

In the next couple of months, the acorn will be removed and replaced by a new one. It has been *also* discovered that water seepage has damaged the cypress wood from which it was made. The new one will be constructed by 31 craftspeople from around the state, each of whom will make one of the rings of cypress which will be assembled into a new acorn. The new acorn will then be clad in copper and gilded on the top, just as the original one was. The lightning rod is also original and is still serviceable and will be left in place, although metal sheathing will be placed around it inside the new acorn to strengthen it. The original 18th century acorn will be placed on public display with an exhibit interpreting this historic structure. □

*31 rings of cypress*