

Name: Sagoyewatha (Red Jacket)

Years: 1758-1830

Residence: Buffalo, NY

Biography: Born Otetiani, he changed his name to Sagoyewatha upon becoming a chief of the Seneca Nation. He was referred to as Red Jacket in English because he fought on the side of the British during the American Revolution. He is known for his oratory skills and often persuading his followers to believe in his poor actions. He publicly opposed whites and their land sales, but he sold some of his tribal lands to the whites to protect his honor among the Americans. He did not allow white culture to influence the Seneca culture.

Major Accomplishments: He is best known for being a controversial chief and orator of the Seneca Nation.

More Information: The Erastus Granger Digital Library, SUNY

Oswego, http://www.oswego.edu/library2/archives/digitized_collections/granger/redJacket.html

Resources: Encyclopedia Britannica, http://www.britannica.com/biography/Red-Jacket-Senecachief

By Elizabeth Wasserman