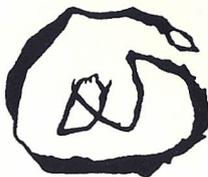


TAMANEND'S MARK

INDIVIDUAL (NOT AN "X"),  
DELIBERATE, METICULOUS,  
CREATIVE, MYSTERIOUS



#### TAMANEND IN PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 1683

On Saturday, June 23, 1683, a month after meeting with Penn at Perkasie, Tamanend and five other sachems stood in the new Quaker Meeting House in Philadelphia on Front Street near Sansom. Captain Lasse Cock, the Swedish interpreter, held in his hand a deed of sale, written in English on a sheet of paper. Cock explained in Lenape words what this English indenture or contract of sale said.

*I Tamanend doe graunt and dispose of all my lands lying betwixt Pemmapecka and Neshaminehs Creeks and all along Neshaminehs Creeks to William Penn Proprie'n and Govern'n of Pennsylvania etc his heirs and Assignes for Ever.*

The Swede signed the deed as a witness and handed the pen to Tamanend. Bending over the table, Tamanend needed to fill his pen a second time to inscribe all of his mark, a snake coiled.

Tamanend stayed for several days as honored guest in William Penn's house and there was more feasting on Sunday. In the afternoon he sat in the pine board Meeting House while a visiting Quaker, Roger Longworth, preached.

Once more Tamanend put his mark on a piece of paper. This was a receipt for the purchase price which for him was a delightfully generous stack of wares.

2 guns	1 peck pipes	2 blankets
20 bars of lead	10 tobacco boxes	38 yds duffields
25 pounds of powder	10 tobacco tongrs	4 yds stroudswater
6 coats	2 kettles	(blue & red
8 shirts	5 hoes	woolen cloth)
5 hats	6 axes	10 glasses
5 pair stockings	16 knives	7 half gills
5 caps	100 needles	4 handfulls bells
20 handfulls wampum		

WM PENN'S SIGNATURE

BOLD, FREE, CONFIDENT,  
CREATIVE, DECISIVE,  
HIGHLY ORGANIZED

As was proper for a sachem, Tamanend divided everything among his people with only the smallest share for himself. The women as keepers of Lenape history memorized all that Tamanend told them of pacts with William Penn and so preserved an accurate oral record for generations.

#### COMPLAINTS FROM BOTH SIDES, 1684

The next year Tamanend must have been angry because he caused some disturbances as we learn from a letter written in December 1684 by Thomas Holmes who was land surveyor for Penn. Holmes does not explain what was wrong. It might be that cow pastures and pig pens across old trails disturbed the Lenape Indians. At any rate, Holmes complained to Penn who was in England that people were afraid to buy land in Bucks County. He informed Penn that Tamanend "threatens to fire their houses." And as a result, people were going over to New Jersey instead.

Penn wrote a stern letter from England, dated June 1685 saying that as for *Tamino*, he would *al! & if the Indians will not punish him, we will & must*. However, Tamanend did not break the peace with the white men.

Tamanend appears again in documents of history dated May 1692. He along with a delegation of Indians complained to officials in Philadelphia that he had not been paid the full purchase price. One conjecture is that there was not enough to distribute to all in his clan who claimed a share. Tamanend demanded 9 guns, 10 matchcoats (sleeveless woolen jackets), and 10 blankets.

Penn was absent in England so the officials promised to look into the matter and quieted the Indians with two dozen rolls and two forbidden gallons of rum. At a later time they gave Tamanend 6 guns of good quality, 10 Dutch blankets, 10 kettles, and some bread and beer.

In supplying Indians with guns, powder, and lead, the English ran no risk of being attacked. The Lenape