



Update: Downtown Post Office Building Set to Become University of Memphis Law School



U.S. Customs House, Court House, and Post Office - and future U of M law school - 1 South Front Street. Photo by Mike Cromer

According to Bill Nixon of Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects, Inc., renovation of the U.S. Customs House on Front Street into the new University of Memphis Law School is likely to begin in December of this year. Architects have completed the design and development of the project and Bell Construction out of Brentwood, Tennessee, will serve as the construction manager and general contractor. Nixon reports that everything is currently on schedule and on budget.

The northeast and south facades as we know them today will remain other than window restoration and stone cleaning and restoration.

The old federal courtroom on the third floor of the original building is undergoing limited restoration to become the moot courtroom of the law school, in which participants will take part in simulated law proceedings. The law library will occupy all five floors of the south wing and large classrooms will occupy the center west part of the building.

Nixon also reports that the architects and engineers are providing limited seismic retrofit to protect the historic building in the event of an earthquake.

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