

**THE INDIANS OF GREATER  
NEW YORK. CEDAR  
RAPIDS, IOWA, 1915**

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The Indians of Greater New York. Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1915 by Alanson Skinner

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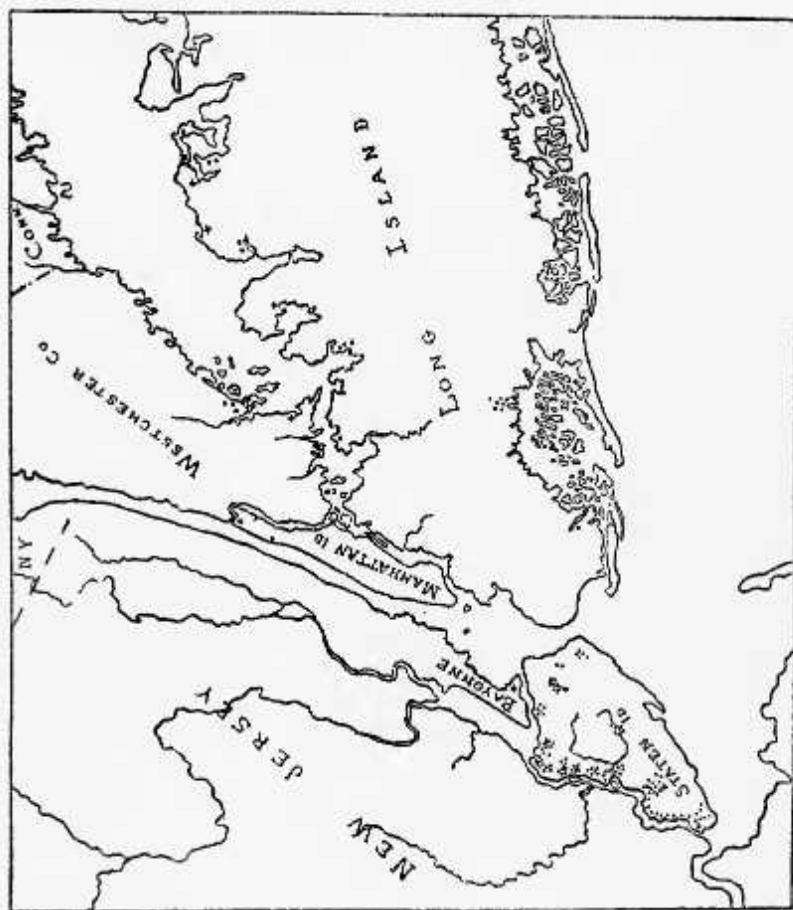
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Map giving the location of Shell Deposits. Those marked \* have been explored by the writer.

# THE INDIANS OF GREATER NEW YORK

By ALANSON SKINNER

Assistant Curator of Anthropology  
American Museum of Natural History, New York

*With a Map of the Region*



CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA  
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## THE INDIANS OF GREATER NEW YORK

On that fair afternoon in September, 1609, when Hendrick Hudson first steered the *Half Moon* into the channel of the river that was destined to bear his name, the region which is now comprised in Greater New York and its environs was owned and inhabited by a number of loosely confederated Indian bands, all of which belonged to three important tribes—the Delawares, the Mahikans, and the Mohegans.

All three of these nations spoke dialects of the widespread Algonkin tongue, and were closely related to each other in their customs and beliefs. They had resided in the region in which they were first found by white men for several centuries, yet they preserved traditions of a land to the northwest which had been their former home.

Among the archives treasured by historians is a curious document known as the "Wahum Olum," or Red Score of the Delawares. This purports to be a copy of an original history of the Delaware nations, which was first painted in red and black picture-writing on slabs of wood, and later reduced to the