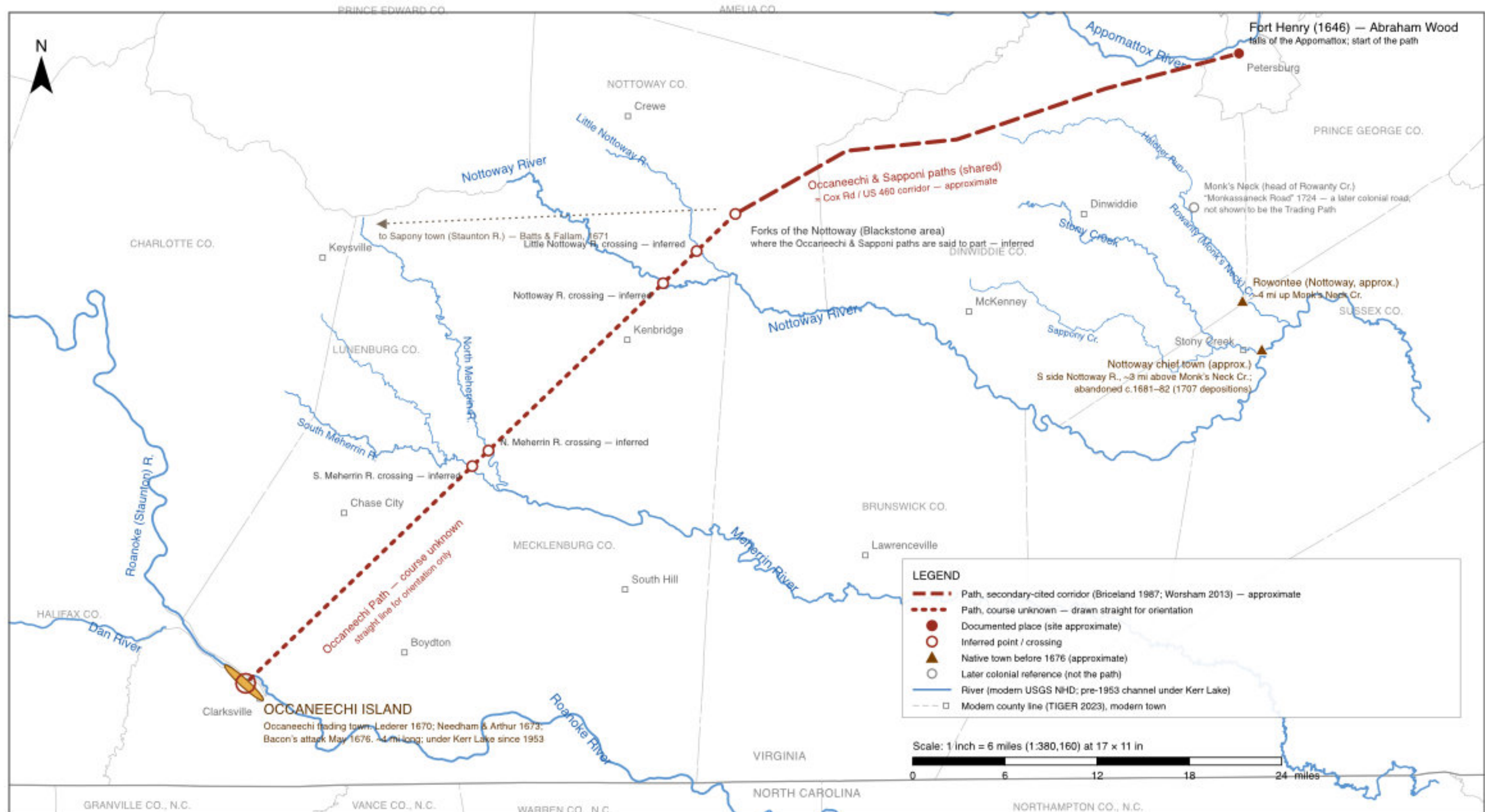


The Trading Path, Fort Henry to Occaneechi Island, before 1676

The Occaneechi Path used by Abraham Wood's traders, from the falls of the Appomattox (early Petersburg) to the Occaneechi trading town on the Roanoke — route approximate



CAVEAT: Only the two ends are firmly documented (Fort Henry 1646; Occaneechi Island 1670–76). No 17th-century survey or map traces the path between them. Fort Henry–Blackstone follows the corridor that Briceland (1987) and Worsham (2013) give for the shared Occaneechi/Sapponi path (= Cox Rd / US 460; Cocke's mill road 1730). Beyond the Nottoway forks the course is unknown; the dotted straight line and its river crossings are inferred. After 1676 traders used Moniseep Ford, ~30 mi down the Roanoke, and the island branch was abandoned (NCpedia; Rights 1931). Sources: Hening 1:315, 326 (Fort Henry); Lederer, Discoveries (1672); Wood's 1674 letter (Alvord & Biddood 1912); VMHB 7:337–58 (1707 Nottoway depositions); GNIS 1500895 Occaneechee Island (historical); Miller, BAE Bull. 182 (1962); USGS NHD flowlines; US Census TIGER/Line 2023 counties. Projection NAD83 / Virginia South (EPSG:32147). Rivers and county lines are modern.