

Honoring Indigenous Peoples



Interpretative Plaques & Historical Markers
for Carlisle Indigenous Sites

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**Mission:
Honor Indigenous
Sites in Carlisle and
Great Brook Farm
State Park**



Agenda

- People and Sources
- Focus on Three Historical Sites in Great Brook Farm State Park
- King Philip's War / Metacomet's Rebellion in Carlisle/Chelmsford
- The Project
- Next Steps



About Me

- Resident of Carlisle Since 2008
- Live within 1 mile of GBF
- Faculty at Worcester Academy
- Former Product Line Manager, Cisco Systems
- Former Editor at Scientific American
- Cornell BA, Harvard MBA, WGU MATSE

Selected Resources

- Lisa Brooks (Amherst College Professor). *Our Beloved Kin: A New History of King Philip's War* (2018)
- "Sara of Wamesit"
<https://ourbelovedkin.com/awikhigan/sarah-of-wamesit-1>
- Wilson Waters. *History Of Chelmsford* (1917)
- Daniel Gookin, "An Historical Account of the Doings and Sufferings of the Christian Indians in New England," (Completed in 1677, Published in 1836 in *Transactions and Collections of the American Antiquarian Society*)

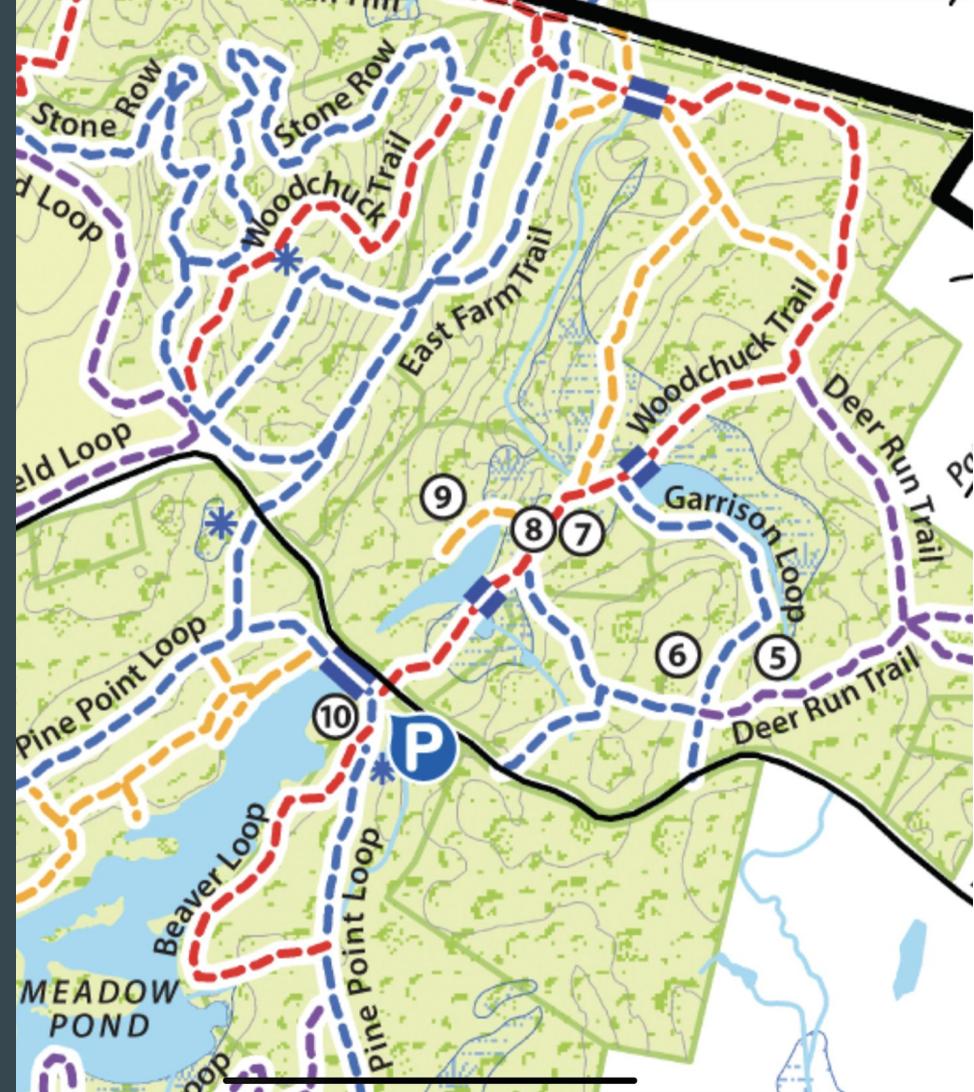
The Sites



Great Brook Farm State Park

Three Historical Sites on
Garrison Loop

- “9” Turtle Monument
- “6” Garrison House
- ”5” Broken Ceremonial Stone:
“Indian Grinding Stone”



Turtle Monument

- Monolithic
- About 12 Tons
- Points To Summer Solstice
- Oldest Structure in Carlisle?
- 500 or 5,000 Years Old?



Garrison House Foundation

- One of 19 in Chelmsford?
- 1670?
- The One Mentioned in Historical Records on High Ground Near Sam Adams Mill?



Left: Foundation in GBF.
Below: “Old Chelmsford Garrison House“. Built in 1691.



“Indian Grinding Stone”

- Ceremonial Stone
- Broken in Three Pieces by “Feather-and-Plug” Technique
- Vandalization date not known. Before the founding of the Park in 1967?

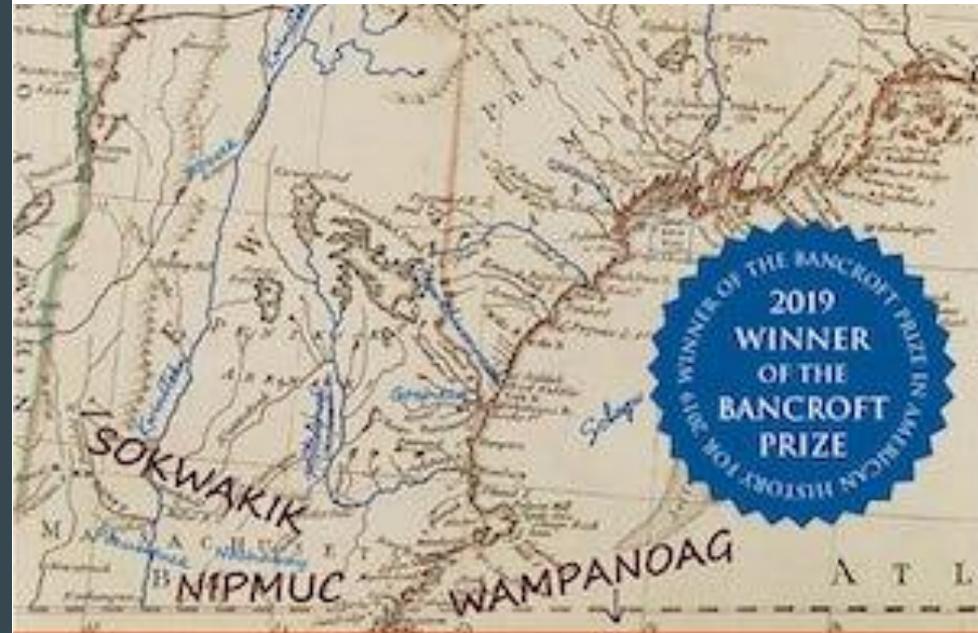


The History



History: 500 ya

- Indigenous Cultures Thrived For Thousands of Years in this Region (Pine Hawk Excavation in Acton, 7000+ ya)
- In precolonial times, Nipmuc and Other Indigenous People Here Developed Sophisticated Agricultural Practices, Trade Networks and Political Alliances



"By making what we thought was a small story very large indeed, Ms. Brooks really does give us 'A New History of King Philip's War.'"
—Wall Street Journal

Our Beloved Kin

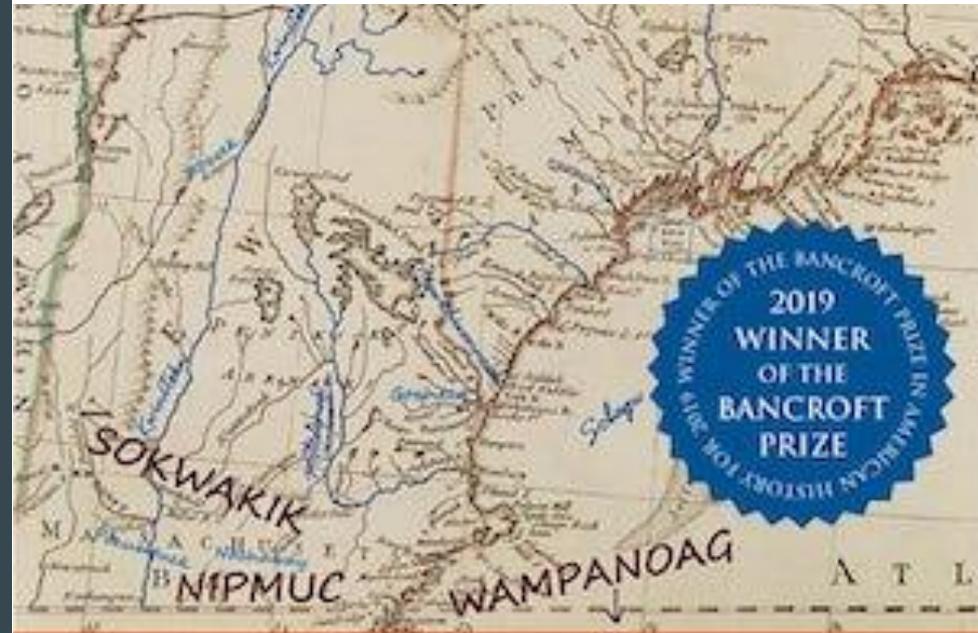
A New History of King Philip's War

LISA BROOKS

History: 350 ya

Metacomet's Rebellion / King Philip's War

- “Deadliest Conflict” in Colonial History
- “June 20, 1675 – April 12, 1678”
- Swansea Attack to Treaty of Casco Bay
- One of Many Conflicts Between Settlers and Indigenous During the Period



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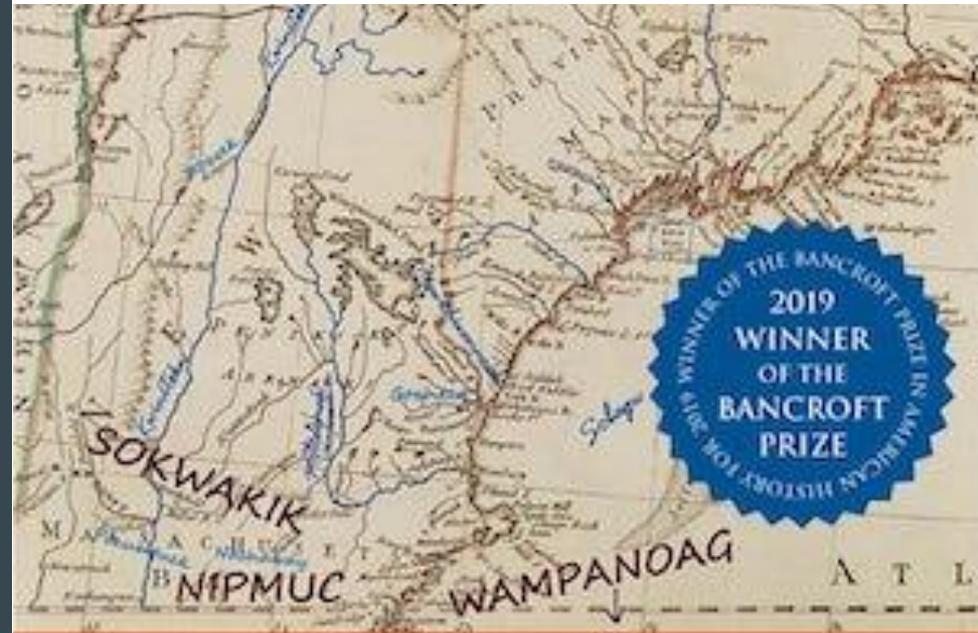
A New History of King Philip's War

LISA BROOKS

Three "Sides"

Metacomet's Rebellion /
King Philip's War

- Wampanoag Sachem Metacomet (King Philip) Allies with Narragansett, Nipmuc and Others
- Praying Indians (Wamesit and Nashoba) Remain Neutral: Translators, Mediators, Guides
- Colonies of MA Bay, Plymouth and RI Join Forces



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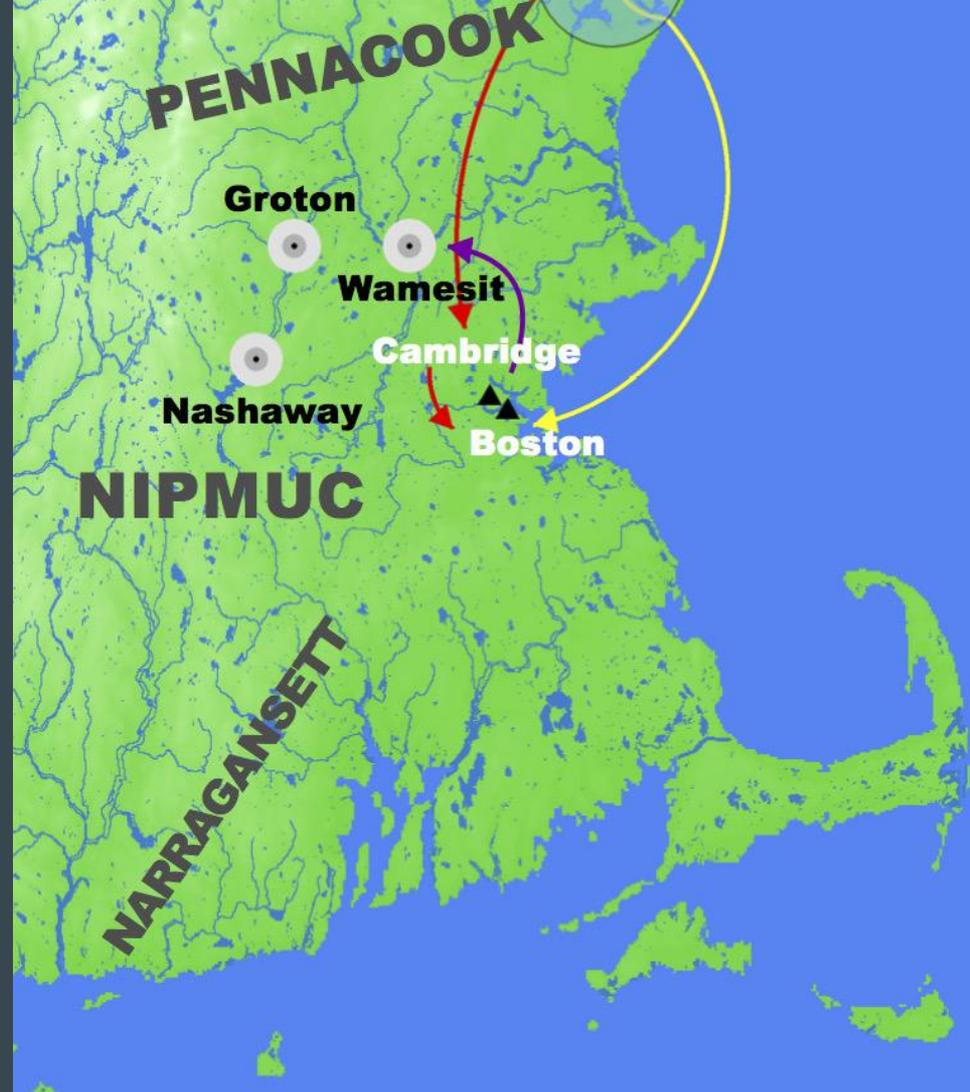
Our Beloved Kin

A New History of King Philip's War

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The Story of Sara

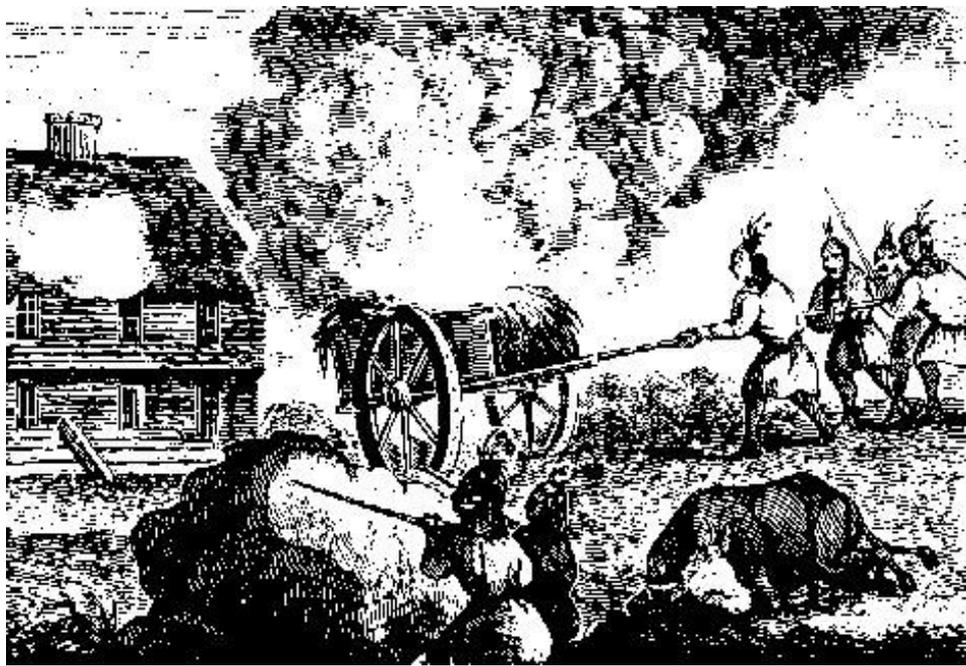
- “Praying Indian” (Indigenous Christian Convert)
- Married the son (John) of Tahattawants, the Sachem/Leader of the Nashoba Praying Indians and Musketaquid
- Bears a son, Tahattawant’s only grandson
- After John’s death, marries Oonamog of Okkanamesit and raises son in Wamesit. (Oonamog dies in 1674)



Sara

November 1675

- "Hostile Indians" set fire to a barn with hay and corn in Chelmsford
- In retaliation, 14 armed men attack neutral-town of Praying Indians, Wamesit
- Sara's son (age 12) is slain
- Accused murders Lorgin and Robbins are cleared "not for want of evidence" but "prejudice", according to Captain Daniel Gookin (1677)
- Sara flees with other Wamesit to the north in mid-winter, seeking protection of Wannalancet



Wood Engraving (mid-1800s) Indians Attacking a Garrison House. Believed to be a depiction of the attack on the Haynes Garrison, Sudbury, April 21, 1676

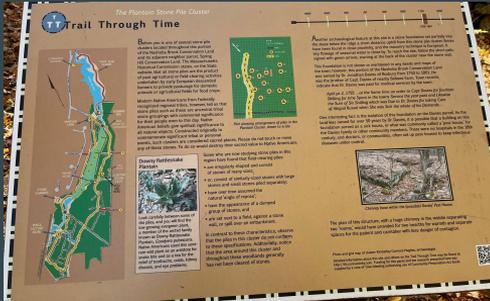
The Project



Trail Through Time

Acton, MA

Inspiration



Project Phases

Research and Organization

- \$400 per small outdoor color plaque (12x18")
- Plus Content, Posts, Installation

Fundraising and Content Development

- Accurate History That Respects Multiple Perspectives (Indigenous & Settler Descendents)

GBF Installations (2025)

- 350 Years Since Start of Metacomet's Rebellion

Carlisle Installations (2026)

- 250th Anniversary of Declaration of Independence