The class

- What does it mean to “Face East”?
- Structure of the class and focus on King Philips’ War
- CPC project: Jenk’s Park King Philip’s War
- Community Partner: City of Central Falls & Blackstone Valley Tourism
Why did I take on the project?

- THE MOST FATAL WAR IN AMERICAN HISTORY
- August 1676 King Philip dies – around half of New England towns had been destroyed
- Native America losses, far greater than Colonial losses.
- Most merciless war – New England almost abandoned
- Local significance to Bristol
What did the CPC project involve?

- Meeting with city planners from Central Falls and Blackstone Valley Tourism
- Trips to the site
- 17th century written accounts (letters, diaries, published accounts, newspaper reports etc) and maps
- Work with archeologist
- Handling 17th century weapons
JENKS PARK
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DONATED BY ALVIN JENKS IN 1890. THE PARK WAS BUILT AROUND DEXTER'S LEDGE. IN 1676 DURING KING PHILLIPS WAR, INDIAN SCOUTS SAW THE APPROACH OF A COLONIST BAND FROM THAT HEIGHT. INDIANS AND COLONISTS ENGAGED IN PIERCE'S FIGHT AT A SITE ALONG THE BLACKSTONE RIVER WHERE PIERCE PARK NOW STANDS. IN 1904 COGSWELL TOWER WAS BUILT ATOP THE LEDGE, DUE TO A BEQUEST BY CAROLINE COGSWELL.

FOUNTAIN REDEDICATED 1993.

CITY OF CENTRAL FALLS
THOMAS LAZIEH, MAYOR
Pierce Park and Riverwalk

Due to land disputes and broken peace treaties between the local natives and early English settlers, King Philip's War took place for fourteen months during 1675 and 1676. Captain Michael Pierce's fight with the natives occurred on this spot in March of 1676. From Dexter's Ledge (now the site of Cogswell Tower in Jenks Park) native scouts saw Pierce's troops approaching. One hundred natives and seventy settlers perished in the battle. Ten settlers escaped to what are now the Monastery Grounds in Cumberland. Only one lived to tell the tale.

Placed by the City of Central Falls
Honorable Thomas Laziez, Mayor
1992
Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor
Group topics

- The causes and outbreak of the war (short-term, long-term, both sides of the story, different pieces of evidence/sources)
- Fighting techniques and depictions of savagery in the war (primary sources, secondary sources)
- Central Falls (previous battles – victories and defeats for both sides, build up to the battle, key people involved)
- Central Falls (the actual battle, consequences, remembering the battle)
- End of the war (Philip’s death, thanksgiving, deaths on both sides, immediate consequences)
- The war in memory (both sides, published/private sources, primary, secondary sources, images)
Deliverables

• Essay (individual 10 page) – basis for website
• Brochure (group)
• Suggestions for signs
• Class presentation
• Book review
Central Falls
Central Falls
Bristol
Handling 17th century weapons in class
Handling 17th century weapons in class
Massachusetts Historical Society

- Students handled original artifacts, including:
  - King Philip’s bowl
  - Gun that was used to kill him
Findings
CPC moving forward

- Fall 2015
- Newport Restoration Foundation
- A whole CPC class!