



Renew the Roof

Help us replace our roof
Landfall Trust, Kent Cottage
Brigus, 2022

Progress on Roof Number Seven by Rex Passion



It is now nearing the end of April and Kent Cottage is getting ready for its new roof, roof number seven. With the help of Aaron and Byron Rodway of Rodway's Excavating and contractor, Anthony Nofle, the south side of the cottage is enmeshed in scaffolding. Jake's old cedar shake roof has been taken off and piled on the ground and a protective layer of Ice and Water Shield applied to the roof boards. Until we complete the wood shingling, this underlayment will keep out the water.

We were fortunate that the roof deck boards that Jake put on forty years ago are still in good shape and we will not have to replace any of them, however, we were just in time. In a number of places, the shakes had so deteriorated that the roof boards were exposed to the weather and had begun to erode. There are also some minor leaks showing up in the front bedroom. We are replacing the roof just in time.



By next week, we will have a new chimney on the west end. The mason, George Morgan, will be rebuilding it next Monday. I have contrived the ladder trolley shown in the foreground to help hoist the bricks and mortar to the peak of the roof.

There are still several things to prepare for the first shingles, which we are hoping to put on the roof later next week.

The Roofing Workshop



The weekend of May 14 and 15, I will be giving a workshop on wood shingle roofs. I have prepared the shed on the east end of the cottage as a demonstration area, complete with scaffolding and will teach the wood roofing process from safety to shingle coursing to lead flashing. Once the attendees have learned the basics, they will graduate to the cottage roof to practice their skills.

The shed roof is a more gradual pitch than the 12-in-12 slope of the cottage roof, so the ballet of shingling will be a bit different.

It is difficult to find contractors experienced in wood roofing on the Avalon, so I hope this workshop will do some good at alleviating this shortage.

A Discovery



The old lead flashing between the shed roof and the wall was deteriorated and in order to replace it I had to remove three courses of wall shingles and expose the old sheathing boards, probably from the 1830s. The exposed board was sawn with a pit saw and these marks may have identified the sawyers so they could be paid for their work.

We Still Need Your Help



So far, the Sponsor a Bundle program has been a big success. We have two pallets of shingles ready to go on the roof, but now we have to actually put them on the cottage and for that we need volunteers.

Once you know the basics, roof shingling is a repetitive process. For wood shingles, they need to be arranged properly then nailed in place using a pneumatic nail gun; then the process has to be repeated. The first volunteers who choose to give it a try will be working on the scaffolding putting shingles on the roof; later volunteers will be working off planks attached to the steep roof with metal jacks. Working on steep roofs is a dance few choose to dance.

The scaffolding is completely surrounded by railings, so an accidental fall is next to impossible. For work on the roof, safety harnesses will be available. Even without a harness, if you were to lose your balance, you would slide down the roof and fall about three feet to the scaffolding.

If you want to be a part of actually putting on the Kent Cottage roof, get in touch with me at rexkomatik@gmail.com or call me at 709-746-9618 and we can schedule a time for you.

What's Next



This May we are replacing the roof on the south side of the cottage and on the east shed, then we have a full calendar of art, music and writing residencies and retreats. In October, all the occupants are gone and once again, the staging is erected, the old shingles stripped away new ones put on the north side of the cottage. This back side of the house is considerably larger and more complicated than the front and involves much more flashing, but we will not have a hard deadline to get it done; only the weather will be a hindrance, but the fall in Newfoundland is usually a lovely time of year.

We Are Still Happy to Accept Donations

Although we have nearly reached our goal of funding the new cottage roof, we are still accepting donations and dedications. With a donation of \$200, you can help put a bundle of shingles on the cottage rear. To dedicate your bundle, please don't forget to include your message along with your donation.

To make a donation to sponsor a bundle, send \$200 by:

- an INTERAC e-transfer to landfalltrustnl@gmail.org
- sending a cheque payable to Landfall Trust to Landfall Trust, P. O. Box 21378, St. John's, NL, A1A 5G6
- hitting the DONATE NOW button our website, <http://www.landfalltrustnl.org>.



Our bundles: soon to be on the roof!

Thanks a lot for your help.
Follow the progress of the new roof by using the QR code below.

