

Contractor: Central Roofing Company

Project Name: Historic 1888 Masonic Temple



Location: Minneapolis, MN

Project Type: Roofing and Architectural Sheet Metal.

Manufacturer of Roof System: Sika® Sarnafil®

Historic preservation projects are tricky. Holding history in one hand and the future in the other, Central Roofing Company has carefully replaced the roofing on many notable projects during the company's 90-year history. One specific project, the Masonic Temple in downtown Minneapolis, required intricate work to recreate the roof on an 1888 structure using modern materials.

"We had to dig deep to even start the roofing work on this former location for the Hennepin Center for the Arts," says Jesse Wilcox, project manager with Central Roofing Company in Minneapolis. "There was asbestos that had to be safely removed and two layers of old roofing."

To begin the project, the Central Roofing team had to find a way to attach lifeline stanchions and

tie-off points for worker safety. These were also needed for cleaning davit arms. The workers cut through an ancient clay tile roof deck to tie into the scissor truss system below.

"As we carefully started the project, we discovered that the original sloped roof was standing seam," says Wilcox. "Flat areas had a flat seam metal product. Over the years someone added a built-up roof over the flat roof. And, it appears that a spray foam contractor buried the entire building in a horrible product. Our challenge was to find a way to safely remove all those layers."

The challenges didn't end there. The re-roofing project took place in the middle of the winter, on an eight-story tall structure that sits at a busy intersection. The team also had to repair ancient sheet metal facades.

OUT WITH THE OLD

Once the project started, a hydro lift was attached to the 110-foot-tall structure. It operated continually to remove old roofing and bring up the new materials. "When we tore off the roof we found layers of decaying products," says Wilcox. "There was rotting architectural sheet metal and asbestos remediation that needed to occur."

IN WITH THE NEW

After the abatement contractor was finished removing the asbestos, and all the old materials were gone, Central Roofing started work on the new roof. They selected a high-quality, fully-adhered PVC roofing product, Sika® Sarnafil® G 410, for the entire roof. With the benefit of being able to install in very cold temperatures, the product was the right choice for the historic building.

Simultaneously the team worked on repairing ancient sheet metal facades and detailed decorative accents on the roof. "There were ball details and a fascia with deep reveals," says Lemmon. "Central Roofing was able to find metal balls to replicate and replace this deteriorated detail of the roof. The fascia was replicated using color and cutouts to provide an illusion of the original depth of the pieces. It allowed detail to remain at the fascia without the complication and cost of replicating the deep articulation of the original metal elements."

"This was a difficult site and a complicated reroofing project. The Central Roofing team was 100 percent committed to finding solutions and recreating an authentic-looking roof. We view it as a privilege to restore and preserve landmarks in our state," says Wilcox. "Over the years we've honed our skills in working on historic projects. Carefully recreating or replacing a roof on a significant historic site can assure it lasts for decades into the future."

WEBSITE: www.centralroofing.com



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