



HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE

• Renovation Update for August 2011 •

DURING AUGUST 2011, the Renovation Team installed the first three finials in the new handrail leading from the Entrance level to the Banquet Hall. The unexpected 5.8 earthquake on August 23, 2011, caused minor damage in the House of Temple. Representatives from the structural engineer have reviewed the building noting their concerns. Design work is ongoing with focus on the accessible entrance, plumbing (including additional restrooms), and electrical design including lighting.



The "Lost Wax" process was used for casting the new finials. First, a pattern of the historic finial was hand carved. Using the pattern, a mold was created to make the wax castings. The funnel-shaped element and rods are a "pour cup" to allow the molten metal to be poured in and gases escape.



Fine aggregate (sand) is then "painted" onto the wax mold, with successive layers of more coarse aggregate added to create a "shell". The shell is then baked at high temperature. The wax melts leaving the shell which can then be filled with the molten metal.



One of the rays from the "glory" on the West Elevation of the Temple Room became detached from the window as a result of the earthquake. Five panes of glass were also cracked or broken during this event. Conservators have reviewed the situation and proposed a methodology to reattach and stabilize the loose element.



The stone fragments on the stairs outside the Temple Room are from a crack in the marble wall above which resulted from the earthquake.

JOIN US FOR THE CENTENNIAL OF THE LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE AT THE HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., OCTOBER 16–18, 2011.

OCTOBER 16: Special Guided Tours (2:00 p.m.)

Tour 1: *Masonic Symbolism in the House of the Temple*

Tour 2: *Pope's Legacy: His Vision for the "Men's House"*

Each special tour will be offered twice so that all attendees can go on both. Each tour will be 60–80 minutes in length.

OCTOBER 17: Laying the Cornerstone Symposium (Event begins at 9:00 a.m., and lunch will be provided.)

- **Keynote Speaker:** Secretary of U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, Thomas Luebke
- Hartman Cox Architects: *John Russell Pope and the Historic significance of the House of the Temple on 16th Street*
- Arturo de Hoyos, 33°, G.C., Grand Archivist/Grand Historian: *Masonic symbolism of the House of the Temple*
- Sean Graystone 33°, G.C., Superintendant of the House of the Temple: *Renovating the Temple for a New Century*

OCTOBER 18: Re-enactment of the Laying of the Cornerstone (11:00 a.m.)

The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia and the Supreme Council will reenact the Laying of the Cornerstone Ceremony. This event starts at 11:00 a.m. and is open to the public. There will be a reception following the reenactment ceremony in the Temple Garden at 11:45 a.m.

**REGISTRATION:
\$100 FOR SCOTTISH
RITE MASONS AND
FAMILY, \$200 FOR
NON-MEMBERS
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