



# 2023 MAWWG Share-Out

# Who We Are



The **Chickahominy Indian Tribe** is located in rural Charles City County Virginia. European arrival in 1607 found the Chickahominy in the land known as ***Tsenacommacah***, the name given by Chief Powhatan.

# Our Villages

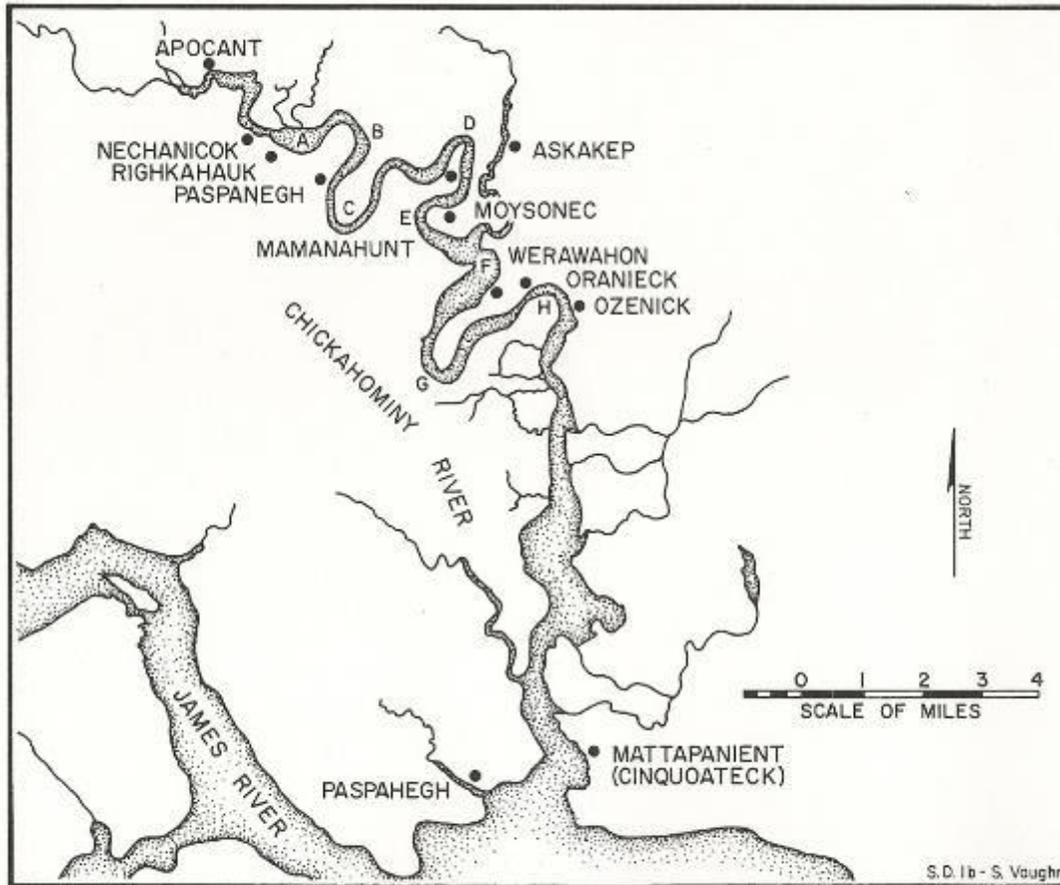


FIGURE 4. Modern Map showing Major Archaeological Sites in Chickahominy and Paspahogh Indian Territory.

## Chickahominy Villages

- 12-15 consisting of 10-20 longhouses
- 17 miles along the Chickahominy River
- Ozenic village closest to James River (Powhatan)
- Appocant farthest away
- Moysonec called the 'principal city', possibly the capital city
- People were living in this area by 567 BC
- Established settlements starting around 1100 AD (*Chickahominy River Survey, p134,136*)

# *Modern History*

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- **State recognition in 1983; Federal recognition in 2018**
- **Today the majority of Chickahominy citizens are clustered in Charles City and New Kent Counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia between the James, Chickahominy, and Pamunkey Rivers**
- **Riverine ecosystems constituted Chickahominy people's livelihood in the past and remain cultural and spiritual touchstones in the present**
- **Presently the Tribe has two parcels of land that garner concern for conservation: one adjacent to the Chickahominy River and one adjacent to the James River**
  - **The parcel on the Chickahominy River is 830 acres with approximately 5 miles of shoreline and approximately 380 acres of wetland**
    - **Located near ancestral village of Mamanahunt**
  - **The James River parcel is 105 acres with approximately 2 miles of shoreline**
    - **Referred to as Chickahominy on the Powhatan**

# Chickahominy on the Powhatan

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Chickahominy tribal *history and culture* are deeply intertwined with the riverine ecosystems that surround the community



# Mamanahunt

Mamanahunt 2021



# *Shoreline Work*

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- **Received NFWF National Coastal Resilience Fund Grant**
  - **Community capacity building and planning stage**
  - **Survey citizens to help us understand our citizens' current relationship to the shoreline, observations of change, areas of greatest concern, and the best way to serve the Tribe's needs moving forward**
  - **Initial assessment of Chickahominy and James River shorelines**
  - **Install tidal gauge at Chickahominy site**
  - **Map bathymetry along both shorelines**
  - **Develop Tribal Coastal Resilience Plan**





# *Wetland Work*

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- **Supplemental Environmental Project at Mamanahunt**
  - **Performed through partnership with VCU Rice Rivers Center**
    - **Goal is to delineate and characterize wetlands using geospatial technology for attributes such as elevation, plant community composition & productivity, & critical habitats for culturally significant living resources such as Atlantic sturgeon & bald eagles**
    - **Have collected multi-spectral and LiDAR data with drones**
    - **Have conducted flora inventory on the property**
- **Development of wetland program plan (WPP)**
  - **In early draft stages**
  - **Need Tribal Council & EPA input/approval**
- **Through combination of NFWF & SEP work hope to develop threat mitigation & management tactics to support tidal wetland protection**

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*Kenah!*

*(Thank You)*