

CAROLINAS

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Roofing

YOUR GUIDE TO ROOFING IN THE CAROLINAS

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DETAILS

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SHINGLE STAR

WRITTEN BY CHRISTINA KOCH

A TROUBLE-FREE PROJECT RECEIVES MANUFACTURER AND INDUSTRY RECOGNITION

Kelli Gregory, vice president of Raleigh, N.C.-based Bower Roofing Co.'s Residential Division, surely wishes all his teams' projects would go as smoothly as the Smithers residence. Completed in late 2010 in Raleigh, the house's re-roofing wasn't easy by any means: The existing asphalt shingle roof was completely

torn off and replaced; the roof's ventilation was improved; and a skylight was installed—all while working on 12:12 and 12:14 slopes.

However, Bower Roofing's skilled team superbly completed the complex project in about a week and a half, leading to accolades from the manufacturer of the newly installed shingles and from the Washington, D.C.-based Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association.



SHINGLE CHOICE

The homeowner, Mr. Struthers, contacted Baker Roofing because he was seeing cracks in his shingles. "I inspected this roof personally and noticed the shingles, which were about 10 years old, were prematurely aging," Gregory explains. "Sometimes this can happen when the roof isn't properly ventilated or it could be the result of a manufacturing defect. I noticed some installation problems and some problems with the roof's ventilation."

While inspecting the roof, Gregory realized the home would need a completely new roof system and thought it was appropriate for a new shingle product he had learned about from his GAF manufacturer's rep, Ron Cooke. "We had just been contacted by Ron about a new shingle they were coming out with—GAF Country Mansions II Designer Shingles—and we felt this house was a good candidate for that shingle." Mr. Struthers indicated he was interested in the look of a slate roof, and the new shingles resemble slate but at less cost and weight on the structure.

Despite the shingles being new to the marketplace, Mr. Struthers agreed to have them installed after Gregory explained Baker Roofing's team, which is a certified Master Elite GAF Contractor, would be installing a complete GAF roof system, making the roof eligible for GAF's Golden Pledge Limited Warranty. The warranty covers manufacturing defects and Baker Roofing's workmanship while the Struthers own their home.

REROOFING

Work began with Baker Roofing's nine-person crew removing the existing, cracked shingles and other materials down to the roof deck. "We inspected the decking and replaced five sheets of plywood," Gregory remembers.

The crew then installed the GAF ShingleMate fiberglass-reinforced underlayment on the 10,000-square-foot roof before applying the GAF Weather Watch self-sealing membrane leak barrier. "We installed the leak barrier around pipe penetrations, in valleys, at roof-to-wall junctions and also over a couple of the low slope rear roof elevations," Gregory says.

A prefinished white aluminum drip edge was installed at all perimeters. Then, the team installed the GAF Country Mansions II Designer Shingles with the GAF TimberTex double-layer ridge cap shingles. The shingles are Storm Cloud Gray in color.

"In some places, we found the ventilation wasn't originally installed properly and there were some concerns that may have been part of the premature aging of the original shingle roof," Gregory says. To help ventilate the roof, the crew installed GAF Cobra Ridge Venting exhaust vents at the upper main roof peaks.

"In the high central hip part of the roof there wasn't enough lines feet of ridge vent to properly ventilate, so we used a GAF MasterFlow attic fan for that section of the roof," Gregory recalls.

The team installed new pipe and vent flashings throughout the roof. Then, they replaced one existing skylight with a new skylight, ensuring it was flashed into the roof properly.

The home's original gutters remained intact, but Baker Roofing's crew inspected them and ensured they were cleaned out and in good working order.

SAFETY STRATEGY

As a company, Baker Roofing has always taken safety seriously. The crew on the Struthers' rooftop followed the company's typical safety procedures, including wearing hard hats, safety glasses and safety vests for visibility.

Each crew member wears a personal fall-arrest system, which includes a full-body harness with a rope and rope grab that is secured to a roof-mount anchor. "We always tie off with a roof-mount anchor," Gregory notes. "Each person is

QARC RECOGNIZES ASPHALT ROOFING

The Washington, D.C.-based Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association's Quality Asphalt Roofing Case Study program recognizes industry professionals who use asphalt roofing in commercial and residential projects. AFRMA encourages contractors, specifiers, engineers, architects and roof consultants to enter the annual program (There is no fee to enter.) The program recognizes three winners—Gold, Silver and Bronze—with cash prizes, as well as by publicizing the projects on ARMA and QARC's websites, in publications and at major trade shows. For application details, visit www.qualityasphaltroofingcasestudy.com.





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secured to one anchor. We expect complete tie off everywhere. We tie off the tops of the ladders and secure the bottoms, as well, so ladders can't kick out or slide."

Baker Roofing's residential teams also use roof jacks and corboards to further protect them from falling off a roof. The crews also carry fire extinguishers in case there are problems with the gas-powered unit that lifts the shingles to the roof from the ground. "During the Struthers job, we had three or four fire extinguishers available because of the size of the job," Gregory adds.

ACCOLADES

Despite a few challenges, namely ensuring they protected the Struthers' meticulous landscaping, the job went off without a hitch. "Mr. Struthers travels a lot for work and was away while we were installing his new roof," Gregory says. "He was highly impressed with the finished project and the way our team conducted itself during the project."

In addition, when the GAF inspector arrived to ensure the roof met the 40 criteria for the Golden Pledge Limited Warranty, the roof received a perfect rating. GAF was so impressed with the roof, the manufacturer now features the home in its marketing brochures for the Country Mansion II Designer Shingles.

Gregory and the rest of Baker Roofing's team also are proud of the finished roof. "I sometimes feel that as small shingles don't get enough recognition," Gregory says. "A lot of times you see commercial projects and materials receiving all the awards, and we wanted to show off some of the beautiful shingle products and projects that have been installed."

It was around the time Baker Roofing's crew completed the Struthers residence that the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association launched the Quality Asphalt Roofing Case Study program (QARC). Brendan Hale, Baker Roofing's director of career development and recruiting, submitted the Struthers residence to the program, and it received the Bronze award in 2014, QARC's inaugural year. (To learn more about QARC, see "QARC Recognizes Asphalt Roofing," PAGE 35.)

"We were honored to receive this award," Gregory notes. "We're very excited that the whole project went so well. It didn't have a single hiccup to be honest and is one of the best-looking shingle projects we've ever done." ▲

STRUTHERS RESIDENCE | Asheboro, N.C.

ROOFING CONTRACTOR: Baker Roofing Co., Raleigh, www.bakerroofing.com

ROOF SYSTEM: GAF, Wayne, N.J., www.gaf.com

- Single-Mate fiberglass-reinforced polyurethane
- Weather Watch self-sealing membrane look-alike
- Country Mansion II Designer Shingles Storm Guard Gray
- Triplex double-layer edge cap shingles Storm Guard Gray
- Corro-Clad Vent Free exhaust vents
- Waste Flow attic fan

SKYLIGHT AND SKYLIGHT FLASHING: White, Greenwood, S.C., www.voluxusa.com



Photos courtesy of ASPHALT ROOFING MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, Washington, D.C.