

Mattaponi Sacred History regarding Pocahontas

Paula Gunn Allen's *Pocahontas: Medicine Woman, Spy, Entrepreneur, Diplomat* (2003) and Linwood Custalow and Angela Daniels' *The True Story of Pocahontas* (2007) are the only book-length Native American versions of her life. Both tell a significantly different story than most of America knows.

Lehigh University Library, Pennsylvania

<http://digital.lib.lehigh.edu/trial/pocahontas/mattaponi.php>

Modified

13) History silent on her conversion and baptism

Shortly after her ransom was paid, Pocahontas became a Christian. She was given the Christian name Rebecca. Mattaponi sacred oral history tells us very little about Pocahontas's time in captivity, her conversion to Christianity, her baptism and marriage.

Was Pocahontas baptized in Jamestown or Henrico? Neither Mattaponi oral history nor scholarship knows.

There is no indication that any Powhatan were present during her baptism.
(58)

14) Pocahontas was brainwashed in captivity and did what she had to in order to survive

Mattaponi sacred oral history does not say whether Pocahontas became a Christian. In captivity, she was brainwashed. She was captured.

She did not know where she was going or what was going to happen to her; thus the best to survive was to submit to her captors.

However, there may have come a point in her captivity when she did not think she could get out.

Being a bright person, she would have known what to do to survive the situation. (59)