



The Scottish
Parliament

HOLYROOD BUILDING PROJECT

NEWSLETTER NO 10
JULY 2003

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

MSP BUILDING

From the perimeter of the site it is now possible to see a number of elements emerging as scaffolding begins to come down.

The feature windows on the west façade of the building are all in place, and clearly visible from both Reid's Close and Holyrood Road. The granite cladding, which includes Kemnay granite from Aberdeenshire, gives the exterior of this building a mosaic effect.

Internally, fit-out is well advanced, with partitions and storage units in place on all



Internal fit out of MSPs' offices



Foyer roof lights

floors. The floor covering in the MSPs' offices will be a combination of oak and carpet, and the oak flooring is progressively being laid floor by floor.

QUEENSBERRY HOUSE

The exterior of Queensberry House is now nearing completion. Internally, work is progressing in the creation of the offices for the Presiding Officer and the Deputy Presiding Officers. The reading rooms where books and other memorabilia from the personal collection of the late Donald Dewar will be displayed are taking shape. In terms of the internal wall finishes of Queensberry House the intention is that where the

existing stonework is of a high standard it is being left exposed, with the remainder being covered with plasterboard and painted.

LOBBY

The leaf-shaped roof lights are now all in place and the glazing work is well advanced. Constructed from steel and glass these roof lights allow natural light to penetrate the space, which will be the main thoroughfare for MSPs and staff as they move around the complex. The glazing to the walls around the foyer area are also being installed and these will allow views out over the garden space and towards the MSP building.



Construction of Committee Room ceilings

COMMITTEE TOWERS

The granite cladding has now reached the top of the committee towers and many of the windows are now in place. Internal fit-out of the towers continues with the installation of the vaulted roofs of the committee rooms now well under way.



Inside the Debating Chamber

DEBATING CHAMBER

The ground floor of this building will be the main public area, with reception, restaurant, shop, Education Centre and exhibition areas. The ceiling consists of 3 concrete vaults, each with a lightwell allowing natural light into the space. These vaults also feature Enric Miralles' abstract designs of the saltire cross. From here members of the public will be able to access the public gallery of the Chamber, and the Committee rooms.



Debating Chamber viewed from Home Wynd



Landscaping works viewed from Salisbury Crags

The first floor of this building forms the floor of the Debating Chamber. Access for MSPs is via a glazed corridor which connects to one of the Towers. The members' desks, which will be made

from oak and sycamore, were designed by Enric Miralles, and incorporate a voting console and lectern. The floor will be mainly carpeted, with the carpet also designed by Miralles.

On the next level, the public gallery provides seating for 225 visitors. There is also a VIP gallery with seating for 18 and a press gallery with seating for 34. Large windows provide views out across the landscaping towards the Palace of Holyroodhouse and Salisbury Crags.

LANDSCAPING

Construction of the concrete structures which extend from the building into the Park to form the landscaping is now well under way. Horse Wynd is expected to re-open to vehicles later this year.



Aerial view of site



Construction of glazed walkway providing access to Chamber for MSPs

UPDATE ON PROGRAMME AND COSTS

Completion of construction is still on target for the end of 2003, with MSPs and staff scheduled to move into the building next year.

The Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body (SPCB) announced last month that the projected costs of the building were now standing at £374m, a rise of £36m from previous estimates. The additional costs result mainly from the ongoing complexity of the building work now under way on site, principally the need to compress and re-sequence certain tasks, and prolongation of contracts associated with re-programming works.

PARLIAMENT BUILDING INFORMATION CENTRE

The Parliament Building Information Centre at the Tun on Holyrood Road recently received a 4 star rating from VisitScotland. We have now welcomed over 12,000 visitors since the Centre opened in December 2003. The Centre is open every day from 10.00am to 4.00pm, and includes a Parliament shop, selling a range of Parliament merchandise.



Landscaping works extend into Holyrood Park

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Holyrood Building Project newsletter is produced on a regular basis depending on the amount of information available. However we recognise that you may have specific questions on the project. Any queries on site related aspects of the project should be directed to Bovis Lend Lease on 0131 472 7100. Other general queries should initially be directed to Vicky O'Donnell of the Project Team on 0131 348 6524.