FROM THE ARCHIVES

THE SLATE ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA, INC. (SlateRoofers.org), installed this Buckingham slate roof on a picnic pavilion in a city park last year (2009) in Frankfort, KY. We told them that the water was supposed to flow on TOP of the roof, but they wouldn't listen to us and you can now see the unfortunate results. We knew the fine Buckingham slates, donated by the Buckingham Slate Company in Arvonia, VA (BVSlate.com) would hold up for more than a century if the water was coming from above, but we didn't know what would happen if the water was coming from below. Last we heard, the building was still standing and trying to keep what's under it dry... Photo by Patrick Kennedy

HERE’S SOMETHING YOU DON’T SEE EVERY DAY — A standard thickness slate roof with each course bedded in cement to create a thick, textured look. This 80-year-old roof in New Haven, Connecticut, is being referred to as a “Cotswald” roof by the owner. No doubt the folks in the Cotswolds in England would dispute this claim. Cotswold stone is a yellow limestone quarried throughout the Cotswold in the UK. The stone is one of the most beautiful and durable roofing materials to be found anywhere in the world. Photo by Barney Thomas