

the ink-to-stone letters



the shock & awe box

www.stuartpeaslee.com

Greetings,

I made this box for introducing myself and my unique design philosophies. The seeds are your goals and ideas which we'll grow into blueprints, then building the visions, from ink to stone. It takes time to grow strong trees like those which made the wood for this box. The solid wood frames of the clock and box came from lumber I harvested in 1977. When I was making this box in my shop, I was thinking of my grandfather, as I used the joiner/planer which he used over 75 years ago. I believe it was given to him when he retired from Newport News Shipbuilding In Virginia. He supervised outfitting all the hulls that were built on one side of the James River, which were outfitted for use on the opposite side. During WWII he was overseeing approximately 11,000 workers.

He passed away when I was about 8, but his influence would later surface in choices made yesteryear and still face today. In the summer of 1961 our family made the trek from Connecticut to Virginia, to be with our grandparents and where everyone said ya'll. One day he took me up on his lap for a ride on his Farmall M tractor and let me steer as we went out for a ride in the fields of soybeans..

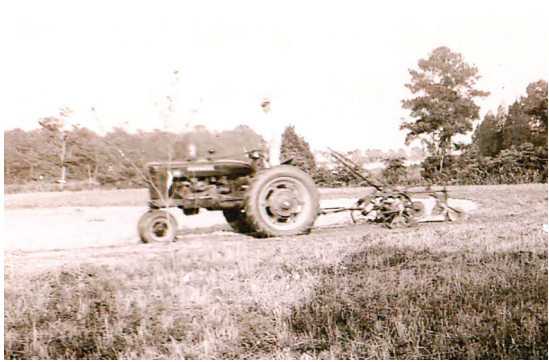
It was a special moment, the bond made when he promised to teach me to drive it on my own when I turned 12, Wow!, co-o-oi!, but, that seemed like forever then. As I learned of his passing that Winter, I remember the hurt, losing someone so close, but perhaps this was an early lesson, for making our moments count every day.

Meaningful moments can shape us when least expected. I believe because of that moment with my grandfather I had the chance later to become a logger and make this box. Otherwise, it would have come from Home Depot, fine, but not the same. I remember the moments felling trees, yarding tree lengths with a skidder, bucking logs to lengths and trucking to sawmills across the Berkshires. It was a school of hard work, sowing 'seeds' of potential, (aka 'maybe someday'). It's a new horizon now, intricately sophisticated, change in 2019 is exponential.

I moved into NYC in 1987 after my architecture education that followed the logging years. I stayed until 2017, striving to learn as much as possible about buildings and architecture in the Big Apple...

Over time, the neighborhoods changed, real estate values drove pricing to the stratosphere, so my wife and I decided, to return Home to my roots, here in Woodstock Valley, to be surrounded by forests, once again. I am still working in “town” with a few clients, but I’m also licensed to practice in Massachusetts, Rhode island and Connecticut, setting up shop in the “country”. With guidance from the ancient laws of trees that I revere, I look forward to designing buildings with principles of Nature: that can reflect a process of growth in our homes:

- the way it meets the earth, turns a corner and reaches the sky, in all the wonder.



George D. Cole, 'Pa' 1942, on his tractor he bought new in Dare, Virginia.

Me, on the same refurbished Farmall M, Woodstock Valley, CT in 2008



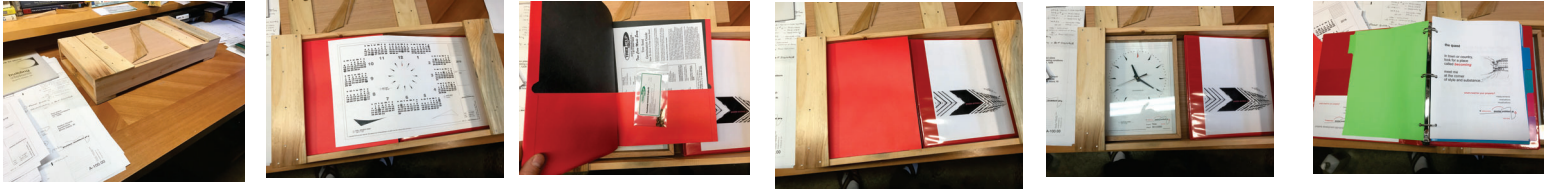


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- 4 - Ring binder:
- A) Getting Started Guidelines
 - B) Consultations: Introduction, Initial, Feasibility, Viability
 - C) Project Delivery Flow Charts
 - D) Letters
 - E) Project Manual Outline

www.stuartpeaslee.com

648 Route 198
Woodstock Valley, CT 06282
718 383 8909 917 945 3465
design@stuartpeaslee.com

