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Photos: available upon request

Violence in the American Revolution is Subject of Lecture
at David Library

WASHINGTON CROSSING, PA  -- Holger Hoock, author of the new book, Scars of Independence: America’s Violent Birth, will present a lecture at the David Library of the American Revolution on Wednesday, June 7 at 7:30 PM. It will be held in the Library’s lecture hall located at 1201 River Road, Washington Crossing. Admission is free, but reservations are required and can be made by calling (215)493-6776 ext. 100, or by sending an email to rsvp@dlar.org.

The David Library is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of American history between 1750 and 1800. Over the years it has awarded residential research fellowships to nearly 200 scholars of Early America. Holger Hoock was a Fellow of the David Library in 2009. He was educated at Freiburg and Cambridge universities and received his doctorate from Oxford. He currently serves as the J. Carroll Amundson Professor of British History and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research in the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. His previous books include Empires of the Imagination and The King’s Artists. An elected fellow of the Royal Historical Society, Hoock has recently been a Kluge Fellow at the Library of Congress; visiting scholar at Corpus Christi College, Oxford; and senior fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, University of Konstanz.
Professor Hoock notes that “Americans tend to portray their revolution and war for independence as a heroic tale—as the triumph of high-minded ideals in the face of imperial overreach, and a unified, nation-building struggle. It’s a stirring narrative, and one the Founders did their best to encourage after the war. But to understand the Revolution we must acknowledge that it was also a profoundly violent civil war.”

His lecture, “Scars of Independence: Violence in the American Revolution,” will draw on extensive new research. Professor Hoock will take the audience into the streets and homes of Revolutionary America, onto battlefields, and inside prisons, to illustrate the terror that lay at the very heart of the Revolutionary project, and the battlefield atrocities, rape, and plunder that characterized the war across the thirteen colonies. He will ask the audience to consider why and how the Revolution’s all-pervasive violence has been moved to the margins of the story that we typically hear.

For additional information and a schedule of other lectures on the Library’s calendar, visit www.dlar.org/events.htm. ###