

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No. ____)*

Hudson Highland Group, Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

443792106

(CUSIP Number)

December 9, 2003

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of This Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
 Rule 13d-1(c)
 Rule 13d-1(d)

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP NO. 443792106 SCHEDULE 13G PAGE 2 OF 12 PAGES

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON/S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

SENECA CAPITAL, L.P.

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A)
(B)

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

DELAWARE

5. SOLE VOTING POWER

0

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON
WITH:

173,900

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

173,900

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

173,900

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

2.04%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

=====

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON/S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

SENECA CAPITAL II, L.P.

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A) []
(B) [X]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

DELAWARE

5. SOLE VOTING POWER

0

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON
WITH:

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

4,500

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

4,500

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

4,500

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES* []

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

0.05%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

=====

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON/S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

SENECA CAPITAL ADVISORS, LLC

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A) []
(B) [X]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

DELAWARE

5. SOLE VOTING POWER

0

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON
WITH:

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

178,400

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

178,400

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

178,400

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES []

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

2.10%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

00 - LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

=====

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON/S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

SENECA CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL, LTD.

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A) []
(B) [X]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

CAYMAN ISLANDS, BRITISH WEST INDIES

5. SOLE VOTING POWER

0

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON
WITH:

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

350,600

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

350,600

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

350,600

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES []

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

4.12%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

CO

=====

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON/S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

SENECA CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, LLC

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A) []
(B) [X]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

DELAWARE

5. SOLE VOTING POWER

0

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON
WITH:

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

354,400

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

354,400

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

354,400

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES []

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

4.17%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

00 - LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

=====

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON/S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

DOUGLAS A. HIRSCH

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A) []
(B) [X]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

USA

5. SOLE VOTING POWER

20,000

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON
WITH:

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

532,800

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

20,000

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

532,800

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

552,800

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES []

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

6.50%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

IN

=====

ITEM 1.

(a) Name of Issuer: Hudson Highland Group, Inc.

(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

622 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017

ITEM 2.

(a) Name of Persons Filing:

(b) Address or principal business office or, if none, residence:

(c) Citizenship:

Seneca Capital, L.P.
950 Third Ave, 29th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
(Delaware limited partnership)

Seneca Capital II, L.P.
950 Third Ave, 29th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
(Delaware limited partnership)

Seneca Capital Advisors, LLC
950 Third Ave, 29th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
(Delaware limited liability company)

Seneca Capital International, Ltd.
c/o Consolidated Fund Management (BVI) Limited
PO Box HM 2257
Par La Ville Place
14 Par La Ville Road
Hamilton HMJX, Bermuda
(Cayman Islands (BWI) Company)

Seneca Capital Investments, LLC
950 Third Ave, 29th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
(Delaware limited liability company)

Douglas A. Hirsch
c/o Seneca Capital
950 Third Ave, 29th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
(United States Citizen)

SCHEDULE 13G

CUSIP No. 443792106

Page 9 of 12 Pages
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Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities: Common stock

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number: 443792106

ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B), OR 13D-2(B), CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS A:

- (a) Broker or Dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act
- (b) Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act
- (c) Insurance Company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act
- (d) Investment Company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940
- (e) Investment Adviser registered under section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act or under the laws of any State
- (f) Employee Benefit Plan, Pension fund which is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 or Endowment Fund; see Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F)
- (g) Parent Holding Company, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(ii)(G)(Note: See Item 7)
- (h) A Savings Association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act
- (i) A Church Plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940
- (j) Group, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J)

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

SENECA CAPITAL, L.P.

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 173,900

- (b) Percent of Class: 2.04%

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 0

 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 173,900

 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 173,900

SENECA CAPITAL II, L.P.

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 4,500

- (b) Percent of Class: 0.05%

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 0

- (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 4,500

- (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

- (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 4,500

SENECA CAPITAL ADVISORS, LLC (1)

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 178,400

- (b) Percent of Class: 2.10%

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 0

 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 178,400

 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 178,400

SENECA CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL, LTD.

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 350,600

- (b) Percent of Class: 4.12%

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 0

 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 350,600

 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 350,600

SENECA CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, LLC (2)

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 354,400

- (b) Percent of Class: 4.17%

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 0

 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 354,400

 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 354,400

DOUGLAS A. HIRSCH (3)

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 552,800

- (b) Percent of Class: 6.50%

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 20,000

 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 532,800

 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 20,000

 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 532,800

(1) Shares reported for Seneca Capital Advisors, LLC represent shares beneficially owned by Seneca Capital, L.P. and Seneca Capital II, L.P.

Seneca Capital Advisors, LLC is the sole general partner of Seneca Capital, L.P. and of Seneca Capital II, L.P.

- (2) Shares reported for Seneca Capital Investments, LLC include shares beneficially owned by Seneca Capital International, Ltd. Seneca Capital Investments, LLC is sole investment manager of Seneca Capital International, Ltd.
- (3) Shares reported for Douglas A. Hirsch include shares beneficially owned by Seneca Capital, L.P., Seneca Capital II, L.P. and Seneca Capital International, Ltd., which entities may be deemed to be controlled by Mr. Hirsch because he is the Manager of Seneca Capital Advisors, LLC (the sole General Partner of Seneca Capital, L.P. and of Seneca Capital II, L.P.) and the Manager of Seneca Capital Investments, LLC (the investment manager of Seneca Capital International, Ltd.).

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following []. NOT APPLICABLE.

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON

If any other person is known to have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, such securities, a statement to that effect should be included in response to this item and, if such interest relates to more than five percent of the class, such person should be identified. A listing of the shareholders of an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or the beneficiaries of employees benefit plan, pension fund or endowment fund is not required. Not Applicable.

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY OR CONTROL PERSON

If a parent holding company or control person has filed this schedule, pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b)(ii)(G), so indicate under Item 3(g) and attach an exhibit stating the identity and the Item 3 classification of the relevant subsidiary. If a parent holding company or control person has filed this schedule pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c) or Rule 13d-1(d), attach an exhibit stating the identification of the relevant subsidiary. Not Applicable.

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

If a group has filed this schedule pursuant to Rule 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J), so indicate under Item 3(j) and attach an exhibit stating the identity and Item 3 classification of each member of the group. If a group has filed this schedule pursuant to Rule 240.13d-1(c) or Rule 240.13d-1(d), attach an exhibit stating the identity of each member of the group. NOT APPLICABLE.

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP

Notice of dissolution of a group may be furnished as an exhibit stating the date of the dissolution and that all further filings with respect to transactions in the security report on will be filed, if required, by members of the group, in their individual capacity. Not Applicable.

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I hereby certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: December 19, 2003

SENECA CAPITAL, L.P.

By Seneca Capital Advisors, LLC, its General Partner

By: /s/ Douglas A. Hirsch

Douglas A. Hirsch, Its Managing Member

SENECA CAPITAL II, L.P.

By Seneca Capital Advisors, LLC, its General Partner

By: /s/ Douglas A. Hirsch

Douglas A. Hirsch, Its Managing Member

SENECA CAPITAL ADVISORS, LLC

By: /s/ Douglas A. Hirsch

Douglas A. Hirsch, Its Managing Member

SENECA CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL, LTD.

By Seneca Capital Investments, LLC, its Investment Manager

By: /s/ Douglas A. Hirsch

Douglas A. Hirsch, Its Managing Member

SENECA CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, LLC

By: /s/ Douglas A. Hirsch

Douglas A. Hirsch, Its Managing Member

By: /s/ Douglas A. Hirsch

Douglas A. Hirsch, Individually