

INDIGENOUS VOICES IN THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY

LIZ COLDWIND SANTANA KISER CHAUBUNAGUNGAMAUG NIPMUCK ELDER AND EDUCATOR

Liz ColdWind Santana-Kiser is an Elder, a Council Woman, and currently serves as Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Chaubunagungamaug Band of Nipmuck Indians. As preservation officer, she works to secure tribal artifacts and protect ancestral burial sites throughout New England. She currently serves on the 1676 Battle of Great Falls Advisory Board. She also serves on the Stolen Relations Recovering Stories of Indigenous Enslavement in the Americas Project at Brown University. Through her years of work, she has earned her Eagle Feather. She is married with six children and 25 grandchildren. For more than two decades, Liz ColdWind Santana-Kiser has been working at the forefront of improving the health and wellbeing of the Nipmuck people through clinics, healthcare conferences, and community-based education initiatives.

Definitions of terms introduced in the film:

- **DEER ISLAND**--A concentration camp was established on this island in Boston Harbor during King Philip's War, 1675-1676. Many Nipmuck people--even some who were allied with the English--were imprisoned there without enough food or shelter; many died. To this day, many Nipmuck people go there every year to commemorate their ancestors.
- **NIPMUCK/NIPMUC**--There are many bands of Nipmuck People, among them the Chaubunagungamaug, Hassanamisco, Wabbaquasset, Natick, and Quaboag.

Suggested questions for students:

- What do people miss out on when they disparage people of different backgrounds?
- Why would anyone bully another person about their ethnic heritage?
- Why are Native people depicted as savages when their culture is highly sophisticated?
- Why were Nipmuck people deported to Deer Island, even if they were allies of the English settlers?
- Where are the Nipmuck traditional homelands?
- Why do you think we have been taught so much about European history and so little about the people who lived here first?

Resources:

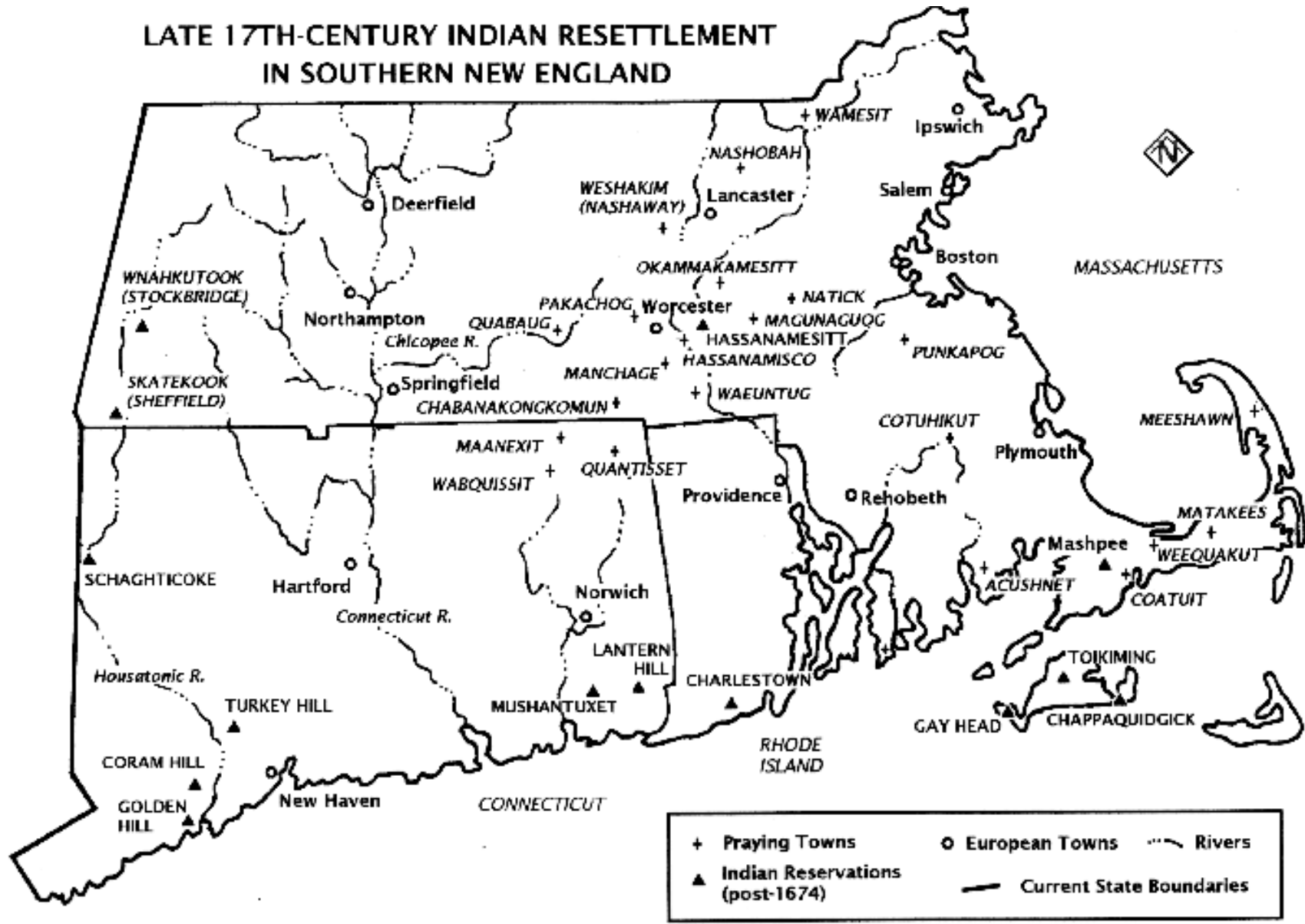
- [A Brief Look at Nipmuc History](#) (approximately 5 pages)
- *The Indians of the Nipmuck Country in Southern New England 1630-1750*, a book by Dennis A. Connole



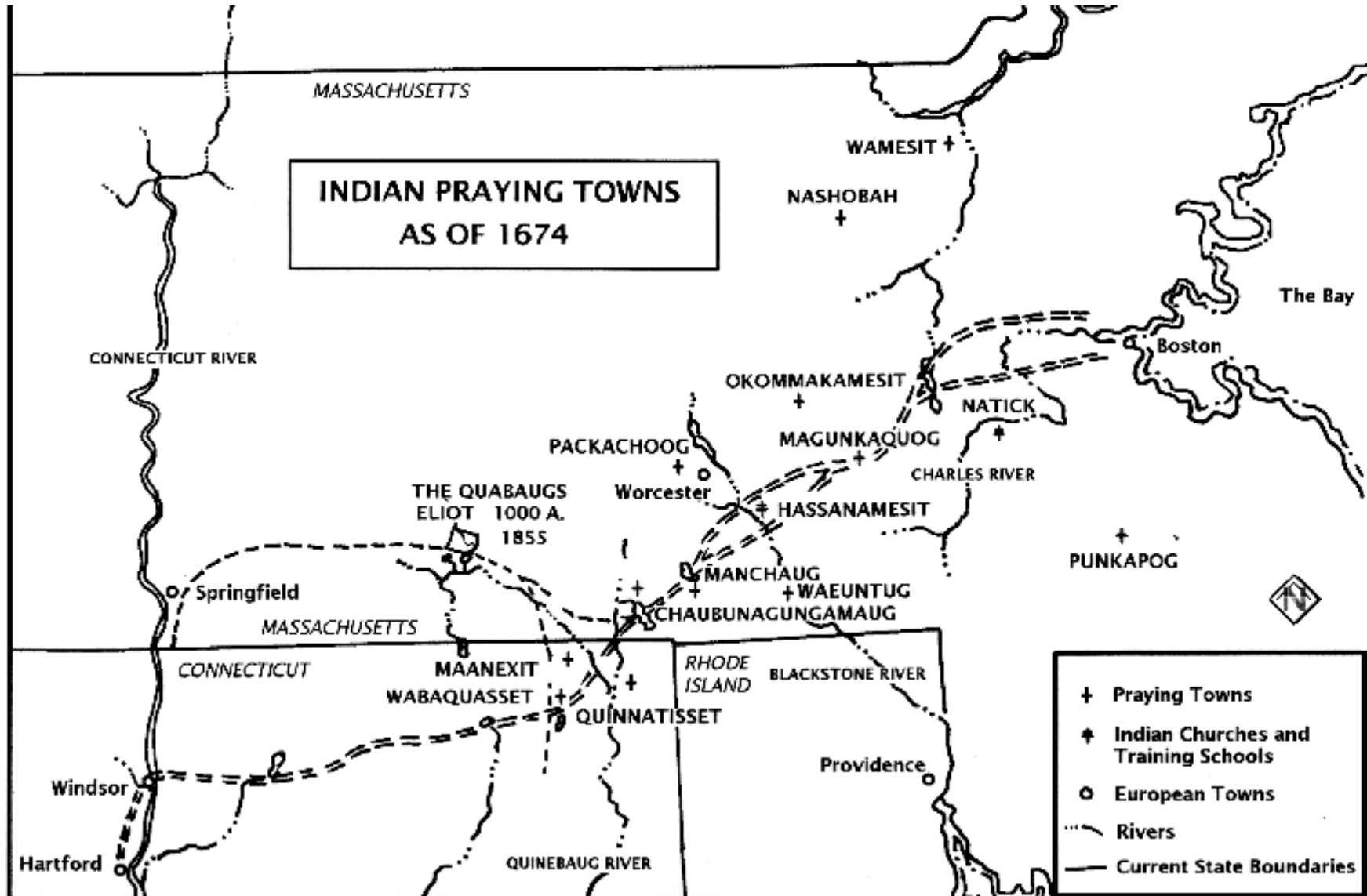
CHAUBUNAGUNGAMAUG BAND OF NIPMUCK INDIANS

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LATE 17TH-CENTURY INDIAN RESETTLEMENT
IN SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND



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SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND TRIBES

