



1996 CRAFTSMANSHIP AWARD

Richard A. Ladina of The Durable Slate Co. was responsible for the meticulous slate work on the steeple at Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown Columbus.

Ladina and his crew of eleven removed nearly 8,000 pieces of slate and the 15-foot pinnacles at the corners of the 175-foot church steeple.

The roof supports had rotted, requiring shoring and structural reinforcement. Ladina's crew also had to rebuild and replace the dormers.



Rick Ladina of The Durable Slate Company.



**Steeple and dormer restoration,
Trinity Lutheran Church, Columbus.**

The steeple was slated with more than 7,000 pieces of hard-to-cut Virginia Buckingham slate, with a total of 10 tons of slate used.

Ladina, working at different angles off the scaffolding, which was slanted due to the structure of the church, was unable to stand in several areas. He attached each piece of slate with two copper nails, a stainless steel hook and adhesive.

Adding to the difficulty, Ladina worked off scaffolding in extremely high winds.

Jezerinac Geers & Associates, Inc. served as engineer on the job, with Martin Construction as general contractor.

Ladina, who holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Columbus College of Art & Design, received his first BX Craftsmanship Award in 1995. He has worked in the construction industry for 13 years, spending the past four years with The Durable Slate Co.