

## Lake State Roofing Goes Somewhere In Time

MACKINAW ISLAND - Lake State Roofing Co of Iron Mountain recently took a brief step back in time while completing work on one of the most famous Hotels in the United States. A crew of seven local flat roofers worked long and hard hours for twelve days on the project installing a *Traditional Built Up Roof* (Hot Tar) on the flat portions of the Grand Hotel. This roofing method was used when the Hotel was built in 1887 and is still requested by Hotel construction engineers today to keep the building in its original pristine condition.



According to Ed Theisen, owner of Lake State Roofing, “All of the tools and equipment used by the crew had to be shipped to the Island by ferry and then transported to the Hotel by horses making this one of the most challenging jobs we have ever completed. The only motorized vehicle we were allowed to use was the crane to lift our equipment and supplies onto the roof”. With more than 130,000 overnight guests staying at Grand Hotel each season, only contractors with the highest quality and workmanship standards are selected to work on the building that was the backdrop for the 1947 movie, *This Time for*

*Keeps*, and the 1980 film, *Somewhere In Time* with Christopher Reeve. Gamble Construction of Mackinaw Island served as the general contractor for the renovation project and selected the Lake State Roofers for this prestigious roofing assignment based on years of experience with flat and hot tar roofing systems and an impeccable reputation for hard honest work at a fair price.



Foreman, Kevin Waldbillig along with skilled crew members: V.J.Constatineau, Josh Larson, Joe Kelly, Craig Baumler, William Feir, and John Williams enjoyed working on Mackinaw Island for twelve days, learning what it was like to work in the days of old before the automobile was invented. The crew stayed in basic housing usually designated for summer workers and had to ride snowmobiles or horses to and from the job site each day. All of the Lake State Roofing workers from the project look forward to returning to Mackinaw Island during the summer months as tourists knowing they helped preserve one of Michigan’s finest historical landmarks for future generations to enjoy.

Lake State Roofing foreman Kevin Waldbillig, supervises the installation of the new hot tar roof by crew members, Josh Larson, John Williams, and William Fier. The roof has protected 5 U.S. Presidents-Clinton, Bush, Ford, Kennedy, and Truman from the elements during their visits to the Grand Hotel.