

George Nakashima Woodworker, S A

1847 Aquetong Road, New Hope PA 18939
215-862-2272 nakashimawoodworker.com

Welcome to the home of George Nakashima Woodworker!

George Nakashima's fourteen buildings reflect a synthesis of traditional Japanese carpentry and architecture with Western building methods. Proving to be a true pioneer in sustainable architecture, Nakashima constructed all buildings into a southern facing slope for passive solar heat and light. These monuments demonstrate the importance of flow between exterior and interior space.



Buildings open on Self-Guided Tour

Open for Self-Guided Tours on Saturday afternoons 1:30–4:30 only. We are closed major holidays. Please check dates on website before visiting.

- 1 Showroom, Gift Shop and Office.** This wood frame building was built in 1954, contains an array of publicity from the past and present, as well as books, catalogs and small items for sale.
- 2 Finishing Department.** This two-story concrete block structure is where furniture is oiled, rubbed and sanded many times until ready to ship.
- 3 Chair Department.** The roof design is a Conoid shell constructed of plywood in 1956, and was a "mock-up" for the larger Conoid Studio built soon afterwards in reinforced concrete. It was originally intended as a Lounge for the employees, but soon became the home of chair assembly and production.
- 4 The Conoid Studio.** Engineered by Weidinger Associates, the highly experimental reinforced concrete roof only 2.5" thick was poured in 1957. The experiment was so successful that it inspired the Conoid line of furniture. The basement serves as lumber storage for smaller pieces of wood available for coffee and end tables. Please remove shoes before entering.

Buildings open only to registered Guided Tour Groups

Please call 215-862-2272 to register for guided tours.

- 5 Minguren Museum, or Arts Building, and "Cloister".** A plywood Hyperbolic Paraboloid shell forms the sweeping dramatic roof of the building gifted by Marion Nakashima to the Foundation for Peace in 2003.
- 6 The Pool House** is an open canted barrel vault, designed and built in 1960 to provide shelter for people using the pool built in the same year.
- 7 The Reception House, or "Sanzo Villa"** was Nakashima's last building, his "tour de force," built from 1975-77, with a scissors truss roof. It houses a wood-fired sunken Japanese bath, and Japanese-style tea room. Shoe removal is required here.
- 8 The Pole Barn.** The largest lumber storage on the property, designed by Maria Amagasa and her mother Mira after George's death in 1990.