

Timber Framing: A Traditional Approach

Co-Sponsored with Hancock Shaker Village

Wednesday through Sunday, September 25–29, 2019, 9 am–5 pm

Learn the craft of timber framing with 18th and 19th century tools and techniques in a beautiful outdoor setting. Hancock Shaker Village is a restored Shaker community with 20 historic buildings near Pittsfield, Massachusetts. We begin with an examination of the timber-framed buildings there and an introduction to the craft. Then participants will cut a small timber-framed building and culminate the workshop with its raising. There will also be evening slide presentations that will cover both old and new timber framing in Europe, Japan, and the United States.

Subjects covered during the workshop include:

- ◆ Hand hewing timbers from the log, setup, tools, and techniques
- ◆ Timber selection
- ◆ Square Rule and Scribe Rule layout systems (we will be using the Square Rule system)
- ◆ Care and use of traditional hand tools including sharpening
- ◆ Layout and cutting of timber joinery on both sawn and hewn timbers
- ◆ Riving and shaping trunnels (pegs) using a shaving horse
- ◆ Assembly and raising of the frame

The instructors:

Jack Sobon is a timber frame architect and builder who has been working with both old and new timber-framed buildings since 1976. He is author of *Build a Classic Timber Framed House*, *Historic American Timber Joinery*, and co-author of *Timber Frame Construction*.

Dave Carlon is a timber frame builder who has been involved with both old and new timber-framed construction since 1978.

Neil Godden has been building timber frames and teaching since he got his start in this very class in 1997.



Registration:

A fee of \$720 includes admission to the museum and a copy of *Build a Classic Timber Framed House*. Lunches may be purchased at Seeds Market Cafe. The text, information on accommodations, and a list of required tools will be sent upon receipt of registration. There will be a limit of 22 students. No previous carpentry or timber framing experience is necessary. Special work can be arranged for advanced students. The refund policy is a 95% refund until the end of August; no refunds are guaranteed thereafter. If the

workshop is canceled for any reason, there will be a full refund minus the price of the text.

More information:

Please feel free to contact either Jack (413-684-3223 days, jacksobon@verizon.net), Dave (413-684-3612, dcarlon01@aol.com), or Neil Godden (413-695-5324, neilgodden@hughes.net) if you have any questions, would like advanced work set up for you, or have any special needs. We have been offering this workshop since 1985 and are continually improving the quality and scope of it. We are confident that you will find it comprehensive and enjoyable.



Registration for Timber Framing: A Traditional Approach



Name

Address

Telephone

E-mail

Occupation: _____

Would you like special or advanced work set up for you? _____

If so, please contact one of the instructors.

Payment: Please enclose a check for \$720 (\$700 if you already have the text) made out to **Jack Sobon**. Hancock Shaker Village members deduct 10%.

***Send to: Jack Sobon
613 Shaw Road
Windsor, MA 01270***

Because space in the workshop is limited, it is advisable to register early. Registrations should be received by August 31.

Thank you for your registration

We will meet at the Visitor's Center at Hancock Shaker Village, 1843 West Housatonic St. (Route 20), Pittsfield, Massachusetts on Wednesday, September 25 at 9 am. You may leave your tools in your car until after the building tour.

Please bring with you the following items:

The text

Carpenter's framing square

Combination square

Carpenter's pencil or scratch awl

16-foot or longer retractable tape measure

24-26", 8 point crosscut saw; if not new, have it sharpened (Stanley 26-inch "Sharp Tooth" 12 pt. fine finish saw is a good choice)

Safety glasses or goggles

Rain gear

A suitable tote bag or tool box for your things

Please put your name or some identification mark on all your things

Optional items:

We provide these tools, but if you have any of your own, feel free to bring them along:

1-1/2", 2" framing chisels, corner chisel, slick; all should be sheathed to protect edge

Sharpening stones

Rip saw

Axe

Adze

Block plane, smoothing plane, or rabbet plane

Wooden or rawhide faced mallet

Other handy items:

Gloves

Note pad

Camera

Note:

There will be an opportunity on Friday to purchase old tools during the workshop from local vendors, so bring cash or your checkbook. The slide presentation will be on Friday evening; family and friends are welcome.

Lodging:

There are numerous hotels, motels, and B&B's in the area. Look in Pittsfield, MA, Richmond, MA, and New Lebanon, NY (avoid Hancock, MA as it is quite a drive away). There is camping available at Pittsfield State Forest. Hancock Shaker Village is on Route 20 about two miles from the NY border and 51 minutes from Albany (NY) airport.