

JANUARY 2013 UPDATE

We are now in our 8th year and support for the Project continues to build. ☺

While I will never accomplish in any year everything I set out to, 2013 was a positive year in many respects.

First, we acquired the endorsements of the Fort Monroe Authority and the Historical & Archaeological Society of Fort Monroe. Project success has always depended upon broad support. We now have the support of 20 different organizations/agencies/entities....and growing!

Second, I received the opportunity to speak about our Project on 4 occasions:

1. August 21, 2013, at the Hampton History Museum;
2. September 27, 2013, at Norfolk State University (1619, The Making of America);
3. November 2, 2013, at the Hunt for York County History (U.S. Naval Weapons Station Yorktown Gymnasium); and
4. December 2, 2013, before the Historical & Archaeological Society of Fort Monroe.

Like all presentations I have ever done, the above opportunities spread knowledge of our Project and introduced me to interested and passionate people with specific knowledge helpful to the Project.

Third, I am passionate and want things to progress as quickly as possible. At the same time, the Project must continue to advance in a systematic and coordinated way. While it has been somewhat demoralizing to press as hard as time permits year after year with only limited measurable gains to discuss, I have developed a greater appreciation over the past year of the ways in which this slow progression has made it more likely we'll achieve the grander goals we seek.

Moving forward (in 2014), I continue to look for/compare maps and try to identify/document the links between available resources. Also, I continue to look for funding to help advance technical aspects of the project. Next week, I have a meeting planned with DHR and the City of Williamsburg to discuss potential application for Certified Local Government (CLG) funding. Hopefully, this meeting will spark the beginning of something exciting!

Thank you, again, for everyone's help and support. I will not let you down.

Paul

P.S. Below is what I consider to be an interesting side by side comparison, relative to the mouth of Salter's Creek (near Newport News Point). The map on the left is a section of John Smith's map. The map on the right is a 2008 storm surge graphic. While I believe John Smith's map is best analyzed in sections, this seems to me to be clear evidence of what he was mapping and why. Several points on John Smith's map can be almost exactly identified.

