



HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE

• Renovation Update for April 2011 •

DURING APRIL 2011, the Renovation Team finalized the Basis of Design Target Cost Model for the renovation/restoration. The project remains on budget as the definition of the project is clarified and refined. While repairs to the main passenger elevator are on-going, the hydraulic elevator, which provides access between the basement level and the parking area, is now operational. As part of the overall building maintenance, the front entrance steps, including the sphinxes, have received a thorough cleaning.



The new piston is being prepared to be hoisted into place in the shaft. Sections of the piston were welded together to create the overall length of almost 37 feet.



A section of the piston has been lowered into the casing in the elevator pit and is being aligned to ensure it is plumb.



Due to the high water table around the House of the Temple, a waterproofing gel was pumped into the space between the casings to stop the water from migrating into the elevator pit. Each team of installers is assigned a different color so they know which "green" group worked on the House of the Temple.



The waterproofing gel was pumped down the white tube to seal the casing. With the casing sealed and the piston in place, the "life jacket" will be installed, and the elevator cab will be reattached to the piston. The elevator passed inspection on April 22, 2011, and is back in service.



As part of the overall cleaning of the House of the Temple, the main entrance steps were cleaned using a light-duty restoration cleaner.



In locations where heavy soiling or petroleum products were found, a poulitice was used to “draw-out” the stain. The clear gel cleaner is allowed to dry to an opaque white before being removed and thoroughly rinsed.



Using the Dietrich product tested in Fall 2010, the limestone at the entrance is being cleaned to remove the heavy soiling.



The sphinxes were cleaned as part of this effort revealing the decorative features at the base of the sculpture.

