

Building a Social Studies Thinking Classroom

Tuesday, June 30, 2026 10:30am – 11:25 am EDT

Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School – Room 303

177 College Street, New Haven, Connecticut

Welcome!

Please take a name tag if you don't already have one and
join our

Wipebook Raffle!

<https://wipebook.com/577f95>

Use this link to join our raffle! Once we reach 20 participants, I will receive an automated email that I can respond to in order to trigger the raffle to end. We will receive an email with the results, and the winner will receive an email with instructions on how to claim their prize.

Join our circle. Introduce yourself to the people around you.

History is storytelling. What is a good story you have read/seen/heard? (A good book, TV show, movie, album, podcast...) When we share out- please introduce the person to your right and share their story recommendation.

As we go around the circle again, share your name and a take-away you have from the conference so far.

2 Big Questions for Today:
What are the thinking skills that
historians use?
250! What can we learn about 1776?

Choose a card and join your group at the board. Introduce yourself to your group and share your preference- coffee, tea or something else?

What are the thinking skills that historians use?

Share your ideas with your group

Share article and 5 C's

Reactions? Have you read this? Do you agree with these 5 concepts?

At each board is a text- each board represents a different concept. Can you identify which concept is represented at your board? Work with your group to read the text. Write the concept your group thinks it represents on your board. Underline the phrases that support your choice.

Gallery walk- is there another concept that each text could represent?

Five C's of Historical Thinking:

Change and Continuity Over Time

Causality

Context

Complexity

Contingency

Copies of this article are provided. This is the URL if you prefer a digital copy:

<https://www.historians.org/perspectives-article/what-does-it-mean-to-think-historically-january-2007/>

Change and Continuity Over Time

What has changed since 1776?

What has remained?

What tools can we use to examine change and continuity over time?

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776
**The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen
united States of America**

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

Causality

What were the causes of the Declaration?

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

Context

What is the context of the Declaration?

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

Contingency

What opportunities were there for a different course of action?

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our Brittish brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

Complexity

This is complicated

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government.

Note Capture

Take a moment to capture what you need

Choose a card and join your group at the board. Introduce yourself to your group and share your preference- fiction or nonfiction?

Create a Thinking Activity

Work with your group to create an activity focused on one of the thinking skills using the sources provided.

Which concept will you focus on?

What strategies can you use to help students practice this thinking skill?

Plan of the city of New Haven taken in 1748



Title

Plan of the city of New Haven taken in 1748

Creator

Wadsworth, James, 1730-1817

Published / Created

1748

Abstract

Manuscript map in blue and red ink depicting the original nine squares. This map is possibly the original drawing by James Wadsworth, drawn from actual surveys.

Description

Pen-and-ink and watercolor with linen backing.

Extent

1 map

62 x 46 cm.

color illustration

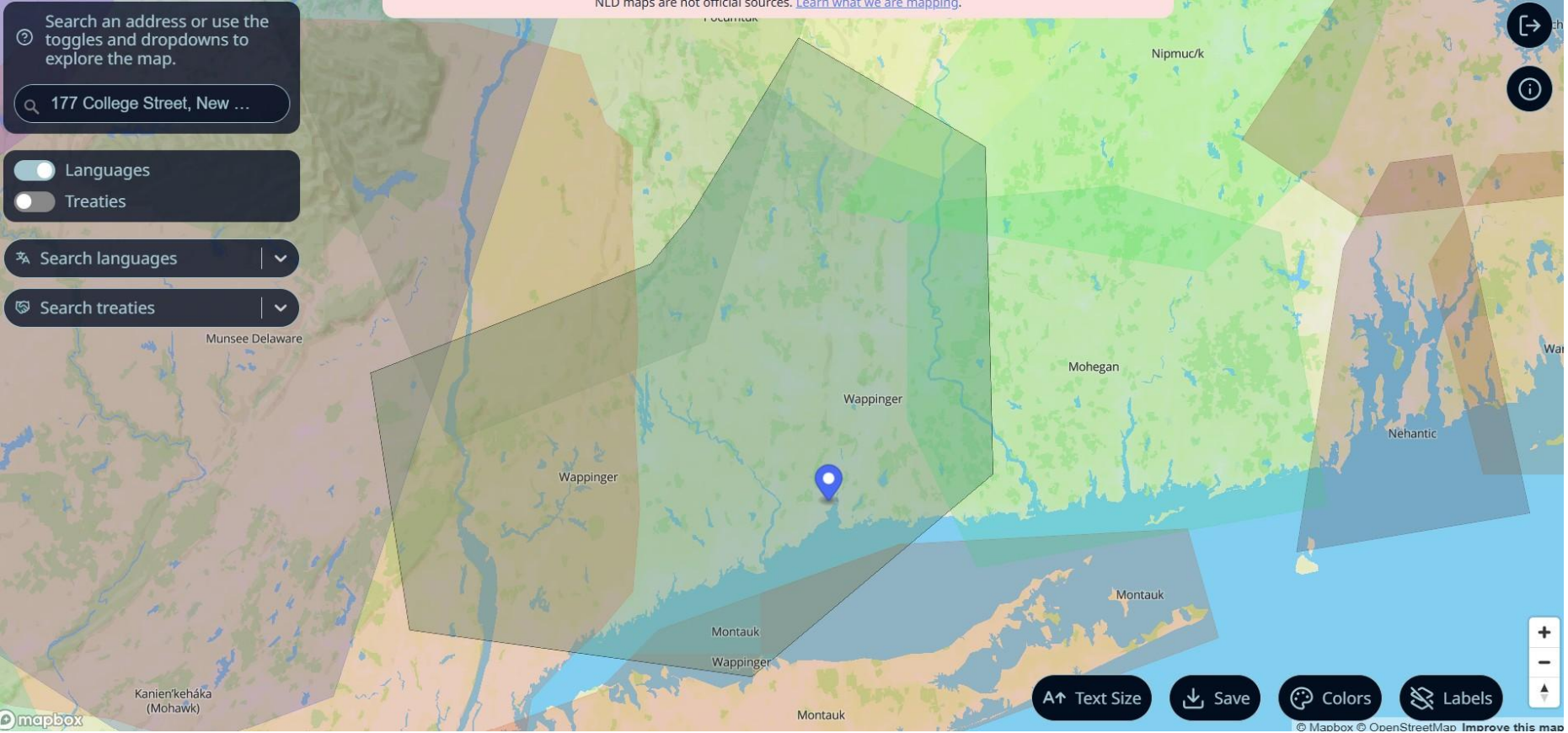
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

<https://collections.library.yale.edu/catalog/2003038>



QUINNETUKUT: PRE-CONTACT

LANDS ARE APPROXIMATE



Nations: Quinnipiac, Paugussett, Wappinger
<https://native-land.ca/maps/native-land>

FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

LOST the 12th inst. on the road which leads from Great Barrington, through Egremont, to the south west corner of Sheffield, a leather pocket book, in which was two Eight Dollar bills, two Seven, and one Six dollar bills, Continental money, also two or three small bills Rhode Island money, together with several orders and other writings of considerable consequence to the subscriber. Whoever has found said book, and will return it with its contents, to the owner at Lainsborough, or to Mr. Bostwick at Barrington, shall have four dollars reward, paid by

June 15, 1776.

WM STILES.

[Image 4 of The Connecticut courant and Hartford weekly intelligencer](#)
(Hartford, Conn.), July 15, 1776

and articles suitable for the season.

DESERIED the 26th instant, from the Company under the command of Capt. Joseph Churchell, in Col. Sage's regiment, a certain James Bennet, supposed to be an Irishman, upwards of 30 years of age, about 6 feet high, dark complexion, pitted with the small pox, wore his own dark brown long hair, a little round shouldered, and slender built, wore a long folded brown coat and leather breeches, pretends to be a cooper by trade, and it is suspected will offer himself to enlist again in some other company. Any person that shall apprehend said deserter, and return him to the subscriber, or any officer of said company, or secure him in some public goal, and give notice to the subscriber, shall receive five dollars reward, and all necessary charges, by

JACOB WHITMORE, Lieut.

Middle town, June 27, 1776.

[Image 4 of The Connecticut courant and Hartford weekly intelligencer](#)
(Hartford, Conn.), July 15, 1776

To be let, and enterd upon immediately,
A Blacksmith's shop, with a complete set of tools,
situate in a convenient part of the town of Hart-
ford. For terms, enquire of
JOHN BERNARD.

[Image 4 of The Connecticut courant and Hartford weekly intelligencer](#)
(Hartford, Conn.), July 15, 1776

Four different views of the battle
of Lexington and Concord, neatly engraved from ori-
ginal paintings, aken on the spot, to be SOLD, by
E N O S D O O L I T T L E,
Under the Printing Office, Hartford, and by
AMOS ALDEN and MOSES ALLEN, Post Riders.

[Image 4 of The Connecticut courant and Hartford weekly intelligencer](#)
(Hartford, Conn.), July 15, 1776

STOEN from the subscriber at Mr. Timothy Edwards's in Stockbridge, the 3d day of inst. June, a bay horse ten or twelve years old, brown main and tail, branded on the shoulder thus M and on the near side of his neck thus O about 14 hands high, paces and trots, had mail'd on the saddle an old brownish furtoot, and a hunting saddle, and a bridle. Whoever shall bring said horse to the subscriber, shall have 2 dollars reward, and all necessary charges paid by
NATHANIEL PALMER.
Kent, 18th June, 1776.

[Image 4 of The Connecticut courant and Hartford weekly intelligencer](#)
(Hartford, Conn.), July 15, 1776

Joseph Johnson Diary Entry from Dawnland



Trumbull,
John. *The
Declaration of
Independence*,
July 4, 1776.
1820. Oil on
canvas. Yale
University Art
Gallery, New
Haven, CT.

<https://artgallery.yale.edu/collections/objects/69>



Trumbull, John. *Jonathan Trumbull, Jr., Eunice Backus Trumbull, and Faith Trumbull (later Faith Trumbull Wadsworth)* (1740–1809, LL.D. 1797; 1749–1826; 1769–1846). 1777. Oil on canvas. Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT.

<https://artgallery.yale.edu/collections/objects/2476>

REPORTS OF CASES
ADJUDGED IN THE
SUPERIOR COURT
AND
SUPREME COURT OF ERRORS

FROM
July, A. D. 1789, to June, A. D. 1793,

WITH A VARIETY OF CASES ANTERIOR TO THAT PERIOD, PREFACED WITH
OBSERVATIONS UPON THE GOVERNMENT AND LAWS OF CON-
NECTICUT, TO WHICH IS SUBJOINED SUNDRY LAW
POINTS ADJUDGED AND RULES OF PRACTICE
ADOPTED IN THE SUPERIOR COURT.

By JESSE ROOT,
A JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

VOL. I.

WATERBURY, CONN.:
THE DISSELL PUBLISHING COMPANY.
1898.

Connecticut. Superior Court. (1898). *Reports of cases adjudged in the Superior Court and Supreme Court of Errors: from July A.D. 1789 to [January A.D. 1798] ... with a variety of cases anterior to that period [1764-1789], prefaced with observations upon the government and laws of Connecticut, to which is subjoined sundry law points adjudged, and rules of practice adopted in the Superior Court.* Waterbury, Conn.: The Dissell publishing company.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY ADJOURNED SUPERIOR COURT,
A. D. 1784.

ARABAS V. IVERS.

A person illegally imprisoned may be discharged upon a *habeas corpus*.

THE case was — Jack was a slave to Ivers, and enlisted into the continental army with his master's consent — served dur-

Pruden et al. v. Northrup.

ing the war, and was discharged. Ivers claimed him as his servant; Jack fled from him to the eastward, Ivers pursued him, and took him and brought him to New Haven on his return to New York, where he belonged, and for safe-keeping while he stayed at New Haven, he got the gaoler to commit Jack to prison; and upon Jack's application to the court, complaining of his being unlawfully and unjustly holden in prison, the court issued a *habeas corpus*, to bring Jack before the court; also ordering the gaoler to certify wherefore he held Jack in prison; which being done, Ivers was cited before the court; and upon a summary hearing, Jack was discharged from his imprisonment, upon the ground that he was a freeman, absolutely manumitted from his master by enlisting and serving in the army as aforesaid.

MONDAY, September 15, 1777.

T H E

N U M B E R 468.

CONNECTICUT

A N D

W E E K L Y

Containing the Freshest A D V I C E S,



COURANT,

HARTFORD

INTELLIGENCER.

Both FOREIGN and DOMESTIC.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY *EBENEZER WATSON*, NEAR THE GREAT BRIDGE.

Ebenezer Watson's final issue. *The Connecticut Courant and Hartford Weekly Intelligencer* (Hartford, CT), September 15, 1777.

On Tuesday last departed this life after a distressing sickness, Mr. EBENEZER WATSON, Printer, in the 34th year of his age. A gentleman of a most humane heart, and susceptible of the tenderest feelings for distressed, in whatever manner discovered—Jealous of the rights of human nature, and anxious for the safety of his country, his pre-hath been devoted to the vindication of rational liberty. The Governor's company of Cadets, of which he was an Ensign, in token of respect for the deceased, attended the funeral in their uniforms. He has left a melancholy widow, with five young children, and a numerous circle of friends to lament his death.

Ebenezer Watson's
obituary. *The Connecticut
Courant and Hartford
Weekly Intelligencer*
(Hartford, CT), September
22, 1777.

TUESDAY, *January 13.* 1778.

T H L

NUMBER 677.

CONNECTICUT

A N D

W E E K L Y

Containing the Freshest ADVICES



COURANT,

HARTFORD

INTELLIGENCER.

Both FOREIGN and DOMESTIC.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY *WATSON* AND *GOODWIN*, NEAR THE GREAT BRIDGE.

Masthead with the publishers listed as “Watson and Goodwin.” *The Connecticut Courant and Hartford Weekly Intelligencer* (Hartford, CT), January 13, 1778.

smile upon the honest endeavor. But an accident equally unexpected and unfortunate, obliges them to present their readers with an half-sheet and at the same time assure them that it is a prelude to none.

On the night after the 27th of January the Paper-Mill in this town by means unaccountable (but supposed by the hand of a villain) took fire, and with all its apparatus, one hundred and fifty reams of writing paper, near a hundred of printing paper, and a large supply of stock, was reduced to ashes. This loss, tho' peculiarly HEAVY to the two widows who were owners, is not unfelt by the public. The continental

*The Connecticut Courant and Hartford Weekly
Intelligencer (Hartford, CT), February 3, 1778.*

P A P E R - M I L L
L O T T E R Y.

GRANTED by the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the
State of CONNECTICUT January 1778, to raise
the Sum of Fifteen Hundred Pounds for the Benefit of
Mrs. SARAH LEDYARD and Mrs. HANNAH WATSON
Widows who were the Owners of the Paper-Mill in
Hartford lately consumed by fire and to enable them
to rebuild the same they having given Bond to the
Treasurer of the State to appropriate the Money ac-
cording to Resolution of said Assembly.

S C H E M E.

6000 Tickets at 6 Dollars each is 36000 Dollars.
Deduct for the Use of the Paper-Mill 5000 Do.

“Paper-Mill
Lottery.” *The
Connecticut
Courant and
Hartford Weekly
Intelligencer*
(Hartford, CT),
February 10,
1778.

Gallery Walk

Note Capture

Take a moment to capture what you need

Join Our Circle

Next Steps?

Share pictures of activities created on boards?

Professional Learning Books:

Wiggins, A. (2017). [*The Best Class You Never Taught: How Spider Web Discussion Can Turn Students into Learning Leaders*](#). ASCD.