

**Names which the Lenni Lenape...had
given to rivers, streams, places, etc., 1822**

1822

Mss.497.3.H35n

American Philosophical Society
105 South Fifth Street
Philadelphia, PA, 19106
215-440-3400
manuscripts@amphilsoc.org

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Background note	4
Administrative Information	5
Indexing Terms	5
Other Descriptive Information	5
Other Descriptive Information	6

Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Heckewelder, John Gottlieb Ernestus, 1743-1823
Title	Names which the Lenni Lenape...had given to rivers, streams, places, etc., 1822
Date	1822
Call number	Mss.497.3.H35n
Extent	1.0 Volume(s) 1 volume, 58 p.
Extent	1 volume, 58 p.
Location	LH-MV-E-15
Language	Delaware
Language	In Delaware with English translations.
Container	1
Abstract	Place names (taken from deeds of conveyance and maps, and narrated by Indians) for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia, together with names and biographies of chiefs and famous men. Translations included.

Background note

John Gottlieb Ernestus Heckewelder served as a Moravian missionary to the Indians of Ohio.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

Provenance

Acquisition Information

Presented by John Gottlieb Ernestus Heckewelder and accessioned, 1822 (6807).

Indexing Terms

Genre(s)

- Diaries
- Native American Materials
- Oral History

Personal Name(s)

- Du Ponceau , Peter Stephen, 1760-1844

Subject(s)

- Language and Linguistics
- Names, Delaware.
- Names, Indian -- North America.
- Native America

Other Descriptive Information

This item was prepared for publication by Peter S. Du Ponceau and printed in American Philosophical Society "Transactions", n.s., 4 (1834): 351-396. See also Pam. v.1113,no.22.

Other Descriptive Information

The John Heckewelder Collection consists of an assortment of documents, almost all of which deal with Native Americans. Heckewelder was a Moravian missionary to Delaware Indians in Pennsylvania who was a prominent figure in nineteenth century intellectual circles. The primary focus of the collection is on his attempt to preserve Native American languages, especially those of the Lenni Lenape (Delaware) in Pennsylvania. His correspondence and one publication also chronicle Native American history, customs, and life. Heckewelder also kept a meteorological journal while on his mission to Gnadenhutten, Pa from 1802-1814, which is part of the collection. Much of the collection comes from Heckewelder's correspondence with the APS and its prominent member and linguist Stephen DuPonceau.

There are many content rich sources in the collection. Heckewelder's "Communications to the Historical and Literary Committee" is a 187 page bound volume of correspondence that includes responses to queries on Indian history, his own observations of Native culture, and records of Native American oral histories as conveyed to Heckewelder (970.1 H35c). The record provides insight in Native American history, white understanding of Native cultures, and oral traditions in the early nineteenth century. Among the oral histories Heckewelder records is a contact story, the history of the "emigration" of the Lenni Lenape from the west, and origins stories of other Native groups as related by the Delaware.

The collection also contains his extensive correspondence with Peter DuPonceau on Indian culture and language (497.3 H35o). The content of these letters add additional details that were not included in his publications or other writings.

Also of significance are his notes on the names that the Lenni Lenape called areas of the Mid-Atlantic that also contain a list of important Indian leaders (497.3 H35n). These brief biographical sketches are based on details provided by Indians or Heckewelder's own interactions with them.

Finally, remaining portions of the Heckewelder Collection contain detailed meteorological data for Gnadenhutten (551.5 H352) and other language data.