



Connecticut  
Landmarks

**NEWS**

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## Connecticut Landmarks

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## September Craft Classes at the Nathan Hale Homestead



**Coventry, CT** – Connecticut Landmarks' Nathan Hale Homestead will offer three craft classes on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, as part of the Coventry Regional Farmers' Market. Learn the art of Shawl Pin Making and Silhouette Making or get ready for the Holiday Season by participating in a Wool Ornament and Garland Making workshop. Registration is requested for all classes as space is limited, please call the Nathan Hale Homestead at (860) 742-6917 to register.

**Shawl Pin Making** lessons will be available from 11 am until 2 pm. Make a shawl pin out of copper or bronze with artist Leslie Winds in the barn of the Nathan Hale Homestead. A 20 – minute private session is \$20, and includes materials. From 1 – 3:30 pm, learn the art, history, and techniques of early American silhouette portraiture with artist Elizabeth O'Brien. **How to Paper Cut a Portrait** is intended for ages 12 and over, no art experience is required. Cost is \$25, which includes materials.

From noon to 3 pm, learn to make **Wool on Wool Christmas Ornaments and Garlands** with renowned instructor Roseann Hunter. By recycling and repurposing your old unused wool clothing, learn to turn them into heirloom ornaments with simple sewn stitches. Participants will adapt rug making techniques from 1790 and center shirr a wool garland with rolled wool beads. Learn various techniques to manipulate wool fabric into folk art treasures to enjoy for years to come and take away from this class a small garland and a few ornaments to start your collection. Just bring along a pair of scissors and a small kit with needles; threads and wools will be provided. Cost is \$35 per person, plus \$5 for materials.

Rose Ann Hunter has been a textile structuralist for the last 30 years. She has been the craft person in residence at Old Sturbridge Village where she still teaches. She also teaches at many other museums, conferences and guilds throughout the US. Her work is traditional rug making 1790 to 1850. She has adapted and developed over 30 techniques that are knitted, crocheted or sewn into folk art. For more information visit [www.roseannhunter.com](http://www.roseannhunter.com).

The Nathan Hale Homestead is located at 2299 South Street in Coventry, CT 06238. The Homestead is open for regular tours from Memorial Day Weekend through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Hours are: September-October: Friday, Saturday 12 pm – 4 pm & Sunday 11 am – 4 pm. Open on Monday Holidays – Labor Day and Columbus Day. Admission is \$7 for adults; \$6 for students, teachers and seniors; \$4 for children age 6-18; children under 6 and CTL members are free. Families - 2 adults with children - are \$15; groups of 10 or more are \$5 per person. For school groups and special curriculum-based programming, please call Beverly York, Site Administrator, at (860) 742-6917 or email, [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org).

### **About the Nathan Hale Homestead**

The Hale Homestead is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the birthplace of Connecticut's State Hero, Nathan Hale. The house, built in 1776, belonged to Nathan Hale's parents and family, and is located on the only site he ever called home. Nathan was one of twelve children born to Richard and Elizabeth Hale.

Nathan Hale was a Yale-educated school teacher and was commissioned as a first lieutenant in the Continental Army in 1775. A year later he volunteered to go behind British lines on Long Island to gather military intelligence desperately needed by General George Washington, but the British captured Hale and, when they discovered he was a spy, hanged him. He was only 21. He is famous for his alleged last words, "*I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.*"

In 1776 Hale's father, Deacon Richard Hale built the new home on the family homestead which has changed little since. It's situated on 17 acres, adjoining the 1500-acre Nathan Hale State Forest. Its furnishings include several Hale family possessions and other collections amassed by pioneer Connecticut antiquarian George Dudley Seymour, who purchased the homestead in 1914 and began a program of restoration and furnishing that is largely preserved today.

### **About Connecticut Landmarks**

Founded in 1936 as the Antiquarian & Landmarks Society, Connecticut Landmarks is the largest statewide heritage museum organization in Connecticut. The historic landmark properties span

four centuries of Connecticut history and include: the Amasa Day House, Moodus; the Amos Bull House, Hartford; the Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden, Bethlehem; the Butler-McCook House & Garden and Main Street History Center, Hartford; the Buttolph-Williams House, Wethersfield; the Hempsted Houses, New London; the Isham-Terry House, Hartford; the Nathan Hale Homestead, Coventry; the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden, Suffield.

Connecticut Landmark's mission is to inspire appreciation for the Connecticut experience by preserving, presenting and promoting outstanding historic properties, collections and stories. For more information, please visit [www.ctlandmarks.org](http://www.ctlandmarks.org).

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