

FMW Renovation Update

March 31, 2019

The safest road to Hell is the gradual one.

— C.S. Lewis



Small changes accumulate.



As you walk around, you notice a new switchbox here.

Some new slate shingles there.



Some changes tending toward a door frame.



Which is one of Douglas' tasks for today.

A few concrete workers continue to strip forms from the new bioretention tub.



A few carpenters tamper with the stairway and framing.



And, more dramatically, five ironworkers slap a steel beam on the west face of the Meetinghouse, to support the canopy.



Weren't expecting that, were you?

The architects said there should be

a canopy.



A canopy.



And another canopy, keeping five ironworkers busy today.



Three carpenters work on Lobby window frames.

In the afternoon, a call from a Wisconsin truck driver, whose 18-wheeler is closing in on DC with a delivery of windows. Windows!

In the East Garden the diggers return to backfill the dirt around the bioretention thing.



It's progress, but we can feel the 2019 Garden of the Year Award slowly slipping from our grasp.

In the Assembly Room two slate slab fireplace hearthstone installers install a slate slab fireplace hearthstone.



Three electricians continue to install the electrical trough in the furnace room and wire up the lower corridor.

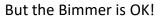
Monarc supervisor Steve Lail twice calls for a tow truck to remove a recalcitrant BMW.

No tow truck appears, but Steve's truck gets a parking ticket.

Despite this, another lovely empty construction dumpster is delivered.



In the process, the Monarc front gate is reconfigured.





Wednesday 💥

A sunny day, and eight carpenters emerge from their burrows.

They see their shadows, but bravely go to work on the wall framing.



We will need lots of carpenters, because there are only two months left on the schedule and \$1 million still unspent on the contract.

It should be a busy two months.

After lunch, the big truck arrives.



And unloads about 20 units of windows and doors.

Including some Quaker House patio doors.



And some Assembly Room doors.



In the east garden, the concrete crew continues to tidy up the tub.



A sprinkler worker works on the sprinklers.

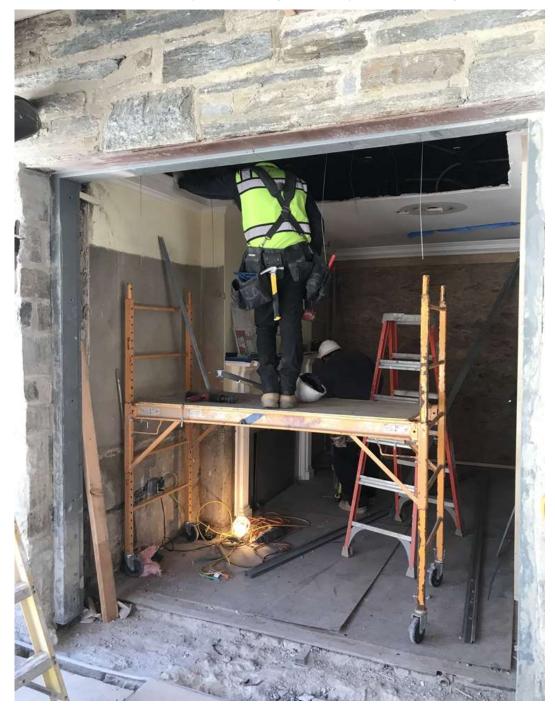
An HVAC worker installs new exhaust fans in the Meeting House downstairs bathrooms.

Three iron workers finish their part of the new canopies.

And three electricians install Lobby lighting.



Work resumes on the hallways connecting the Lobby to the Meeting House.



Thursday 🂢

Another wonderful day for doing things, but not very many doers on site.

Three carpenters do some framing and some admiring and shuffling of the new windows and doors, which are now cluttering up the place.



The building is ready for windows.



The architect, contractor, Meeting and bank representatives gather for the biweekly meeting.

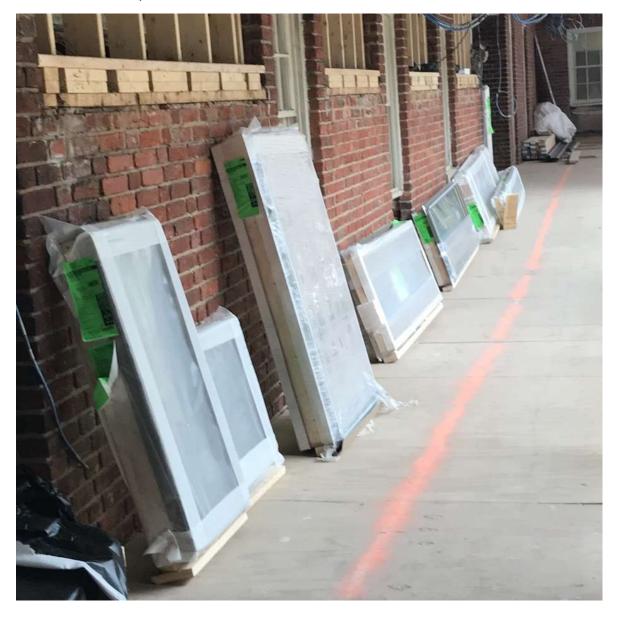
Two roofers stop by to look at the site for the green roof.

Three electricians continue their orderly wiring of the new spaces.

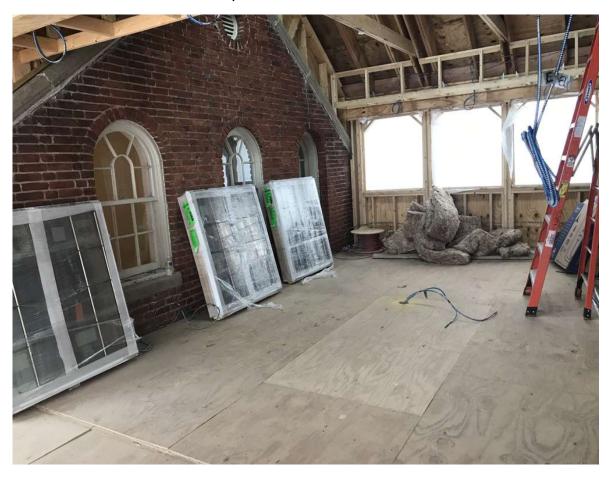


Friday 🚈

The windows creep toward their final destinations.



Three French windows are nearly there.



Four iron workers install vertical steel.



These vertical bars will keep the windows more or less where they belong.

Three carpenters and three electricians work on the Lobby.

Douglas applies a temporary pool cover to keep the pond from becoming a pond before it's time.



Looking Ahead

We're about 72% done, with two months (or is it three?) left to go.

Windows will be installed in the next week or two, including the new Assembly Room doors.

Electrical wiring, plumbing, lighting, sprinkler system, roofing, fire alarm, and HVAC work will all continue behind the windows.

As this work is completed, insulation and drywall will be added, starting on the Quaker House end.

The bioretention pond will be backfilled, provided with drains in the bottom, and filled with a sandy soil mix to absorb and hold stormwater.

The interior doors should show up and be installed.

Paint and trim and flooring patching in the Assembly Room.

Work is resuming in the new hallways that will connect the Lobby with the Meeting Room and Assembly Room hallways, starting with ceiling and flooring work.

Garden handrails will be installed.

Screens will be installed around the new rooftop compressors.

The garden stairs will be completed and the capstones and brick patio installed.