



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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One of two historical fountains on the East Front Plaza shows off its new water jets during a fountain pump test early last week. The fully-restored fountains were installed in the 1870s and were removed by an historic preservation contractor in 2002 to clear the way for CVC excavation.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 5/12/08 through 5/16/08

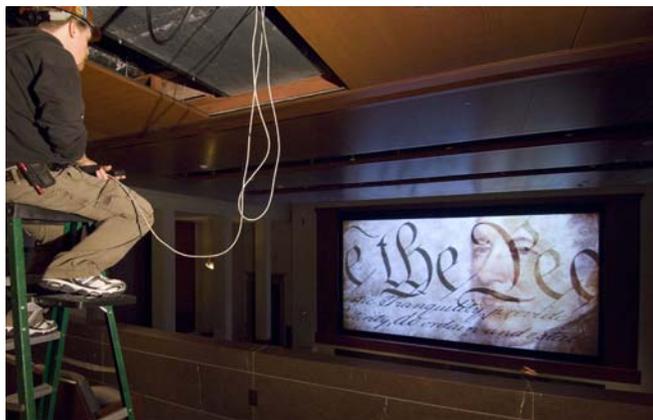
- Throughout the CVC, technicians continue final acceptance testing on the facility's complex fire and life-safety systems. This process is still on schedule to be completed this summer.
- Painters, carpenters, plumbers, masons, electricians, cleaning crews and other professionals continue to address punchlist items throughout the facility.
- Glass workers continue to install glass panels to the exterior elevators on the CVC Plaza (*see top photo, opposite page*).
- Landscapers continue to plant trees and small plants along the CVC entrance paths and perimeter areas.
- Landscape restoration work continues in the South "Egg" as crews continue to prepare the grounds for sod.
- Door installation crews continue adjusting doors and thresholds to achieve the precise separations necessary for the testing of the CVC's smoke purge and air pressurization systems.
- Masons continue to reset the stair-tread stones in the Senate stairwell atrium. A paint crews has completed painting all of the stairwell pickets to a bronze finish in the House stairwell atrium.
- Metal workers continue installing bronze cap plates at the base of bronze railing posts throughout the CVC.
- In the Exhibition Hall, panels along the back alcove walls have been removed temporarily to clear the way for installation and testing of a foam sealant material that will restrict air flow inside the alcove walls. The sealant, part of the walls specialized fire suppressant system, has already been applied at the base of the three south-side alcoves.
- Audio-visual technicians have re-installed the projection screens in the North and South Orientation Theaters and are currently re-testing the projections systems (*see lower photo opposite page*).



New elevators on the East Front Plaza are lined with rose and grey granite stones to match the colors of historic lanterns and seat walls.

Next Week – 5/19/08 – 5/23/08

- Technicians will continue the final testing process for the CVC’s complex fire and life-safety systems. This work will continue into the summer.
- Weather permitting, masons may begin setting polished black granite slabs around the two large skylights that flank Emancipation Hall. Ultimately, a thin pool of water will slowly revolve around the field of stone when the water features around the skylights become operational this summer. Water fountain testing may continue.
- Outside, landscape crews will continue to level the grade of the South “Egg” and prepare the grounds for sod placements and plantings. Other plantings will continue along both the north and south entrance ramps.



A technician with the CVC’s audio-visual systems contractor tests the film projection system in the South Orientation Theater following the recent installation of the projection screen.

- Punchlist work will continue throughout interior spaces as millwork, wall stone, floor stone, grout lines, painted surfaces, ceiling panels, plaster work, doors, and other finish materials are inspected and deficiencies corrected.
- Masons will continue grout work and other stone detail work at the Rotunda and Gallery levels in the East Front of the Capitol, while metal works continue installing bronze railings.
- Terrazzo work may begin on the landings in the stairwell atrium in the Senate Expansion Space.
- Terrazzo work may continue in the LOC tunnel progressing from west to east while stone masons continue setting stone at the base of the tunnel walls.
- Landscapers will continue executing the final tree and shrub planting plan along the CVC entrance zones.