

Low Library Monumental Window Replacement and Roof Repairs

September 24, 2021

What is Happening

Monumental Window Restoration

- No work is scheduled for the week of September 27.
- Anticipated to begin the week of October 4, protective shedding and pipe scaffolding will be erected in phases on the interior and exterior of Low Library to facilitate the removal of the monumental window by the West Gallery. Interior scaffolding will be limited to the West Gallery within the Rotunda. Access to the West Gallery from the building's 4th floor will be blocked for the duration of the project.
- The first phase (approximately October 4 to October 8, depending on weather conditions) includes exterior pipe scaffolding with a hoist and stair tower on the exterior of Low Library at the northwest corner of the building.
- Between approximately October 11 to October 22, interior shedding and pipe scaffolding will be erected over the West Gallery. An additional soundproof barrier will be installed adjacent to the interior scaffolding to minimize construction noise in late October to mid-November.
- The final location of scaffolding will be installed on the exterior of the building at the roof level starting in mid-October until early November.
- The removal of the monumental window will take place in early November following the installation of protective shedding and scaffolding. The window will take approximately three to four months to remove the cast iron window parts.

Equipment Removal and Repair/Replacement of Portions of the Roof

- Installation of the new roof system is underway
- Additional dunnage will be removed from the roof

What to Expect

- Expect some noise and other impacts typically associated with construction projects
- Access to the West Gallery from the 4th floor will be blocked for the duration of the project

About these Projects

Facilities and Operations is performing two separate exterior projects at Low Library: one to restore the original historic cast-iron framed monumental arch window on the west side of the Rotunda, and a second to repair and replace a portion of the roof following the removal of mechanical equipment no longer in use.

Schedule

Monumental Window Restoration

The monumental window restoration will be performed in three phases to remove the window, restore it offsite, and reinstall the restored window frame and parts. Work hours for the removal phase will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with some work occurring during overnights between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. to reduce disruption to work areas and event spaces. The final project completion is anticipated by the end of fall 2022.

Equipment Removal and Repair/Replacement of Portions of the Roof

Regular work hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with work taking place on Saturdays as needed. The roof project is anticipated to be completed in October 2021, weather permitting.

For More Information

If you have any questions or concerns about this project, please call the Columbia University Facilities Services Center, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at (212) 854-2222 or e-mail projx@columbia.edu (emails are responded to during regular business hours).