

EARLY IMAGES OF LENAPE PEOPLE

Note: We will be adding additional images and information in the future.



Drawing by Herbert and John Kraft

Lenape unloading a canoe at a village.

The Indians who lived here call themselves Lenape. The land formerly occupied by all of these native people is now New Jersey Eastern New York State Western Long Island eastern Pennsylvania and northern Delaware. It is also known as Lenapehòking - the land of the Lenape.



Drawing by Herbert and John Kraft

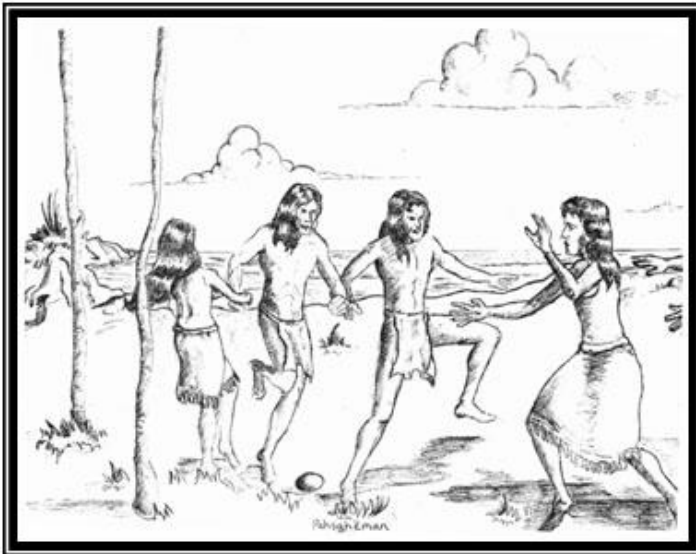
This drawing shows Lenape people when one of the first Europeans along the East Coast saw the Indians in 1524.

Their clothing was simple - the men were breechcloth and moccasins, with a robe to cover themselves in cold weather. Women had knee length skirts and wore fur robes in winter, or a beautiful mantel made out from turkey feathers. Ornaments are bone, shell and wampum, and were sometimes worn on necklaces, or on wrists and ankles. Giovanni da Verrazano wrote, "These people are the most beautiful and have the most civil customs that we have found on this voyage. They are taller than we are, they are a bronze color, some tending more towards whiteness, others a tawny color; the face is clean cut, the hair is long, and their manner is sweet and gentle, very much like that of the ancients. They have all the proportions belonging to any well-built men. Their women are just as shapely and beautiful; very gracious, of attractive manner and pleasant appearance."



Drawing by Herbert and John Kraft

This illustration shows the Dutch, Swedish, and English explorers, settlers and traders who changed the lives the Indians in many ways. The Europeans had glass beads and bottles; iron axes, hoes, brass kettles, ornaments of metal, cloth and clothing, guns and knives. The Indians could obtain these such trade items by selling pelts of beaver, bear, otter, and deer. White traders valued such furs very highly but the Indians used them for robes, blankets, and pouches. The white colonists also brought new sicknesses such as smallpox, cholera, measles, and other epidemic diseases which quickly killed many thousands of Indians.



Drawing of a Delaware Indian Football game as it might have looked when played in New Jersey in the 1600's.

Drawing by Delaware tribal member Clayton Chambers.

For a full description of the game go here:

<http://delawaretribe.org/wp-content/uploads/FOOTBALL-ART-2017.pdf>

It is a beautiful morning in late Spring. The year is 1600. In a large open field near one of their main villages (in an area the white people would later name Philadelphia) the Lenape people are playing a game. Laughter can be heard from the participants and spectators alike. The people relish these carefree moments playing their game which they call Pahsahëman. Little did they know as they played the game that over four hundred years later their descendants would be playing the same game, but their location had changed because they had been moved to a far-off land called Oklahoma.

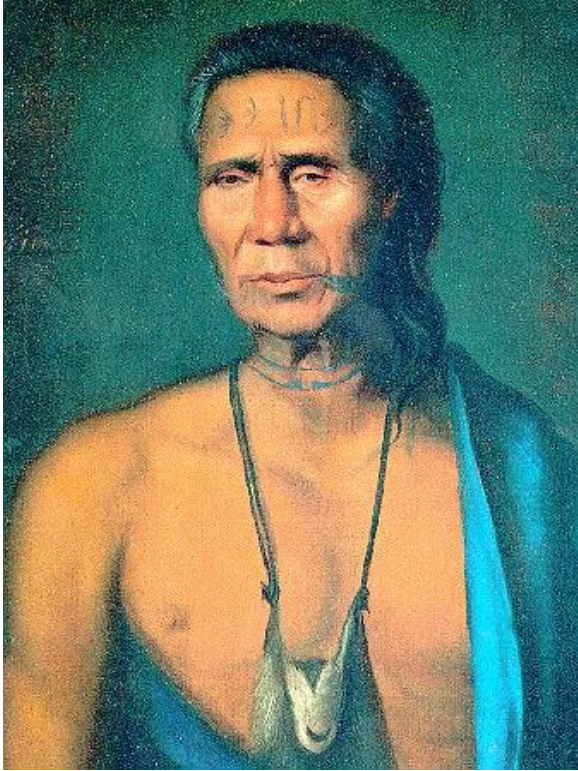


Jacques, a Munsee Delaware. He was drawn in 1645 when he had been taken to Holland



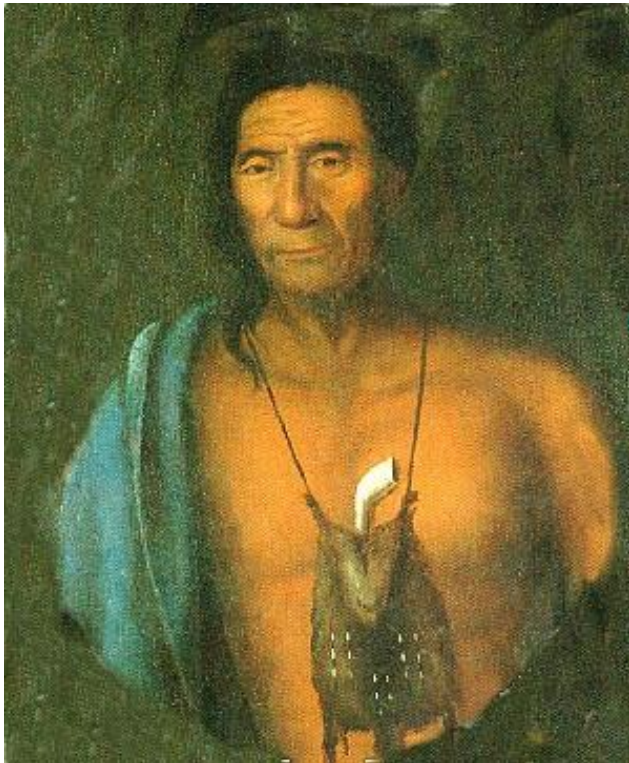
Indian woman

drawing by Jasper Danckaerts in 1679



Lapowinsa

Painted in Pennsylvania by Gustavus Hesselius in 1735



Tishcohan

Painted in Pennsylvania by Gustavus Hesselius in 1735



A Delaware Indian in Texas

by Lino Sanchez y Tapia in 1830.

Published in *The Indians of Texas* by John Ewers



Bod-a-sin

Painted by George Catlin 1830.

Catlin wrote, "*Chief of the tribe, and a very distinguished man.*"

This might be the man enrolled as Captain Patterson and Bod-a-sin was a Lenape pronunciation of that name.



Non-on-dag-on

Painted by Catlin 1830.

A chief when the Delawares lived in Kansas



Ni-co-man, The Answer, Second Chief

Painted by George Catlin 1830.

The Answer was a chief of the Delaware/Lenape tribe, and George Catlin painted his portrait about 1830 at Fort Leavenworth (in today's Kansas), where the artist created his first portraits of Indians in the West. (Catlin, *Letters and Notes*, vol. 2, no. 47, 1841; reprint 1973)



Wife of Bod-a-sin

Sketched by Catlin 1830.



Mrs. Austin Quinney,
1849

Formerly Jane Ashatoma was born in 1799, and wears mid-19th century Indian dress. The pierced German silver brooches on her skirt were popular among Eastern and Midwestern Indian women as were the stovepipe hat, silver hatband, and feather plumes. Mrs. Quinney a Delaware joined the Delawares in Indiana in 1818



Ceremonial Hat Worn by Highly Respected Women in the Traditional Church

A similar stovepipe hat, silver hatband, and feather plumes to the one in the preceding image shows how the tradition was carried and even elaborated on into the early 1900's in Oklahoma.



DELAWARE INDIANS ACTING AS SCOUTS FOR THE
FROM A SKETCH BY E. S. HARRIS

Delaware Indians as shown in "Scouts for the National Army in the West," by Henry Lovie in Frank Leslie's Illustrated, Dec. 6, 1862. Before the war, the Delaware were used as skilled guides and scouts for westward wagon trains, for scientific explorations of the West and in the Rocky Mountain fur trade.



SCOUTS FOR THE FEDERAL ARMY IN THE WEST.
ETCHED BY H. LOVIE.

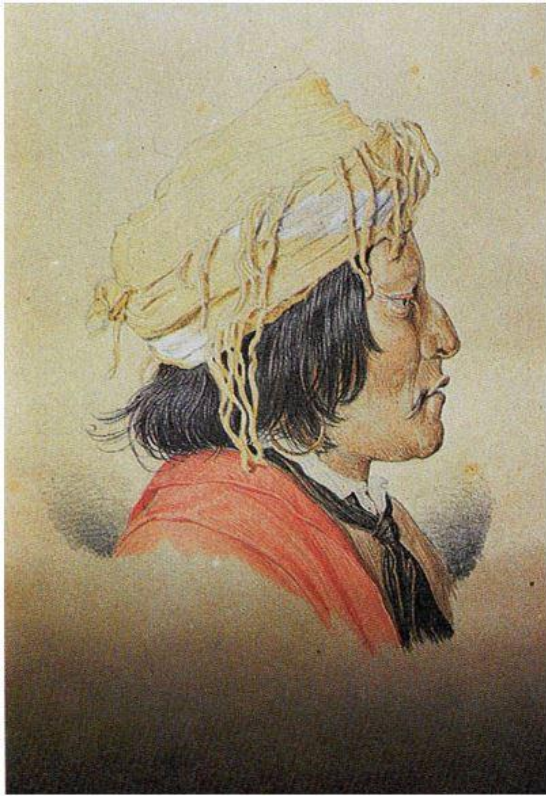
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Painting of Delaware scouts.

It is based on the drawings above and examples of these coats in museums.

Painting by Adam Hook in *The American Civil War in the Indian Territory* by Osprey Publishers.



John Conner was born in 1802 in present-day Indiana. His father, William Conner, was a well-known trader who was raised in Ohio by Margaret Boyer, a white woman who was captured by the Shawnee at a young age. William lived among the Delaware Indians and married Mekinges, the daughter of Chief William Anderson. They moved twenty-five miles south of Chief Anderson's town and set up a successful trading post.



Jack Harry 1898

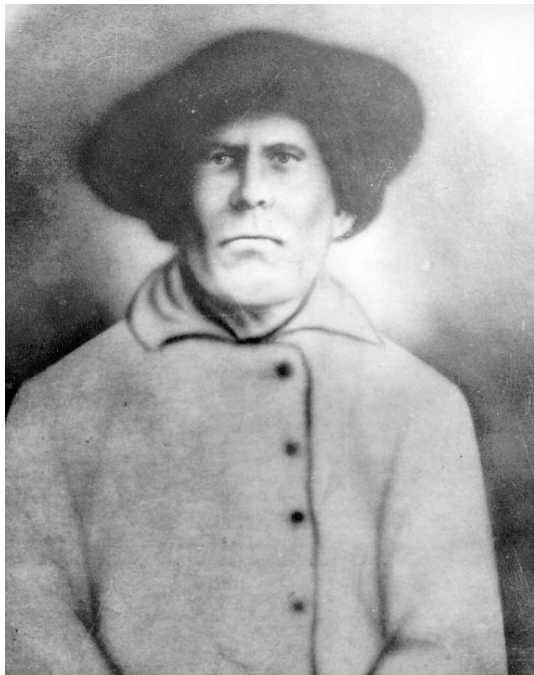
He was a member of the Delaware group that settled near Anadarko, Oklahoma.



Mary Bezoïn

late 1800s

Her Delaware clothing shows beautiful ribbonwork decoration.



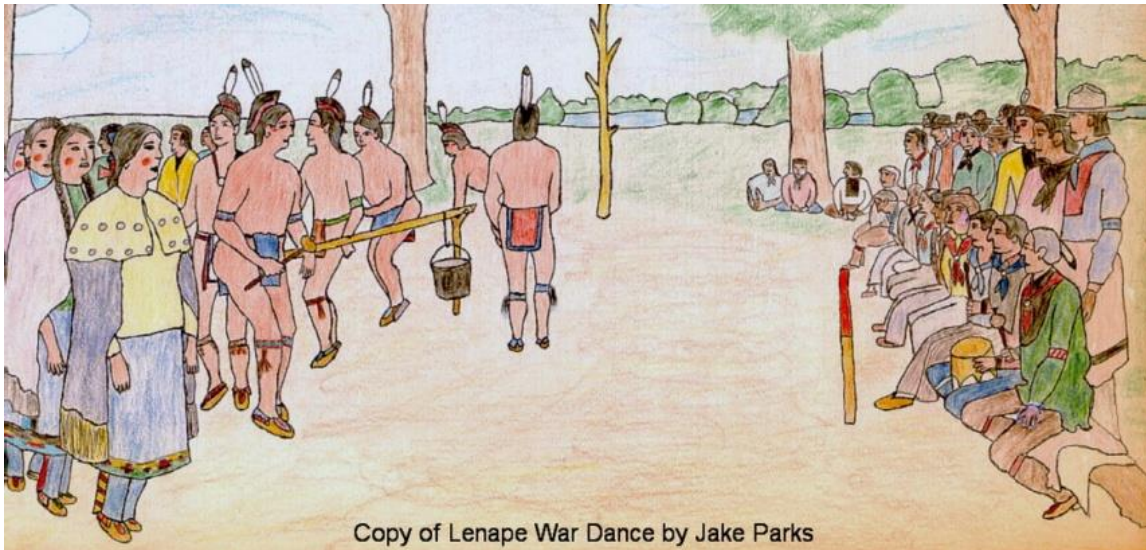
Captain Falleaf (1807-1880)

He was a famous scout and guide who even had a lake in California named for him.

PAINTINGS BY DELAWARE ARTIST JAKE PARKS FROM THE 1930s



The Last Removal - This painting shows a Delaware family when they were forced to leave their home in Kansas and move to Indian Territory in 1867.



Copy of Lenape War Dance by Jake Parks

This tracing of a sketch shows a Delaware War Dance as it might have looked while the Delawares were still located in Kansas.



This painting shows a Delaware ceremony called the Otter Hide or Grease Drinking ceremony which had ended by the early 1900s.

compiled by
Jim Rementer, secretary
Culture Preservation Committee