

Hamilton Grange National Memorial Restoration Update – June 28, 2009

Restoration Continues Inside and Outside

For the beginning of the year, most of the work on Hamilton Grange National Memorial has been happening on the inside or off-site. The mechanical systems work (HVAC, fire suppression, etc.) in the groundfloor level is proceeding as expected, and excavation for and installation of utility pipes and conduit has taken place and the resulting rubble removed. Off-site restoration of the original staircases and 10'4" inch tall seven-panel doors and sashes is complete and those pieces are ready to be re-installed into the Grange as soon as the house is ready for them.

With the improvement in the weather, work on the exterior has resumed. Most notably, the piazzas are being installed on the east and west sides of the Grange. The floors and columns are in place on both sides of the house and the roof is on the western piazza. Investigation by the National Park Service's Architectural Preservation Division and project Architects JG Waite and Associates has revealed that the original roofs for the piazzas were flat and probably covered with lead cladding, something not typical for the time.

The main roof itself is mostly complete and is waiting for the chimneys and balustrade to be reconstructed/restored.

Hamilton Grange was awarded \$2.3 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Those funds will be used to complete the restoration (including fabrication and installation of exhibits on the ground and first floors) but not the refurnishing of the first floor rooms (library, dining room, parlor, hallways and back chambers) and for the restoration of the non-public spaces on the second floor, including the upper hall, rooms and attic stairs. The balustrade on the roof will also be restored with these funds.

ARRA monies will also fund exterior lighting to provide architectural highlighting at night as well as security.



General Management Plan Amendment

The comment period for the amendment to General Management Plan for Hamilton Grange National Memorial has closed. Draft alternatives for the reuse of the Convent Avenue site are expected to be presented to the public in August.

To comment or ask a question, please return to the Hamilton Grange Web site and click on the e-mail link above the updates. To be removed from this update list, go to www.nps.gov/hagr, click on "e-mail us" and write UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line before submitting. Thank you.