



**“Local Wood is a Vibe”:
Recovering Urban Wood Waste
on Long Island
May 12, 2026**

Intro



Queens Roots

Grew up in Queens. A Live edge California redwood table at my grandparent's house inspired me.

Seattle Training

Studied traditional joinery and hand tools at Pratt Fine Arts Center in Seattle, where I cut my teeth in the craft.

Gold Coast Vision

Returned to Long Island and founded Sound Designs, built around rescuing downed and fallen trees from historic North Shore estates.

The Mission

Turn locally sourced material into heirloom furniture.



How It All Started

Started by “rescuing” downed and fallen trees from a local arboretum.

Still working full time in healthcare sales role.

Hired local tree services to bring logs to sawmill in East Setauket, Long Island.

Started air drying material locally and eventually at family property near Catskills.

Kiln drying lumber at Ghent Wood Products in Hudson Valley.

Started building pieces and gradually making sales.

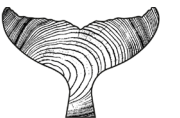


SOUND DESIGNS



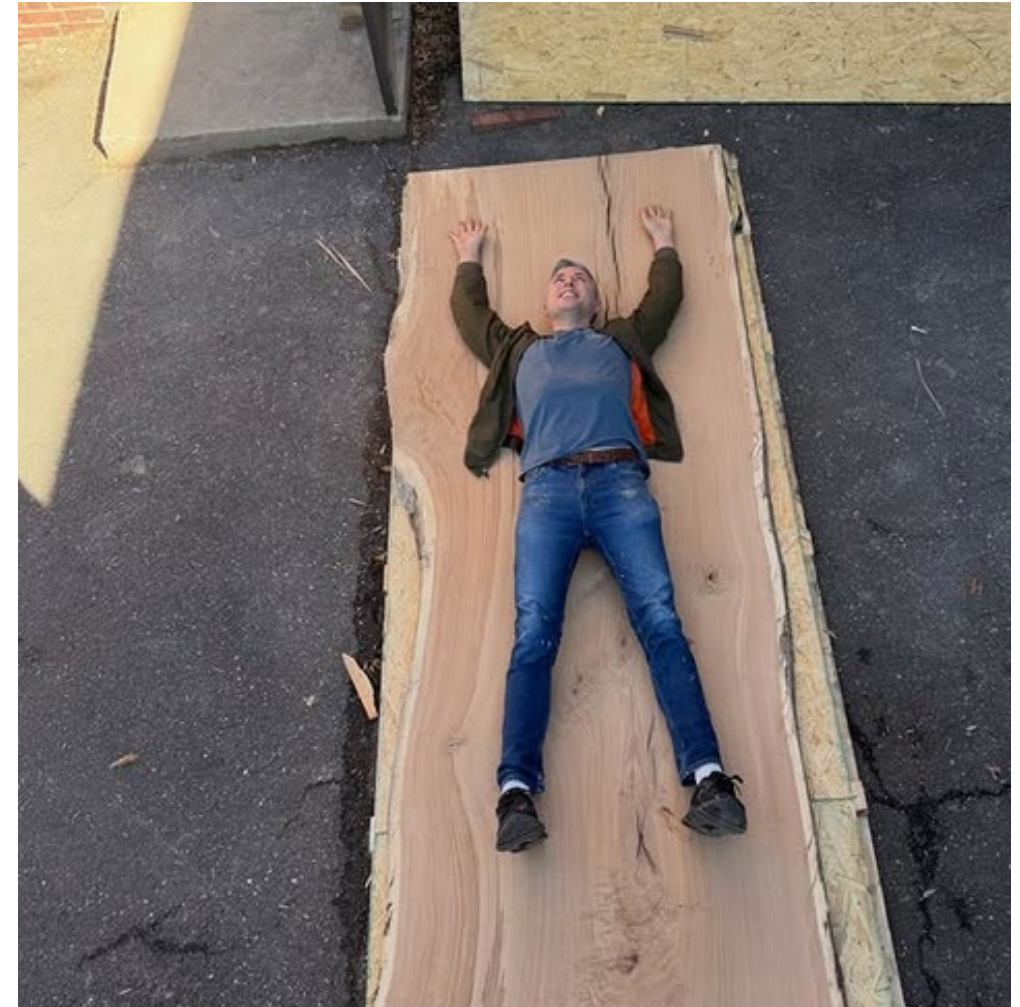
What we Make & How We Scaled

- Went full time in 2023
- Started working art show and farmers markets
- Made connections to find commercial and residential work
- Grew social media following over the years with regular posts, giveaways, etc.
- Built small but dedicated following
- New Website and Blog in 2024
- Started Google Ads in 2025
- Quickly added on projects
- Took on additional help in 2025/26



How I See the Business Growing & Lessons for Other Urban Wood Recovery Efforts

- Continue partnerships with NYC interior designers
 - Expanding online ads, blogs, overall presence
- Continuing to Sell Live Edge Dining Tables Locally
 - Some Cabinetry Projects to Supplement Above
 - Large Scale Projects
 - Better Infrastructure: saw mill on site, solar kiln, larger planer
- Support from local governments to source material on public lands, parks, etc.
 - Showroom where customers can select slabs
 - Thoughts on utilizing local resources



Challenges

- Large amount of space required/cost of renting/owning space near NYC
- **Barriers to entry:** cost of machinery

Opportunities

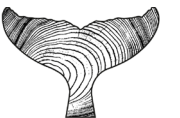
- **Abundance of Trees:** NYS has an abundance of urban trees. No shortage of raw material just in the waste stream alone.
- **Demand for handcrafted products:** demand is increasing.
- Proximity to NYC market and affluent North Shore, Hamptons
- One of only a few custom furniture companies our kind in Nassau County



Selling Inside & Outside of New York State

Most of our business is local-

Nassau County primarily
Suffolk County (Hamptons)
Manhattan and Brooklyn
Occasionally Outside of NYS



SOUND DESIGNS



LOCAL WOOD IS A VIBE!

*"Isle of the salty shore and breeze and brine!" — Walt Whitman,
[Paumanok](#)*

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