

GEORGE NAKASHIMA WOODWORKER, POOL HOUSE AND
SWIMMING POOL
1847 Aquetong Road
New Hope
Bucks County
Pennsylvania

HABS PA-6783-J
HABS PA-6783-J

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, POOL HOUSE AND
SWIMMING POOL
1847 Aquetong Road
New Hope
Bucks County
Pennsylvania

HABS PA-6783-J
HABS PA-6783-J

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,
POOL HOUSE & POOL

HABS No. PA-6783-J

- 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 pool house and pool
- Significance: Built in 1960, the swimming pool and won a prize for its aomeba shape with cantilevered overhang. It accompanying pool house has a prototypical Nakashima designed plywood constructed roof.
- Description: Constructed in 1960, the pool house is a large building measuring 33' x 30' and is open at both ends with a distinctively canted barrel vaulted roof design. The roof is constructed of plywood and covered with a thin layer of asphalt and edged with copper. The base of the pool house is constructed of stone and concrete block. The swimming pool was built about the same time as the pool house, in 1960. It is constructed of reinforced.
- History: In 1959, a small and somewhat inconspicuous pool storage house was constructed. Its significance is that it was a prototype for the much larger pool house that was built nearby in 1960. Mira Nakashima, a high school senior at the time, assisted with the design and construction of the pool storage house. Both the pool storage building and the pool house have plywood barrel vaulted roofs set on solid stone or cement block foundations. The pool house was also designed to have a passive solar heating system that provides hot water for showers in the building. The swimming pool is also uniquely designed and engineered with a cantilevered concrete extension on the south side and won a design award in 1960.
- 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