



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



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

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As seen in this aerial photo of the Capitol Visitor Center taken February 15, 2008, work continues to revitalize the East Capitol Grounds as the park-like setting envisioned in the original 1874 landscape plan designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Crews continue to remove construction trailers from the grass oval areas and only a few palettes of stone remain on the plaza deck as stone work inside the East Front of the Capitol progresses. This spring, crews will plant more than 50 new trees within the project area to augment the 34 trees that were planted in 2006 as part of the landscape restoration. Inset: A view of the plaza in 2002 shows the East Capitol Grounds dominated by an asphalt parking lot.

## This Week – Ongoing Work – 2/25/08 through 2/29/08

- 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.
- Masons have completed the majority of floor stone work at both the Rotunda and Gallery levels inside the East Front Extension of the Capitol. This stone work will be essentially complete by mid-March.
- Painters, carpenters, plumbers, masons, electricians, and other professionals continue to address punch-list items throughout the facility.
- Professional cleaning crews continue to wash down 200,000 square feet of wall stone and nearly 136,000 square feet of floor stone throughout the CVC.
- In the Exhibition Hall, all of the glass floor panels have been installed. In late March, a crew is expected to begin installation of a 10-foot touchable model of the Capitol Dome.
- Audio-visual technicians continue to make adjustments to the sound and projection systems in the North and South Orientation Theaters and the Congressional Auditorium.
- In the House stairwell atrium, masons are making minor adjustments to the pre-cast terrazzo stair treads. Work on the terrazzo stair landings is expected to begin in March. Metal workers continue finishing work on the bronze hand- rails in both stairwell atria and in the House Hearing Room.



Stone masons continue setting floor stone at the Gallery level and Rotunda level (seen here) within the East Front of the Capitol.

A crew continues grout work in the House connector tunnel that connects the House Expansion Space to the basement level elevator lobby at the east side of the House wing. Meanwhile, a sealant has been applied to the terrazzo floor of the Cannon Connector Tunnel marking the completion of the major finishing work in the tunnel.

## **Next Week – 3/3/08 – 3/7/08**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza Work**

- Technicians will continue the final testing process for the CVC’s complex fire and life-safety systems. This work will continue into this summer.
- Outside, crews will continue work in the South Egg (grassy oval) to remove construction trailers and materials as this area is prepared for sod placements and plantings later this spring.
- Punch-list 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 setting floor stone at the Rotunda and Gallery Level in the East Front of the Capitol and will continue work on the stair treads at the south end of the transition zone.
- Workers will continue finishing work on the bronze handrails in both the House and Senate stairwell atria. Terrazzo work may begin on the landings in each of the stairwell atria.
- Technicians will continue to adjust sound and projections systems in the North and South Orientation Theaters.



A glass installer aligns one of the glass wall panels at the north end of the CVC Exhibition Hall.

*For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at [fontana@oc.gov](mailto:fontana@oc.gov) or visit the project web site at [www.oc.gov](http://www.oc.gov). Be sure to click on the “Capitol Visitor Center” link on the homepage.*