

HEARTWOOD

Neil Godden

Neil Godden has been a timber frame contractor in western Massachusetts specializing in building traditional timber frames using primarily hand tools since 2000. Neil received his Civil Engineering degree from the University at Buffalo in 1996. Soon after, he completed an apprenticeship under master builder Jack Sobon and he has been in love with the craft ever since.



Neil demonstrates a passion for timber framing in all that he builds, and this is evident in the many timber-framed buildings he has built, and in the workshops, he has taught throughout the years. As an experienced timber framer, Neil enjoys sharing his knowledge and techniques for this time-tested craft. Neil has been an instructor at the Heartwood School since 2005. He has taught at many Timber Framers' Guild Community Building Projects over the years, including the Bayles Boat Shed Long Island Seaport and Eco-Center (LI, NY), Sunrise Mill hand tool workshop (Schwenksville, PA) and was the Project Manager for Champlain Canal Visitor's Center (Schuylerville, NY). Neil taught a cruck frame workshop at Pingree Campus of Colorado State University (near Fort Collins, CO). Neil also teaches a Timber

Frame Workshop at the Hancock Shaker Village (Hancock, MA). Neil instructed with Jack Sobon in the summer of 2021, teaching a Square Rule Workshop on the Island of Gotland in Sweden.

In 2021, Neil was asked to be the Educational Director and Operations Manager for the Heartwood School in Washington, Massachusetts. Neil was grateful for the experiences, opportunities and friendships made through this position and is honored to take on the role of Heartwood's Executive Director. Neil is looking forward to another amazing season at the Heartwood School! You can reach him at neil@heartwoodschoo.com.

Courses: [Timber Framing Intensive](#); [Converting Trees to Timber](#); [Timber Framing](#); [Cruck Framing](#); [Timber Framing with Power Tools](#); [Scribe Joinery](#)