

New Mobile Federal Courthouse and John Campbell Courthouse Renovation

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COURTROOM CEILING AND DUCTWORK DEMO



Scaffold erection in the ceremonial courtroom (left), worker standing on scaffold cutting ductwork loose (right), and original round supply air duct opening (middle)

WHEN working in historic buildings such as the Campbell courthouse, you can encounter unique construction techniques that, innovative at the time, would not be done today. One such case is the supply air to the ceremonial courtroom. At the time it was constructed, the courtroom was one of the first in the South to have air conditioning. The

air was distributed through ductwork that was insulated with sheets of cork held in place by metal banding straps. The round air grills served a dual purpose as they both supplied air to the room and also supported light fixtures that were powered through them. Today, duct insulation is held on with duct tape, and light fixtures and air grills are seldom, if ever, one-in-the the same.

OTHER WORK: Progress continues to be made inside the building with drywall mud and tape on the upper floors and framing on level 3. MEP rough-in is continuing on levels 3 and 4. In February, scaffolding was built in the 2 east courtroom and in the basement the new concrete equipment pads were built. Workers continued cleaning and repointing the brick facades in the courtyard this month.

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