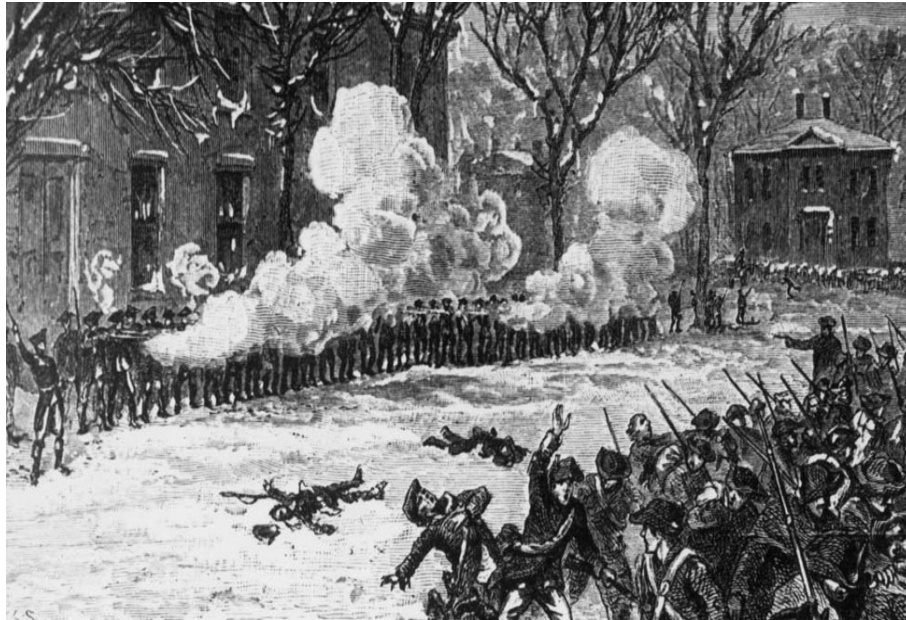


SHAY'S REBELLION: RECLAIMING THE REVOLUTION

A Talk by Tom Goldscheider
Shaw Memorial Library, Plainfield, MA
Tuesday, April 2, 2013 – 6:30 to 7:30 pm



Soldiers fire on protesters during Shays' Rebellion. Led by Daniel Shays, a group of poor farmers and Revolutionary War veterans attempted to shut down Massachusetts courts in protest against debt collections against veterans and the heavy tax burden borne by the colony's farmers.

Shays' Rebellion presents an uncomfortable chapter in our history. How do we account for an armed insurrection against the state in the cradle of the American Revolution? We will take a new look at this tumultuous period by focusing on the experiences of three men from Williamsburg, MA. All three were prisoners of debt just before the Rebellion while Williamsburg lay at the epicenter of the troubles. The picture we get of the alarming situation in the 1780s offers some surprising answers to questions that go to the heart of who we are as a nation.

Tom Goldscheider received his Masters degree in History at UMass Amherst with a concentration in the colonial Period. He is a farrier based in Florence and was a correspondent for the Daily Hampshire Gazette, covering Williamsburg.

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