

The White Pine

ANNA CORNELL

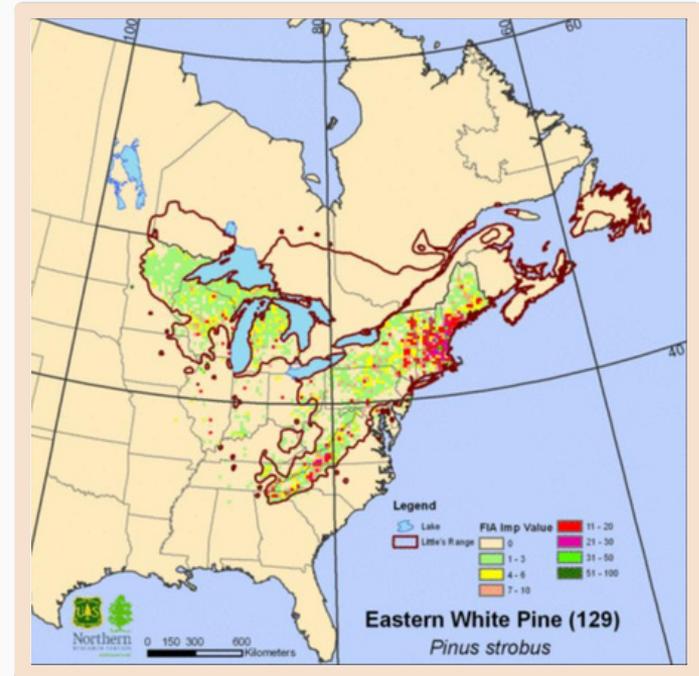


White Pine Characteristics

- *Pinus strobus*
- 50' - 100' tall
- Needles in bundles of 5 around 2.5-5 inches long
- 200 year - 450 year lifespan



The range of White Pine trees in the US:



Importance of the White Pine

- **Established a democracy between the five Iroquois speaking tribes around 1450**
 - The Seneca, Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Mohawk
- **Peace & law are one of the same**
 - Peace is a way of life that must be modeled in all social institutions
- **Adopted and supported the importance of diversity in their community**



The Great Law of Peace

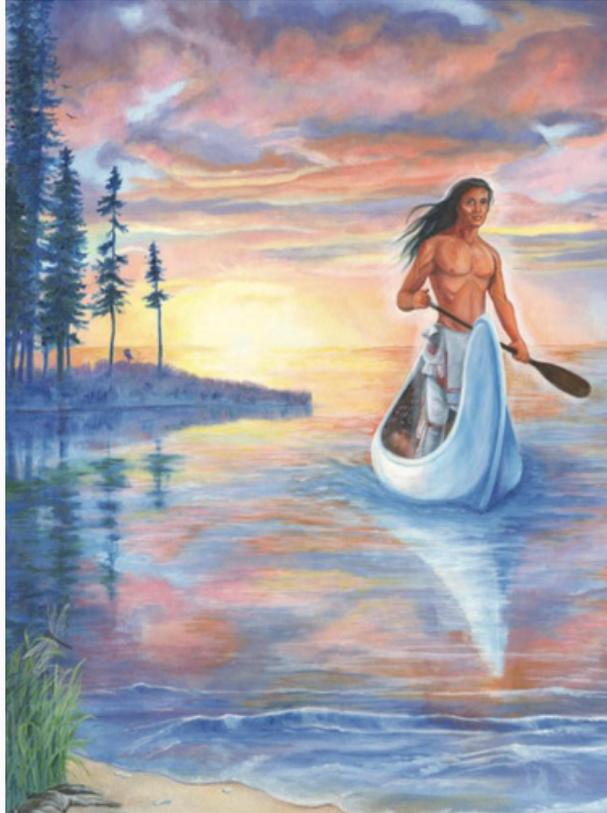
Roots have spread out from the Tree of the Great Peace, one to the north, one to the east, one to the south and one to the west. The name of these roots is the Great White

Roots and their nature is Peace and Strength.

If any man or any nation outside the Five Nations shall obey the laws of the Great Peace and make their disposition [swear their allegiance] to the Lords of the Confederacy, they may trace the Roots to the Tree and if their minds are clean and they are obedient and promise to **obey the wishes of the Confederate Council, they shall be welcomed to take shelter beneath the Tree of the Long**

Leaves.

The Iroquois Legend



The Peacemaker sent from the Great Spirit used the White Pine to secure Peace between the five native nations

The tree is believed to connect the earth and the sky, this linking reflects its importance in maintaining the unity of the universe and reinforces its sacred nature.

This peace tree is described as uprooted “to afford a cavity in which to bury all weapons of war”.

The White Pine As a Symbol

The Hiawatha Belt

- The alliance of the nations are depicted by this belt
- Served as a tool in spreading the word of the uniting 5 tribes
- Five symbols, the middle figure being a White Pine
- The Hiawatha Belt has been made into a flag flown in many places around the world



Physical Features - Deeper Meaning

The branches: represent the shelter and protection in the unity under the law

The roots: represent the extension of law and peace to all nations

The needles: represent the Five Nations

The eagle: represent the watchfulness in the defense of peace

The longevity of lifespan: represent the passing of The Great Peace down from the first chiefs to all of their successors

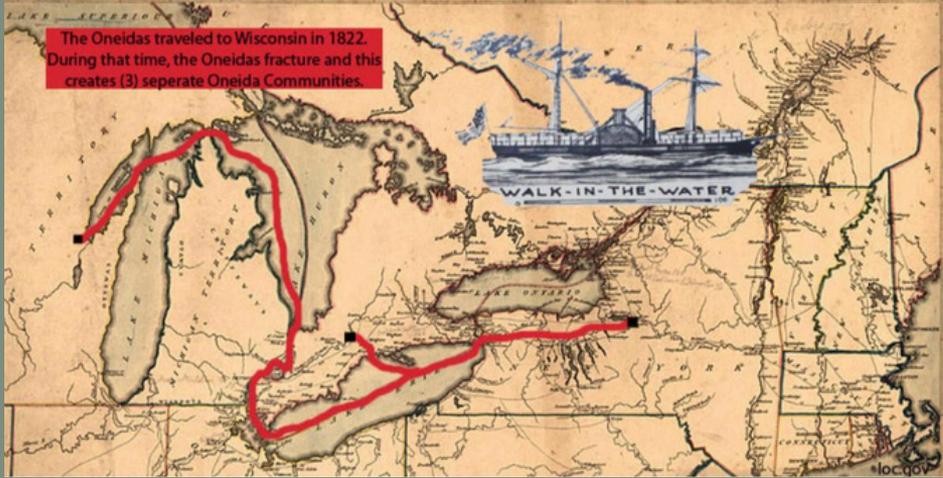
The evergreen: a symbol of immortality and eternal life





Oneida to Wisconsin

- The Oneida are a Iroquoian-speaking tribe that makes up the Six Nations League
- Originally residing in New York they were forcefully removed following the American Revolution
- Relocated to Wisconsin & Teejop



The Tree of Peace



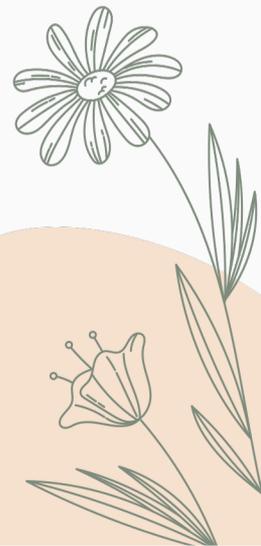
- Planted in 1988
- Planted by Jake Swamp
- Serves as a reminder of the history of this place
- Calls us to protect & care for the Earth

“For those people of the earth who search for the past, to healing power, wisdom and security. The tree will never die as long as the tree lives the people live. Placed 9 April 1988.”

Jake Swamp and His Legacy



- **Established Tree of Peace Society**
 - Planted hundreds of Peace Trees
- **Wrote *Giving Thanks Good Morning Message***
 - Has been adopted into the daily routines of the people of the Six Nations
- **Mohawk Nation Diplomat**
 - Very knowledgeable about the cultural heritage of the Iroquois



Overall Importance



The White Pine tree is a symbol of the connection between the land and the functioning of native society.

The presence of the Tree of Peace, on Observatory Hill, serves as an indication of the history of land in Teejop. It should be looked to as an inspirational portrayal of the relationship between land and society, we should try to uphold and advocate for.