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CAPTAIN MIGUEL CORTE REAL IN THE BRIDGEWATER TRIANGLE

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Thirty miles up the Taunton River, there is a forty ton sandstone boulder called the Dighton Rock. It sits on the riverbank directly across from the Grassy Island burial grounds, covered by a tangled pattern of carvings and hieroglyphics carved by the native American Indians, Phoenicians, Vikings and the Portuguese. The Dighton Rock sits in a temperature controlled house and is surrounded by a clear breakproof glass. In another room, it's walls are covered with exhibits about each nationality.

On December 2, 1918 Edmund B. Delabarre (a psychologist at the Brown University in Providence, R.I.) detected the date 1511 on the Dighton Rock. After searching through European history, he discovered that there existed in Lisbon, Portugal, royal charts attesting to the fact that Gaspar Corte Real visited North America for a second time in 1501, but never returned to Portugal. And that Miguel Corte Real left Lisbon on May 10, 1502 in search of his brother Gaspar. "But both of them never returned to Portugal!"

After reviewing all of the drawings, paintings and photographs made by different scholars since 1680, he stated that the following is engraved on the Dighton Rock; the date 1511, the captains name Miguel Corte Real and the Portuguese V shaped coat of arms. In 1951, Joseph D. Fragoso (a language instructor at New York University) wrote that there was also engraved on the rock: three Portuguese crosses of the Order of Christ (symbol of Portuguese discoveries) with extremities at 45 degree angles, plus the U shaped Portuguese coat of arms.

Some people believe that Miguel Corte Real and his crew stayed for **nine** years and interbred with the Wampanoag Indians. It's probably why those Indians were remarkably light skinned. But unfortunately, there is still no proof. There are now many Portuguese Americans who live in (and outside of) the Bridgewater Triangle!"