



Fall Program Guide

2024



Connecticut
Landmarks



History shines thanks to Connecticut Landmarks Members

Open the door to join a community of people finding inspiration in our state's heritage. 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. Membership support is the foundation upon which Connecticut Landmarks continues its decades-long legacy of preserving and sharing the rich history of our state.

Our stories matter. Join or renew today.

Visit ctlandmarks.org/memberships or scan the QR code for information. Questions? Email memberships@ctlandmarks.org for assistance.



Photos: Exhibit opening at the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden; Collections staff working with an object at the Palmer-Warner House; Performance in the Butler-McCook House & Garden, photo by Frank Poulin Photography; Staff at the Nathan Hale Homestead; Entryway of the Isham-Terry House; Tour group on the porch at the Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden.



Dear Friends of Connecticut Landmarks,

While the gardens at our sites justifiably take the spotlight in the spring, my favorite time to visit our museums is the fall, when foliage and programming heat up as temperatures cool down.

We have an exciting lineup of walking tours, hands-on workshops, music performances, and other events planned. Visitors may immerse themselves in history through innovative programs like Summer Pipes & Cider at the Palmer-Warner House, or our collaboration with the Mattatuck Museum at the Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden.

New exterior signage and refreshed interiors create a welcoming visitor experience for recently announced Open Tour days at East Haddam's Palmer-Warner House. The collections team continues documentation work, and infrastructure improvements and capital investments are in progress at the site. Our site staff look forward to welcoming you!

Significant preservation projects continue with support from generous donors like you, as well as state and private funding. On November 3rd, we invite you to the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden in Suffield to learn from scientists conducting cutting-edge conservation and stabilization work on our incredible collection of 18th-century Parisian wallpaper (*see page 3*).

Thank you for staying connected to our work through our website and social media channels. Your involvement, whether attending events, volunteering, donating, or spreading the word about our organization, ensures that more people can find their home in history at our historic sites.

Warm regards,

Robert Brock

Interim Executive Director

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If this wallpaper could talk...



In 1788, Oliver Phelps purchased a traditional center-chimney house in Suffield from Shem Burbank. A budding land speculator in the tumultuous years after the American Revolution, Phelps commissioned the addition of a large wing that may have served to entertain potential clients. The wing featured five splendid Parisian wallpapers hand-blocked by craftspeople in Jean-Baptiste Réveillon's factory. Today, it is one of the **oldest, largest extant wallpaper collections in the United States** contained within one of the most complete collections of

late 18th-century woodworking and interior decoration.

Connecticut Landmarks is honored to have received a grant from the **National Park Service's Save America's Treasures Historic Preservation Fund** to stabilize and conserve the exquisite wallpaper. Following a competitive proposal process, **Studio TKM Associates** has been working to understand the needs of this stunning treasure and stabilize it so that it may continue to inform and delight visitors to this beloved property for many years to come.

During recent site visits, the conservation team analyzed the wallpaper to understand where it has been altered, damaged, and impacted by 230 years on the walls at the Phelps-Hatheway House. Following photographic documentation, they examined sections of the original paper that have long been hidden underneath the border detail papers.



The samples they carefully removed will be taken to their labs for further analysis. **Through this work, they will be able to understand the pigments, chemicals, and processes used to produce this historic wallpaper and apply that knowledge to other collections in Connecticut and around the world.** They will develop a plan with which Connecticut Landmarks will continue to provide the best care for these rare wallpapers.

This work requires significant investment to ensure the safety of the precious wallpaper for centuries to come. Please consider a donation to help match the grant funding that allowed us to start this work by scanning the QR code or visiting ctlandmarks.org/wallpaper



You're Invited! Revealing Réveillon

Sunday, November 3, 1 pm & 2:30 pm
\$40/Person, \$30/CTL Member

Toast the start of conservation work with the team working to stabilize the Réveillon wallpaper adorning the Phelps-Hatheway House. Enjoy exclusive access to the expertise of conservation scientists from Studio TKM Associates, who will explain and demonstrate their work caring for the papers. Attendees of this intimate gathering are invited to learn about the house and its residents while imagining the turbulence of the 1790s as two nations attempted to assert their independence—and their identities.

Proceeds support wallpaper conservation.

Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden

55 South Main Street, Suffield
860.668.0055 • phelps.hatheway@ctlandmarks.org

Open for tours May–October on the second Sunday of each month
September 8 & October 13 from 1 pm–4 pm

Holiday Lantern Tours

Select Dates in December, 4:30 pm–5:30 pm

\$15/Adults, \$5/CTL Members, Suffield Residents, & Children 6-18, FREE for Children under 6

Suffield's South Main Street bears a particular charm as the holidays approach. Join our costumed guides as they transport guests to the time before electricity illuminated our homes to see the "grand dames" of this historic thoroughfare festively lit and decorated to celebrate the season. Offered in collaboration with the Suffield Historical Society.

Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden

9 Main Street North, Bethlehem
203.266.7596 • bellamy.ferriday@ctlandmarks.org

Open for tours May through October

July–September: Thursday–Sunday, 12 noon–4 pm; October: Saturday & Sunday, 12 noon–4 pm

Mattatuck Museum Takeover

On View Saturday, September 21–Sunday, October 20

FREE with regular admission

The Mattatuck Museum is sharing pieces from its significant art and history collections with visitors to the Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden. Works exploring the themes of women, 20th-century art, and local art will complement the beautiful furniture, art, and objects collected over decades by Caroline Ferriday. Peruse the halls and discuss the artworks and their significance as you learn about the home and its occupants. On view during regular tours of the Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden.

Butler-McCook House & Garden

396 Main Street, Hartford
860.247.8996 x 11 • butler.mccook@ctlandmarks.org

Open for tours May–October on the first Saturday of each month

September 7 & October 5 from 1 pm–4 pm

Sunset Sounds Concert Series

Thursday, September 12, 6 pm–8 pm; Grounds open at 5 pm

FREE, donations welcome

Bring a lawn chair and a picnic dinner to enjoy in the garden while listening to the music of Rick Germanson & Friends, featuring Steve Little and Nat Reeves! Explore the first floor of the Butler-McCook House on a free tour featuring works by local artists.

Sponsored by: the Richard P. Garmany Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; the Greater Hartford Arts Council's United Arts Campaign with major support from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; and the Evelyn W. Preston Memorial Trust Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee.

Beyond Main Street

Saturday, September 21, 10 am–12 noon

\$10/Person, \$5/CTL Member

This walking tour expands your knowledge of Hartford's architectural treasures by venturing east and west of Main Street. Understand the historical and cultural significance of buildings along South Prospect Street, from the 1788 Amos Bull House to the BPO Elks Lodge, to the Hartford Times Building. To the west, explore more of the city's South Downtown neighborhood on Elm and Gold Streets.

Hartford Art & Monuments

Saturday, September 28, 10 am–12 noon

\$10/Person, \$5/CTL Member

Public art and monuments create a shared understanding of the events, people, and ideas that a city values. Set out from the Butler-McCook House to explore the artistic treasures and monuments of Hartford along Main Street, in Bushnell Park, and at the State Capitol Building.

Boxing, Baseball, and "Brass Bonanza": Hartford Sports History

Saturday, October 5, 10 am–12 noon

\$10/Person, \$5/CTL Member

Hartford Whalers! Hartford Dark Blues! Willie Pep! Pro Football in Hartford? Where was the Velodrome? Take to the streets of Hartford to uncover the fascinating history of sports in the city from ballooning to bicycles, boxing to baseball, and so much more, on this new walk for the 2024 season!



Nathan Hale Homestead

2299 South Street, Coventry
860.742.6917 • hale@ctlandmarks.org

Open for tours May through October

Friday & Saturday, 12 noon–4 pm, Sunday, 10 am–2 pm

Things That Go Bump in the Night

Thursdays & Fridays, September 26 & 27, October 17, 24, 25, & 31, 7 pm–9 pm

\$30/Person, \$25/CTL Member

Get into the “spirit” of the season! Our special, flashlight-lit tours will take you around the property and into the house, all the way up to the dark, shadowy attic. Prepare to be scared while surrounded by the very history that spawned the stories. Hear long-standing and new Homestead ghost stories from staff members and spooky encounters reported by guests, as featured on the Syfy channel's Ghost Hunters. *Not recommended for young souls.*

Cabinet-Making Workshop

Sunday, September 22, 10:30 am–12:30 pm

\$50/Person

Step back in time to learn a craft from the 18th century, with some modern tools to make the process a bit easier. During this workshop, woodworker John Baron will instruct guests to make a wooden box modeled after a Nathan Hale Homestead museum artifact. All materials included.

18th-Century Chocolate Making

Saturday, November 2, 10 am & 11:30 am

\$10/Person

Immerse yourself in 18th-century chocolate-making with Robert Lecce of Pewter Pot Fine Spiced Chocolates. Guests will be invited to enjoy samples of chocolate and hot cocoa. Like what you sampled? Chocolate bars will be available for sale in the Museum Store.

Foraging Connecticut

Friday, October 18, 10 am–11:30 am

FREE as part of The Last Green Valley's Walktober

This slow-paced walk will explore an 18th-century kitchen garden to show how plants that are considered invasive in a modern garden, and can usually be found growing as wildflowers, were once grown with care for their useful properties. Continue down The Old Road to Norwich into the Nathan Hale State Forest to comb the landscape for edible plant life.

Isham-Terry House

211 High Street, Hartford
isham.terry@ctlandmarks.org

Open for tours May–October on the third Sunday of each month

September 15 & October 20 from 1 pm–4 pm

Fall Immersive Theater Performance

Preview: October 12; Performances: October 18, 19, 20, 25 & 26

Ticketing and information at escapismproductions.com

New England's own Escapism Productions bridges the gap between audience and actor, with shows that are part theater, part escape room, and 100% immersive. Escapism Productions' longstanding relationship with the Isham-Terry House continues with a new hauntingly historical production this October.

The Final Act at Home:

A Victorian Wake

Sunday, October 20, 2 pm–3 pm

\$15/Person, \$10/CTL Member

Saying good-bye in the Victorian Era was a complicated process. Join this fact-based exploration of a Victorian wake presented in partnership with the researchers and performers at Escapism Productions.

Making Music Together:

The Ishams' Parlor Music

Sunday, November 10, 2 pm–3 pm

\$15/Person, \$10/CTL Member

Enjoy an afternoon vocal and instrumental performance to hear the late-19th and early-20th century songs that would have filled the Ishams' parlor, drawing upon the sheet music in the Isham-Terry collection and representing the lives and interests of the household's amateur musicians.

Palmer-Warner House

307 Town Street, East Haddam
palmer.warner@ctlandmarks.org

Open for tours May–October on the second Saturday of each month
September 14 & October 12 from 1 pm–4 pm

Summer Pipes & Cider

Saturday, September 14, 11 am–2 pm

\$40/Person, \$35/CTL Member, includes tasting, trail walk, trivia

\$20/Person, \$15/CTL Member, includes trail walk and trivia

Sip cider and connect with Scotland during a trail walk around the beautiful Palmer-Warner grounds led by Portland & District Pipers. Enjoy local cider tastings from Yankee Cider Co. including a signature “Dunstaffnage” bourbon designed to take you to the Scottish Moors through hints of Highland peat smoke. Bring your friends to test your knowledge in a round of Celtic-themed pub trivia, with prizes for first- and second-place teams.

The Stonewalls and Structures of England and New England: An Evolution

Saturday, September 21, 1 pm–2:30 pm

\$45/Person, \$35/CTL Member

Accomplished stone artisan, gardener, and horticulturist Andrew Pighills discusses the evolution of stone walls and structures from colonial times to present day, and how they fit into the garden and broader landscape past and present. Born in Yorkshire England, Pighills received formal training with The Royal Horticultural Society at Harlow Carr Gardens. He spent thirty-one years building dry stone walls in the Yorkshire Dales and English Lake District and continues his work here in the U.S. as a professional member of The Dry-Stone Walling Association of Great Britain.

Hempsted Houses

11 Hempstead Street, New London
860.443.7949 • hempsted@ctlandmarks.org

Tours limited due to significant restoration work.

Please contact us or visit ctlandmarks.org/preservation to learn about and support this project.



Headstone Lettering Demonstration

Saturday, September 7, 1 pm–4 pm

\$15/Person

Joshua Hempsted held many positions throughout his lifetime, one of which was headstone letterer. On Wednesday, December 27th, 1749, our diarist writes, “fair & cold I finisht engraving a headstone for Samll Bills wife.” Join headstone carver Andrew Carr as he re-creates a headstone using Joshua’s lettering style with 18th-century carving techniques.

Antientist Burial Ground Tour: The African American Connection

Sunday, September 15, 2 pm–3:30 pm

\$10/Person

Join your guides from the Hempsted Houses and the New London chapter of the NAACP to visit one of New England’s earliest graveyards with a special focus on those of African descent who are buried there.

Plan your visits, browse event updates, join or renew your membership, and learn more about our vital work bringing the past to life on our website, ctlandmarks.org

