

Laying the Groundwork for a Multifaceted Transportation Hub



Renderings of the Oculus entrance to the WTC Transportation Hub. Above: The Oculus at Church and Fulton Streets, facing west.

It's easy to imagine how the architect Santiago Calatrava drew inspiration for the curved rib roof and soaring arches of the World Trade Center's Transportation Hub from the gesture of a child releasing a dove into the air.

The "winged" main hall, also known as the Oculus, at the corner of Church Street and Fulton Street is one of the most dramatic street-level entrances of the World Trade Center Transportation Hub. The Oculus leads commuters to the Hub's underground pedestrian concourses that connect the World Trade Center to the World Financial Center, Port Authority Trans-Hudson (PATH) trains, Hudson River ferry terminals, and New York City subway.

As construction continues, workers are erecting a latticework of structural steel to raise the Oculus up to street level and build the foundation for the exterior

"wings" to come. Calatrava's Oculus will require more than 22,000 tons of structural steel—about double the amount of steel of the new Yankee Stadium—to create its unique shape. So far, the nine-piece of the Vierendeel Truss, which will support the roof of the Hub's mezzanine level, has been installed just west of the Oculus.

The interior of the Transportation Hub will be equally impressive as the Oculus's ribbed roof arches soar above commuters entering and leaving the Hub. The glass roof can be opened during good weather or special occasions, and will feature an American flag that was recovered from the ruins of the Twin Towers.

The Hub will also provide a large retail presence at the World Trade Center site for restaurants and stores that will improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and visit Lower Manhattan.



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS AROUND THE WTC SITE

One World Trade Center New York City's Tallest Building

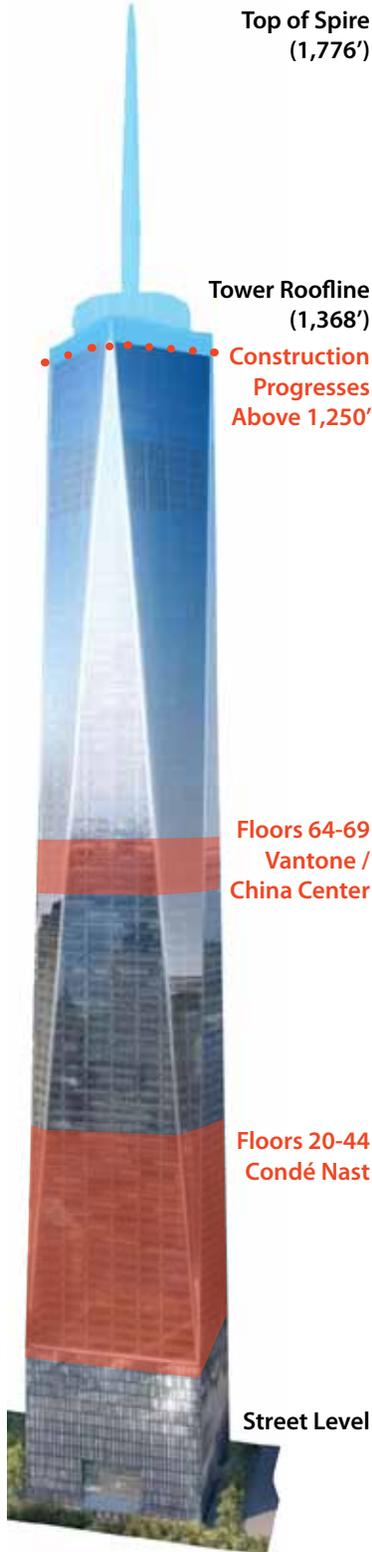
One World Trade Center (1 WTC), at the northwest corner of the WTC redevelopment site, became New York City's tallest skyscraper when it rose to 1,271 feet on April 30th. One WTC will contain over 3 million square feet of space comprising offices, an observation deck, parking, and broadcast facilities.

There are a range of construction activities under way at different heights of the building. At 1 WTC's uppermost reaches, construction workers are erecting steel beams on the 100th floor and extending perimeter columns above it.

Moving downwards, workers are framing the 93rd floor deck with metal decking while welders connect steel on the 93rd floor and the 92nd floor mezzanine. Installation of the curtain wall, or the building's glass exterior, is complete to the 70th floor.

On the typical office levels of the building, core bathrooms are framed to the 58th floor and electrical closets are complete up to the 70th floor.

In the lower section of 1 WTC, carpenters are framing the interiors of the ground floor while workers install elevator rails and fit out machine rooms. Below street level, stone setters are installing marble in the Observation Deck lobby.



The Hub's East-West Connector



The East-West Connector, also called the West Street pedestrian concourse, is the part of the WTC Transportation Hub that passes under West Street/Route 9A to link the World Trade Center with Battery Park City's World Financial Center (WFC) and Hudson ferry terminals. Construction workers have mostly completed the infrastructure of the West Street underpass. They are now preparing to install escalators and elevators for Brookfield's glass pavilion at the WFC, which will serve as the entry point for the pedestrian concourse on the far side of West Street.

Vehicular Security Center



The Vehicular Security Center (VSC) will be a state-of-the-art underground security structure to provide screening for vehicles entering the future WTC site. Current construction on the west side of the VSC includes bolting and welding steel, and installing steel decking. On the east side, work includes line drilling, rock blasting, and mass excavations.