Fuzhou Ting Status Report of November 12, 2010:

This was a short week for me (on vacation on Monday and off on Thursday, the Veterans’ Day), but not for our contractors.

They installed the tiles for both gables. They completed the four infill walls with Concrete Masonry Unit (CMU) blocks and began the installation of Stucco. Installation of the granite tiles on the ramp began. Construction and installation of the roof ridges with the Aerated Autoclaved Concrete (AAC) blocks continued, followed by the application of Thoroseal sealant and cement-soot mix coatings where appropriate. And the painter continued to apply touch-up paint as work progressed.

And, oh, tile roofing has also begun. Chinese roof tiles come in a variety of types, shapes, forms, colors, materials and decorations. What are being used here are a traditional set of four grey tiles made of clay:

1. 平瓦 (ping wa) or 板瓦 (ban wa) – flat tiles or pan tiles that lay on the roof as you would shingles;
2. 筒瓦 (tong wa) – barrow tiles that stride on two adjacent rows of pan tiles;
3. 滴水 (di shui) – drip tiles or eaves tiles that are essentially the flat tiles with a triangle-shaped edge on one end and are placed on the end of each row of flat tiles right on top of the eaves; and
4. 沟头 (gou tou) – barrow cap tiles that are essentially the barrow tiles with a decorative cap on one end and are placed on the end of each row of barrow tiles right on top of the eaves.

Confusing, isn’t it? Me too. What is interesting to know is that roof tiles are put on for the rainy days, but can’t be installed in the rain. So, we need to tent the Ting, and that’s what they were doing when I left the job site this afternoon to come back to the office to do this status report.

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