



America's Indian Statues

MARION E. GRIDLEY

A complete
history

and photos of statues
of American Indian

AMERICANA

INDIAN LORE • TRAVEL

\$2.50

CANADA



DEDICATED:
AUGUST, 1954
ENTRANCE:
TEKAKWITHA
INDIAN SCHOOL,
CAUGHNAWAGA
QUEBEC

EMILE BRUNET
BRONZE ON GRANITE
BASE
FIGURE, 6 FEET
HIGH; OVER 10 FEET
WITH BASE

Courtesy: Mission of St. Francis Xavier, Caughnawaga

Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-1680)

Kateri, or Catherine, the "lily of the Mohawks," was an early convert to Catholicism and the first Indian nun. She embraced Christianity on Easter Day, 1675, and held to it in spite of the anger and reprisals of her people. She was unsuccessful in establishing a convent on an Island in the St. Lawrence River, but in spite of this she led a saintly life. A proposal for her beatification to sainthood is now under study in Rome.

When she died, Kateri was a member of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier and her home was close to the school where this statue stands. Her tomb is inscribed: "A beautiful flower, it has blossomed among native men."

NEW YORK

ERECTED: 1923
ENTRANCE TO
SHRINE OF NORTH
AMERICAN MARTYRS,
AURIESVILLE

ADRIENNE BOUVIER
STONE
HEROIC



Courtesy: Shrine of North American Martyrs, Auriesville

Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-1680)

This statue marks the site of Ossernenon, the easternmost village of the Mohawks, the birthplace of Kateri.

Kateri's mother was a Christian Algonquin. Both of her parents died when she was four and she was raised by a "pagan" uncle. When she was eleven, three French missionaries visited her village and stayed in her uncle's lodge. They are said to have influenced her to become a Christian, and she was baptized Catherine when she became eighteen. She was the first of her race to take the vow of virginity. Threatened with death because of her faith, she fled to Caughnawaga, the Mohawk Christian settlement in Quebec. She died at the age of twenty-four.