



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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A lighting technician installs a large custom bronze light fixture in the East Front of the Capitol. During the holiday recess, plaster workers completed the ceiling plaster work at the Gallery Level while masons completed the challenging stone work near the Rotunda Door (at left).

This Week – Ongoing Work – 1/7/08 through 1/11/08

- 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.
- In the Exhibition Hall, all of the major exhibitry components are in place. This week, technicians are testing the specialized fire suppressant system for the historic document cases in the Wall of Aspirations.
- Audio-visual technicians continue to test the projection equipment and sound systems in the North and South Orientation Theaters and 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.
- 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 are now setting the stair tread stones for the south side staircase. Also in the East Front, electricians have installed the large central bronze light fixture and four smaller custom fixtures along the south stair (see photo above).
- Workers have completed placing concrete for the curving approach ramp leading to the CVC's south entrance.



On December 18, 2007, Congressman Zach Wamp (left) and Acting Architect of the Capitol Stephen Ayers discussed a bill that Rep. Wamp had sponsored to officially designate the Great Hall (pictured above) as Emancipation Hall. The President signed the bill into law earlier that day.

- 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 – 1/14/08 – 1/18/08

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 Gallery Levels in the East Front Extension of the Capitol while masons set stone stair treads on the south stair in this zone. Electricians will continue to installation custom bronze light fixtures in the all three levels of the East Front.
- Audio-visual systems testing will continue in the theater spaces.
- 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.



Several skylights in the CVC have been cleaned recently revealing clear and dramatic views of the Capitol Dome.

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