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April 1996

1996 NARI CotY
Award Winners

Focus On
Kitchens & Baths

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Top 500 Form
on Page 59

RESIDENTIAL EXTERIOR UNDER \$75,000

ALEX DEAN
THE ALEXANDER GROUP, INC.
SILVER SPRING, MD



An exterior that "blends very well with the original house," according to the CotY judges, earned Alex Dean, president of Silver Spring, MD-based The Alexander Group, Inc., a 1996 CotY award.

The home, which is approximately 80 years old, was in need of a kitchen with a better traffic pattern, more heat in the winter and a new deck to replace the old, rotting one.



The challenge, however, was to accomplish this without disturbing the mature Japanese maple in the backyard, without compromising the architectural integrity, and without a design that would involve getting

a variance, since the time frame for the project's completion was short.

Dean constructed a breakfast room underneath a second floor bedroom and moved the Sub-Zero refrigerator and Contemporary Woodcraft cabinetry for better traffic flow. The countertops were replaced with DuPont Corian, and new Craft-line windows were installed. A hot water heating zone also was included.

A new deck with a rectangular Western red cedar railing was stained to "add dimension and enhance the architectural integrity of the home," says Dean. Original exterior details were replicated on the addition so the two spaces would harmonize.

The 1996 Contractor of the Year (CotY) Awards

BY MARY BUEKART AND SUSAN MANET

As always, the winners of this year's CotY awards are a diverse group, representing the best in residential and commercial remodeling

During America's Remodeling Marketplace/NARI '96, held recently at McCormick Place in Chicago, the National Association of the Remodeling Indus-

try (NARI) presented its 1996 Contractor of the Year (CotY) and 1996 NARI Achievement Awards.

The 12 design winners are profiled on the next six pages; they represent

such design categories as kitchens, bathrooms, exteriors, historic rehabilitation, universal design, commercial interiors, and both residential and commercial specialties.