

## **Secotan** <sup>[1]</sup>

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A watercolor drawing of the village of Secotan prepared by John White from observations he made in 1585-86 while a member of the Ralph

Lane expedition. Trustees

by William S. Powell, 2006 of the British Museum.

Secotan was a large village of Algonquian-speaking Indians that was encountered in July 1585 along both banks of the Pamlico River <sup>[2]</sup> by Sir Richard Grenville <sup>[3]</sup>, an explorer sent by Sir Walter Raleigh <sup>[4]</sup>. The village was documented in a detailed watercolor drawing by John White <sup>[5]</sup> in 1585-86. Titled "Indian Village of Secotan <sup>[6]</sup>," the drawing depicts a well-ordered village with family units, storehouses, fields with growing crops, and individuals performing different tasks. In 1690, Bath <sup>[7]</sup>, the first town of English settlers in North Carolina, was established in the vicinity of Secotan, which had been abandoned by the Indians.

### **References:**

Paul Hulton and David B. Quinn, *The American Drawings of John White, 1577-1590*, vol. 1 (1964).

Quinn, *The Roanoke Voyages, 1584-1590* (2 vols., 1955).

Douglas L. Rights, *The American Indian in North Carolina* (2nd ed., 1957)

### **Subjects:**

[American Indians](#) <sup>[8]</sup>

[Colonial period \(1600-1763\)](#) <sup>[9]</sup>

[Precolonial period \(pre-1600\)](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

### **Authors:**

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### **Origin - location:**

[Beaufort County](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

[Bath](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

### **From:**

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

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### **Links**

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/secotan> <sup>[2]</sup> <http://www.pamlicoriver.org/> <sup>[3]</sup> <http://www.famous-explorers.com/famous-english-explorers/sir-richard-grenville/> <sup>[4]</sup>

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\\_figures/raleigh\\_walter.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/raleigh_walter.shtml) <sup>[5]</sup> <http://www.biography.com/people/john-white-9529444> <sup>[6]</sup>

[http://www.virtualjamestown.org/images/white\\_debry\\_html/plate35.html](http://www.virtualjamestown.org/images/white_debry_html/plate35.html) <sup>[7]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/geography/bath> <sup>[8]</sup>

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