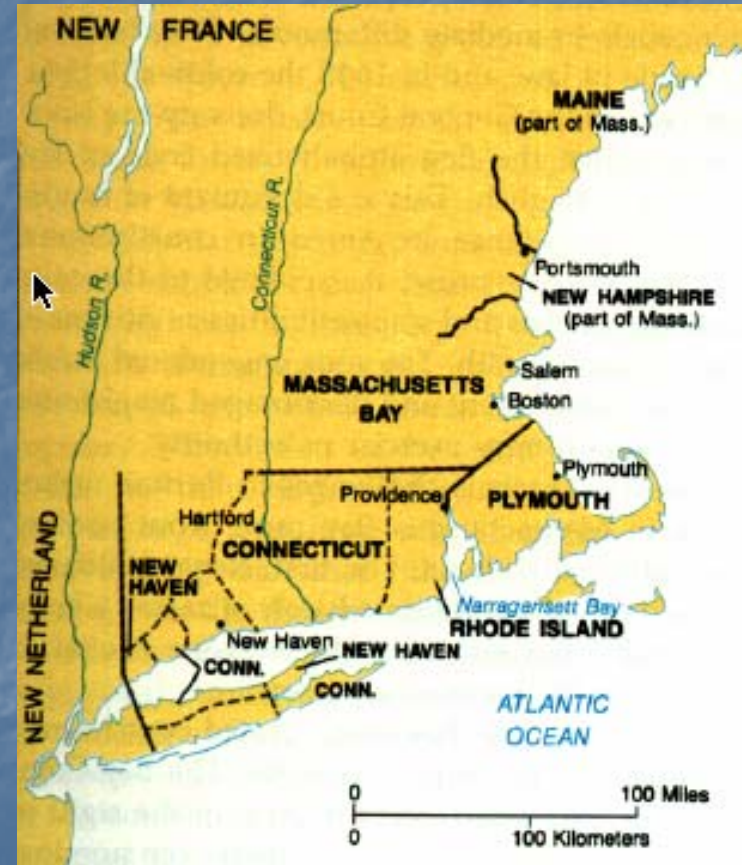
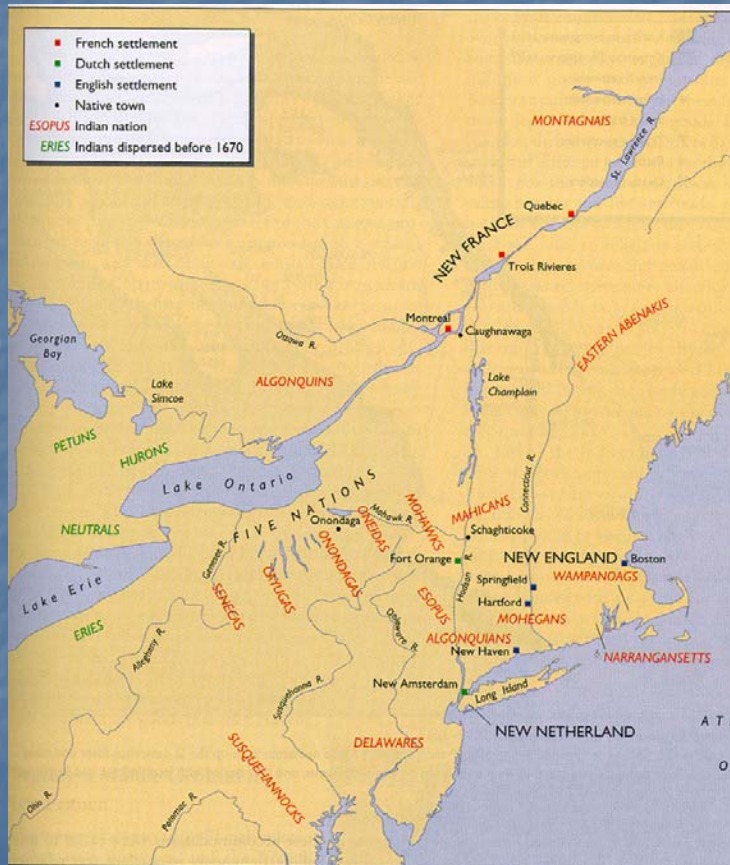


# Indian Slavery in New England

- Euro-Indian encounter crucial to development of English colonists' ideas about race, identity
- Role of colonial institutions, law
  - Case study in treatment of conquered peoples
- Why don't we know about this already?
  - Myth of New England exceptionalism v. reality of a "society with slaves"
  - Myth of the "vanishing Indian," blood quantum
  - Slavery and servitude: evolving institutions/slippery terms in colonial America

# Native Americans of N.E.

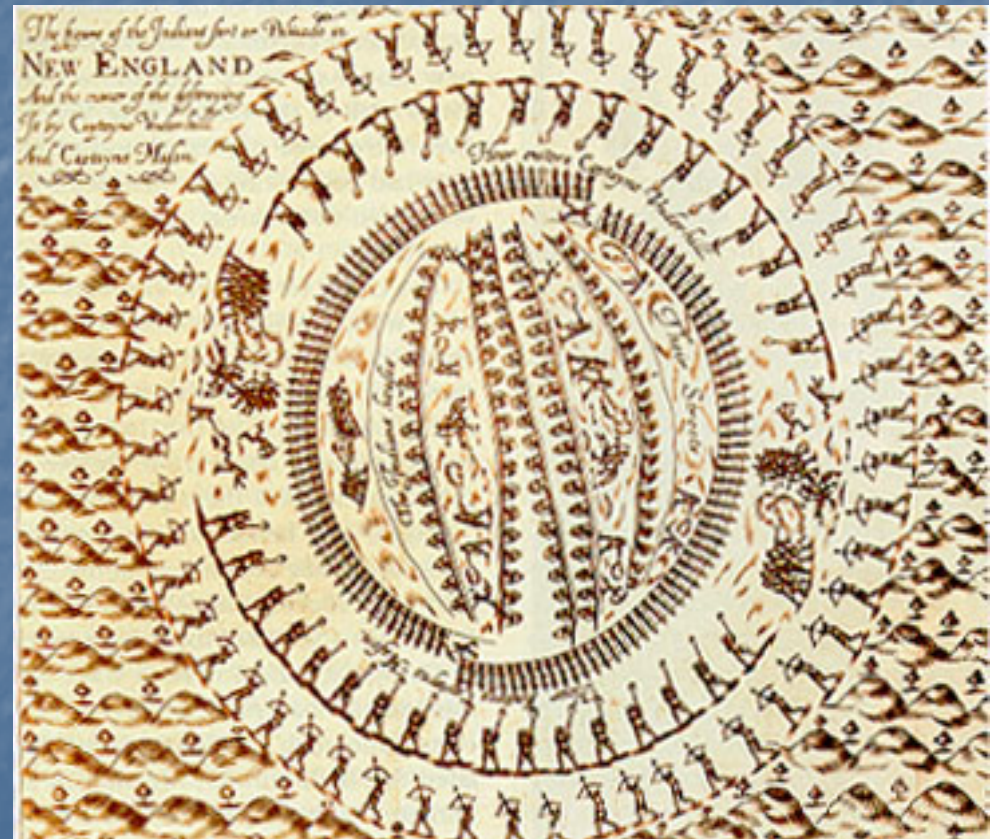


# Indian slavery in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century

- Indians and captivity
  - Some evidence of a “slave” caste among pre-contact N.E. Indians
- sporadic kidnapping of Indians by European voyages of exploration; hostage-taking

# The Pequot War, 1637—a turning point

- Enslavement of Pequot and Algonkian combatants *and* non-combatants



# English Rationales for Indian Slavery

- Captives in a “just war”; slavery a lesser penalty than death; “bootie”
  - The problem of non-combatant women and children
- Motivations: labor, export commodity, social control, acculturation
- Critics of enslavement: Native Americans; Roger Williams, Daniel Gookin, John Eliot

# The Changing Nature of Indian Slavery

- King Philip's War, 1675-76: another turning point
  - Mass enslavements (more than 1/10 who survived war), mass sales; internment, kidnapping of "friend Indians"
  - Colonists' security concerns; confusion over legal status of captives
- Conquered Indians as "subjects" with legal rights
  - Creation of 8 Indian "towns" (reservations)
  - Laws prohibit enslavement of southern N.E. Indians
  - Imperial pressure

# Native American Servitude and Slavery in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century

**A**N Indian Boy aged about 15 years that can Read and Write English to be Sold : Inquire at the Post-Office in Boston and know further.

- Shift to other modes of controlling Indian labor: “Judicial enslavement”; peonage; “apprenticeship”; pauper indentures
- Importation of slaves from outside N.E.
  - “Spanish” and Carolina Indians, “Eastern” Indians (Pennacook and Abenaki) Indians during King William’s War, Queen Anne’s War, etc.

# Race Frontiers

- Creation of a race-based legal code, approx. 1690-1720
- Indian servants and slaves defined as Black or mixed-race



# Experiences of the Enslaved

- Serial servitude over generations; slippage into slavery: Ben Indian, Patience Boston, Hannah, Sarah Chauquum, Pardon Ned
- Resistance: Betty Coyhees

**R**An-away the Last Spring from her Master John Otis Esqr. of Barnstable, in the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England, an Indian Girl named Hannah Wapuck, aged about 20 years, middle sized, full fac'd, a comely Countenance, she speaks good English, not very perfect of the Indian Language; had on English Apparel; Whosoever shall apprehend and take up the said Servant, and deliver her to her said Master, or give any true Intelligence of her unto John Campbell Post-master of Boston, or unto her said Master, so as that he may have her again, shall be sufficiently rewarded, besides all reasonable Cost and Charges paid.

# Consequences

- Demographic catastrophe
- Devastating impact on family; changes in work, gender roles, transmission of culture & language
  - 30% of Rhode Island Indians lived in White households by 1770
- Social ties with White and Black New Englanders: influence upon N.E. culture and society