

Timeline

Dutch–Native American Relations in New York, 1609–1664

- 1609 The Dutch East India Company, a private corporation, hires English navigator Henry Hudson to find a sea passage to Asia and the spice trade. In September 1609, Hudson and his crew sail their ship, the *Half Moon*, into the present-day New York Harbor.
- 1614 The New Netherland Company, a chartered company of Dutch merchants, is established.
- The Dutch build a trading house called Fort Nassau near present-day Albany, New York, to exchange goods with Native people.
- 1621 The Dutch West India Company, a trading company, is founded by the States General of the Netherlands. They give the name New Netherland to an area that extended from Albany, New York in the north to Delaware in the south. The inhabitants of New Netherland are European colonists, Native people, and enslaved people from Africa.
- 1624 The first Mohawk-Mahican War breaks out. The Mohawk, the easternmost nation of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy, defeat the Mahican. Fighting ends in 1628.
- 1626 The Dutch report that they have purchased the island of Manhattan from the Lenape for 60 Dutch guilders. A letter from Peter Schaghen, a representative of the States General, is the only document that supports this claim. The Dutch build Fort Amsterdam at the southern tip of Manhattan.
- 1633–1634 The Lenape population declines due to a smallpox epidemic.
- 1638 Willem Kieft is installed as the director general of New Netherland.
- 1640 The first phase of Kieft’s War begins when the Dutch attack a group of Lenape on Staten Island.
- 1643 The second and most violent phase of Kieft’s War begins when the Dutch massacre a group of Lenape who had taken refuge among them.

- 1645 The Treaty of August 30 ends the worst of the fighting in Kieft's War. The list of participants in the treaty meeting includes a coalition of Native communities from Long Island and the Hudson Valley.
- 1647 Peter Stuyvesant is installed as the seventh director general of New Netherland.
- 1655 The Peach War, an attack led by allied Native nations, breaks out in several New Netherland settlements along the Hudson River. The war lasts until 1657.
- 1662 The second Mohawk-Mahican War begins and continues for 13 years.
- 1664 Due to displacement, disease, and continued warfare, the Lenape population of New Netherland dramatically decreases.
- New Netherland falls to an English fleet and is renamed New York.
- 1667 The Treaty of Breda ends the Second Anglo-Dutch War. The English keep New York.
- TODAY Descendants of the Lenape and Mahican currently reside throughout the world, and on the following reservations:
- Delaware Nation: Anadarko, Oklahoma
 Delaware Tribe of Indians: Bartlesville, Oklahoma and Caney, Kansas
 Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians: Bowler, Wisconsin
 Delaware Nation at Moriaviantown: Ontario, Canada
 Munsee-Delaware Nation: Ontario, Canada
 Delaware of Six Nations: Ontario, Canada
 Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware: Delaware
 Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation: New Jersey
 Ramapough Lenape Nation: New Jersey