

GEORGE NAKASHIMA WOODWORKER, MAIN LUMBER
STORAGE
1847 Aquetong Road
New Hope
Bucks County
Pennsylvania

HABS PA-6783-I
HABS PA-6783-I

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

ADDENDUM TO:
GEORGE NAKASHIMA WOODWORKER, MAIN LUMBER
STORAGE
1847 Aquetong Road
New Hope
Bucks County
Pennsylvania

HABS PA-6783-I
HABS PA-6783-I

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

GEORGE NAKASHIMA WOODWORKER,
MAIN LUMBER STORAGE

HABS No. PA-6783-I

- Location: 1847 Aquetong Road, Solebury Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, 18938.
- Owner: The property is owned by Mira Nakashima Yarnall, and Kevin Nakashima the daughter and son of the original owners, George and Marion Nakashima.
- Present Use: The building is used for lumber storage.
- Significance: Built in 1956, the main Lumber Storage Building features two hyperbolic paraboloid roofs made of plywood. This was the first lumber storage facility built on site and houses the slabs of specially selected, often exotic wood used in the production of Nakashima furniture.
- Description: The walls are constructed of cement block with roofs made of plywood and covered with plywood and asphalt. An addition was made in 1968 and a small electric kiln was added for drying the wood in 1999.
- History: Like the Arts Building, the main lumber storage building constructed in 1956 of cement block has two thin hyperbolic paraboloid roofs built with three layers of 3/8" plywood in order to cover a large open space of thirty-one square feet. Noted for its economy and ease of construction, Nakashima called his new method of constructing a hyperbolic paraboloid, "perhaps the easiest and cheapest way to roof a clear span of this size."¹
- Sources: James A. Michener Art Museum, *George Nakashima and the Modernist Movement* (essays by Steven Beyer and Matilda McQuaid). Doylestown, Pennsylvania: James A. Michener Art Museum, 2001.
- Mira Nakashima. *Nature, Form & Spirit: the Life and Legacy of George Nakashima*. New York: Abrams, 2003.
- Historian: Catherine C. Lavoie, HABS, 2012

¹ "A Lumber Storehouse, New Hope, Pennsylvania,"