# Henry Hudson & Native Americans

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# Hudson's Journey in the New World

- Most likely the first place Hudson's first steps onto the soil of the New World was along the coast of Staten Island
- This location was also probably where the first meeting of Hudson and Native Americans took place
  - The Indians described Hudson as dressed in a "red coat all glittering with gold lace"
  - Hudson described the Natives as wearing dear skins and skins
     of other native animals for clothing
- The *Half Moon* anchored at many points along the Hudson River itself
  - Hudson explored the rest of the Staten Island coast and parts of the New Jersey coast
  - He sailed up the river and anchored along the Verrazano Narrows

# Heading North



Norti

Ocean

- In mid-September, around the fifteenth of the month, Hudson anchored at night near Indian Point and Catskill
- While anchored at Indian Point and Catskill, Hudson greeted the Native Americans aboard the *Half Moon* for the first time

# Trading

- Hudson met with the indigenous people on the coast and traded European steel knives, hatchets, and beads for Native American corn, bread, and oysters
- The crew was quick to note the amount of furs the Natives had to trade and were correct in judging the potential for trade and profit



## Conflict

- When the boat returned, one of Hudson's crew members had been killed by an arrow shot through his throat
- A meeting with the Indians were the Native American leader broke an arrow and threw it into a fire, symbolizing peace between the explores and Indians
- Hudson's crew members soon began to ply the Indians with alcohol, in order to obtain the more valuable furs the natives had brought with them
- One of the Indians became so intoxicated that Hudson's crew had him stay the night on the Half Moon

## Sail No More

- With the combination of shallow soundings and the ship running aground, Hudson realized he could go no further upriver
  - "Been up 24 to 27 miles in which there was only seven feet of water inconstant soundings"



### Final Conflict

- As he sailed down river, Hudson had meetings with other Native American tribes that lives along the river
- Natives were peaceful and beneficial for both sides, however a meeting near present-day Peekskill ended in violence
  - One of the natives snuck into Hudson's cabin and stole, "my pillow, two shirts, and two bandoliers."
  - Hudson fired on the native as he attempted to escape
  - "They appear to be a friendly people, but have a great prosperity to steal and are exceeding adroit in carrying away whatever they take a fancy to"
- This was to be Hudson's final encounter with the Native Americans on the river

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