

Spring 2007 Lowell Lecture Series  
At the National Heritage Museum celebrates  
“Sowing the Seeds of Liberty: Lexington and the American Revolution”

On April 16, 2007, the Patriot’s Day holiday, the National Heritage Museum will open its new cornerstone exhibition, “Sowing the Seeds of Liberty: Lexington and the American Revolution.” This spring’s Lowell Lecture series will delve into topics related to the exhibition, examining in particular the daily activities and politics of a community on the brink of war.

**The Spring 2007 Lowell Lecture Series:**

Saturday, March 17 at 2 p.m.: *It Rained Cats and Dogs the Day the Revolution Began: A Forgotten Story of Popular Mobilization in 1775*

Dr. T.H. Breen of Northwestern University will discuss popular 18<sup>th</sup>-century publications and how they mobilized colonists into action. Drawn from his work, *America’s Insurgency: Popular Political Resistance to Imperial Rule, 1775–1776*, Dr. Breen will show how a popular English publication called *The Crisis* served as a model for our own early press.

Sunday, April 1 at 2 p.m.: *Building the Temple of Liberty: Freemasonry and the Founding of America*

Dr. Steven Bullock, Professor of History at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, will discuss Freemasonry in the Revolutionary era, noting its role in the coming break with England, in the war that followed, and in the new American nation that emerged out of it.

Sunday, April 29 at 2 p.m.: *Taverns and Drinking in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Massachusetts*

Dr. Sharon Salinger, Professor of History at the University of California at Irvine, will explore the European and English origins of the tavern and its importance in the social and political world of colonial Massachusetts. Dr. Salinger will examine the laws that controlled these establishments, the groups of people who frequented them, and the use of tavern space in fomenting revolution.

Sunday, May 6 at 2 p.m.: *“A Decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind” : The Creation of a Revolutionary Aspiration*

A distinguishing feature of the Revolutionary War was its leaders’ determination to win freedom in a way that would earn the respect of other nations. Dr. Richard Ryerson, Senior Historian at the David Library of the American Revolution, will explore the late colonial origins of this respect, its great practical value in winning European military support, and its powerful effect on colonists’ conduct in the war for independence.

The National Heritage Museum is dedicated to presenting exhibitions and programs on a wide variety of topics in American history and popular culture. The Museum is supported by the Scottish Rite Freemasons in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States. The Museum of Our National Heritage is located at 33 Marrett Road in Lexington, at the corner of Route 2A and Massachusetts Avenue. Hours are Monday through Saturday from 10 am–5 pm, and Sunday, noon–5 pm. Admission and parking are free. Heritage Shop and Courtyard Café on site. For further information contact the Museum at (781) 861-6559 or visit the web site at [www.nationalheritagemuseum.org](http://www.nationalheritagemuseum.org).