

Doc #1

"The Bloody Massacre" by Paul Revere. 26 March 1770.



Doc #2

Note: In old type fonts an 's' often looks like 'f'. Use context clues to help you read this article.

Boston Gazette, 12 March 1770.

Manacle, and the other...
Hours to the Gates of this City many Thousands of our brave Brethren in the Country, deeply affected with our Distresses, and to whom we are greatly obliged on this Occasion—No one knows where this would have ended, and what important Consequences even to the whole British Empire might have followed, which our Moderation & Loyalty upon so trying an Occasion, and our Faith in the Commander's Assurances have happily prevented.
Last Thursday, agreeable to a general Request of the Inhabitants, and by the Consent of Parents and Friends, were carried to their Graves in Succession, the Bodies of Samuel Gray, Samuel Maverick, James Caldwell, and Crispus Attucks, the unhappy Victims who fell in the bloody Massacre of the Monday Evening preceeding!

Doc #5



"Case of Capt. Thomas Preston"
Published in London in the Public Advertiser in April 1770
Written by Captain Thomas Preston

... I immediately sent a non-commissioned Officer and twelve Men to protect both the Sentinel and the King's-Money, and very soon followed myself, to prevent (if possible) all Disorder ... Nay, so far was I from intending the Death of any Person, that I suffered the Troops to go to the Spot where the unhappy Mob still increased, and were more outrageous, striking their Clubs or Bludgeons one against another, and calling out, 'come on, you Rascals, you bloody Backs, you Lobster damn you, fire and be damn'd' ... then asked me if I intended to order by no Means ... While I was thus speaking, one of the Soldiers, having Stick ... instantly fired, on which turning to and asking him why he fired, a general Attack was made on the Men by a great Number of heavy Clubs, them, by which all our Lives were in imminent Danger; some Persons calling out, 'Damn your Bloods,' why don't you fire? Instantly three or after another, and directly after three more in the same Confusion and The Mob then ran away, except three unhappy Men who instantly expired three others are dangerously, and four slightly wounded. The Whole of transacted in almost 20 Minutes. On my asking the Soldiers why they they heard the Word "Fire," and supposed it came from me. This might called out "Fire, fire," but I assured the Men that I gave no such Order stop your Firing." In short it was scarce possible for the Soldiers to know stop your Firing ...

Doc #3

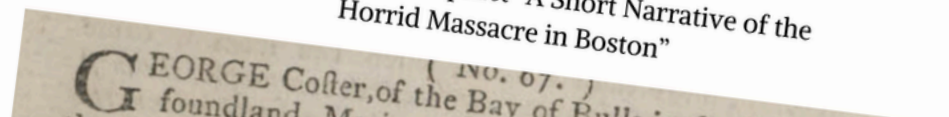


Doc #4



Doc #5

Testimony of George V. Coster
Published in the pamphlet "A Short Narrative of the Horrid Massacre in Boston"



Primary Sources for Jigsaw Activity

From the DEPOSITIONS that have been made concerning it by Persons of all PARTIES.
By Francis Maseres, Esq.^r

WITH AN
APPENDIX,

CONTAINING
Some AFFIDAVITS and other EVIDENCES relating to this AFFAIR, not mentioned in the NARRATIVE of it that has been published at BOSTON.

L O N D O N,
Printed for B. WHITE, in Fleet-street,
M DCC LXX.

https://www.masshist.org/database/viewer.php?item_id=386&mode=large&img_step=1&pid=2&br=1#page1

Antiquarian S

The XIVth Regiment
Were then Quartered there:
WITH SOME
OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
STATE OF THINGS
PRIOR TO THAT
CATASTROPHE

Printed by Order of the Town of BOSTON,
And Sold by EDES and GILL, in Queen-Street,
And T. & J. FLEET, in Cornhill, 1770.

https://www.masshist.org/database/viewer.php?item_id=337&mode=large&img_step=1#page1

deponent stood, after this the deponent heard the discharge of four or five guns more, by the soldiers; immediately after which the deponent heard the discharge of two guns or pistols from an open window of the middle story of the custom-house, near to the place where the centry box was placed, and being but a small distance from the window, he heard the people from within speak and laugh, and soon after he saw the casement lower'd down; after which the deponent, assisted others in carrying off one of the corps.

his
GEORGE V. T. COSTER
Mark.

"A Short Narrative of the Horrid Massacre in Boston", page 91. https://www.masshist.org/database/viewer.php?item_id=337&mode=large&img_step=91&pid=2&br=1#page91

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

4

What message did the Boston Gazette want readers to believe about the Boston Massacre?

DRAW CONCLUSIONS

What evidence

5

How might th

1



FIND THE SOURCE

Title of Article: _____

Date Published: _____

What event does this arti

2

What details do you notice

3

What questions do you ha

Name: _____		Date: _____	
1  FIND THE SOURCE	Title of Article: _____		Newspaper: _____
	Date Published: _____		
	What event does this article describe? _____		

Name: _____	
Boston Massacre Share and Learn	
Document	What does it show or say?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Boston Massacre Jigsaw Note Catcher

Share and Learn from Each Expert Group

Document	What does it show or say?	What message does it send?	How did it shape the story?
----------	---------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------

NAME _____	DATE _____
<div data-cs="2" data-kind="parent">3</div> <div data-kind="ghost"></div> <div data-bbox="483 1217 596 1326"></div> <div data-bbox="469 1354 599 1416">ASK QUESTIONS</div>	What questions do you have about the text? What do you want readers to feel?

Coffin Article			
Docs 3 & 4: Pamphlet Covers			
Docs 5 & 6: Captain Thomas Preston's Account and George V. Coster's Testimony			

What do all of these sources help you understand about the Boston Massacre?

Informational Text with Tagging & Comprehension Questions

A Battle Over the Story

The fighting in the street was over quickly, but the battle over the story had just begun. Patriot writers, printers, and artists used newspapers, pamphlets, and images to tell people about the event. They called it the “Boston Massacre,” a word that made the shooting sound cruel and shocking.

Paul Revere created a famous engraving showing British soldiers firing in an organized line at peaceful colonists. The image helped many people feel anger toward Britain. Newspapers printed emotional descriptions of the funeral. Pamphlets used powerful words such as _____

Date:

Park that Lit a Revolution: The Boston Massacre

Boston were angry with the British government. They believed Parliament gave them a voice in government. Colonists protested taxes such as the Stamp Act. British officials worried that Boston was becoming too rebellious. Soldiers were sent to Boston. Their presence made many colonists even angrier. Some felt threatened by their rights. Some soldiers felt insulted and unsafe because they were challenged in the streets. Boston had become a tense place where _____

gave the order, or if anyone gave an order at all. Suddenly, one soldier fired his gun. Others followed him. When the shooting stopped, several colonists were lying in blood. Crispus Attucks, Samuel Gray, James Caldwell, Samuel Maverick, and others were wounded.

remembered as the first person killed in the Boston Massacre. He was a man of African and Native American ancestry. His death became an important part of the event.

I don't agree about what had happened. Many Patriots said the British soldiers started the fight. Others said the soldiers had been surrounded by an angry crowd and were afraid.

Soldiers were put on trial. Surprisingly, they were defended by John Adams, who argued that everyone deserved a fair trial. Preston and most of the other men were found guilty of manslaughter, a less serious charge than murder.



Discuss with your partner:

Historians should study more than one source because

In



just a fight in the sun.
used words and images to _____.
One detail from the text that shows
this is _____.



Name: _____ Date: _____



Putting It All Together



The Boston Massacre was not only fought in the street. It was also fought in newspapers. The following are some examples of how the story was told in the press:

- the story was often exaggerated or distorted to fit a particular agenda
- textual analysis can help us understand the role of the press in shaping public opinion

Summative Assessment Writing Prompt

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.