

WILLIAM PENN AND TAMANEND
ESTABLISHED A PEACE BASED
ON EQUALITY, MUTUAL RESPECT,
TRUST, AND NON-VIOLENCE.



TAMANEND, A LEGEND TO THIS DAY

After 1697 Tamanend became a legend in the memory of both Indians and the whites. Some ninety years after Tamanend, the Continental Congress sent Colonel Morgan out West to try to win the support of remnants of the Lenape Indians against the British. Morgan made such a good impression on the Lenape people, now in Ohio, that they called him a "Tamanend."

During the American Revolution patriots gave the name, St. Tamany, to a festival for celebrating freedom for the common man. It took place on May 1 with dancing, smoking the calumet, and orations in support of a federal government.

In later years a political organization took the name Tamany Hall. James Fenimore Cooper made the legendary Tamanend a character in one of his novels. And Tamanend was the hero in the first American opera, "Tamany," which was performed in New York City.

The "Delaware," a wooden warship in the American navy bore as its figurehead the carved bust of Tamanend. Built in 1820, the ship carried 74 guns and was flagship in the Mediterranean. The figurehead can still be seen in Annapolis where naval academy students ask the ancient Indian's help before taking exams.

Henry Mercer of Doylestown thought that he had found Tamanend's grave on the Neshaminy near Chalfont. He wanted to put up a solid concrete turtle as big as a house to mark that spot. However Mercer could not convince historians of his theory and he dropped his plans for that red cement turtle.

However in 1923 Mercer did locate the site of Playwicky, a winter-time Indian village in Penn's time. Sub-

sequent finds of artifacts by Colonel Henry D. Paxson corroborate Mercer's location; the stone Indian relics found here are now in the University of Pennsylvania Museum. A bronze marker on the road from Feasterville to Langhorne marks the hillsides of Playwicky where Tamanend may have gone hunting three centuries ago.

When the land for a new park in Southampton was purchased in 1975, a contest was held to name the park. Prize-winning entry was "Tamanend," a reminder of our historical heritage in this Indian.

THE TAMANEND TRIBUTE ROCK, 1683

Friends of Tamanend Park, committed to preserving the park's natural beauties, have placed a cluster of weathered Delaware River boulders in the park to honor the Lenape Indians. The date, 1683, marks the year of Tamanend's partnership with Penn for a lasting peace. Five Indian names appear on the boulder:

TAMANEND

WHEELAND (brother)

YAQUEEKHON and QUENAMECKQUID (sons)

WEHEEQUECKHON (sister's eldest son to be
Tamanend's successor)

Yaqueekhon signed a treaty document in 1692 and he is named in a council of the provincial government with Indians who well remembered Penn's first message to them:

I desire to enjoy (this land) with you in Love and consent that we may always live together as Neighbours and friends.

This booklet was prepared on the occasion of the dedication of the Tamanend Tribute Rock which Friends of Tamanend placed in Tamanend Park, Southampton, Pennsylvania. The rock was dedicated on June 2, 1985.

Gregory Savaro, William Burford, and Gus Wiencke did historical research and selected the river boulders for the Tribute Rock. Text by Gus Wiencke, drawings from "Akwasasne Notes," a newspaper of the Mohawk Nation, and printing courtesy of Robert Brosius, Sr.

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