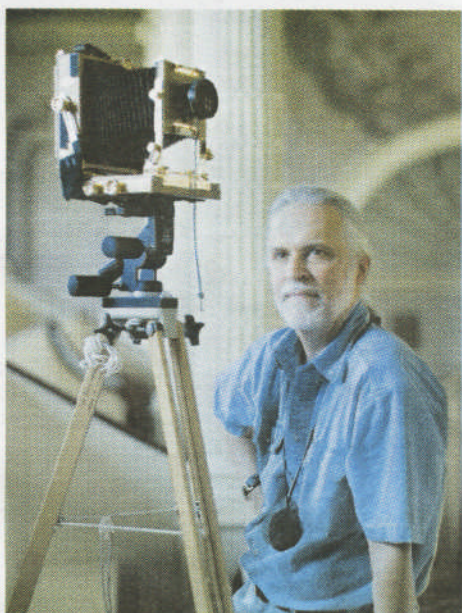


# Paul Wainwright earns top prize

**ATKINSON**— New Hampshire photographer Paul Wainwright's new book, *A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England*, has received the 2011 IPPY Gold Medal Award from the Independent Publishers Association as the best north-east regional non-fiction book of the year.

The IPPY award was presented in New York on May 23, 2011, during the Book Expo America annual trade show. *A Space for Faith* previously received the New England Book Festival award for best photography/art book of 2010, and was a finalist in the New England Independent Booksellers' 2010 book awards.

*A Space for Faith* was published by Peter E. Randall Publisher of Portsmouth. Commenting on the book, CEO Deidre Randall said "Paul's book was an incredible project for us, and we are very proud of the book. It was



JAY GOLDSMITH PHOTO

## PAUL WAINWRIGHT

no surprise to me to learn he had won a Gold Medal IPPY."

*A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England* is a collection of Wainwright's classic black and white photographs that paints a composite portrait of these once ubiquitous landmarks of the New England

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landscape. Only a few remain as they were.

"I am extremely honored by this award," says Wainwright, a parishioner at Christ Church, Exeter. "New England's meetinghouses embody a large part of our nation's history, and my work was aimed at bringing their story to a wide audience."

Wainwright works with a wooden large-format camera, sheet film, and develops all his images in his darkroom. He prefers to *create a photograph* rather than "take a picture" and uses traditional processes that force him to slow down and really think about what he wants his images to be.

Wainwright discovered his creative passion with his first darkroom at age 12. In 2001, when the job he had held for 24 years at Bell Laboratories was eliminated, he embraced his love of photography and re-created his life.

"I took a leap of faith." Wainwright says, "Like many of us who suddenly find ourselves without a job, I was scared. But that leap of faith led me to create *A Space for Faith*, a book which wouldn't exist if I'd still been working in the corporate world." Wainwright is now a successful landscape and architectural photographer.

Commenting on our Puritan heritage, Wainwright says, "Their lives were simple, and their belief in God was central. I believe my meetinghouse photographs reflect the Puritans' simple, well-ordered lives and inspire my quest to simplify my own life." For more, see [www.aspaceforfaith.com](http://www.aspaceforfaith.com).

*Ed. note. A photograph from Paul's book was published with a story in May's Episcopal Journal, page 12.*