

FORT ERIE::: or " GAI GWAH- GEH" .

The Indian name of the locality "Gai gwaah geh, signifies "The Place of the Hats". Seneca tradition relates as its origin that in olden times, soon after the first white man visited; a battle occurred on the lake between a party of French in a batteaux, and Indians in their canoes. The latter were victorious, and the french boats were sunk and the crew drowned . Their hats floated ashore where the Fort was sequently built; and attracting the attention of the Indians from their novelty; they called the locality " The Place of the Hats"

The NEUTRAL INDIANS that lived on the Canadian shores of Lake Erie and on both sides of the Niagara River were known as the Attiwandarons or the more common name the Neutrals. The Indian name ment people with a slightly different language.

In 1525 "The League of the Iroquios " was named the Wendat. This ment Islanders of Dwellers of the Penninsula. From it we get the name Wyandot. The Confederacy which lived east of Lake Erie and south of Lake Ontario were then known as the Five Nations. They consisted of the Seneca :Cayuga : Oneida: Mohawk, and Onondaga.

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1. Mohawk : man eater 3,000.
 2. Oneida : a rock set up and standing. 1,000.
 3. Onondaga : on the hill or mountain 3.000.
 4. Cayuga : Where locusts taken our. 2.000.
 5. Seneca : distorted variant of Oneida name. 7.000.
 6. Tuscarora. having common origin. 1600.

1713. By this date the Iroquios nation was known as the six Nation Indians or "Akaonsioni" people who build houses, as they lived in longhouses.