art projection system in the North Orientation Theater.

For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at fontana@aoc.gov or visit the project web site at www.aoc.gov. Be sure to click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link on the homepage.