
Construction Highlights - June, 2005



Unloading Steel

On Tuesday, June 7, 2005, the steel contractor, [Hagerman Construction of Indianapolis](#), commenced work on the six-story, 293,000 square foot addition to the historic Central Library.



First Column in Place

The first columns of steel were hoisted by the tower crane to marked locations, lowered onto awaiting anchor bolts, and secured. The new structure began to rise shortly after noon and within forty-eight hours the first sequence was well underway. The process of erecting steel consists of setting six (6) sequences of steel beginning on the east side (Pennsylvania Street) across the building footprint to the west side (Meridian Street) of the construction site.

Each sequence represents two "floor" levels spanning across two bays. A combination of columns, beams and purlins are used as the main frame



Columns, Beams, and Purlins



Purlins

of the structure. Columns stand vertically and act as supporting pillars. Beams run horizontally and connect the columns. To support the metal decking, purlins are attached perpendicular to the beams that connect the columns.

The Tower Structure will be erected in approximately three to four months, and all structural steel, including the Atrium, will be finished this winter.

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After the decking for the Tower section is complete, concrete will be poured for each of the floors. Following the completion of the steel erection and concrete pours, the construction of the curtain wall system and atrium cable-netwall and skylight systems are scheduled to begin.

Additional repair work in the underground garage structure will continue while the work on the Tower and Atrium steel is underway.



Steel Sequence



Main Reading Room Chandeliers



Reconstructed Chandelier

While architects, engineers, and contractors worked diligently to determine the extent of the structural issues and complete the critical repairs in the underground garage necessary to begin raising steel, other construction work continued on the historic Cret building.

Interior renovations and reconstructions including a new mechanical and electrical system, carpeting, wall finishes, lighting, and glass replacement have been substantially completed.



South Entrance Steps

The reconstruction of the substructure under the building's south entrance, including a new snow melt system, and replacement of the original granite steps nears completion.



Artist Rendering of Central Library