

## HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

### An Historical Geography of NYS

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#### Settlement Sequence

#### Native American Occupancy

#### European Arrival

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## Human Geography of NYS

### PART I

We set the stage by looking at the state's **physical landscape**: landforms, climate, soils and water.

### PART II

We add **people** to the physical landscape.

Focus on land use, settlement, transportation networks and economic development.

The cultural landscape is studied.

2


## Native American Inhabitation

- Came to North America 20,000-30,000 yrs ago via a land bridge from Asia
- Arrived in NYS between 9,000-4,000 yrs ago after the glaciers receded and climate warmed.
- Were nomadic hunter-gatherers with some agriculture.
- No permanent settlements; moved when food sources diminished.

3

## Native American Inhabitation

The Woodland Stage in NYS began about 3,000 years ago .



**Eastern Woodland Indians:**  
They cleared the forests to create farmland. Principal crops were corn, beans, squash, and tobacco. They hunted and fished and along the coast engaged in whaling.

4

## Generalized Time Line

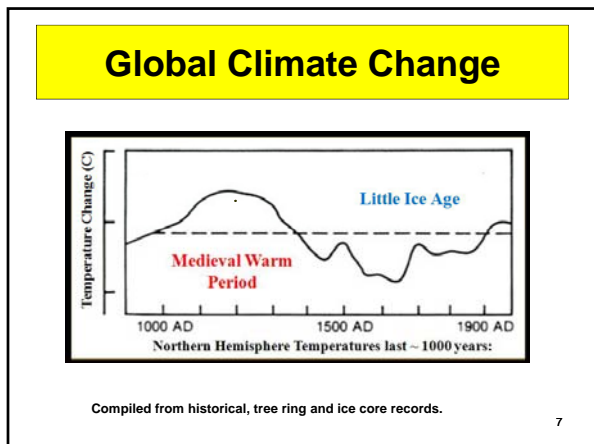
<p><b>c.1000 AD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period of natural <b>global warming</b>.</li> <li>• Iroquois expanded northward in the St. Lawrence Valley, extending maize production to its northern limit.</li> <li>• Co-existed with the Algonquin tribes.</li> </ul>	<p><b>By the 1300s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plentiful food supplies, both in the forests and fields.</li> <li>• The Iroquois advanced beyond hunting and gathering and had become agriculturalists.</li> <li>• Villages grew in size (as many as 1500 people may have lived there) and became permanent.</li> </ul>
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5

## Generalized Time Line

<p><b>During the 1400s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period of natural global cooling.</li> <li>• Maize production was reduced.</li> <li>• Large villages put a strain on the local environment and resources were reduced.</li> <li>• Villages had to move often to not to deplete forest and game resources.</li> </ul>	<p><b>By the 1500s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooling trend may have started the more frequent warfare among the Iroquois tribes.</li> <li>• Competition for farmland and other strategic resources (water, game animals and forests).</li> <li>• Iroquois culture evolved from sedentary agriculturalist society to warrior society.</li> </ul>
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6



### Generalized Time Line

**In the 1500s**

- Iroquois adapted to higher population densities and crowded living conditions.
- Rules of social order developed and village councils were formed.
- Different clans existed within the same village.

- This was the time of the first European inroads in North America:
  - 1498: Cabot** sailed off the coast of Long Island.
  - 1524: Verrazano** entered NY harbor.
  - 1535: Cartier** entered the St. Lawrence river valley.

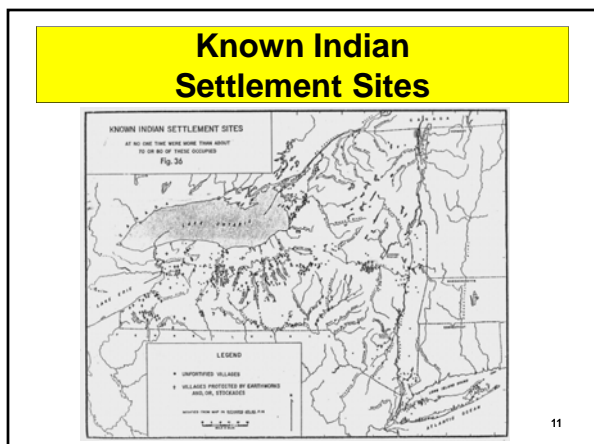
### Generalized Time Line

**Early 1600s**

- This period saw the arrival of the Europeans.
  - 1603-15: Champlain** explored the St. Lawrence River and entered Lake Champlain.
  - 1609: Hudson** sailed inland up the North River.
  - 1624: First Dutch settlement**
- At the time of the European arrival in the Northeast, there were two principal groups of Native Americans: *Iroquois* and *Algonquin*.
- Confederacies were formed to reduce tribal warfare.
- Most famous and strongest was the **Five Nations or Iroquois Confederacy** (Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida and Mohawk; Tuscarora joined later.)

### Iroquois Confederacy

- Strongest threat to European colonization but also a threat to other Indian nations.
- Between 15,000 and 75,000 people were scattered throughout the NYS area.
- Sedentary agriculturalists engaged in hunting, fishing, crafts, and trading.
- 1624:** The Dutch (West India Company) engaged the Iroquois by establishing fur trading posts along the Hudson River.



### Indians & Trade 1600-1760

**Fur Trade:**  
The Dutch (West India Co.) engaged the Iroquois by establishing fur trading posts along the Hudson River (1624).

**Alliances:**  
French with Algonquin, Huron and other tribes.  
Dutch and English with Iroquois.

**Iroquois Confederacy:**  
Disrupted French/Indian trade and eventually dominated the area between New England, Virginia and the Great Lakes.

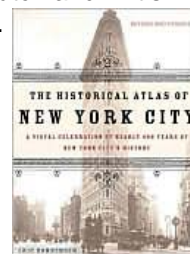
## Studying Iroquois Culture

- **Exercise 11 Iroquois Village** – NYS Museum virtual display **(REQUIRED)**
- **Home-page Electronic Handout:** Web sites of New York-based Native American nations compiled by the NYS Library.

13

## Historical Atlas of NYC

Chapters 1, 2 and 3 on reserve in HC Library. Read about Dutch and British presence in New York.



14

## Dutch Settlement

**The Dutch limited their settlement to areas along the North River** (Hudson River) including

- the harbor perimeter
- western Long Island east to Jamaica
- tip of Manhattan island
- the Hudson valley waterfront to Fort Orange (Albany)

15

## Dutch Settlement

- New Amsterdam on Manhattan was established in 1625 and became the seat of government.
- In 1626 the Dutch West India Co. introduced African slavery to New Amsterdam as an alternative to providing indentured servants for the colonists.
- By the 1630s Dutch farmsteads were established in western Long Island.

16

## Mapping the Area: 1639

*Manatvs gelegen op de Noot Riuer* (ca. 1639), "Manhattan on the North River"; author unknown.



17

## English Settlement

**The purpose of English colonization of North America was settlement.**

- The Dutch outposts between the North River (Hudson R.) and South River (Delaware R.) were seen as an impediment to English control.
- In the early 1630s English settlers began to move into eastern Long Island having received land grants from the British crown.

18

### Conflict between Groups

- **Conflict** developed between the Dutch and the Indians and the English and the Dutch in and around Long Island.
- **Reason:** the Dutch increased their fur trade north of New Amsterdam and English settlers expanded their ownership of land on Long Island, moving westward (into today's Nassau Co.).
- **Treaty of Hartford** was drafted (*but not ratified*) in **1650** the setting the international boundary between the English and Dutch colonies on Long Island roughly at today's Nassau-Suffolk line.

19

### Conflict between Groups

- In **1660** Charles II of England decided he did not want the Dutch colony in America.
- From **1660-1664 negotiations** attempted to remedy the situation.
- Finally in **1664** he sent the Royal Navy into New Amsterdam to demand surrender.
- The **Dutch colony was renamed New York** and given to the Duke of York along with all of Long Island.

20

### Settlement Sequence: 1609-1780 Colonial Period

Dutch establish basic framework of settlement.

- Principal population centers located.
- **Hudson-Mohawk axis created:** hugs the rivers from NYC to Rome; rarely extends inland.
- Dutch interested in fur trade, **NOT** colonization.
- Control of waterways important.

21

### Colonization of North America



Primarily settlement came from the south.

- **Mouth of the Hudson** was a protected deep water harbor, ice free in winter and on the shipping lane to Europe.
- **St. Lawrence River** was out of the way, frozen in winter, had rapids, and journey to the interior was much longer than via the Hudson-Mohawk.

NYS was explored from both the south via the Hudson River and the north via the St. Lawrence River.

22

### View of New York in 1627

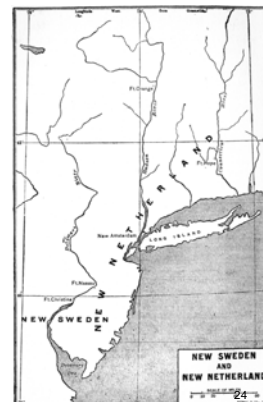


English mapmaker John Speed, 1627

23

### Dutch and Swedish Claims 1640

Great Britain's North American colonies (New England and Virginia) were separated by the claims of Sweden and the Netherlands. (French claims were to the north and Spanish claims to the south.)



24

### New Netherland

The image contains two maps. The left map is a historical map of 'NOVA BELGICA sive NIEUW NEDERLAND' from 1656, showing the Hudson River valley and surrounding areas. The right map shows 'DUTCH COLONIZATION 1609-1664' in red and 'ENGLISH COLONIZATION' in blue, covering parts of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Below the right map is a detailed map of 'New Amsterdam, 1660'.

### Settlement Sequence: 1609-1780 Colonial Period

- **English take over in 1664.**
- English leave Dutch system of trade and land division in place (*legacy still exists*).
- Discourage agricultural settlement. Why?
- Interior settlement in NY colony lags behind other coastal colonies.
- Wars for world dominance between England and France spill over to North America: 1689-1763 French and Indian Wars

### English Settlement

The image contains two maps. The left map is titled 'MIDDLE COLONIES, 1685' and shows the regions of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The right map is titled '1700' and shows settlement patterns along the Hudson and Mohawk rivers. Text to the right of the maps reads: 'English colonial settlement stretched along the Atlantic Coast from Maine to Virginia, with inland penetration along the Connecticut and Hudson rivers.'

### Settlement Sequence: 1609-1780 Colonial Period

- In NYS settlement moves slowly north along the Hudson River and then along Mohawk River.
- **Limited to water frontage.**
- **Head of Mohawk Valley settled in 1740s.**
- Beyond this point were the villages and hunting grounds of the **Iroquois Confederation** (which had seen occasional visits from missionaries and traders).

### 1609-1780 Colonial Period: French and Indian Wars

- **Final chapter of the French and Indian Wars takes place from 1754-1763.**
- Numerous battles in NYS between French, English and Indians.
  - Iroquois sided with England
  - Algonquin and Huron sided with France
  - Hostilities acted to discourage settlement away from the main rivers.

A map titled 'Settlement of the English Colonies' showing the eastern seaboard of North America with various colonial territories and settlement patterns.

### Battle Sites of the French and Indian War

A map showing the 'BATTLE SITES OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR'. It details various military engagements such as the Battle of the Clouds, the Battle of the Clouds, the Battle of the Clouds, and the Siege of Fort Mifflin. It also shows the movement of British troops and the locations of French claims and British claims.

### Colonial America 1770

31

### Settlement Sequence: 1609-1780 Colonial Period

- The mid to late 1700s sees the New England, Middle and Southern colonies develop different economies.
- By the early 1770s the difference in agricultural output between the colonies was evident.
- In the NY colony, settlement was limited to the Hudson-Mohawk V. and Long Island.
- Areas begin to attract ethnic groups.

### Colonial Economies

- New England Colonies had trouble producing enough food to feed its residents.
- But the shorter growing season (longer non-farming period) lead to the development of cottage industries and manufacturing.

33

### Trade between the Colonies

34

### Settlement Sequence: 1609-1780 Colonial

- In the early 1770s, **New York City** became **the focus of the trade** because of its central location and large harbor.
- In the late 1770s, **the strategic location of the New York colony** with its harbor and **transportation corridors** makes it the site of numerous battles in the American Revolution.

35

### Change in the Settlement Pattern of North America

36