



TRUMAN COURTHOUSE COURIER

NEWS ABOUT TRUMAN COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS

JACKSON STATUE MOVED TO NEW LOCATION

DRAINAGE PROBLEM SOLVED

A problem with draining rainwater from the roof of the Courthouse was discovered. A worker noticed water gurgling up from the ground after a heavy rainfall. Four pipes that were thought to have been abandoned have now been connected to the new drainage system. Early detection of this issue allowed the repairs to be completed while the grounds were still in a state of demolition.

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PROJECT PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

City of Independence

Independence Chamber of Commerce

Independence Square Association

Jackson County Historical Society

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The statue of Andrew Jackson was moved back approximately 20 feet as part of the new landscape design for the Truman Courthouse. The move was necessary to return the courthouse to the original 1933 landscape plan where parking was available all the way around the courthouse perimeter.

The move had to be re-scheduled a couple of times, but early on May 20, Belger Cartage arrived with its crane and wasted no time getting to work. The statue was moved in three pieces. Workers from Artworks of Kansas City took great care to wrap and pad

the statue to prevent any possible damage. It took quite a bit of time to get the correct strapping in place under the granite block to assure that balance could be maintained during the

lift. Once they began to raise the statue, the small crowd that had gathered followed the motion as it gently rotated to its temporary resting spot in the middle of Liberty Street with barely a wobble. The statue sat in the middle of the street for about an hour before it was resituated onto its relocated platform. The entire process took about five hours and was completed without a hitch.



Securely wrapped, the Andrew Jackson statue is moved to a new location.

CONCRETE AND ASPHALT WORK PROGRESSING

Crews began laying the asphalt base around the perimeter of the courthouse on June 3 and began pouring the concrete sidewalks on June 4. The asphalt base will be left approximately two inches below the actual street level. The final layer of asphalt will be one of the last items completed at the site. Site Inspector Lyle Jones explained that there will still be large work vehicles and construction workers around the site and it's typical not to apply the final layer of asphalt until all the work is finished so the new surface will be free of mars and scratches.



A new layer of asphalt is smoothed down around the Courthouse.

The lower sidewalks are also being poured. The design calls for two sets of sidewalks. One set will surround the perimeter of the building right next to the street at curb level. Next to the lower sidewalk there will be a short (approximately 1-foot high) retaining wall that will protect the lower sidewalk from runoff and is in keeping with the original design. There will be a gentle slope to the upper set of sidewalks, which will be at ground level with the courthouse. The upper sidewalks will also connect all the way around the building.

As of June 5, the work on the limestone north and south entry steps was completed. The work on the east and west entry steps is still underway. Once the hardscape is complete, the next steps in the process will be installing the irrigation system, reinstalling monuments and laying down sod.