

Basic Detail Report



Title Map of Connecticut circa 1625: Indian Trails, Villages,

Sachemdoms

Date 1930

Primary Maker Mathias Spiess

Medium Drawing; ink and watercolor on wove paper

Description Manuscript map of Connecticut circa 1625, divided into Native

American sachemdoms and showing trails and villages. The tribes whose names

appear on the map are the Siwanogs, Paugussetts, Quinnipiaks, Tunxis,

Massacoets, Agawams, Sicaogs, Poquonocks, Podunks, Wangunks,

Menunkatucks, Hammonassetts, Nipmucks, Mohegans, Uncas, Nehantics and

Pequots. Elevation is conveyed through drawings of groups of hills. A bear,

beaver, turkey, deer, fox and what appears to be an otter are depicted on the

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map. Around it are a baby on a cradleboard, fenced-in clusters of wigwams, a bow and two arrows, a pipe decorated with feathers, and a decorated shield and spear. Tribal names also appear outside of the borders of Connecticut, and probably refer to the tribes that lived in what is now New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island: Mohicans, Agawams, Nipmucks and Nehantics. Native Americans in three dugout canoes appear below the landmass, in what is unlabeled Long Island Sound. The cartouche depicts the title on a stretched skin, with two Native Americans on either side, dressed in loinclothes and wearing feathers in their hair. The one on the right is standing and holds a bow. In the lower left corner is a legend that explains the lines and symbols representing main and secondary trails, villages and sachemdom boundaries.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (image height x width): 17 3/8 x 22in. (44.1 x 55.9 cm) Sheet (height x width): 19 7/8 x 25 3/4in. (50.5 x 65.4cm)