

Community Events

Bellamy-Ferriday House Museum & Gardens
9 Main Street North
Bethlehem, CT 06751
203-266-7596

Tuesday, May 16th at 11 a.m.

What:

A private tour of a distinctive CT Landmarks historic site and garden. The home is rich in history and surrounded by beautiful gardens and property.

Following the house tour, guests may spend time in the formal parterre garden filled with lilacs and heritage roses and explore other areas of the landscape for as long as they wish.
(see below for more information)

When: Tuesday, May 16th, 2023, the house tour begins at 11 a.m. and will last approximately an hour. Guests should plan to meet in the parking area of the Bellamy-Ferriday House at 10:45 a.m.

Where: Bellamy-Ferriday House, 9 Main Street North, Bethlehem, CT 06751.
Bethlehem is about hour's drive from Salisbury, depending on where in town you live.

Fee: \$12 per person

Reservations required:

email: info@salisburyassociation.org to purchase a reservation. Number of places is limited, so make your reservations soon.

Directions

Approximate driving time from Salisbury is about an hour. Bethlehem is about 11 minutes from Litchfield, CT.

Follow CT 63 S to Litchfield. At the traffic light, CT 63 S intersects with RT 202 briefly. Make a left turn at the light, and then a right turn and continue on RT 63S towards Morris. In about 3 miles, turn right on to CT 61S (County Road). Stay on CT 61S for about 5 miles (including as it branches to the left at one point). 9 Main Street N will be on your right. Turn into the driveway, parking is to the right.

More about the Bellamy-Ferriday House Museum & Gardens

Bellamy

Rev. Joseph Bellamy, a leading figure of the Colonial Era's First Great Awakening, built the house from 1754-1767. From here, he ministered to his flock, trained dozens of young men for the ministry, and wrote his influential tract, *True Religion Delineated*. After the Bellamys, the 100 acre farm was abandoned.

Ferriday

In 1912, Henry McKeen Ferriday, his wife Eliza and their 9-year old daughter Caroline, purchased the Bellamy farm and made it into their summer home. The Ferridays restored its Colonial features and added their own personal touches. Henry died unexpectedly two years later and Eliza and Caroline continued to shape the property reflecting their tastes and personalities. A formal garden of heirloom roses, lilacs, peonies and other fragrant blooms, transformed the farm into a paradise.

Before her death in 1990, Caroline preserved the Bellamy history and lent support to many notable causes, including the Free France Movement during WWII and helping secure medical assistance for survivors of Ravensbruck Concentration Camp. Caroline was awarded the Cross of Lorraine and the French Legion of Honor.

Novels Based on the Ferriday Family Women

A fictionalized account of Caroline's life focused on her work with the women of Ravensbruck is chronicled in the *Lilac Girls*, a novel by Martha Hall Kelly. Kelly also wrote *Lost Roses*, an historic fiction about Caroline's mother, Eliza and follows three indomitable women from St. Petersburg to Paris under the shadow of WWI. A third, *Sunflower Sisters* is based on Georgeanna Woolsey, a Ferriday ancestor and Union nurse during the Civil War. Martha Kelly has just written a fourth novel, *The Golden Doves*.

Author, Martha Hall Kelly

Fans of these Martha Kelly books may be interested to know she will be at the Bellamy-Ferriday House this June 4th, from noon-4:00 to talk about her latest novel. Tickets ranging from \$20-45 may be purchased on line through ctlandmarks.org/events/.