



Mapping Your Location - Activity

As you learned on your virtual tour, the British Government sent surveyors to Upper Canada to mark out land boundaries for settlement. These pieces of land were called “lots” and using concession lines divided the map into a grid. Concessions are always marked using roman numerals and have become the roadways we still see today.

Imagine you have made the voyage across the ocean; you’ve passed quarantine in Quebec and travelled up the St. Lawrence and have arrived at Cobourg. Upon arrival you must go to the Location Office in Cobourg and choose a lot for your family to live on. Using the attached map of Otonabee Township, select the location where you would like to settle.

There are many things to consider when selecting your location. Water was very important in the early days for easy transportation before quality roads were built and were used as bridges during the winter when they were frozen over. Mills needed a source of waterpower to operate and businesses soon surrounded the mills and created villages. Closeness to neighbours and villages should also be taken into consideration.

Villages and rivers have been marked on the map. Blacked out lots mean that they have already been settled by another family. Where do you think is the best location to settle your family? What are the reasons for your choice?

