

# Landmark *News*

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Connecticut  
Landmarks

[ctlandmarks.org](http://ctlandmarks.org)



*Field trip to the Nathan Hale Homestead*

## Inspiring Connections

The days grew longer, the temperatures began to climb, and a familiar sound was heard at the Nathan Hale Homestead: school buses arriving and excited students clambering off to get a glimpse of life in Colonial Connecticut! This spring, Connecticut Landmarks staff were thrilled to welcome field trip groups back after a two-year absence. Students from 10 towns across the state—many in third, fourth, and fifth grades—visited the home of Connecticut’s State Hero. While there, they learned to write with a quill and ink, helped cook on

an open hearth, and visited an 18th-century schoolhouse. “Nathan Hale Homestead staff were excited to welcome students to step back in time and learn through hands-on programming. It is so inspiring to witness young scholars make connections between America’s past and their own personal experiences,” said Anne Marie Charland, site administrator, Eastern Region. They also imagined a day in the life of a Connecticut soldier during the American Revolution, making tangible connections to their classroom curricula that they will, hopefully, remember!

continued on page 6

### IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE

3

In Memoriam

4

Historic  
Preservation

6

New Staff

7

Welcome  
New Members

## Connecticut Landmarks

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# Hello Friends,

The first half of our season is in the books and I'm pleased to have had the opportunity to meet so many of our members and visitors. We saw the return of students for field trips for the first time since the pandemic began and I am also thrilled we once again participated in the Connecticut Summer at Museums program, offering free admission to Connecticut residents 18 and under.

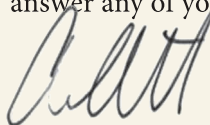
Over the past few months, we implemented several changes throughout Connecticut Landmarks. Our historic sites have moved to appointment-based systems with online ticketing. We have new digital scans and drone footage for our website, which is updated regularly. We recently embarked on a detailed study of our properties and their operation that will lead to the development of an updated strategic plan.

You may have noticed that we introduced an annual program guide to replace our spring newsletter. The intention here is to get you—our visitors, donors, and members—event information for the upcoming year so you can plan your next visit. Similarly, our winter newsletter will be an annual report where we can review what we've achieved this year with the support of our donors and the collaboration of our partners.

We are making these improvements to bring you better and more focused information about Connecticut Landmarks. We are also making these changes to be more environmentally-friendly and cost-efficient. To that end, we are reducing the number of printed newsletters we distribute. **If you are receiving this newsletter and are not currently a Connecticut Landmarks member, this will be your last mailed item (the newsletter will still be available on as a PDF on our website at [www.ctlandmarks.org](http://www.ctlandmarks.org)).** We encourage you to become a member so you can continue to receive a printed copy.

Unfortunately, our organization recently experienced two significant losses with the passing of two highly dedicated members of our Board of Trustees: immediate past Chair Rick Copeland and Treasurer Jim Anderson. Both men were devoted to the work we do and supported us in many ways. Please see the in memoriam on page 3. We will miss their passion, focus, and humor.

As we look ahead to the fall, we hope you will join us at one of our great events or on a tour at our various sites. Please tell us how we are doing and how we can continue to improve. As always, I'm here to answer any of your questions or concerns.



Aaron Marcavitch, Executive Director  
Twitter: @CTLDirector

# A Celebration to Honor the Legacy of Astrid Hanzalek

On Thursday, September 15, Connecticut Landmarks celebrated the life and legacy of Astrid Hanzalek (1928-2019). She was a leader in Connecticut non-profits, politics, conservation, and historic preservation. Elected to the Connecticut Landmarks Board of Trustees in 1980, she served over twenty years as Trustee, Vice President, and President.



## Thank You to Our New Members!

Davis & Virginia Abbott	Alex & Denise Cosentino	Colbie Holderness	Ralph Meliso	Edyta & James Rotundo
Ashley Allen	Margaret Cozens	Margize Howell	Janet Messick	Susan & Ted Ruddock
Laurie Gelston Alt	Cindy Curry	Bitsie Hruska	Scott Metzger	Gail Ruffin-Cruz
Dorothy & Michael Ambruso	Marc DaCruz	Elizabeth Hsiao	Karen & Liz Mills	Maria Ruskewich
Dorothy Amumdsen	Natalie Dark	Joel Ide	Michael Moline	Mary Anne Ryan
Tabitha Anagnos	Laura Davis	Katherine Jodrey	Kerry Monroe	Diana Sadtler
Karen Antonucci	Denise deFiebre	Richele A. Kim	Meredith Motyka	Kim Salerno
Michael Arndt	Cherylyn Dembek	David Klotz	Andrea Mullen	Lauren Saller
Gail Avino	Matthew Dicks	Sandra Komenda	Maria Munoz	Susan E. Saltus
Kathy Bagioni	Cathy Dintelman	Richard Krasnow	Janice Muirhead	Kate Scata
Nancy Banasiak	Ann & Francis Doherty	Carolyn Kron	Kristin & Ralph Muschett	Kate Schilling
Sharon Baroni	Jan Doyle	Christie Kuriger	Linda Nastri	Charlene Schutz
Anita & George Ballek	Tom Dudchik	Mary Labolt	Claudia Negro	Betsy Schwammerberger
Trevor Bartley	Marsha Earnest	Dorla Landry	Dan Newman	Kathleen Scotti
Lloyd & Sandra Beachy	Anyu Elgueta	Emily Lane	Stephen Nypert	Jane Shaw
Lance Bennett	John A. Elsesser	Jean Lavecchia,	Amy S. Okrepkie	Tessa Shaw
Sandy Bergin	Peter Emanuel	Mary Layo	Michelle O'Leary	Anita Silvestro
Janice Berriault	Donald Farnham	Chris Leach	Mehera Ortiz	Kelly Skaggs
Dean Berry	Betty & Larry Faulhaber	George & Kathy Leon	Marie Ortiz	Lynn Skokan
Lara Roth Biester	Robin Favello	Leon	Karen Otte	Charles A. Stewart
Renee Bishop	Carrie Federici	Vincent Leto	Jane Palmer	Marion Stuekel
Jayne D. Bogucki	Arlene Field	Barry Lifrieri	Brad Parker	Marjorie Sudyk
Dorothea Brennan	Carol Franson-Serra	Robert & Robin Little	Al & Dorothy Petrucci	Suffield Garden Club
Sarah Brisson	Carol-Ann Fuss	Heidi Lively	Jane Penfield	Lucy Sweeney
William Brock	Marlena Garza	Brandon Lorentz	Patricia Pelletier	Ed Therault
Carol Brown	Melanie Gedraitis	Janet Lowe	Randi Pickford	Valerie Thurston
Liz Brown	Edward Gerber	Roy Maynard	Nicholas Pouliet	David & Deborah Tremblay
Becky Butler	Donna Geuser	Mary Lou & Stephen Mayo	Liz Pratt	Hope Vath
Kara Capuano	Kibby Ginn	Roseann Massarelli	Meral Prewitt	Jason Vena
Maria Carofano	Mary Ellen Gordon	Ellen Massucci	Michael Price	Liane & Nat Walker
Lida Carroll	Carolyn Hall	The Michael	Richard Pysz	Christie Ward
Rebecca Cartabiano	Barry & Sheila Halpern	Matsler Family	Naomi Rafalowicz	Holly Weston
Robert Casner	Lauren Hamm	Michael Maturo	Katie Ramsdell	Sally B. Wilkinson
Deborah Cavanaugh	Henry Haskell	Howard A. Mayer	Sonja Randall	David Woods
Beth Cheney	Susan Haspeslagh	Stephen McBride	Dick Reese	Julie Yale
Amanda Christie-Sorensen	Tonya Heartsong	Catharine McDonald	Robert Richard	Beth Yanuskiewicz
Chelsea Cliff	Laura Heemskerck	Kara McGee	Kristin Robinson	
Patricia Conroy	David & Jackie Hemond	Toby McGrath	Brenda & Robert Roggeveen	
		Cathy McKenna	Myrna Rooney	
			Elaine Roth	

# THANK YOU

We are grateful for the support of our members, donors, community partners, funders, and sponsors. Without you, preserving, presenting, and promoting the very best of Connecticut history would not be possible.

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School may be out for summer, but learning is always in session at Connecticut Landmarks' sites! At the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden in Suffield, kids ages 8 to 12 years recently attended a weeklong day program where they explored the house and gardens, tried their hands at historical crafts, learned how archaeologists help us understand the historical record, and thought about how they might portray what is special to them if they had their own museums.



*Fairy house crafted at Phelps-Hatheway's Summer History Lab*

Lynn Mervosh, site administrator, North Central Region, always looks forward to the week, saying, "Phelps-Hatheway's Summer History Lab offers an unique experience for students to dive into the past while still keeping eyes on the present. For one special week, our site and its collections become a laboratory where structural details, newly discovered artifacts, and the untold stories of the House's complicated past are examined and shared. Life's hectic pace slows, and deeper friendships grow over daily cups of tea."

Cross-stitch ended up being one of the biggest hits of the week. Staff discussed color theory, cross stitch technique, and different patterns the children might use, and then handed over a blank canvas. Though a little overwhelming on the first day, the students pushed through their frustration and soon were enjoying designing, stitching, and chatting without an electronic device in sight.

Staff at the Nathan Hale Homestead drew inspiration from the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden's program and had participants in their weeklong summer program cross-stitch as well. There,

kids made keychains they could hang on their backpacks—an old craft with a modern application!

In Connecticut Landmarks' school year and summertime programming, children forge valuable connections to the past that will help ground them as they create the future. We are thrilled to be hard at work planning the next year of programs, which would not be possible without the support of our donors.

## Welcome to the CTL Family!

### New Staff

**Aileen Bastos** recently joined the staff of Connecticut Landmarks as our Marketing & Communications Manager. Aileen has a rich background in marketing and public relations, including stints at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford and the Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington. In addition to museum and communications work, she also brings with her years of historic preservation experience working as an architectural historian at Crosskey Architects.

Aileen holds a B.A. in Museum Studies and Art History from Regis College and earned an M.A. in Public History from Central Connecticut State University. Her Master's thesis, "Preserving Connecticut's Main Streets: The Role of Developers in the Revitalization of Downtown through the Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings," explores the rise and fall of Main Streets, particularly in Connecticut, and the power developers have in bringing cities back to life.



# In Memoriam

## Rick Copeland & Jim Anderson

Recently, Connecticut Landmarks was saddened by the passing of two of our long-time advocates, leaders, and friends. Both were vital members of our organization, demonstrating their passion for our mission through their time, energy, contributions, and good humor. Rick Copeland served as board president for many years and led the organization through a tumultuous time, bringing his vast leadership experience to the role. Jim Anderson served as our treasurer and brought a steady hand to our finances, coupled with a deep knowledge of historic preservation. Both of these men committed themselves to the work of the organization and we will miss them dearly.



Frederick “Rick” Copeland was born in Ithaca, NY, in 1941. He graduated from Deerfield Academy and Bowdoin College, followed by a graduate degree from Columbia University in Business. He had a long, successful career in the financial world. His professional acumen and personal appeal drew him to London, England; Houston, TX; and, then, with children, to Taipei, Taiwan, and Toronto, Canada as President and CEO of Citibank Canada, before settling in Hartford,

CT, working as President and CEO of Fleet Bank NA and then as President and CEO of Aetna International, Inc. Most recently, he worked with Far East National Bank and had just recently retired from his position as Chairman of Amerant Bancorp Inc. Rick was a gardener, golfer, and volunteer leader. Organizations he was involved with included Connecticut Landmarks, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, and Connecticut Public Broadcasting, Inc., as well as the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay Harbor, ME. (Excerpted from the *Hartford Courant*)



James “Jim” Anderson, PhD, was born in 1950, in Waterbury, CT. He received a degree in physics from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and went on to earn a master’s degree and PhD from the University of Connecticut, where he was co-author of 30 peer-reviewed scientific articles in the field of x-ray crystallography. He worked as a securities analyst for Advest, looking particularly at biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. While there, he co-authored a feature article in *Barron’s* magazine on

the future of biotechnology. He later worked for Travelers Insurance, managing their venture capital portfolio. After retirement, he conducted research on the structure of protein molecules. Jim was a bridge player, achieving the rank of Bronze Life Master, and was active with Connecticut Landmarks and the Groton Open Space Association. He was an early conservationist and avid student of the natural world with a keen interest in the weather—hurricanes, blizzards, floods and droughts. (Excerpted from *The Day*)

“ [Rick Copeland] was a real mentor for me and, from my observation, for many others. I am truly saddened to think that I no longer can benefit from conferences and lunches with him and be in his presence to absorb his wisdom gleaned from such huge life experience as is reflected in his obituary. I shall always remember him.”

—*John Bonee, member,*  
*Connecticut Landmarks Board of Trustees*

“ When we think of the ‘assets’ of CTL we tend to think of houses and property. But Jim [Anderson] taught us that our greatest assets can be the people of CTL.”

—*Rob Simmons, former member,*  
*Connecticut Landmarks Board of Trustees*

“ What a loss! He was not only an active board member, he was willing to do very hard and physical work, especially at Forge Farm. He spent many weekends doing physical work at the Farm to help it look respectable. He was an incredible asset to CTL and a real friend to many of us.”

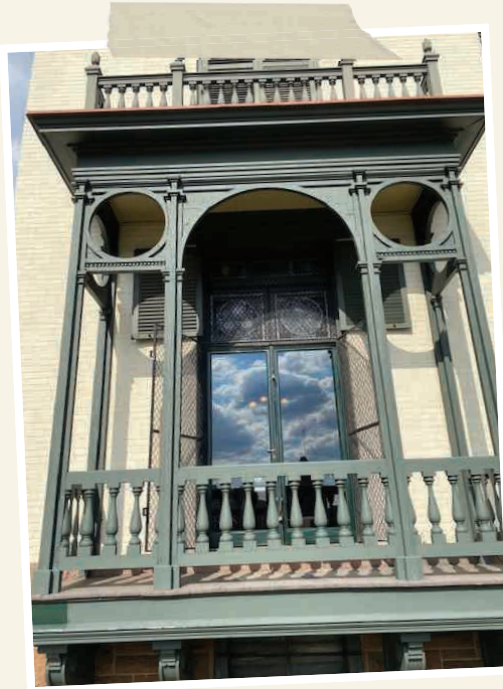
—*Jim Parry, former vice chair,*  
*Connecticut Landmarks Board of Trustees*

“ Jim was a generous and uniquely gifted man. He was a kind and generous soul who will be missed, terribly.”

—*Susie Horn, former member,*  
*Connecticut Landmarks Board of Trustees*



# Connecticut Landmarks Historic Preservation



## Isham-Terry House Windows

### Restoration Project Completed

Connecticut Landmarks recently completed a nine-month effort to restore a series of windows and French doors at the Isham-Terry House in Hartford. This work was made possible with the assistance of Preservation Connecticut, which provided Connecticut Landmarks with a \$9,000 matching grant administered through their 1772 Foundation matching grant program.

Three distinct sets of French doors and sections of five additional window units in the c. 1856 house were completely restored by Fink & Son, LLC, a Plainville-based historic carpentry, restoration, and woodworking organization. Each door/sash unit within the project scope was removed safely and restored with existing glass re-set and glazed prior to reinstallation. We added new glass to replace broken panes and introduced tempered glass to the French doors that was previously a combination of Plexiglas and varying thicknesses of glass.

All of the Isham-Terry preservation work was performed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Following Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

## Recent Donations & Acquisitions

Over the past several years, Connecticut Landmarks has received donations and made acquisitions of objects that contribute to the stories we tell at our historic sites. One way we can enhance these stories is by adding objects and artifacts that were owned by the families who once resided in our historic houses. Connecticut Landmarks would like to take this opportunity to thank our recent donors to our collections.

### 2017

**Gift of Carol Covello:** Dresser set (hand mirror, hairbrush, clothes brush, comb, shoehorn, button hook)

»»» On display at the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden, Suffield

### Gift of Scott and Gladys MacDonough:

Hog scrapper candlesticks

»»» On display at the Nathan Hale Homestead, Coventry

**Gift of Mr. Charles M. Bull:** Award of C.T. Bull from the Hartford Agricultural Society, miniature of Amos Bull

»»» On display at the Amos Bull House, Hartford

### 2018

#### Gift of CTL Trustee, John L. Bonee III:

Late 18th century Windsor armchair belonging to Anson McCook

»»» On display at the Butler-McCook House & Garden, Hartford

### 2020

#### Gift of Representative Ken Gucker:

Christmas card of the Butler-McCook Homestead signed by the McCook Family: John, Frances, Anson, and Lucy

»»» Housed in the Amos Bull Archives, Hartford

#### Gift of Quincy S. Abbott:

Collection of articles, correspondence, books, and genealogy related to the Hale family of Coventry

»»» Housed in the Amos Bull Archives, Hartford

## Restoration Efforts at the Nathan Hale Homestead

A few months ago, Connecticut Landmarks embarked upon a series of restoration projects at the Nathan Hale Homestead in Coventry. This included the complete restoration of 16 window units located on the south and west elevations of the historic structure, which was built in 1776. The project's contractor, Scholar Painting & Restoration, also introduced weather stripping into the restored units to help reduce cold air and dust from entering the house.

Fink & Son, LLC also replaced the front screen doors of the Homestead. The new doors were produced from vertical grain fir using the existing strap hinges and

pintles. A new bronze screen was added along with a fresh coat of Brouns & Company Barn Red linseed paint.



The Town of Coventry recently started a construction project along South Street, which will add a concrete walkway linking the Homestead to a series of interconnected walking paths throughout the town. Engineers are also making improvements to the town's power grid, allowing town officials to move their power infrastructure underground, eliminating the need for utility poles in the area. This action will provide an authentic, 18th century view shed of the Homestead and grounds.

## Phelps-Hatheway Fence Renovation

Connecticut Landmarks staff recently launched a multi-phase project to restore the elaborate wooden fence that runs along the front of the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden in Suffield. The first phase of the restoration work focuses on the series of columns and quoins that are prominent architectural features of the fence. Several layers of paint will be removed and any damage to the underlying wood elements will be repaired before we apply three coats of Linseed paint to the surface. This important work was made possible largely through a grant received from from the J. Gladwin Cannon Trust and the James Coburn Fund through the Hartford Foundation of Public Giving.



### Gift of Kathleen Cavanaugh:

Collection of archival materials from the Isham family, including diaries 1856-1916, 1941-1975, assorted correspondence, genealogy, probate records, Dr. Oliver Isham medical correspondence, and prescription notepad

»»» Housed in the Amos Bull Archives, Hartford

### 2021

**Gift of Beth Pauls:** Book "Documentary Life of Nathan Hale Comprising All Available Official and Private Documents Bearing on the Life of the Patriot by George Dudley Seymour"

»»» For research use at the Nathan Hale Homestead, Coventry

### Litchfield Historical Society:

Pair of blue leather children's shoes (c.1868) donated by Caroline Ferriday to the Litchfield Historical Society have been transferred to CTL

»»» On display at the Bellamy- Ferriday House & Garden, Bethlehem

### 2022

**Purchase from JoAnne Ball:** Cup and saucer belonging to Enoch Hale, brother of Nathan Hale

»»» On display at the Nathan Hale Homestead, Coventry

While CTL would love to be able to accept all gifts, it is our policy only to accept items that pertain to our historic houses. If you have objects or archival materials relevant to Connecticut Landmarks' sites and are interested in donating them, please contact Erin Farley, collections manager, at [erin.farley@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:erin.farley@ctlandmarks.org).





# Connecticut Landmarks

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Connecticut Landmarks uses historic properties to inspire an understanding of our complex past.



You are invited to join a community of people finding inspiration in our state's heritage. Membership support is the foundation of Connecticut Landmarks and your gateway to exploring Connecticut history. Experience the richness of all of our historic properties as often as you wish; choose from more than 85 programs, special events, and behind-the-scenes tours each season; and enjoy discounts on program tickets and in our museum stores. Your membership helps Connecticut Landmarks remain an integral part of our communities, opening our doors to thousands of school children and visitors from around the world.



*Please join us!  
Become a Connecticut Landmarks  
member today.*

