



Photo courtesy of SDOT

King Street Station's 1906 ceiling unveiled

Last week a six-person crew worked at night to remove 1,600 suspended ceiling tiles in the main waiting room of King Street Station.

With the acoustical tiles gone, the original ornate plaster ceiling has been uncovered and is open to public view. The station was built in 1906, and the tiles were installed in 1963 to modernize the station.

As part of that project, marble panels and plaster ornamentation were removed from the walls, and historic light fixtures were taken down to make way for plastic laminate wall covering and fluorescent lights.

The fluorescent lights will remain for the time being. Ceiling restoration work and installation of historic lighting will be part of a future phase when funding is available.

The station was purchased by the city of Seattle from the BNSF Railway Co. in 2008 and is in the midst of a \$30.5 million renovation and restoration, scheduled to finish within the next couple of years.

Separate tenant-improvement work on the second and third floors is unfunded, and will be completed in a future phase.

The station at Second Avenue South and South King Street was built by Great Northern Railway and Northern Pacific Railway. It serves Amtrak trains, Sounder commuter rail and Amtrak Thruway Motorcoach.