



# Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Charlton Land Trust and Historical Society Team Up for Talk on Land and the American Revolution**

(CHARLTON, MA) Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust (CHPT) and the Charlton Historical Society (CHS) will collaboratively present a free lecture entitled “Land, Revolution, and Charlton” by James David Moran on Tuesday June 30, 2026, at 7 p.m. in the Rider Tavern. The talk will examine the way people in Charlton and Massachusetts understood and used the land, and how these ideas and practices led to rebellion and then revolution from Great Britain. Charlton also played a significant role in Declaring Independence, and this will be described by Moran in his talk. The CHPT and CHS are collaborating on this program in celebration of the nation’s 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

While most Americans today don’t think of land as being a catalyst for the American Revolution, it was a central component in how the British colonist understood their own identities. Owning land was the key to political and economic agency and power and the need for more land put rural Massachusetts farmers on a collision course with King George and his parliament. This talk will demonstrate how Charlton and other rural Massachusetts communities were at the forefront of the fight for independence at the start of the American Revolution.

James David Moran served as the first Director of Outreach and then as Vice President for Programs and Outreach at the American Antiquarian Society for 28 years. He has over forty years’ experience creating award-winning cultural and educational programming. Additionally, he is a writer, director, and producer who has created fourteen plays, twelve of which have been produced; most of these have been commissioned and are based on historical themes. These include: *The Chains of Liberty* for the Worcester Revolution of 1774; *Preserving All Others* and *Isaiah Thomas-Patriot Printer* for the American Antiquarian Society; and *Portraits Come Alive* and *Portraits of Freedom* for Mechanics Hall. His innovative radio program, *The History Show*, appeared on 151 public radio stations in 47 states. He lives in Charlton, Massachusetts, with his wife, Elizabeth and cat, Bingo.

Copies of *The History Show* will be available for sale at the June 30<sup>th</sup> program with the proceeds supporting both sponsoring institutions. “Land, Revolution and Charlton” is free and open to the public.

### **About CHPT**

[Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust](#) acquires and maintains open space properties and conducts programs to enlighten and entertain people of all ages about protecting and enjoying the natural world. CHPT owns 19 conservation properties in Charlton, totaling over 200 acres of natural land open to the public. CHPT works

with landowners, developers, and the town to balance healthy economic growth with conservation of important natural resources and historically significant places. CHPT relies on donations of land and funds to make new conservation projects possible and on the volunteer help of its members and friends to preserve conservation areas for the public benefit. For more information and to check out all our properties, go to [CharltonTrust.org](http://CharltonTrust.org) or follow up on Facebook (Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust) and Instagram (CharltonTrust).

### **About CHS**

[The Charlton Historical Society](http://TheCharltonHistoricalSociety) collects, preserves and shares the history of Charlton, Massachusetts. The Society maintains the Number Two Schoolhouse and the historic Rider Tavern, which serves as home to the Society. The CHS regularly offers tours, talks, and activities for all ages in the Rider Tavern, a twenty-two-room turnpike inn restored to its original 1799 condition. The CHS also offers programs throughout the community. For more information <https://charltonhistoricalsociety.com>.

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