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The Seneca Nation from
1655 to 1687.

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INTRODUCTION.

The Seneca Nation of Indians belongs to the Iroquoian linguistic stock and during the 17th century it was the western canton of the Iroquois Confederacy, called by the English of that time the Five Nations of New York. Its kindred nations of the Iroquoian family and of the Confederacy are as follows:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Iroquoian Family. | { | Hurons | |
| | | Tionontati (Tobacco Nation) | |
| | | Attiwandaronks (Neutral Nation) | |
| | | Conkhadeenthonon | |
| | | { | SENECA |
| | | | Cayuga |
| | | | Onondaga |
| | | | Oneida |
| | | { | Mohawk |
| | | | Tuscaroras (with Iroquois after 1726.) |
| | | | Andastes (Andastogues, Conestogas, Susquehannocks) |
| | | | Eries (Cat Nation) |
| | | Nottoway | |
| | | Meherrin | |
| | | Cherokee | |

The Dann Site

Honeoye Falls, N. Y.

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TRADE ARTICLES OF BRASS AND COPPER.

Brass kettles of all sizes were found. The smallest holds about a tea-cupful. A few triangular arrow points were found.

✓ A belt is preserved by its brass ornaments, and is shown in Beauchamp's
✓ "Metallic Ornaments of New York Indians", fig. 297.

"Jesuit" brass rings are abundant.

A small copper kettle and a copper ladle were found.

TRADE ARTICLES OF LEAD.

Bar lead and about fifteen pounds of bullets and slugs are shown.

Some leaden tobacco pipes.

A leaden owl with glass eyes.

An "apostle spoon" came from a grave in which was a European earthenware pitcher.

TRADE ARTICLES OF GLASS.

✓ Beads are of the usual variety, including polychrome, spherical and cylindrical types.

In the collection from the Dann Farm preserved in the Genesee Valley Museum at Letchworth Park are musket locks, flints, bullets and bar lead, shell beads and pendants, an iron hoe, an iron fish spear, a hawk bell, a button similar to one taken from the great bone heap at Gandagora, lead figures, pigs' teeth and fragments of European pottery and a stone gouge.

The identity of this village is doubtful, and it is equally doubtful whether it belongs to the period from 1655 to 1687. Mr. Nelson Olds, of Rochester, who has given the villages of the Genesee valley much study is certain that it is the Totiakto of Denonville. Mr. Ray Dann and Mr. Ernest Smith, both of whom are familiar with the villages, say that it is later than Denonville's time. There is little to support either theory.

The "Tiotehatton" of Greenhalgh is undoubtedly the Kirkpatrick site. He saw and described this in 1677. Totiakto was burned in 1687, ten years later. A community as large as that described as occupying "Tiotehatton", if it lived on the same place for ten years, would leave, it seems to me, much more evidence of its occupancy than is shown on the Kirkpatrick site. That is, the evidence of Indian occupancy is not commensurate with the number of inhabitants and the length of time. Yet there is no doubt that the artifacts found on the Dann site are later than those found on the site of Gandagora, and as this was certainly contemporaneous with Totiakto and in constant intercourse with it, there should be practically no difference. I am inclined to think either that the Dann farm was occupied by the

The Marsh Site (Gandougarae)
 East Bloomfield Twp, N.Y.
 (2 cemeteries)

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All bones and many of the articles were badly preserved. The bones were so badly decayed that in many cases it was impossible to identify even the massive long bones, and the more fragile bones were entirely decayed. All hollow bones and articles, as skulls and kettles, were crushed flat, and the clay was so tenacious that articles would break before the enclosing clay.

The Graves. DeLong cemetery

No.	Depth and Posture.	Articles.
1.	Bones scattered and badly decayed.	Scraps of brass throughout grave.
2.	A dismembered body. Pelvis and legbones on N. edge of grave, but not in position. Skull on S. edge with heap of all bones of upper portion of body, all on bark floor of grave. Articles at pelvis and beside skull.	At pelvis two brass kettles, bone awl, worked phalanx, iron knife, paint. At skull, brass oval box wrapped in fine fur, gun flints and awl.
3-4.	Double grave. Both flexed. Sides of grave well defined, forming a rectangle, 42" by 36", Bark on east and south sides and bottom. Skeleton No. 3, young woman on side, flexed, head west, face north, leg bones mingled with No. 4.	At pelvis of No. 3, wampum, around neck long red glass beads in two strings, around wrists a wide brass bracelet and an iron wire bracelet.
	No. 4, old man, flexed, on back, legs drawn up sideways and mingled with No. 3.	At feet of No. 4 a deposit of flint and points with two antler flaking tools and bear's tooth, all on bark and covered with a sheet of brass. Behind head a clay pipe and iron awl. Between skulls of No. 3 and 4, a clay kettle and a deer's bone. Small bones in kettle. Burned corn in soil over grave.

5. Two skeletons. Brass kettles, portion of clay kettle, clay pipe with female figure on bowl facing smoker, pipe stem.

All graves were bark-lined and all kettles were bottom up near the head.

The second burial place is on the farm of George Marsh on the western edge of the village site, as it dips down to the gully already spoken of. The soil is heavy red clay. cemetery

The Graves.

Grave.	Posture.	Articles.
1. (Hamlin.)	?	Brass kettle and seeds.
2-3. (Hamlin.)		Upper had no articles.
	Double grave, one skeleton above the other.	Lower was flexed. Kettle in bark and blanket. In it a wooden ladle carved, with man on handle. A long carved bone spoon lay under the pelvis.
4. (Hamlin.)	Flexed.	A wampum belt at pelvis from which came about 500 beads. An unfinished bone comb lay under the head. ✓
5. (Hamlin.)	Bark-lined. Skeleton represented by a few bones only.	Two brass kettles, bone handled knife, glass heads.
6. (Hamlin.)	Very shallow, about 15 inches. Flexed.	No articles.
7. (Hamlin.)	Bark on bottom. Flexed.	A 12-row wampum belt lay across the pelvis, and from it about 1,000 beads were taken. At neck a string of long red glass beads. ✓
8. (Houghton.)	Bark on bottom and one side. Flexed.	Brass kettle wrapped in bark.
9. (Bryant.)	At length on back, head west. Above the skull was another skull with lower jaw in position.	Remains of brass kettle, wrapped in skin, and covered with bark; paint, brass tube, few beads.

10. (Bryant.) Flexed, Brass kettle, berry seeds, wooden head west. ladle. Kettle wrapped in cloth and covered with bark.
11. (Bryant.) Child, Few beads and some brass. bones badly decomposed.
12. (Bryant.) Fragment Brass kettle bottom wrapped in bark. of skull and a few bones.
13. (Bryant.) Young Brass kettle bottom wrapped in bark. adult, bones almost decayed.

Mr. Heman J. Coates in a letter to the writer gives the following information regarding graves opened by him at this point:

Grave.	Posture.	Articles.
1.	Reclining.	Kettle, two rings, lead image of man playing a pipe.
2.	Sitting.	Rim of brass kettle, 205 glass beads, 18 shell crescents, 3 massive shell beads, 22 corn shaped glass beads. ✓
3.	Sitting.	Kettle rim and wooden ladle, 938 beads, part of copper bracelet.
4.	Reclining.	Kettle rim, 6 bullets, bell.
5.	2 skeletons in grave, bones scattered.	2 kettles, gun barrel, knife handle.
6.	2 skeletons in grave, bones scattered.	2 kettles, clay pipe with grooved stem and human face.
7.	Sitting.	Small iron celt, square piece of iron, kettle rim covered with bark, perforated bear's tooth.
8.	Sitting.	Broken sword blade, 1100 small glass beads, 370 large glass beads, 40 wampum beads, 50 wheat shaped glass beads, 15 long shell beads from 2½ inches to 5¾ inches long, 1 shell gorget, 1 shell mask, 1 shell totem of bird's head, 10 finger rings, 3 bells, 1 clay pipe, iron spoon, kettle full of seeds. ✓
9.	Calcined human bones in a bed of charcoal and ashes at depth of 5 feet. On edge of the pit a pistol barrel. Below ashes 200 beads, 5 gaming flints ("gun flints?").	

The Fox Farm Site.

This is a large village on the farm of Henry Fox at Wheeler Station on the New York Central, in East Bloomfield. It is one

The Victor Site (Gandagora)
Victor, N.Y. (Boughton Hill)

which is doubtful. A full length burial in the Neuter cemetery at Grand Island is similarly peculiar in that the skull was lying beside the bones of the body.

✓ The first of these two full length burials was found on the western side of the village, and is that numbered 11 on the list. The body lay on its back, but the skull was erect, the cervical vertebrae being bent sharply upward at a right angle. The knees were drawn up so that the heel bones were almost in contact with the pelvis. The hands were on the breast and clasped an ebony crucifix, the chaplet of which lay along the right arm. On the fingers were four brass seal rings with the symbols of the crucifix. At the feet were various iron tools and hunting implements, including gun flints, a bullet, a fish hook, a bear's tooth and a knife.

The second full length burial was found in the Bunce cemetery and is that numbered 22. Only half of the skeleton was found, the portion above the pelvis being absent. It had probably been removed to the large bone-pit nearby. With the skeleton were two heaps of articles comprising gun and gun gear, pipes, paint and flint arrow points.

Of the sixty-three burials seven were flexed and lying on the side. Usually in this type, the knees were drawn up tightly to the chest and the arms doubled at the elbow, bringing the hands up before the face.

In only one individual grave were the bones buried in the position commonly called the "bundle burial". In this method of burial, which is very common along the Niagara Frontier, the bones of a skeleton are tied up into a bundle, the long bones parallel, the skull and pelvis at each end, and so buried.

In nine graves the bones were scattered and in no order. It is possible that some of these graves may have been disturbed by cultivation or by the burrows of animals. There can be no doubt, however, that some at least were as originally made. The two burials marked 4 and 5 are typical of these. In these the bones of two adults were found at the bottom of a deep refuse heap. Lying on the original soil of the site were two extremely thin skulls. Above them were most of the bones of two skeletons in a heap. The bones of one leg and the pelvis were in position, but they lay across the bones of another leg, which were reversed in position. One lower jaw was missing.

Deer bones lay amongst the human bones, one lying in actual contact with one of the skulls.

Grave number 10 is also typical of this disorder of the contained bones. It was shallow, being but twelve inches deep. The skull was missing, but this may have been struck and turned out by the plow. The pelvis and lower jaw were found together. The other bones were found scattered through the grave. The pelvis lay immediately above and in contact with the skull of the full length burial already described. A clay pipe, broken into three pieces, was found in three different parts of the grave.

In grave number 13 in the Bunce cemetery the bones were in disorder, but this disorder may have been caused by the burrowing of animals. It was thirty inches deep, in hard loamy clay. The skull was missing. The lower jaw lay upon the arm bones, but the leg bones were in position.

Of the sixty-three individuals represented, thirty-six were buried in three heaps, all of which were found in the Bunce cemetery. The first of these heaps, marked on the list 24 to 27, contained the bones of three adults and a child. The bones were mingled and seemingly in no order. The heap was but eight inches below the surface and the top layers of bones had been turned up repeatedly in plowing. Scattered through the mass of bones were wampum and glass beads and on two finger bones still remained two brass rings. ✓

The second pit was also very shallow. It contained the bones of three young adults and possibly of a child. The bones were mingled and in no order. Under each skull were a few glass and wampum beads. Scattered amongst the bones were other beads, an iron axe and a fine bone spoon.

The third heap was in a large deep pit. It was situated in the northeastern edge of the cemetery. It was nine feet long from east to west and seven and a half feet from north to south, being an irregular ellipse. The bottom at the deepest part was forty-six inches from the surface, and consisted of the original hard blue clay and red clay. The top of the bone mass reached the surface, as was made evident by the fragments of bone found scattered about the surface. The plow struck bones at seven inches.

The List of Graves and their Contents.

EAST SIDE OF VILLAGE SITE.

No.	Posture, position, remarks.	Articles found.
1.	Head W., face N., flexed, 18 inches deep.	Brass kettle, glass beads, awl.
2.	Head W., face S., flexed, 12 inches deep.	Brass kettle, iron bracelet.
3.	Head S., face E., flexed, 16 inches deep.	Nothing.
4-5.	Double grave in refuse heap. No order. The bones of one leg and pelvis in position, but lying in reversed order upon bones of other leg. One lower jaw not found. All other bones in a heap on skulls. Deer bones mixed with the bones, one being in contact with one of the skulls.	Nothing.

WEST SIDE OF THE VILLAGE SITE.

6.	Badly decomposed bones of child, probably flexed, 12 inches deep, fire bed over grave.	2 small brass kettles, glass, shell and stone beads, long shell beads, iron knife, in kettle a wooden ladle with a tiny bear carved on handle.
7.	Flexed body of adult, 24 inches deep, with fire bed over grave. Pelvis not found.	Iron axe, knife and awl, a small steel, a bear's tooth.
8.	In no order. The sacrum and pelvis with some vertebrae lay over the skull and arms of No. 7. An atlas lay under the skull.	Iron knife and brass beads.
9.	Decomposed bones of a child, 16 inches deep.	Iron knife and 2 red beads. Cervical vertebrae stained with copper salts.

✓ water mussels from the nearby creeks. Occasionally shell from the ocean, and catlinite or Huron slate, reached them in trade with the Indians farther south or west. The really beautiful glass beads of the traders appealed to them, and from the very beginning the Senecas imported them in great numbers and variety. The most commonly used were small spherical beads, red or blue in color. An elliptical black bead seems to have been in vogue a great deal, possibly because it resembled purple wampum. The polychrome beads of Venice, large as gooseberries, of a variety of colors, and showing a star in cross section, were rare at the time, though more abundant later. Long thin cylindrical beads, similar to those which many years ago received amongst us the name of bugle beads, were in common use.



Pipes.—(A) European clay pipe, (B) Seneca stone pipe.
The others are clay pipes of Indian manufacture.

✓ Next to glass their commonest material for adornment was shell. This was brought in already made up into ornaments and also as raw material and made up in the villages. The Senecas seem to have prized it even more than glass, and worked it up into a large variety of ornaments.

More than any other ornament, they used the small cylindrical bead made of ocean clam shell, *Venus mercenaria*, which has come to be called wampum. At what time wampum was first used by the Senecas is unknown. It is probably a comparatively late introduction from coastal tribes. Stone Age Iroquoian vil-