



FMW Renovation Update

August 5, 2018

*And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County?
Down by the Green River where Paradise lay,
Well, I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking,
Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away.*

— John Prine

Monday 🌩️

The promised storm again holds off until the end of work.

The big drill moves on to its next assignment, which will probably involve holes of some sort.

You may find the left turn from Decatur Place onto Florida a bit trying sometimes.

It's probably harder backwards . . .



With that out of the way, the day is given over to digging and shoring.



By the end of the day, another 14 truckloads are gone and the shoring is 60% complete.

An electrician removes the switches and fixtures in the Quaker House Carriage House connector, inadvertently disconnecting a few office circuits in the process.

Tuesday ☀️

Digging — another four truckloads — and shoring.

A drywall crew patches the various bricked-in windows and doors.



Wednesday ⚡️

A productive day. More dirt is removed, along with the big chunks of former kitchen alcove. The shoring grows downward. Drywall patches are sanded for painting. Electric circuits are restored in Carriage House.

We have our biweekly meeting with Monarc and the architects.



Left to right, James Holochuk, Sandy Spring Bank Construction Manager

Steve Lail, Monarc Project Supervisor

Richard Wieboldt, Gauthier Alvarado Principal Architect

Daniel Barrios, Monarc Assistant Project Supervisor

Tri-Minh Phan, Monarc Project Supervisor

Gabriella Jimenez (look again), construction management intern

Ken Orvis, Owner's Representative and Property Manager

Gabriella again, on the emerging Quaker House Terrace —



Thursday ☀️

Dig (6 more truckloads)
and shore.

Shoring is complete and
shoring subcontractor
Atlas packs to leave.

Carpenters continue to
add wood to the new
roof.



This space will be a new meeting room in Carriage House, partly replacing the space we carved out of the Parlor for the new hallway. For the purposes of this report, we will imaginatively (and provisionally) call it the Carriage House Room.

Friday 🌤️

The diggers do not dig today because of training.

A quiet day, devoted to planning and meditation.

Monarc cleans the mud off the north wall of Quaker House and contemplates how to waterproof this antique surface.



We need to do that, because the ground at this point will be built up to the higher level of the new Quaker House Terrace and that could cause new water issues.

There will be a new foundation drain here to help keep Quaker House dry.

Looking Ahead 🌤️

Same future as last week, but with a slightly better weather forecast.

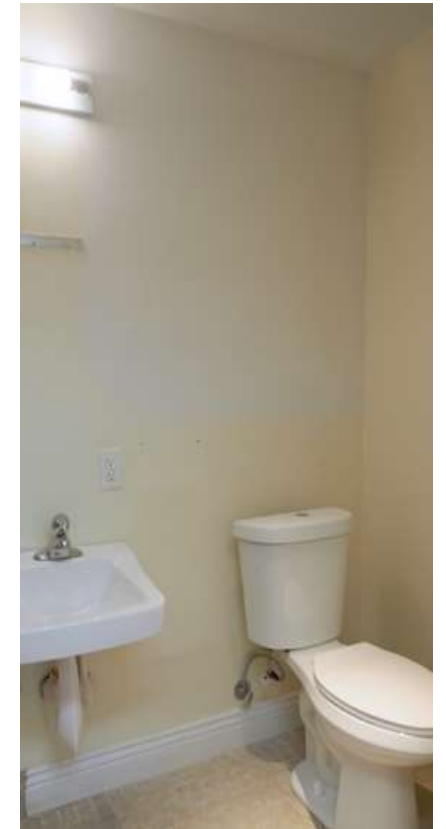
Monarc has done very well in keeping things more or less on schedule despite record July rainfall.

We are now about one-sixth of the way through the work.

The back garden is now at roughly final grade and you can see the shape of the new upper and lower terraces.

Although the work has largely been demolition and excavation some constructive things have already been accomplished.

For example, in keeping with our Testimony of Simplicity, a Quaker House bathroom has been reduced to basics:



In the next week, with the digging mostly done, drainage work will continue more rapidly.

Continued demolition of the Carriage House deck area, including construction of a temporary interior passageway and removal of the deck itself.

Concrete trucks will be arriving as the footings for the retaining wall are laid out and poured.

Work will begin in the East Garden to construct a 400 square foot "bio-retention pond" at the bottom of the hill.