



The name "Shackamaxon" comes from a number of possible Indian names. The interpretation most appealing, however, shows the word Shackamaxon as being derived from the word SAKIMA meaning chief - with the local suffix - INK giving it the meaning of "place of chiefs or Kings" --- the place where they meet.

Penn's Treaty with the Indians

A favorite Indian council ground called Shackamaxon (Place of Chiefs or Kings) was located along the Delaware River a few miles north of Philadelphia.

It was here in 1682 that William Penn signed a treaty with Chief Tamamend of the Lenni Lenape Tribe concluding that Indians and Quakers would remain forever friendly.

A painting by Benjamin West depicting this event hangs in the Philadelphia Museum of Fine Arts and a copy of this painting has hung in the Shackamaxon Library (the Charles Tinari Library), since 1972.