



Field Trip to Buzard
Pipe Organ Builders,
Champaign Ill.,
16 December 2016

Our new organ's
case is being
assembled in
John-Paul
Buzard's
workshop.

This is the workshop of John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders. It was originally a women's hotel and they have adapted it to fit their needs as organ builders. They are located in downtown Champaign just blocks from the U of Illinois campus.





John-Paul Buzard and Sarah Williams stand in the swell division of the organ. This is a three story organ - on the ground floor are the wind chests and air supply, on the second floor are the softer sounding pipes, and on the third story are the loud pipes of the great division.

Even the ladder to access the top stories is built with fine craftsmanship. That was the sturdiest ladder I have ever climbed!



Sarah Williams finds the secret organist's escape hatch





The black wood slats are the swell shades. They will open and shut gradually to create crescendos and diminuendos. They are painted black to be less conspicuous. The façade pipes will be installed in front of the swell shades.



This view shows the side of the red oak case. When the case is built, enough pipes will be installed to test the organ's mechanism. Then it will be disassembled and rebuilt in our sanctuary.



These pipes are in the 16' pedal Bourdon rank. These pipes will sound like a lion purring in his sleep - they will create the deep rumbling feeling at the bottom of the organ's sound spectrum.



The organ console is powered up - lights on!



This will be the forty-fifth organ built by John-Paul Buzard. Construction in our sanctuary begins January 30!