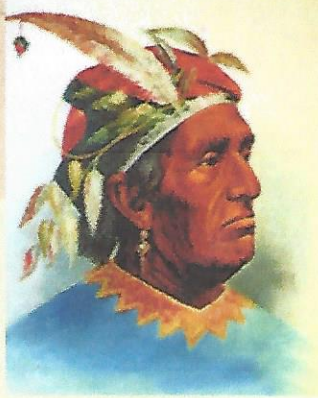


FIRST NATIONS DIPLOMATS AT PORTSMOUTH



Madockawando (left), sagamore of the Penobscot, who participated in the French-Wabanaki raids on Wells in 1703 and is named as sagamore in the 1690 and 1693 treaties

The Treaty of 1713 was one of a series of treaties beginning with the Treaty of Casco Bay in 1678, signed with the Royal Governor of New York and permitting settlement on Wabanaki land. The Treaty of 1713 was followed by several subsequent treaties, and conflicts, up through the Treaty of 1763.

"I have ordered Quarters and Entertainment for you in this town and commanded all her Majesties subjects to treat you with due respect during your attending me here."
-- Governor Joseph Dudley, Esq.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1713 IN PORTSMOUTH

During the meeting with Gov. Dudley, Gyles made a request for the Wabanaki delegates: "They have brought a small matter. Each of them [brought] a skin to buy some nick nacks with it." Dudley replied "Write down upon a piece of paper what they would have and I will send gentlemen with them and tell them after the Treaty they shall walk the town and buy what they please." The record of the meeting concludes, "After the Indians being clothed they addressed themselves to his Excellency with their thanks."



These Canadian Wabanaki favored European clothes, including beaver hats.

FIRST NATIONS SIGNATURE TOTEMS

Even though the First Nations participants signed their names to the Treaty, what mattered was the spoken word and they relied on English interpreters. The eight Wabanaki at Portsmouth used their totems, symbols that sometimes were associated with the spirit guide of their family clan (such as a bear or pigeon). Frederic Kidder, author of an 1859 study of the Wabanaki explained, "The figures or emblems connected with the signatures ...are called, in the language of the Algonquins, Totems; and are the distinguishing marks or signs of the clans or tribes into which the various nations are divided. They are not the personal emblems of the chiefs, although in signing treaties they employ them as their sign. Each tribe or clan had its emblem, consisting of the figure of some bird, beast, or reptile, and is distinguished by the name of the animal which it has assumed as a device, as Wolf, Hawk, Tortoise." In records of all the treaties, the English typically added the phonetic spellings of the Wabanaki names.

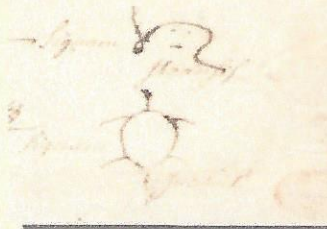


Image from the 1713 Treaty of Portsmouth (Courtesy: Library of Congress)

The Wabanaki identified on the 1713 Treaty include: **Bomazeen** (Kennebeck) was named among the First Nations, along with famed sagamore Madockawando (above) at the 1693 Treaty conference with Governor Phipps. He also attended the December 1701 conference in Boston with Governor Dudley; but previously had been held hostage for four years in Boston by the English. He died, along with Fr. Sebastian Rasles, in the 1724 English attack on Norridgewock.

The other 1713 signers about whom less is known included:

- Kirebenuit** (Penobscot) "Querabenawit"
- Warraeensitt** (Kennebeck)
- Wadacanaquin** (Kennebeck)
- Aeneas** (St. John's)
- Iteansis** (Penobscot)
- Jackoid** (Penobscot)
- Joseph** (St. John's)



Bomazeen used a totem of a face and feather, which some describe as his "self-portrait."



Image from the 1713 Treaty of Portsmouth (Courtesy: Library of Congress)