



800 DAYS OF RESTORATION

These images represent the progress of a two and half year restoration of the Korean Legation Building at Logan Circle, Washington D.C. They present various aspects of transformation, highlighting the activities of all the workers who brought the building back to its architectural splendor.

As the project photographer, I had the privilege of being present during all stages of the building's transformation. The process of demolition included the difficult and delicate removal of ancient ceilings, walls and floors, revealing the skeleton of the 1870's grandiose Victorian style structure.

The restoration did not go smoothly. We all worked under harsh condition of no heat in winter and no air conditioning in summer. Construction dust always filled the air. These photos offer a glimpse of the challenges the workers faced every day.

The project was very special and emotional for me, I felt like I was reliving a slice of Korean history that happened in the U.S. I am deeply thankful to all of the delightful and generous workers who cooperated during the project.

PHOTOGRAPY BY HYANGSUK O

워싱턴 D.C. 로건셔클에 위치한 주미대한제국공관의 800일에 걸친 복원과정은 사진으로 기록하였다. 이 건물이 19세기 빅토르만 양식의 화려한 옛 모습을 되찾기까지 과정을 다양한 시점에서 작업자들의 노력을 통해 표현하고자 하였다.

복원 공사는 원활하게 진행되지만은 않았다. 예상치 못한 돌발 상황의 연속이었으며, 전기 공사의 지연으로 인해 여름의 더위와 겨울의 한기를 견뎌야 했고, 건물 안은 부족한 빛과 넘치는 먼지와 싸움이었다. 이 사진들에서 작업자들이 매 순간 직면한 어려움을 엿볼 수 있다.

사진작가로서, 한국인으로서 미국에서 일어난 한미 외교사의 단면을 체험할 수 있었던 특별하고, 감동적인 과제였다. 긴 복원과정 내내 촬영에 협조해 준 모든 분들께 감사드립니다.



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