

structed of sandstone from an island in Aquia Creek, Virginia, under the direction of B. S. Hallet, and afterwards of B. H. Latrobe, architects. The north wing was finished in 1800 and the south wing in 1811, a wooden passageway connecting them. On the 24th of August, 1814, the interior of both wings was destroyed by British incendiaries, but they were immediately rebuilt. In 1818 the central portion of the building was commenced under the architectural superintendence of Charles Bulfinch, and the original building was finally completed in 1827.

The corner-stone of the extensions to the Capitol was laid on the 4th of July, 1851, by President Fillmore, Daniel Webster officiating as orator of the day. Thomas U. Walter was architect, and subsequently Edward Clark, under whose direction the work was completed in November, 1867. The material used for the extensions is white marble from the quarries at Lee, Massachusetts, with white marble columns from the quarries at Cockeysville, Maryland.

The dome of the original central building was constructed of wood, but was removed in 1856 to be replaced by the present stupendous structure of cast iron, which was completed in 1865. The entire weight of iron used is 8,909,200 pounds.

The main building is three hundred and fifty-two feet four inches long in front and one hundred and twenty-one feet six inches deep, with a portico one hundred and sixty feet wide, of twenty-four columns on the east, and a projection of eighty-three feet on the west, embracing a recessed portico of ten coupled columns. The extensions are placed at the north and south ends of the main building, with connecting corridors forty-four feet long by fifty-six feet wide, flanked by columns. Each