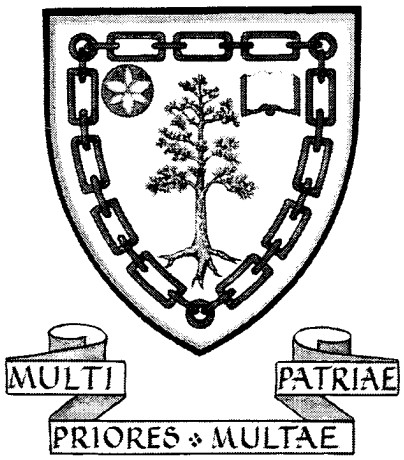
Municipal Records in Ontario
History and Guide

Fraser Dunford



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Cover

The label on the cover of the 1868 Collectors Roll for the United Township of Burleigh Anstruther Chandos Cardiff Monmouth Harcourt and Bruton. This United Township existed from 1864 to 1874 and demonstrates the need to understand the administrative history of a municipality. This Collectors Roll is in the Township of North Kawartha fonds at the Trent Valley Archives.

Illustrations courtesy of Fraser Dunford. Maps compiled and drawn by Eric Jonasson, 1980. Care has been taken to trace ownership of copyright material contained in this text. The publisher will gratefully accept any information that will enable it to rectify any reference or credit in subsequent printings.

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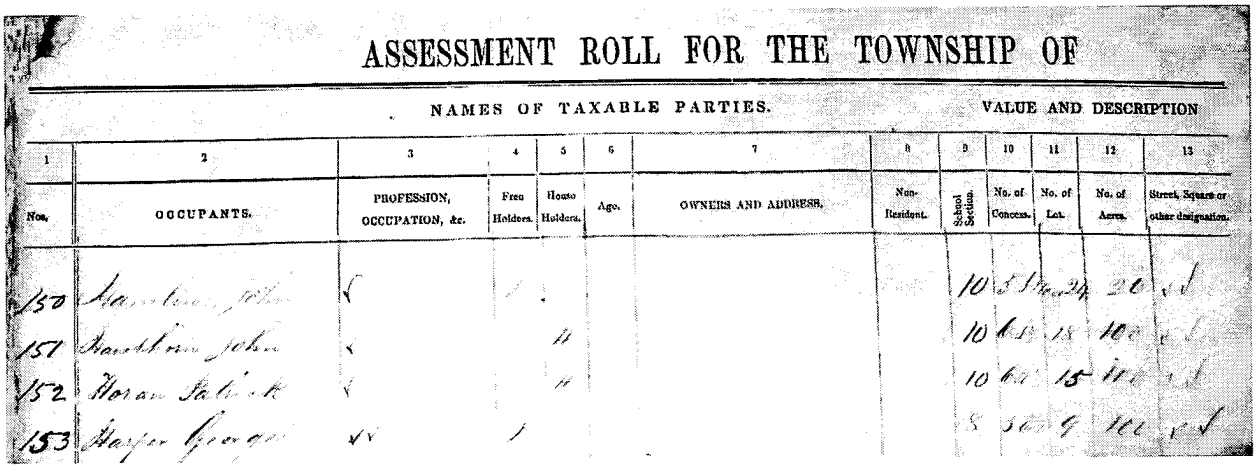
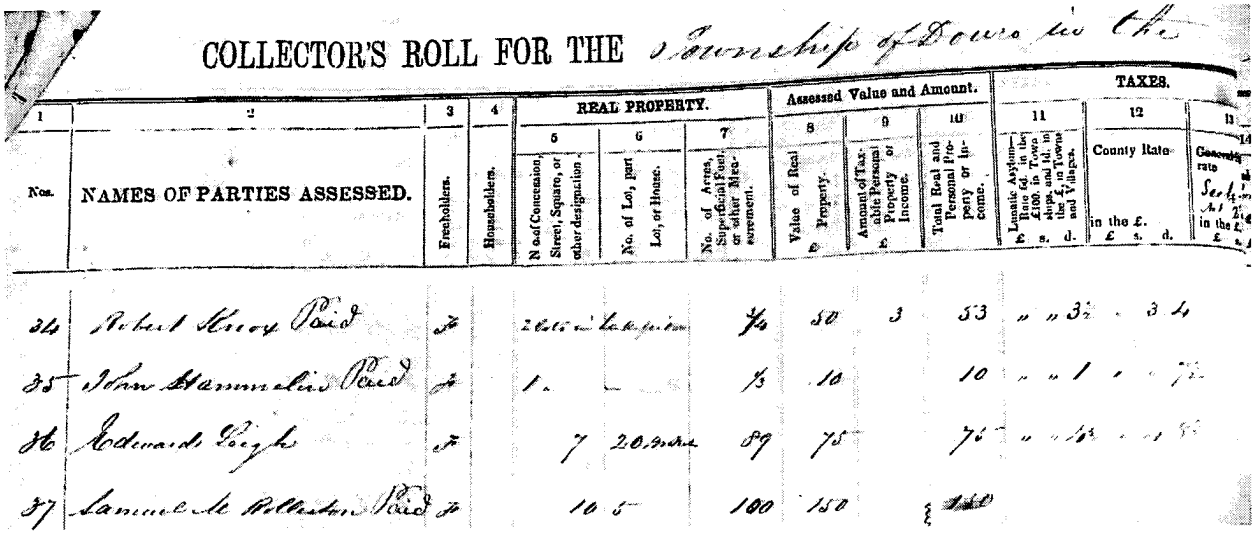


ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Nos.	OCCUPANTS.	PROFESSION, OCCUPATION, &c.	Free Holders.	House Holders.	Age.	OWNERS AND ADDRESS.	Non-Resident.	School Section.	No. of Concess.	No. of Lot.	No. of Acres.	Street, Square or other designation.
150	Hamlin John	✓	✓					10	5	24	20	✓
151	Hawthorn John	✓		H				10	6	18	100	✓
152	Horan Patrick	✓		H				10	6	15	100	✓
153	Harper George	✓✓	✓					8	5	9	100	✓

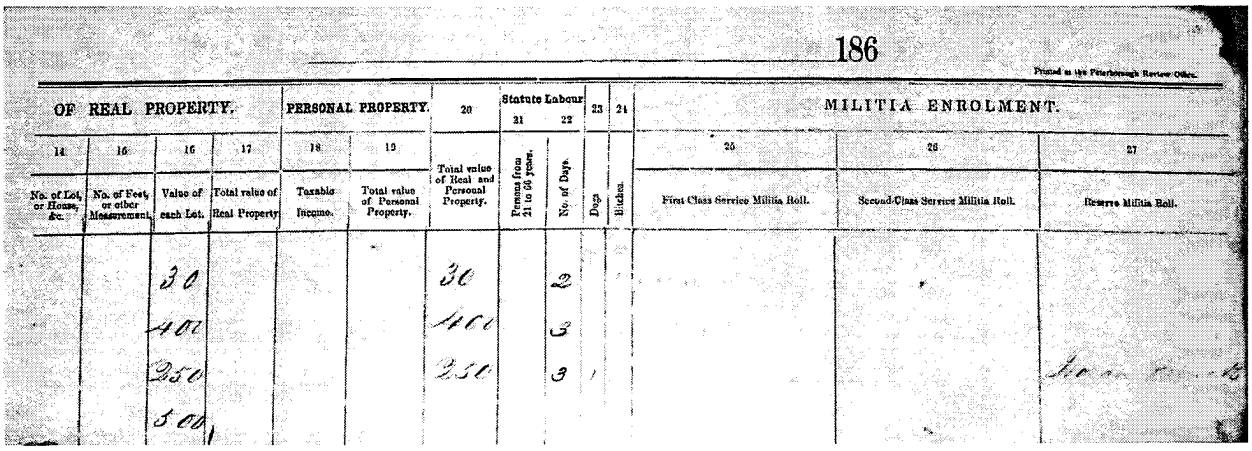
The left and right pages of the 1864 Douro Township Assessment Roll. The entries are calendared (sorted by first letter only) – this is a page from the H section. The first line is that of the author's great great grandfather, John Hamlin, who was the freeholder of 20 acres at Douro C5 L24 that was in School Section 10.



COLLECTOR'S ROLL FOR THE Township of Douro in the

1	2	3	4	REAL PROPERTY. 5	6	7	Assessed Value and Amount. 8	9	10	TAXES. 11	12	13
Nos.	NAMES OF PARTIES ASSESSED.	Freeholders.	Householders.	No. of Concession, Street, Square, or other designation.	No. of Lot, part Lot, or House.	No. of Acres, Superficial Feet, or other Measurement.	Value of Real Property. £	Amount of Taxable Personal Property or Income. £	Total Real and Personal Property or Income.	Lunatic Asylum—Rate 6d. in the £100, in Towns and Villages. £ s. d.	County Rate in the £. £ s. d.	Generally rate Section 1 in the £ £ s. d.
34	Robert Knox Paid	F		2 lots in Lakefield		1/4	50	3	53	" " 3½	" 3 4	
35	John Hammelin Paid	F		1		1/3	10		10	" " 1	" " 7½	
36	Edward Leigh	F		7	20 acres	89	75		75	" " 4½	" " 5	
37	Samuel M Rolleston Paid	F		10	5	100	150		150			

The left and right pages of the 1853 Douro Township Collector Roll. These entries are by roll number, making searching more difficult. The second entry is for John Hamlin again, here spelled Hammelin. He was the freeholder of one lot in Lakefield, 1/3 acre, value £10, no taxable personal property or income. He paid a penny to support the lunatic asylum (which does not match the printed instructions for that column), 7 ½ pence county rate, 3 ½ pence for what may be the township rate (column 14), and five



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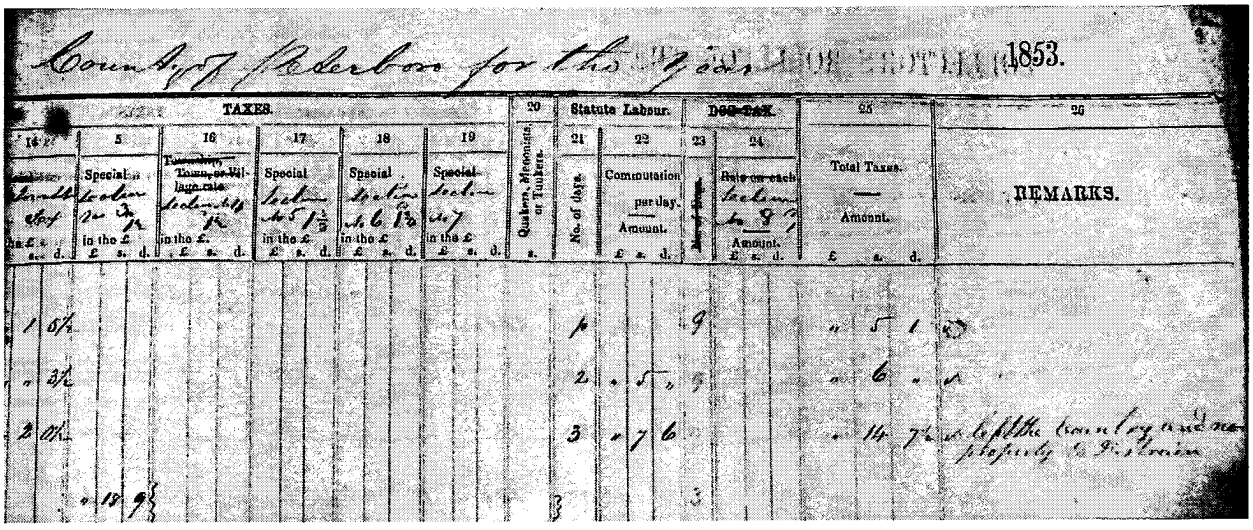
OF REAL PROPERTY.				PERSONAL PROPERTY.		20	Statute Labour		23	24	MILITIA ENROLMENT.		
14	15	16	17	18	19		21	22			25	26	27
No. of Lot, or House, &c.	No. of Feet, or other Measurement.	Value of each Lot.	Total value of Real Property	Taxable Income.	Total value of Personal Property.	Total value of Real and Personal Property.	Persons from 21 to 60 years.	No. of Days.	Dogs	Bitches.	First Class Service Militia Roll.	Second Class Service Militia Roll.	Reserve Militia Roll.
		30				30		2					
		400				400		3					
		250				250		3					
		500											

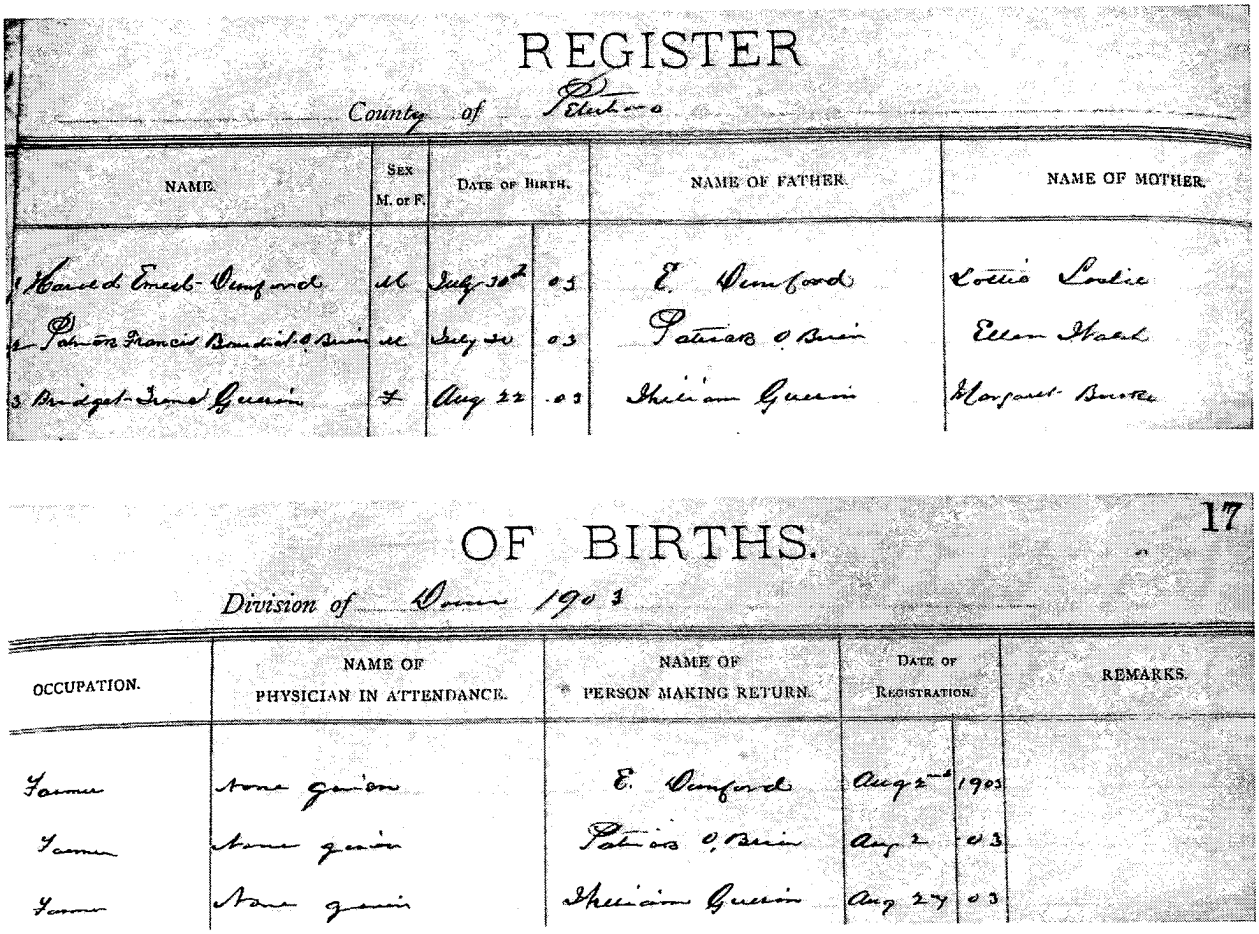
His lot was worth £30, he had no taxable personal property, he owed two days of statute labour and he was not in the militia. He did not have 18 dogs (!) – the meaning of the pencil marks is not known. This Assessment Roll is held at the Douro Public Library.



County of Peterborough for the Year 1853.

TAXES.						20	Statute Labour.		DOG TAX.		25	26
14	15	16	17	18	19		21	22	23	24		
	Special	Township or Village rate	Special	Special	Special	Quakers, Mennonists or Tunkers.	No. of days.	Commutation per day. — Amount.		Rate on each — Amount.	Total Taxes. — Amount.	REMARKS.
	in the £ £ s. d.	in the £ £ s. d.	in the £ £ s. d.	in the £ £ s. d.	in the £ £ s. d.	s.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1	0½						1	9			5 1	
"	3½						2	5 9			6 4	
2	0½						3	7 6			14 7½	left the Country and no property to destrain.
	18 9½					3						

shillings for the commutation of his two days' statute labour, for a total of six shillings. The other columns appear to be the taxes for different school sections (Sections 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 in columns 15 to 19, and section 8 in column 24). Column 23 is likely the school section – John was in section 9, which did not pay taxes. The third entry is for Edward Leigh and the remark says "left the country and no property to destrain." Mr Leigh has apparently abandoned the 87 acres of broken lot Douro C7 L20.



REGISTER

County of Peterboro

NAME.	SEX M. or F.	DATE OF BIRTH.		NAME OF FATHER.	NAME OF MOTHER.
1 Harold Ernest Dunford	M	July 30th	03	E. Dunford	Lottie Leslie
2 Patrick Francis Bernard O'Brien	M	July 30	03	Patrick O'Brien	Ellen Hart
3 Bridget Irene Guerin	F	Aug 22	03	William Guerin	Margaret Burke

OF BIRTHS. 17

Division of Douro 1903

OCCUPATION.	NAME OF PHYSICIAN IN ATTENDANCE.	NAME OF PERSON MAKING RETURN.	DATE OF REGISTRATION.		REMARKS.
Farmer	None given	E. Dunford	Aug 2nd	1903	
Farmer	None given	Patrick O'Brien	Aug 2	03	
Farmer	None given	William Guerin	Aug 27	03	

The left and right pages from the Register of Births, Marriages and Deaths for Douro Township. The top line shows the birth of the author's father. This demonstrates the caution that must be used with handwritten records. Dad was properly registered as Harold Everett Dunford, but the person copying that registration into this book wrote Harold Ernest Dunford.

How to Use This Book

Few genealogists appreciate the gold mine that municipal records can provide. Municipalities provided an astonishing variety of records, all of them local (by definition!) and many just loaded with names of people living in that locality. This source is not well-known because you must know the municipality your ancestor was in, you have to know where that municipality's records are now and the records will almost certainly be completely, totally, absolutely un-indexed.

Although searching municipal records will never be simple, this book attempts to make the process somewhat easier. Here you will find a basic history that will show you what to look for, depending on the time period you are interested in. There is a description of the many different documents municipalities produced, so you will know which to search first. There are six appendices listing every municipality in Ontario that could have produced records. Two more appendices give details on Assessment Rolls and Collector Rolls, showing what information can be found in them in different time periods.

Like so much in the early history of Ontario, the municipal system was created on one model and ended up as something quite different. The history is quite complex; this description is only the briefest of overviews. Municipal government can be divided into three periods, with 31 December 1849 and the early 1960s as dividing points

Before 1850

Municipal government started in 1788, when what is now Ontario was part of the colony of Quebec. The huge influx of Loyalists fleeing the rebellious American colonies created a need for local administration. Two entities were created: **townships**, essentially for land surveys; and **districts**, for administration and courts. In 1792, **counties** were created to fulfil three functions: political ridings, an organizational base for the militia and – apparently – the structure for a landed aristocracy on the British model. Some of the counties had several ridings.

The Loyalists so overwhelmed the system that some townships were numbered, receiving names later. Unfortunately the numbering system is confusing (it seems head office in Quebec City used a different set of numbers than the local administrators). Information on numbered townships is contained in Appendix 1.

Information on Districts is contained in Appendix 2, on Counties in Appendix 3, and on named Townships in Appendix 4. Some maps are on pages 17 and 18.

Prior to 1800, there was no match between District and County. Several counties were divided between two districts. However a re-organization of districts in 1800 ensured

each county was contained within one district. In 1800 the original four districts were expanded to seven. Over time the number of districts increased until by 1849 there were twenty, eleven of which consisted of only one county each.

Originally urban municipalities had no powers at all but were administered by the township they were in. It wasn't until the 1830s that towns and cities came into existence as political entities, when some were allowed a Board of Police (this is an early term for municipal administration and has nothing to do with a police force). Brockville became the first town in 1832, Toronto the first city in 1834.

The Baldwin Act of 1849

By 1849 there was a clear need for a better structure for urban municipalities, and it had become obvious that there was no need for both district and county. The Baldwin Act (12 Vic c81), passed on 30 May 1849 and coming into effect at the beginning of 1850, accomplished the reform of the entire municipal structure (urban, abolition of districts, powers to counties). This Act created six municipal corporations: townships, counties, police villages,[1] villages, towns and cities. Thus, although many municipalities had come into existence long before, 1850 frequently was the beginning of their legal existence. The Act created villages for the first time – six were created, along with fifteen towns and three cities. Information on villages, towns and cities is in Appendix 5.

Districts were abolished; the counties took over their administrative and judicial functions. The nine districts that contained more than one county were succeeded by united counties, many of which separated over the next few years, although three still exist today. The transfer of power was not simple, so the date of transfer varies from county to county by as much as a few years.

After 1850 it is fairly easy to determine whether a municipality existed and so whether it had records. Prior to 1850 it is more difficult to determine what municipality had jurisdiction (and so had created records).

From 1850 to the 1960s

The "traditional" basic structure of municipal government in Ontario established in 1850 by the Baldwin Act was that of a two tier municipal government. The **lower tier** consisted of townships, police villages, villages and towns, all of which were part of an **upper tier**, the county. Cities and an entity called a **separated town** were not part of a county and carried out the functions of both tiers – they are sometimes called **single tier** municipalities.

After 1869 the more northern parts of Ontario were gradually divided into **districts**, starting with Muskoka District. These still exist. They should not be confused with the pre-1850 districts. Information on modern districts is in Appendix 3 along with Counties.

The most stable unit in Ontario is the township but even they were divided occasionally, sometimes with the parts going to different counties. There are two types of townships. A **geographic township** consists of a particular piece of land. If it has been surveyed then you refer to the geographic township when you quote concession and lot (for example, Burleigh C3 L3). There are about 2 500 geographic townships in Ontario, most of which

[1] Again this has nothing to do with a police force. Apparently no Ontario police village ever had its own police force! The term "police" refers to a very basic form of administration.

(in Northern Ontario) have not been surveyed beyond a definition of their boundaries. The other is an **administrative township**, which in Southern Ontario usually coincides with the geographic township but may consist of several geographic townships. For example the administrative township of North Kawartha consists of three geographic townships: Burleigh, Anstruther and Chandos.

The number of municipalities gradually grew, peaking in the early 1960s. For a number of years the *Municipal Directory* contained a count of municipalities. For the years the count was published, the peak occurred in 1962.

Since the 1960s

Classification	Location			Total
	Metro Toronto	Counties	Districts	
Cities	1	24	5	30
Separated Towns		8		8
Towns	4	99	47	150
Villages	3	144	11	158
Administrative Townships	5	421	148	574
Improvement Districts		1	19	20
Administrative Counties				38
Metropolitan Toronto				1
Total				**979**

By the mid twentieth century, problems had arisen with the traditional structure. These came from the two ends of the size scale: several cities had become much too large to function within the structure, and many administrative townships had too small a population to support them.

The "large" problem surfaced first in Toronto where, in the 1950s, the City of Toronto and the cities surrounding it were brought together into a metropolitan super government. This was not entirely successful so, when the problem was addressed in other cities, a slightly different form was used. Starting in 1969 with Ottawa, **regional municipalities** were created. This entity could be though of as a "super county" that included all municipalities within it, including cities. Where regional municipalities were created, the county disappeared. Information on regional municipalities is in Appendix 3.

In the early 1990s another entity was created that, to thoroughly confuse everyone, was a municipality called a **municipality**. Typically they were amalgamations of townships, villages and towns. Information on these strange creatures is in Appendix 6.

Since the 1960s, there has been a steady program of amalgamating municipalities, particularly townships, in order to create a unit large enough to support itself. The result is that today there are about half as many municipalities as there were in 1962.

What It Means to a Genealogist

To use municipal records, you must know which municipality your ancestor was in, and when. Alas, all too often that is the very information you are seeking! You must know the "head of household" because most municipal records are interested in who pays the taxes. If you know only that your ancestor farmed in a particular county in a particular time period, municipal records may be the fastest way to find him, even though it means

searching all the townships in the county. If you know that he lived in a particular city in a particular time period, first try directories. Use municipal records only if a directory does not exist.

You need to know how that municipality was administered at that time. The township may have been united with others and the records may have stayed with another township. The village may have been a village only in name and administered as part of a township. An example. Lakefield Village was known as "the village of Lakefield" in the 1850s and was even referred to as such in official records. But it did not become a village until 1874 and so there are no Lakefield records before that date. Instead you have to search Douro Township or Smith Township records.

Municipalities moved more than we realize, for example, Amaranth Township has belonged to Simcoe, Waterloo, Wellington and Dufferin Counties. If you are searching county records for ancestors from that township, you had best pay close attention to dates.

Next, where are the records of that administrative unit? For that you need a historical time line for the unit, for records can be shed anywhere along that line. For example, if you wanted the Assessment Roll for Cardiff Township, Haliburton County, for 1866, why would you ever think to look in the records of North Kawartha Township, Peterborough County? But that is where that Roll is because in 1866 Cardiff Township was part of Peterborough County and was administered by Burleigh Township, which is now part of North Kawartha (*see* cover photograph). The appendices of this book provide you with that historical time line.

You should be very careful with municipal names. If your ancestor "came from Waterloo," you may have no idea whether that was Waterloo City, Township or County. Fortunately they are all close to each other. But an ancestor "from Hamilton" may have come from Hamilton City or Hamilton Township, which are a considerable distance apart. There are many duplications in Ontario municipal names.

Municipal Records

Municipalities created an astonishing variety of records. There are no records for police villages and **hamlets** (communities known by name but with no legal existence).

Council Minutes

These are records of the actions of the municipal council. Because we are dealing with local matters (roads, bridges, lost cows) many names appear in the minutes. However it requires a great deal of reading with no estimate of the probability of success.

By-Laws

The legislation of the municipal council. Typically they do not contain names.

Assessment Rolls

Each year the municipality must determine the assessed value of each property in its jurisdiction. It can then establish a mill rate – the amount of taxes to be paid for each dollar of assessed value. The assessor did this, entering information about each property into a large book called the Assessment Roll (top photographs on pages 4 and 5). Much information was collected: the location of each property, its size, the owner or tenant, that person's age (for road duties or for the militia) and religion (to determine which school board the taxes should go to), information about the property and what is on it. Even the number of dogs was recorded. The information varied over time; *see* Appendix 7 for details.

Assessment is done by lower tier or single tier municipalities. Upper tier municipalities (such as counties) use the assessment of the lower tier to strike their mill rate. The lower tier gathered their taxes.

Assessment rolls provide vital genealogical information since they show that a particular person was on a particular property in a particular year. Sometimes they state the number of people in the family and often list the number of children (for school planning).

An Assessment Roll is usually not in alphabetical order, but is often calendared (sorted by first letter). However if it is ordered by roll number, you will have to search the entire Roll in order to find someone. An Assessment Roll is a public document. Some municipalities used a combined Assessment-Collector Roll.

Collector Rolls

Once the assessor had established the mill rate, the collector took over. He created another large book, the Collector Roll (bottom photographs on pages 4 and 5), in which

was recorded the name of the owner or tenant, the location, the amount of taxes and whether they were paid. Usually there was more information; see Appendix 8 for details. Some municipalities consider Collector Rolls as confidential documents since they show whether or not taxes were paid. However a great many Collector Rolls are now in archives where they are easily available.

Some municipalities used a combined Assessment-Collector Roll.

Lands Liable to Taxation

This fascinating book, dated 1 January 1866, was created by the Peterborough County Treasurer's Office. A book was created for each township (photograph on page 126). It lists every piece of property, by Concession and Lot, and the name and date of the original owner. To quote (in slightly condensed form) from the preface, "all lots for which patents have been issued are entered in black ink, those lots which are sold or agreed to be sold but for which a patent has not yet been issued are inserted in red ink, lots which are neither patented, sold, or agreed to be sold but the titles to which are still vested in the Crown are left blank." The township could then keep the book up to date. I have not found a similar document from any other county and the Archives of Ontario was unaware of the existence of such a document.

Clerk-Treasurer Records

These are a bewildering mess of records created by the municipality's clerk and treasurer (who were often the same person). Because the files are so large and contain so many different sorts of records, they are very difficult to search. Usually they are not worth searching for genealogical information, although there may be something unique in there, such as payment for livestock lost to wolves or dogs, or a fence dispute.

Voter Lists

A Voter List contains the names of every person entitled to vote in a particular election, be it municipal, provincial or federal. Early ones are rare; later ones (twentieth century) are not common. They are of course valuable genealogically since they clearly show a person in a general area at a particular time. Some may provide precise addresses. They seem to be almost accidental in municipal records, sometimes found tucked inside an Assessment Roll.

School Lists

At first thought these would seem to be very useful but unfortunately most municipal school records are entirely financial. However they occasionally do contain a list of the children and so can be worth checking. School records at School Boards are more useful than the records filed in a municipality since the former usually contain lists of children.

Births, Marriages, Deaths

At first thought these would seem to be the documents of greatest genealogical interest, but the reality is much less exciting. To understand all this, you need a little historical background.

Prior to 1763, what is now Ontario belonged to France and any vital statistics are therefore in French records. From 1763 to 1831, only ministers of the established churches – Anglican and Roman Catholic - could perform marriages. This was impossible since

there weren't enough established ministers, so military commanding officers and justices of the peace performed marriages. Technically they did this illegally, but subsequent legislation legitimated the marriages. Under the Marriage Act of 1831, ministers of other denominations were allowed to perform marriages but they had to report the marriages to the Clerk of the Peace who recorded the marriages in a District Marriage Register. Note that the established clergy (Anglican and Roman Catholic) did not have to report their marriages. In 1857 the District Marriage Registers gave way to County Marriage Registers, again reported through the Clerk of the Peace.

Since the Clerk of the Peace was a District or County official, the District and County Marriage Registers are technically municipal records. However they have been completely transcribed with excellent introductions, so they need not be considered here.[2] Occasionally fragments of what appear to be the returns that were used to create the Registers turn up buried in municipal records. Sometimes these are fragments that are missing from the Registers (they are notoriously incomplete) so it is important that you report any fragments found (to the appropriate OGS Branch).

There was some attempt to register births and deaths in a similar manner but that met with even less success than marriage registration. The Marriage Registers do have some births and deaths in them.

In 1867 Canada became a nation and the new Province of Ontario looked at means of registering vital statistics. The first Vital Statistics Act, in 1869, required the registration of all births, marriages and deaths, but it was not very successful. The Registrar-General estimated that in 1870 only one-fifth of deaths, one-third of births and two-thirds of marriages were registered.[3] The registration occurred through a municipal clerk who sent them to a County Registrar and so copies can be found in both upper- and lower-tier municipal records.

The 1875 Act made it illegal to bury a body without a death certificate thereby improving the registration of deaths. It also removed the County Registrar, so from this date copies are found only in lower tier or one tier municipalities.

The 1896 Act made non-compliance a more serious offence. Other Acts in 1908 and 1919 tightened up the whole process. By about 1920 essentially all BMDs in Ontario were registered.

Therefore, the BMD information found in municipal records should be the same as the information found in the District and County Marriage Registers, and in the provincial vital statistics. However, prior to about 1920 those entities are so incomplete that it is worth checking the municipal records in case they include something that got lost in the process.

The municipal clerk kept the BMD information in a book. He may have kept the original slips of paper that the person reporting the event filled out. Most of these books tend to date from after 1875 (*see* the two photographs on page 6).

Police Court

The lowest rung on the judicial system, police courts dealt with local petty crime. Their records may be with municipal records, but are more likely to be with county court

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[2] Walker, Dan and Fawne Stratford-Devai, *The Marriage Registers of Upper Canada/Canada West* – Norsim; Hancocks, Elizabeth, *County Marriage Registers of Ontario Canada 1858-1869* - Generation Press

[3] Emery, George N - *Facts of Life: The Social Construction of Vital Statistics in Ontario 1869-1952.* City: McGill-Queens UP 1993.

records. They can be very interesting to search (although the effort is tedious) because they may list accused, defendants, witnesses and court officials.

Board of Health

At first these records may not seem worth searching, but the local Board of Health operated the isolation hospitals and established quarantines. Prior to the First World War these were the only way of containing contagious diseases. Since these diseases were fairly common, there is an excellent chance of finding a relative's name in the lists.

Board of Revision

This was the municipal committee to whom you complained if you felt your taxes were unfair. Many people complained! The Board's minutes are worth searching even though it is a lucky dip, because, if you are lucky, the reasons for requesting a tax reduction will give you insight into your ancestor's life.

Planning Board

The approval of this committee is required in order to create a sub-division or even to erect a building. It did not exist in the very early days. Unless you know that your ancestor did something that might require Planning Board approval, these records are probably not worth searching.

Committee of Adjustment

Sometimes buildings or properties are in violation of planning by-laws. The Committee of Adjustment considers what is to be done, such as the issuance of a variance. Names of people appear here but, like the Planning Board, they are probably not worth searching unless you have reason to expect your ancestor to be there.

Hydro Commission

Many municipalities had their own power system, managed by a Hydro Commission. These started in cities and large towns in the late 1800s. Many rural areas did not receive power until the late 1940s. The records are usually financial but occasionally contain a list of subscribers.

Municipal Telephone Company

Almost exactly the same thing can be said about telephones as was said about power. The only useful thing in the records would be a list of subscribers, and you can probably get that much more easily through the early phone books (they are on microfilm at the Archives of Ontario).

Other Committees

There are many other municipal committees but their records contain very little genealogical information.

Terminology

I have had great difficulty determining a suitable terminology for the uniting of municipalities. "Annexed" and "amalgamated" are technical terms and I have attempted to use them only when I saw them used in official documents (I have seen them misused in many places). In many cases I simply do not know what the proper term is; then I have used "placed in." That is a non-specific, generic term meaning that they somehow got together! It does imply that a legal entity resulted, and in the absence of contrary evidence I assumed that one did. There were cases where one township was administered by another without any new legal entity being produced – where I knew this I used the term "administered by." Only a lawyer examining each situation could provide the proper words for municipal unions. I can only hope that my vocabulary does not lead anyone astray.

Broken Front

In the rectangular surveying systems used in laying out Ontario townships, each lot is intended to be rectangular and of the same size (100, 200, or 1 000 acres depending on the surveying system used). However the surveyor encountered rivers and lakes that unfortunately have an untidy habit of not being rectangular. Rivers and lakes tend to be township boundaries. Laying a rectangular grid on these resulted in some lots being not rectangular and smaller than a standard lot. These small, irregular lots are called Broken Fronts, shortened to BF. The short form is included in the description, thus Douro C5 L24BF is a broken front.

Concession

Because township records are so concerned with the holding of land, you need to understand the basic land descriptors. There were several different methods of surveying used in Ontario townships but all of them are rectangular and divide the township into **Concessions** (counting in one direction) and **Lots** (counting at right angles). Townships vary enormously in size: a large one may have 25 concessions and 40 lots per concession. Originally concessions were given roman numerals and lots arabic numerals so you will see "IV 20" (lot 20 on concession 4) but the modern method is to write "C4 L20." Depending on the surveying method a lot may consist of 100, 200, or 1 000 acres. In southern Ontario the 200 acre lot is most common – this is called a Double Front. Each lot was then divided into two in order to make a 100 acre farm. The halves are described as East and West (or North and South) so the typical description is "C5 L3 N1/2." A 50 acre farm would be described as "C5 L3 NE1/4."

Usually a road (called a concession road or **line**) runs between the concessions and

another road runs at right angles every five or six lots. Usually not all the roads are built but the concept is there and the road allotment may still exist. Unfortunately the concession roads are often described as (eg) "Concession 5". It is the *land* that is the concession, not the road. In a Double Front system one side of the road is a different concession than the other side, so you could have a farm in Concession 4 occupied by a farmer who "lives on concession (road) 5." It is essential to be aware of this when dealing with family stories, newspaper reports and so on.

Gore

"A triangular piece of land" (*Oxford International Dictionary*). Ontario was surveyed on a rectangular system. Most townships are reasonably rectangular. Most lots within a township are rectangular. Occasionally there were bits that did not fit. These are called Gores and I suppose they are usually somewhat triangular. "An irregular piece of land" would be a better definition in Ontario. There was a Gore District (stretching west from the present city of Hamilton). There are gore townships; for example, Toronto Gore. You will see references to gore lots, although the term "broken front" is more likely.

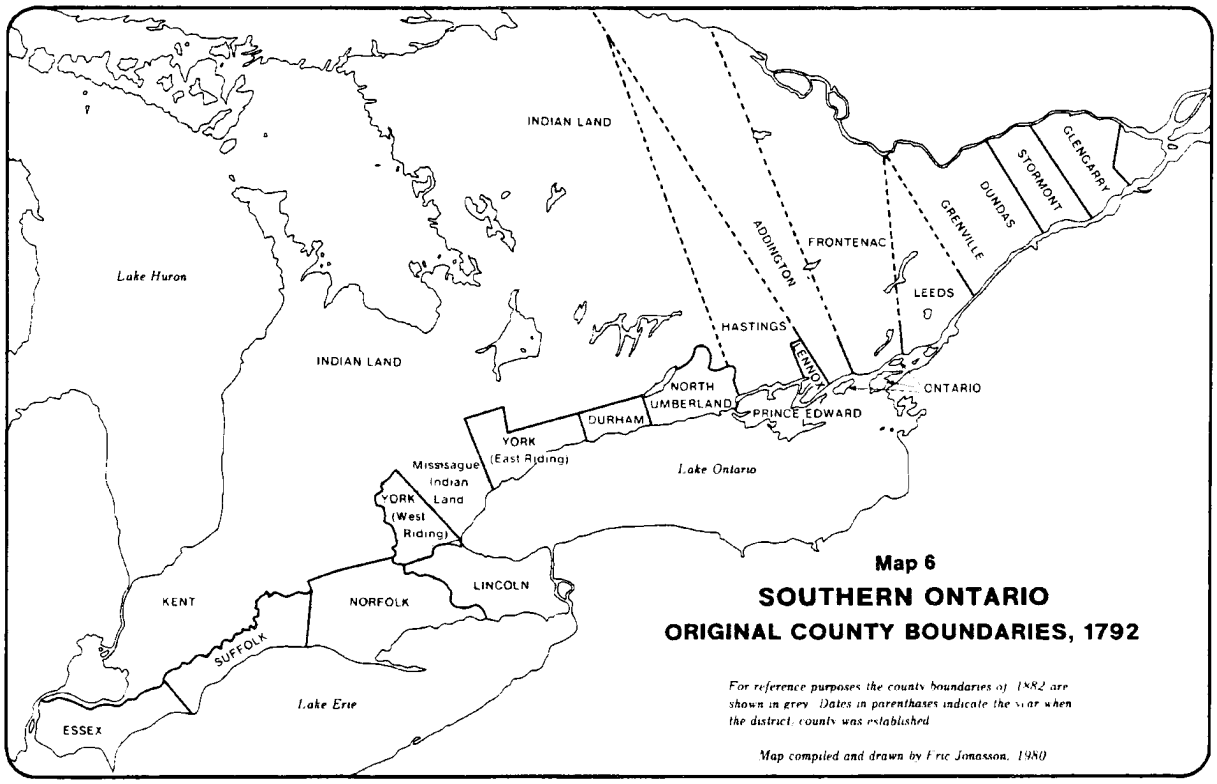
Line – see Concession

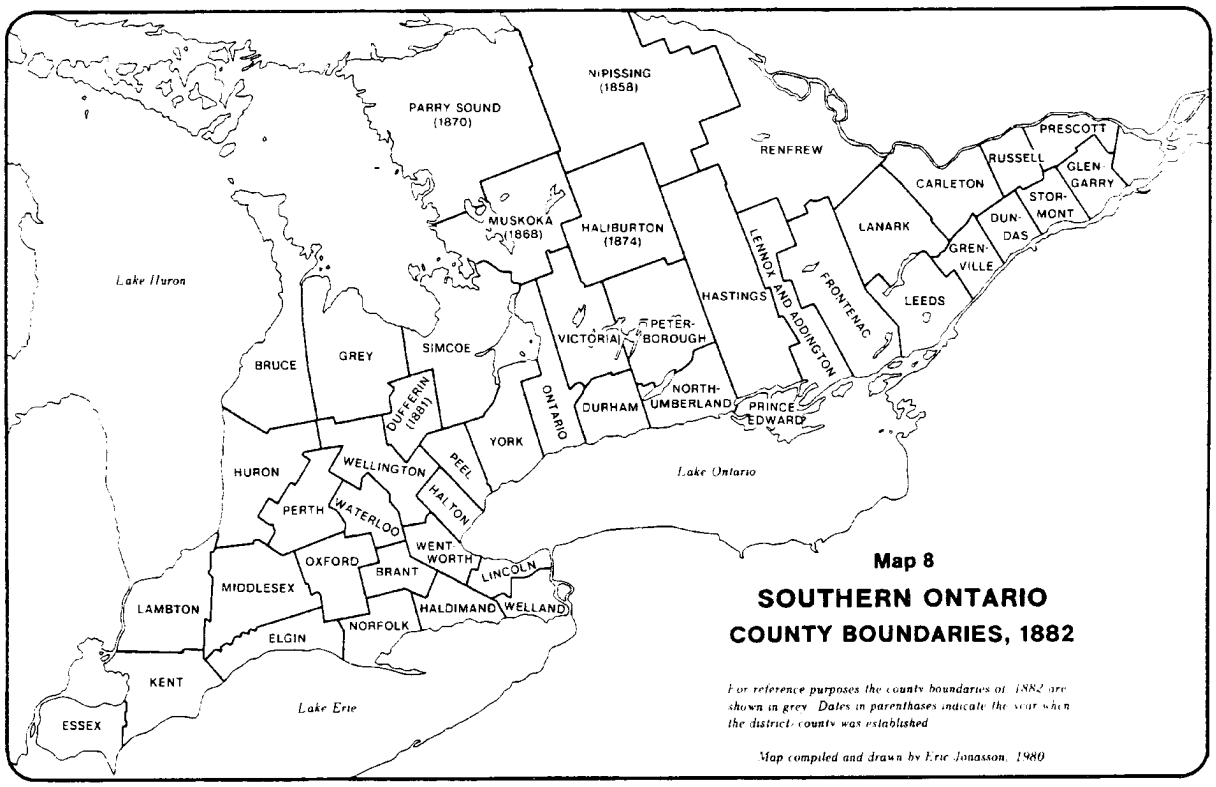
Lot

In townships, *see* Concession.
In urban areas, *see* Plan.

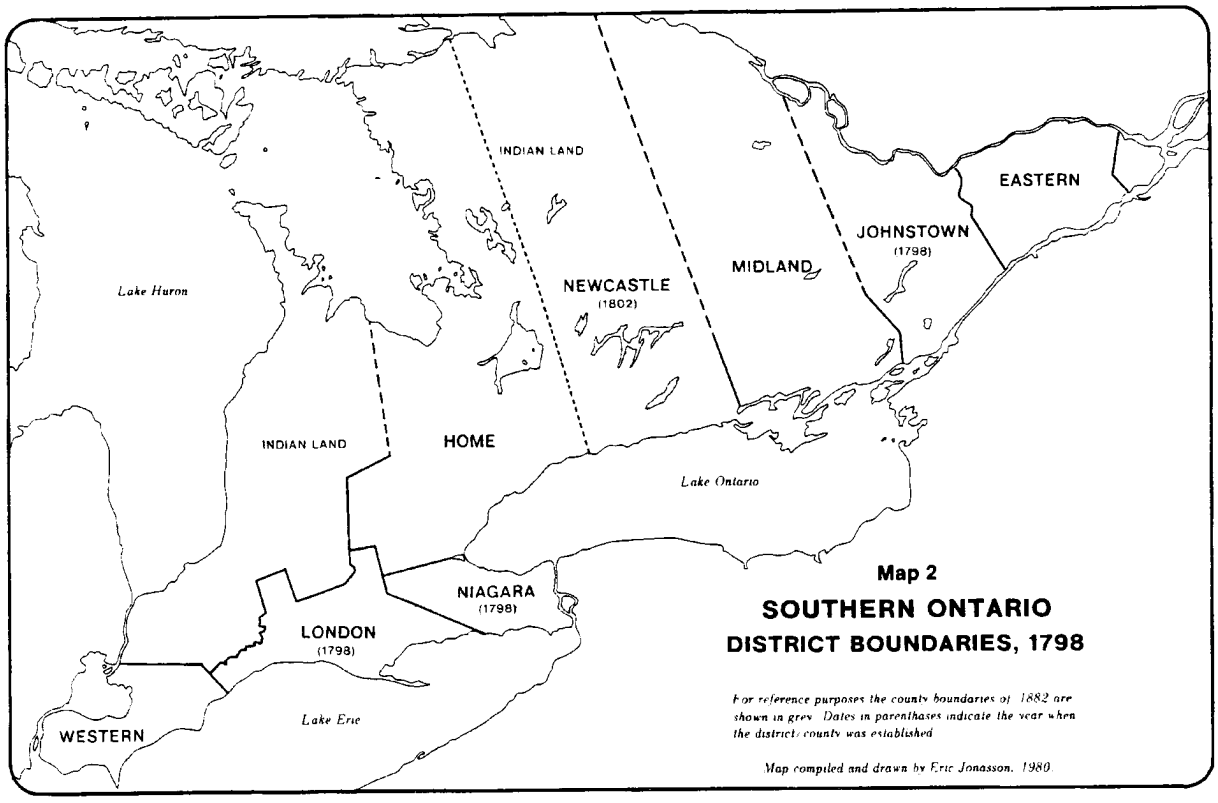
Plan

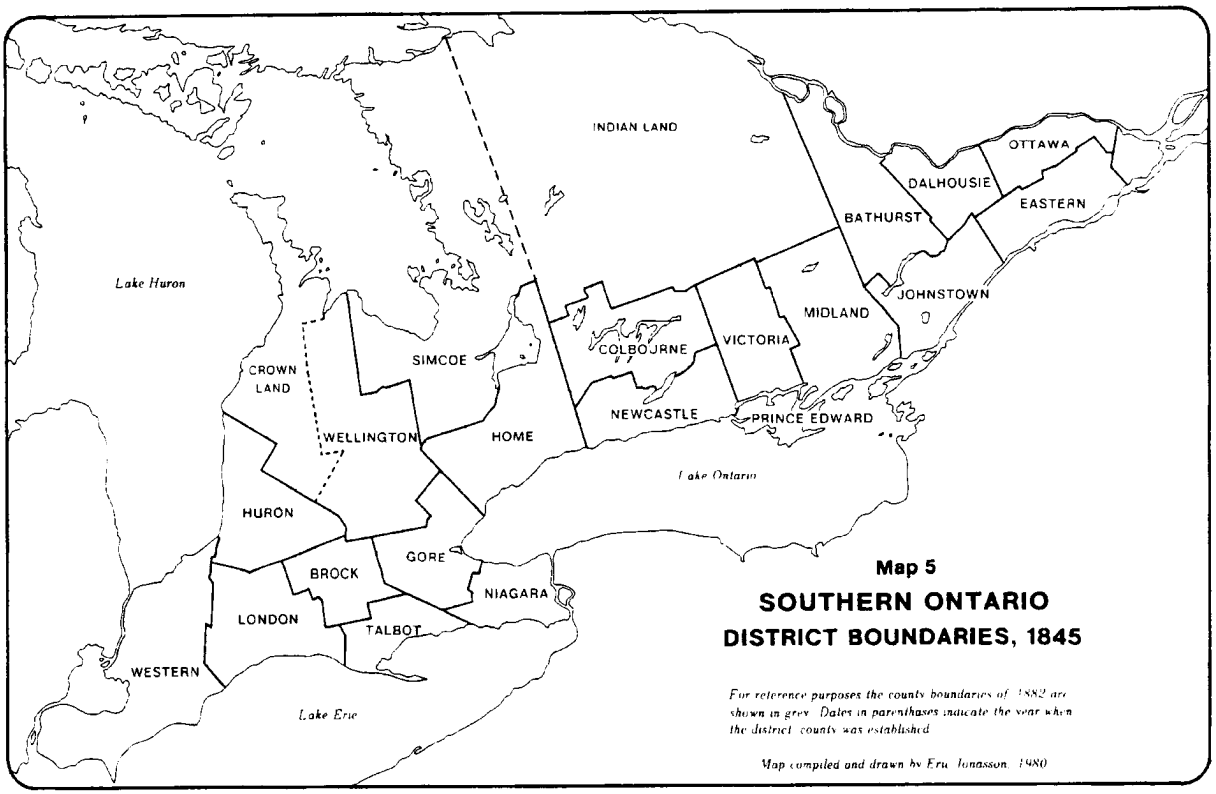
All property in Ontario was originally surveyed into a township concession and lot, even land now in the middle of large cities. This descriptor worked well for 50 and 100 acre farms but in urban areas a different method had to be used. Urban areas were divided into small land areas, each called a **lot** (not to be confused with a township lot), which typically had one house or building on it. At first the lots were described in relation to the street it was on but this quickly became too complex, so developers were required to file a **registered plan** with the land office showing the lots, which are numbered, and the development's relationship to the original township concession and lot. In 1853 my great-great-grandfather purchased "lot 6 on the east side of Queen Street" in Lakefield. A check with the plan of Lakefield shows that Queen Street was numbered from south to north so it is possible to locate the lot. A more modern descriptor would refer to "lot 27 on registered plan 2734 in municipality x."





These maps were taken from *Families* Vol. 20, no. 2 (1981). The other map in this series shows County Boundaries, 1851. Maps compiled and drawn by Eric Jonasson, 1980.





These maps were taken from *Families* Vol. 20, no. 2 (1981). The other maps in this series show District Boundaries, 1788/1792; 1826; 1838. Maps compiled and drawn by Eric Jonasson, 1980.

Appendix 1
Numbered Townships

In the very early days of Ontario, the townships were numbered instead of named, probably due to the pressure of the incoming loyalist refugees. Early documents are not entirely consistent in the use of the numbers.

Sources

The information below is an exact copy of an unidentifiable document in private hands. From its appearance it is almost certainly a Library Bulletin from the Ontario Ministry of Treasury Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs, likely dated in or around 1987. The document was missing its front page, hence the uncertainty. Unfortunately no library has a set of Library Bulletins, not even that of the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (successor to the Ontario Ministry of Treasury Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs).

Numbered Townships Name Conversion List for Upper Canada

1. Names of Twps commencing at the Lower Canada boundary

	Lancaster
1	Charlottenburg
2	Cornwall
3	Osnabruck
4	Williamsburg
5	Matilda
6	Edwardsburg
7	Augusta
8	Elizabethtown
9	Yonge
10	Escot

Lancaster was not originally numbered (known as Lake Twp to 1787 and also earlier as the Sunken Twp) and therefore Charlottenburg was known as #1

2. Names of twps of military settlement

1	Bathurst
2	Drummond
3	Beckwith
4	Goulburn

3. Names of Twps 'below Cataraqui' (according to the UEL manuscript list: bound volume, nd)

1 Pittsburg
2 Leeds
3 Lansdowne
4 Escot
5 Yonge
6 Elizabethtown
7 Augusta
8 Edwardsburg

NB: A correspondence of names between the UEL list and other land records would strongly suggest that there is an overlapping of twp numbers from Escot to Edwardsburg. It is highly probable that the UEL list, which almost certainly predates 1785 in its original data, uses a numbering system which had not been officially accepted by the Surveyor General's Office in Quebec. However, the numbering of Pittsburg, Leeds, and Lansdowne does tally with various land board certificates in the mid-1780s.

4. Names of Twps "above Cataraqui" (Midland Dist)

1 Kingston
2 Ernestown
3 Fredericksburgh
4 Adolphustown
5 Marysburgh
6 Sophiasburgh
7 Ameliasburgh
8 Sidney
9 Thurlow
10 Richmond

5. Names of Twps in the Mississauga Tract

1 Toronto
2 Trafalgar
3 Nelson

6. Names of Twps in Nassau Dist

1 Newark (Niagara since 1800)
2 Stamford
3 Grantham
4 Louth
5 Clinton
6 Grimsby
7 Saltfleet
8 Barton

7. Names of Twps on north bank of Grand River

1 Onondaga
2 Seneca

Appendix 2
Districts in Ontario (before 1850)

The first line consists of:
Name - County (only if the District consisted of a single County throughout it life), Hx, Ry where

x is a number indicating where information about a municipal history can be found

0 Morley (see Bibliography for complete reference)
1 Aitken – 1951–1977 (see Bibliography for complete reference)
2 Aitken – 1977–1987
3 Aitken – 1987–1997
4 see the Family History Library Catalogue at <www.familysearch.org>

y is a number indicating where information on the location of records can be found.

1 Original or microfilm at the Ontario Archives. See <www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/virtualrr/info22> for more details.
2 Microfilm created by the Genealogical Society of Utah (and so available through the Mormon Family History Centres) **and** a copy at the Ontario Archives.
3 Microfilm created by the Genealogical Society of Utah (and so available through the Mormon Family History Centres) **but no** copy at the Ontario Archives.

Sources

Armstrong and Hillman

Bathurst R1

1822 Nov 13 formed from part of Johnstown District (consists of Carleton Co)
1824 Jan 19 Carleton Co divided into Carleton and Lanark Cos
1842 Mar 19 part (Carleton Co) placed in new Dalhousie District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United Co of Lanark and Renfrew

Brock - Oxford Co

1839 Nov 30 formed from part of London District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Oxford County

Colborne - Peterborough Co

1841 Oct 14 formed from part of Newcastle District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Peterborough Co

Dalhousie - reorganized Carleton Co

1842 Mar 19 formed from part of Bathurst, Ottawa, and Johnstown Districts
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Carleton Co

Eastern R1

1792 Oct 15 name changed from Lunenburgh District
1800 Jan 1 part (Carleton, Grenville, and Leeds Cos) placed in new Johnstown District
Eastern District now consists of Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, and Stormont Cos
1816 Mar 22 part (Prescott and Russell Cos) placed in new Ottawa District
Eastern District now consists of counties of Dundas, Glengarry, and Stormont
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry

Gore R1

1816 Mar 22 formed from parts of Home and Niagara Districts (consists of Wentworth and Halton Cos)
1840 Jun 18 part (part of Halton Co) placed in new Wellington District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Wentworth and Halton

Hesse - territory west of a north-south line passing through the tip of Long Point

1788 Jul 24 created
1792 Oct 15 name changed to Western District

Home R2

1792 Oct 15 name changed from Nassau District
1800 Jan 1 part (Lincoln and Haldimand Cos) placed in new Niagara District
1800 Jan 1 part (Norfolk, Oxford, and Middlesex Cos) placed in new London District. Home District now consists of counties of Durham, Northumberland, Simcoe, and York
1802 Jun 23 part (Durham and Northumberland Cos) placed in new Newcastle District
1816 Mar 22 part (part of York) placed in new Gore District
1840 Jun 18 part (part of Simcoe Co) placed in new Wellington District
1843 Jan 11 part (Simcoe Co) placed in new Simcoe District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by York County (which included future counties of Peel and Ontario).

Huron R1

1841 Oct 14 formed from part of London District (consists of Huron Co)
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Huron, Perth, and Bruce

Johnstown R1

1800 Jan 1 formed from part of Eastern District (consists of Grenville, Leeds, and Carleton Cos).
1822 Nov 13 part (Carleton Co) placed in new Bathurst District
1842 Mar 19 part (parts transferred to Carleton and Lanark Cos) placed in new Dalhousie District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Leeds and Grenville

London

1800 Jan 1 formed from parts of Home and Western Districts (consists of Middlesex, Norfolk, and Oxford Cos)
1837 Dec 30 part (Norfolk Co) placed in new Talbot District
1839 Nov 30 part (Oxford Co) placed in new Brock District
1840 Jun 18 part placed in new Wellington District
1841 Oct 14 part (Huron Co) placed in new Huron District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Middlesex Co

Lunenburgh - territory east of a north-south line passing through the mouth of the Gananoque River (originally spelled Luneburg)

1788 Jul 24 created
1792 Oct 15 name changed to Eastern District

Mecklenburg - territory between a north-south line passing through the mouth of the Gananoque River on the east and a north-south line passing through the mouth of the Trent River on the west.

1788 Jul 24 created
1792 Oct 15 name changed to Midland District

Midland

1792 Oct 15 name changed from Mecklenburg District
1800 Jan 1 consists of Frontenac, Hastings, Lennox and Addington, and Prince Edward Cos
1834 Feb 6 part (Prince Edward County) placed in new Prince Edward District
1839 Oct 15 part (Hastings County) placed in new Victoria District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington.

Nassau - territory between a north-south line passing through the mouth of the Trent River on the east and a north-south line passing through the tip of Long Point on the west

1788 Jul 24 created
1792 Oct 15 name changed to Home District

Newcastle R1

1802 Jun 23 formed from part of Home District (consists of Durham and Northumberland Cos) (42 Geo 3 c2)
1841 Oct 14 part (Peterborough Co) placed in new Colborne District
1949 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Northumberland and Durham.

Niagara R1

1800 Jan 1 formed from part of Home District (consists of Haldimand and Lincoln Cos)
1816 Mar 22 part (parts of Haldimand and Lincoln Cos) placed in new Gore District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United Counties of Lincoln, Haldimand, and Welland

Ottawa R1

1816 Mar 22 formed from part of Eastern District (consists of Prescott and Russell Cos)
1842 Mar 19 part (part of Russell Co) placed in new Dalhousie District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Prescott and Russell

Prince Edward - Prince Edward County
1834 Feb 6 formed from part of Midland District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Prince Edward Co

Simcoe - Simcoe Co
1843 Jan 11 formed from part of Home District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Simcoe Co

Talbot - Norfolk Co R1
1837 Dec 30 formed from part of London District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Norfolk Co

Victoria - Hastings County
1839 Oct 15 formed from part of Midland District
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Hastings Co

Wellington - Waterloo Co
1840 Jun 18 formed from parts of Gore, Home, and London Districts
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by Waterloo Co

Western H2 R1
1792 Oct 15 name changed from Hesse District
1800 Jan 1 part placed in new London District. Western District now consists of the counties of Essex and Kent plus any territory not assigned to another district.
1849 Dec 31 districts abolished. Succeeded by United County of Essex, Kent, and Lambton.

Appendix 3
Counties, Modern Districts and Regional Municipalities

This appendix provides basic information for counties, districts post 1850, and the regional municipalities (created in the latter part of the twentieth century).
For each unit, the first line consists of:
Name, year established, Original District (if the unit existed pre 1850), Hx, Ry where

x is a number indicating where information about a municipal history can be found
0 Morley (see Bibliography for complete reference)
1 Aitken – 1951–1977 (see Bibliography for complete reference)
2 Aitken – 1977–1987
3 Aitken – 1987–1997
4 see the Family History Library Catalogue at <www.familysearch.org>

y is a number indicating where information on the location of records can be found.
1 Original or microfilm at the Ontario Archives. See <www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/virtualrr/info22> for more details.
2 Microfilm created by the Genealogical Society of Utah (and so available through the Mormon Family History Centres) **and** a copy at the Ontario Archives.
3 Microfilm created by the Genealogical Society of Utah (and so available through the Mormon Family History Centres) **but no** copy at the Ontario Archives.

Sources

For counties and modern districts, Armstrong and Hillman, with additional data from the municipal histories contained in RG 19-20 at the Ontario Archives.
RM data from Library Bulletin vol 65 no 62 (1978 Dec 7), Min Treasury, Economics, and Intergovernmental Affairs

Addington 1792 Midland

1800 incorporated with Lennox
1800 Camden East and Sheffield Twps placed
1821 new Kaladar Twp placed
1845 consists of Amherst Island, Anglesea, Camden, Ernestown, Kaladar, and Sheffield Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington.
1860 May 19 Lennox and Addington made into single County of Lennox and Addington

1860 Abinger Twp attached
1860 new Ashby, Denbigh, and Effingham Twps placed

Algoma District 1859 H01234
named from the Ojibwa name for Lake Superior
The District was originally defined as everything west and north of the mouth of the French River, plus Manitoulin and other islands.
1871 part placed in new Thunder Bay Dist
1888 part placed in new Manitoulin Dist?? (see Manitoulin Dist below)
1907 Apr 20 part placed to new Sudbury Dist (7 Edw 7 c25)
1907><1948 Dennison, Drury, Graham, Hallam, Harrow, May, Rayside and Salter Twps moved to Sudbury Dist
1912 part placed in new Timiskaming Dist
1922 Oct 2 part placed in new Cochrane Dist

Brant 1851 H01234 R13
1851 formed from parts of Halton, Oxford and Wentworth Cos (from Halton: Dumfries South Twp; from Oxford: Burford and Oakland Twps; from Wentworth: Brantford, Onondaga, and Tuscorora Twps, Brantford Town, and Paris Village)
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wentworth, Halton, and Brant
1853 Jan 22 on its own
1946 Tuscarora Twp leaves county municipally but not judicially
1999 Jan 1 absorbed into new Brant-on-the-Grand City (consists of Brantford, Burford, Dumfries South, Oakland, and Onondaga Twps, and Paris Town. Note that Brantford City is not part of this.)
1999 Feb 6 Brant-on-the-Grand City renamed Brant Co

Bruce 1850 H01234 R13
1850 Jan 1 formed from part of Huron Co (Arran, Brant, Bruce, Carrick, Culross, Elderslie, Greenock, Huron, Kincardine, Kinloss, and Saugeen Twps) (12 Vic c96 1949 May 30)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Huron, Perth, and Bruce
1853 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Huron and Bruce
1867 Jan 1 on its own
1874 Lucknow Village moved from Huron Co

Carleton 1800 Johnstown H01234 R2
1800 Jan 1 formed from parts of Dundas and Grenville Cos
1821 Apr 14 consists of Bathurst, Beckwith, Dalhousie, Drummond, Goulburn, Huntley, Lanark, March, Ramsay, Sherbrooke North, and Sherbrooke South Twps
1822 Nov 13 placed in new Bathurst District
1824 Jan 19 Bathurst, Beckwith, Dalhousie, Darling, Drummond, Lanark, Lavant, Ramsay, Sherbrooke North, Sherbrooke South, plus all unsurveyed lands within Bathurst Dist moved to new Lanark Co (4 Geo 4, 1824 Jan 19). Carleton Co now consists of Fitzroy, Goulbourn, Huntley, March, Nepean, Pakenham, and Torbolton Twps (4 Geo 4, 1824 Jan 19)
<1838 Gower North Twp moved from Grenville Co
1838 Marlborough Twp moved from Grenville Co, Gloucester and Osgoode Twps moved from Russell Co

1838 Pakenham Twp moved to Lanark Co
1838 consists of Fitzroy, Gloucester, Goulbourn, Gower North, Huntley, March, Marlborough, Nepean, Osgoode, and Tarbolton Twps
1842 Mar 19 placed in new Dalhousie District
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1969 Jan 1 dissolved into Ottawa-Carleton RM

Cochrane District 1922 H234
1922 Oct 2 formed from parts of Algoma, Thunder Bay, and Timiskaming Dists (Proclaimed Ont Gazette 1922 Sep 30. Act is 12-13 Geo5 Chap 2)

Dufferin 1881 H124 R3
1881 Jan 24 formed from parts of Grey, Simcoe, and Wellington Cos (from Grey: Melancthon Twp and Shelburne Village; from Simcoe: Mono and Mulmur Twps; from Wellington: Amaranth, Garafraxa East, and Luther East Twps and Orangeville Town)

Dundas 1792 Eastern H0124
1800 Jan 1 part moved to new Carleton Co
1845 consists of Matilda, Mountain, Williamsburgh, and Winchester Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry

Durham 1792 Home H0124 R3
1802 Jun 23 placed in new Newcastle District
1821 new twps placed: Cartwright, Cavan, Emily, Manvers, Mariposa, and Ops
1834 new twps placed: Eldon, Fenelon, and Verulam
1838 Eldon, Fenelon, Mariposa, Ops, and Verulam Twps moved to new Peterborough Co
<1845 Emily Twp moved to Northumberland Co
1845 consists of Cavan, Cartwright, Clarke, Darlington, Hope, and Manvers Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Northumberland and Durham
1974 Jan1 Hope Twp and Port Hope Town moved to Northumberland Co
1974 Jan 1 Cavan Twp and Millbrook Village moved to Peterborough Co
1974 Jan 1 Manvers Twp moved to Victoria Co
1974 Jan 1 placed in new Durham RM

Durham RM 1974 H2
1974 Jan 1 formed from Durham Co, Brock, Scugog, and Uxbridge Twps, Oshawa City, and Ajax, Newcastle, Pickering, and Whitby Towns

Elgin 1852 H01234 R1
1852 Jan 1 formed from part of Middlesex Co (Aldborough, Bayham, Dorchester South, Dunwich, Malahide, Southwold, and Yarmouth Twps)
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Middlesex and Elgin
1853 Sep 30 on its own

Essex 1792 Western H01234 R13
1800 consists of Colchester, Gosfield, Maidstone, Malden, Mersea, Rochester, and Sandwich Twps
1845 consists of Anderdon, Colchester, Gosfield, Maidstone, Malden, Mersea, Rochester, and Sandwich Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1847 Tilbury West Twp moved from Kent Co
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Essex, Kent, and Lambton.

1851 Jan 13 placed in new United County of Essex and Lambton
1853 Sep 30 on its own

Essex Kent & Lambton 1850
1850 Jan 1 formed from existing Essex and Kent Cos and new Lambton Co
1851 Jan 13 dissolved into Kent Co and Essex & Lambton Co

Essex & Lambton 1851
1851 Jan 13 formed from part of Essex Kent & Lambton Co
1853 Sep 30 dissolved

Frontenac 1792 Midland H0124 R1
1821 new twps placed: Kennebec, Olden, Oso
<1845 new twps placed: Barrie, Clarendon, Palmerston
1845 consists of Barrie, Bedford, Clarendon , Hinchinbrooke, Kennebec, Kingston, Loughborough, Olden, Oso, Palmerston, Pittsburgh (including Howe Island), Portland, Storrington, and Wolfe Island Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington (ie 3 counties)
1852 new twp placed: Anglesea
1860 Canonto and Miller Twps moved from Renfrew Co
1860 May 19 placed in United County of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington (ie 2 counties)
1865 Jan 1 on its own
1997 Jan 1 county abolished, replaced by Kingston and 4 rural municipalities. It seems this did not take since the Co is still there.

Frontenac Lennox and Addington
1850 Jan 1 United County of Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington (ie 3 counties)
1860 May 19 United County of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington (ie 2 counties)
1865 Jan 1 dissolved into Frontenac Co and Lennox & Addington Co

Glengarry 1792 Eastern H01234
1792 Glengarry comprises two Ridings: First and Second
1800 Glengarry no longer has two Ridings
1800 part moved into new Prescott Co
1845 consists of Charlottenburgh, Kenyon, Lancaster, and Lochiel Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry

Grenville 1792 Eastern H1234
1800 Jan 1 placed in new Johnstown District
1800 Jan 1 part moved to new Carleton Co
<1838 Gower North Twp moved to Carleton Co
1838 Marlborough Twp moved to Carleton Co
1838 Montague Twp moved to Lanark Co
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Leeds and Grenville

Grey 1851 H01234 R1
1851 formed from parts of Simcoe and Waterloo Cos (from Simcoe: Artemesia, Collingwood, Euphrasia, and Osprey Twps; from Waterloo: Bentinck, Derby, Egremont, Glenelg, Holland, Melancthon, Normanby, Proton, Sullivan, and Sydenham Twps)

1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wellington, Waterloo, and Grey
1853 Jan 22 placed in new United County of Wellington and Grey
1853 Dec 30 on its own
1864 Mount Forest Town moved to Wellington Co
1879 Shelburne Village moved from Wellington Co
1881 Jan 24 Melancthon Twp and Shelburne Village moved to new Dufferin Co

Haldimand 1800 Niagara H01234 R13

1800 Jan 1 formed from part of Norfolk Co
1816 part moved to new Wentworth Co
1826 Rainham and Walpole Twps moved from Norfolk Co
1845 consists of Canborough, Cayuga, Dunn, Moulton, and Sherbrooke Twps, plus for some purposes Seneca, Oneida, Rainham, and Walpole Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United Counties of Lincoln, Haldimand, and Welland
1851 Jan 1 on its own
1974 Apr 1 dissolved into Haldimand-Norfolk RM
2001 Jan 1 re-formed as a single tier county by amalgamating Dunnville and Haldimand Towns, and part of Nanticoke City

Haldimand-Norfolk RM 1974

1974 Apr 1 formed from Haldimand and Norfolk Cos, Delhi and Norfolk Twps, Nanticoke City, and Dunnville, Haldimand and Simcoe Towns
2001 Jan 1 dissolved into the re-formed Haldimand Co and Norfolk Co

Haliburton 1874 H01234

1874 Jun 6 Haliburton Provisional County formed ("Provisional" because its judicial system was administered by Victoria Co)from parts of Nipissing Dist, Peterborough Co, and Victoria Co. (from Nipissing Dist: Clyde, Eyre, Havelock, Lawrence, Livingstone, McClintock, Nightingale, and Sherborne Twps; from Peterborough Co: Bruton, Cardiff, Dudley, Dysart, Glamorgan, Guilford, Harburn, Harcourt, Minden, Monmouth, Snowdon, and Stanhope Twps; from Victoria Co: Anson, Hindon, and Lutterworth Twps) (37 Vic c 65, 1874 Mar 24)
1983 May 18 made a full county

Halton 1816 Gore H01234 R13

1816 Mar 22 formed from York Co, West Riding (Beverley, Dumfries, Flamborough East, Flamborough West, Nelson, Nichol, Trafalgar, Waterloo, and Woolwich Twps)
1821 new twps placed: Eramosa, Erin, Esquesing, Garafraxa, Nassagawaya
1845 Eramosa, Garafraxa, Guelph, Nichol, Puslinch, Waterloo, Wilmot, and Woolwich Twps moved to Waterloo Co
1845 consists of Beverly, Esquesing, Flamborough East, Flamborough West, Nassagawaya, Nelson, and Trafalgar Twps, plus for some purposes Dumfries and Erin Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wentworth and Halton
1850 Erin Twp moved to Waterloo Co
1851 Dumfries South Twp moved to new Brant Co
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wentworth, Halton, and Brant
1852 Dumfries North Twp and Galt Village moved to Waterloo Co

1852 Beverley, Flamborough East, and Flamborough West Twps moved to Wentworth Co
1853 Jan 22 placed in new United County of Wentworth and Halton
1855 Jan 1 on its own
1974 Jan 1 dissolved into Halton RM

Halton RM 1974
1974 Jan 1 formed from Halton Co, Burlington City, and Halton Hills, Milton, and Oakville Towns

Hamilton-Wentworth RM 1974 H3
1974 Jan 1 formed from Wentworth Co, Flamborough and Glanbrook Twps, Hamilton City, and Ancaster, Dundas, and Stoney Creek Towns
2001 Jan 1 amalgamated into Hamilton City

Hastings 1792 Midland H01234 R1
1821 new twps placed: Elzevir, Madoc, and Marmora
1839 Oct 15 placed in new Victoria District
1845 twps attached: Grimsthorpe, Tudor, and Tyendinaga
1845 consists of Elzevir, Grimsthorpe, Hungerford, Huntingdon, Lake, Madoc, Marmora, Rawdon, Sydney, Thurlow, Tudor, and Tyendinaga Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1858 new twps placed: Bangor, Carlow, Cashel, Dungannon, Faraday, Herschel, Limerick, Mayo, McClure, Monteagle, Wicklow, and Wollaston

Huron 1835 London H01234 R13
1835 formed (Biddulph, Blanchard, Colborne, Downie, Easthope North, Easthope South, Ellice, Fullarton, Goderich, Hay, Hibbert, Hullet, Logan, McGillivray, McKillop, Stanley, Stephen, Tuckersmith, Usborne, and Williams Twps) (5 Wm 4 c55, 1835)
1835 twps attached: Biddulph, Blanchard, Downie, Easthope, Ellice, Fullarton, Goderich, Hay, Hibbert, Hullett, Logan, Stephen, Usborne, Williams
1841 Oct 14 placed in new Huron District
<1845 twp attached: Wawanosh
1845 Williams Twp moved to Middlesex Co
1845 consists of Ashfield, Biddulph, Blanchard, Colborne, Downie, Goderich, Hibbert, Hay, Hullet, Logan, McKillop, McGillivray, Stephen, Stanley, Tuckersmith, Usborne, Wawanosh Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
<1850 twp attached: Elderslie
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Huron, Perth, and Bruce
1850 Jan 1 Arran, Brant, Bruce, Carrick, Culross, Elderslie, Greenock, Huron, Kincardine, Kinloss, and Saugeen Twps moved to new Bruce Co
1850 Jan 1 Blanchard, Downie, Easthope North, Easthope South, Ellice, Elma, Fullerton, Hibbert, Logan, and Wallace Twps, and Stratford Town moved to new Perth Co (12 Vic c96, 1849 May 30)
1853 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Huron and Bruce
1863 Biddulph and McGillivray Twps moved to Middlesex Co
1867 Jan 1 on its own
1874 Lucknow Village moved to Bruce Co
1951 Grand Bend Village moved to Lambton Co

Name	Year Established	Original District	History	Records

Huron & Bruce 1853

1853 Jan 1 formed from part of Huron Perth & Bruce Co
1867 Jan 1 dissolved

Huron Perth & Bruce 1850

1850 Jan 1 formed from existing Huron Co and new Bruce and Perth Cos
1853 Jan 1 dissolved into Perth Co and Huron & Bruce Co

Kenora District 1907 H14

1907 formed from part of Rainy River Dist
1907><1948 Van Horne Twp moved from Rainy River Dist
1909> Machin Twp moved from Rainy River Dist

Kent 1792 Western H01234 R3

1800 consists of Camden West, Chatham, Dover, Harwich, Howard, Orford North, Orford South, Raleigh, Romney, Sinclair, Tilbury East, and Tilbury West Twps. Sinclair is described as "the township on the river Sinclair" and probably refers to St Clair Twp
1821 new twps placed: Dawn, St Clair, Sombra, Zone
1845 consists of Bosanquet, Brooke, Camden, Chatham, Dawn, Dover East, Dover West, Enniskillen, Harwich, Howard, Moore, Orford, Plympton, Raleigh, Romney, Sarnia, Sombra, Tilbury East, Tilbury West, Warwick, and Zone Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1847 Tilbury West Twp moved to Essex Co
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Essex, Kent, and Lambton.
1850 Jan 1 part moved to new Lambton Co (Bosanquet, Brooke, Dawn , Enniskillen, Euphemia, Moore, Plympton, Sarnia, Sombra, and Warwick Twps)
1851 Jan 13 on its own
1998 Jan 1 amalgamated into Chatham-Kent M

Lambton 1850 H01234 R2

1850 Jan 1 formed from part of Kent Co (Bosanquet, Brooke, Dawn , Enniskillen, Euphemia, Moore, Plympton, Sarnia, Sombra, and Warwick Twps)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Essex, Kent, and Lambton.
1851 Jan 13 placed in new United County of Essex and Lambton
1853 Sep 30 on its own
1951 Grand Bend Village moved from Huron Co

Lanark 1824 Bathurst H01234 R13

1824 Jan 19 formed from part of Carleton Co. (Bathurst, Beckwith, Dalhousie, Darling, Drummond, Lanark, Lavant, Ramsay, Sherbroke North, Sherbroke South, plus all unsurveyed lands within Bathurst Dist) (4 Geo 4, 1824 Jan 19)
1838 Montague Twp moved from Grenville Co
1838 Pakenham Twp moved from Carleton Co
1838 Horton, McNab, Pembroke, Ross, and Westmeath Twps moved to new Renfrew Co
1845 consists of Bathurst, Beckwith, Burgess North, Dalhousie, Darling, Drummond, Elmsley North, Lanark, Levant, Montague, Ramsay, Sherbrooke North, and Sherbrooke South Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Lanark and Renfrew
1866 Oct 10 on its own

Name	Year Established	Original District	History	Records
Lanark & Renfrew	1850			
1850 Jan 1 formed				
1866 Oct 10 dissolved				
Leeds	1792	Eastern	H014	
1800 Jan 1 Johnstown District				
1845 consists of Bastard, Burgess, Crosby North, Crosby South, Elizabethtown, Elmsley, Escott, Kitley, Lansdowne, Leeds, and Yonge Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)				
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Leeds and Grenville				
Leeds and Grenville	1850		H23	R1
1850 Jan 1 formed				
Lennox	1792	Midland		
1800 incorporated with Addington				
1845 consists of Adolphustown, Fredericksburgh, Fredericksburgh Additional, and Richmond Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)				
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington.				
1860 May 19 Lennox and Addington made into single County of Lennox and Addington				
Lennox and Addington	1860		H0124	
1860 May 19 Lennox and Addington made into single County of Lennox and Addington				
1860 May 19 placed in new United County of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington				
1865 Jan 1 on its own				
Lincoln	1792	Home	H0124	R13
1792 Lincoln comprises 4 Ridings: First to Fourth				
1798 First Riding: Ancaster, Barton, Binbrook, Caistor, Clinton, Gainsborough, Glanford, Grimsby, and Saltfleet Twps Second Riding: Grantham, Louth, and Newark Twps Third Riding: Pelham, Stamford, Thorold Twps Fourth Riding: Bertie, Crowland, Humberstone, Wainfleet, and Willoughby Twps				
1800 Jan 1 placed in new Niagara District				
1816 Mar 22 Ancaster, Barton, Binbrook, Glanford, and Saltfleet Twps moved to new Wentworth Co				
1840 made into two ridings, North Riding being the former first and second ridings, and the South Riding being the former third and fourth ridings				
1845 Bertie, Crowland, Humberstone, Pelham, Stanford, Thorold, Wainfleet, and Willoughby Twps moved to new Welland Co (ie the former South Riding)				
1845 consists of Caistor, Clinton, Gainsborough, Grantham, Grimsby, Louth, and Niagara Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)				
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Lincoln, Haldimand, and Welland				
1851 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Lincoln and Welland				
1856 May 12 on its own				
1970 Jan 1 amalgamated into Niagara RM				
Lincoln Haldimand & Welland	1850			
1850 Jan 1 formed				

1851 Jan 1 dissolved into Haldimand Co and Lincoln & Welland Co

Lincoln & Welland 1851

1851 Jan 1 formed from part of Lincoln Haldimand & Welland Co

1856 May 12 dissolved

Manitoulin District 1899 H01234

1888 formed from part of Algoma Dist?? There were acts in both 1888 (51 Vic Chap 14) and 1899 (62-63 Vic Chap 14) creating the Temporary Judicial District of Manitoulin, separating it from Algoma Judicial District. Both acts imply that Manitoulin Dist already exists as a political entity.

2000><2001 Killarney M moved to Sudbury Dist

Metropolitan Toronto 1954

1953 Apr 15 formed from part of York Co and Toronto City

1954 Jan 1 municipalities withdrawn from York Co: Etobicoke, Scarborough, York, York East, and York North Twps, Leaside, Mimico, New Toronto, and Weston Towns, Forest Hill, Long Branch, and Swansea Villages. Metro Toronto is the upper tier, the municipalities the lower tier.

1967 Jan 1 Metropolitan Toronto reformed into 5 boroughs (East York, Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough, and York) and Toronto City.

1998 Jan 1 dissolved into Toronto City

Middlesex 1800 London H01234 R3

1800 consists of Aldborough, Delaware, Dorchester, Dunwich, London, Southwold, Westminster, and Yarmouth Twps

1821 new twps placed: Caradoc, Ekfrid, Lobo, Mosa

1835 Adelaide Twp attached

1845 Williams Twp moved from Huron Co

1845 consists of Adelaide, Aldborough, Bayham, Caradoc, Delaware, Dorchester, Dunwich, Ekfrid, Lobo, London, Malahide, Metcalfe, Mosa, Southwold, Westminster, Williams, and Yarmouth Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)

1850 Jan 1 on its own

1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Middlesex and Elgin

1852 Jan 1 Aldborough, Bayham, Dorchester South, Dunwich, Malahide, Southwold, and Yarmouth Twps moved to new Elgin Co

1852 Nissouri West Twp moved from Oxford Co

1853 Sep 30 on its own

1863 Biddulph and McGillivray Twps moved from Huron Co

Middlesex & Elgin 1852

1852 Jan 1 formed

1853 Sep 30 dissolved

Muskoka District 1868 H01234

1850 territory ceded by the Indians

1851 territory annexed to Simcoe Co

1868 Mar 4 formed from parts of Simcoe and Victoria Cos (31 Vic c35) Proclaimed later (from Simcoe Co: Cardwell, Humphrey, Monck, Morrison, Muskoka, and Watt Twps and unorganized territory; from Victoria Co: Brunel, Draper, Macauley, McLean, Oakley, Ryde, and Stephenson Twps)

1868 new twps placed: Christie, Medora, Wood

1873 Humphrey Twp moved to Parry Sound Dist
1971 Jan 1 became a District Municipality

Niagara RM 1970
1970 Jan 1 formed from Lincoln and Welland Cos, Lincoln West and Wainfleet Twps, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, St Catharines, and Welland Cities, and Fort Erie, Grimsby, Lincoln, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelham, and Thorold Towns

Nipissing District 1858 H14
1874 Jun 6 Clyde, Eyre, Havelock, Lawrence, Livingstone, McClintock, Nightingale, and Sherborne Twps moved to new Haliburton Co (37 Vic c 65, 1874 Mar 24)
1877 Clara & Maria Twp and Hagarty Sherwood Jones Richards & Burns Twp moved to Renfrew Co
1907 Apr 20 part placed in new Sudbury Dist (7 Edw 7 c25)
1912 part placed in new Timiskaming Dist
1912 Apr 16 part placed in Sudbury Dist (c22)

Norfolk 1792 Western H01234 R1
1798 Norwich Twp moved to Oxford Co
1800 Jan 1 placed in new London District
1800 Jan 1 part moved to new Haldimand Co
1800 consists of Charlotteville, Houghton, Middleton, Rainham, Townsend, Walpole, Walsingham, Windham, and Woodhouse Twps
1826 Rainham and Walpole Twps moved to Haldimand Co
1837 Dec 30 placed in new Talbot District
1845 consists of Charlotteville, Houghton, Middleton, Townsend, Walsingham, Windham, and Woodhouse Twps, plus for some purposes Rainham and Walpole Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1974 Apr 1 dissolved into RM Haldimand-Norfolk
2001 Jan 1 re-formed as a single tier county by amalgamating Delhi and Norfolk Twps, Simcoe Town, and part of Nanticoke City

Northumberland 1792 Home H0124 R3
1800 Jan 1 consists of Alnwick, Cramahe, Haldimand, Hamilton, Murray, Percy, and Seymour Twps
1800 new twp placed: Alnwick
1802 Jun 23 placed in new Newcastle District
1821 new twps placed: Asphodel, Monaghan, Otonabee, Smith
1834 new twps placed: Belmont, Burleigh, Douro, Dummer, Ennismore, Harvey, Methuen
1838 Asphodel, Belmont, Burleigh, Douro, Dummer, Emily, Ennismore, Harvey, Methuen, Monaghan North, Otonabee, and Smith Twps moved to new Peterborough Co
<1840 new twps placed: Percy, Seymour
<1845 Emily Twp moved from Durham Co
1845 consists of Alnwick, Cramahe, Haldimand, Hamilton, Monaghan South, Murray, Percy, and Seymour Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Northumberland and Durham.
1874 Hastings Village moved from Peterborough Co

1974 Jan 1 Hope Twp and Port Hope Town moved from Durham Co
1974 Jan 1 Monaghan South Twp moved to Peterborough Co
1974 Jan 1 on its own

Northumberland & Durham 1850 R1
1850 Jan 1 formed
1974 Jan 1 dissolved into Durham RM and Northumberland Co with parts to Victoria and Peterborough Cos

Ontario – the islands in the St Lawrence River
1792 Oct 15 placed in new Midland District
1800 abolished

Ontario 1851 H0124 R1
1851 formed from part of York Co (Brock, Georgina, Mara, Pickering, Rama, Reach, Scott, Thorah, Uxbridge, and Whitby Twps, and Oshawa Village)
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of York, Ontario, and Peel
1853 Georgina Twp moved to York Co
1853 Dec 30 on its own
1974 Jan 1 dissolved into Durham RM with parts to Simcoe Co (Mara and Rama Twps) and Scarborough Borough

Ottawa-Carlton RM 1969
1969 Jan 1 formed from Carleton Co, Cumberland, Fitzroy, Gloucester, Goulbourn, Gower North, Huntley, March, Marlborough, Nepean, Osgoode, and Torbolton Twps, Ottawa and Vanier Cities, and Richmond, Rockcliffe Park, and Stittsville Villages
2001 Jan 1 amalgamated into Ottawa City

Oxford 1800 London H0124 R13
1798 Norwich Twp moved from Norfolk Co
1800 consists of Blandford, Blenheim, Burford, Dereham, Oxford upon Thames, and Norwich Twps
1821 new twps placed: Nissouri, Oakland, Zorra
1839 Nov 30 placed in new Brock District
1845 consists of Blandford, Blenheim, Burford, Dereham, Nissouri, Norwich, Oakland, Oxford East, Oxford North, Oxford West, Zorra East, and Zorra West Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1851 Burford and Oakland Twps moved to new Brant Co
1852 Nissouri West Twp moved to Middlesex Co
1909 Tavistock Village moved from Perth Co
1975 Jan 1 restructured (consists of Woodstock City, Ingersoll and Tillsonburg Towns, and Blandford-Blenheim, East Zorra-Tavistock, SW Oxford, and Zorra Twps)

Parry Sound District 1870 H0134
1870 formed (Proclamation 1870 Mar 18, effective 1870 Mar 21)
1873 Humphrey Twp moved from Muskoka Dist

Peel 1851 H01234 R3
1851 formed from part of York Co (Albion, Caledon, Chinguacousy, Toronto, and Toronto Gore Twps
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of York, Ontario, and Peel
1853 Dec 30 placed in new United County of York and Peel

1867 Jan 1 on its own
1974 Jan 1 dissolved into Peel RM

Peel RM 1974 H2
1974 Jan 1 formed from Peel Co, Brampton and Mississauga Cities, and Caledon Town

Perth 1850 H0124 R3
1850 Jan 1 formed from parts of Huron and Waterloo Cos (from Huron Co: Blanchard, Downie, Easthope North, Easthope South, Ellice, Elma, Fullerton, Hibbert, Logan, and Wallace Twps, and Stratford Town; from Waterloo Co: Mornington Twp) (12 Vic c96, 1849 May 30)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Huron, Perth, and Bruce
1853 Jan 1 on its own
1909 Tavistock Village moved to Oxford Co

Peterborough 1838 Newcastle H01234 R3
1838 formed from parts of Durham and Northumberland Cos (from Durham Co: Eldon, Fenelon, Mariposa, Ops, and Verulam Twps; from Northumberland Co: Asphodel, Belmont, Burleigh, Douro, Dummer, Emily, Ennismore, Harvey, Methuen, Monaghan North, Otonabee, and Smith Twps)
1841 Oct 14 Colborne District
1845 new twps placed: Bexley and Somerville
1845 consists of Asphodel, Belmont, Burleigh, Bexley, Douro, Dummer, Eldon, Emily, Ennismore, Fenelon, Harvey, Mariposa, Methuen, Monaghan North, Ops, Otonabee, Smith, Somerville, and Verulam Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1851 Bexley, Eldon, Emily, Fenelon, Mariposa, Ops, Somerville, and Verulam Twps moved to new Victoria Co
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Peterborough and Victoria
1857 new twps placed: Anstruther, Cavendish, and Galway
1858 new twps placed: Bruton, Cardiff, Chandos, Harcourt, Dudley, Dysart, Glamorgan, Monmouth, Guilford, Harburn, Minden, Snowdon, Stanhope
1863 Jan 24 on its own
1874 Jun 6 Bruton, Cardiff, Dudley, Dysart, Glamorgan, Guilford, Harburn, Harcourt, Minden, Monmouth, Snowdon, and Stanhope Twps moved to new Haliburton Co (37 Vic c 65, 1874 Mar 24)
1874 Hastings Village moved to Northumberland Co
1974 Jan 1 Cavan Twp and Millbrook Village moved from Durham Co
1974 Jan 1 Monaghan South Twp moved from Northumberland Co

Peterborough & Victoria 1852
1852 Jan 1 formed
1863 Jan 24 dissolved

Prescott 1800 Eastern H014 R3
1800 formed from part of Glengarry Co
1816 Mar 22 placed in new Ottawa District
1845 consists of Alfred, Caledonia, Hawkesbury East, Hawksbury West, Longueil, and Plantagenet Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Prescott and Russell

Name	Year Established	Original District	History	Records
Prescott & Russell	1850		H2	R1

1850 Jan 1 formed

Prince Edward	1792	Midland	H0134	R1

Originally divided into three townships named for the daughters of George III: Amelia, Mary, and Sophia.

1800 consists of Ameliasburg, Hallowell, Marysburg, and Sophiasburg Twps
1834 Feb 6 placed in new Prince Edward District
1845 consists of Ameliasburg, Athol, Hallowell, Hillier, Marysburg, and Sophiasburg Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1998 Jan 1 single tier county, Ameliasburgh, Athol, Hallowell, Hillier, Marysburgh North, Marysburgh South, Sophiasburgh Twps, Picton Town, and Bloomfield and Wellington Villages added

Rainy River District	1885		H0124

1885 Mar 30 formed from part of Thunder Bay Dist (48 Vic Chap 20)
1907 part moved to new Kenora Dist
1907><1948 Van Horne Twp moved to Kenora Dist
1909> Machin Twp moved to Kenora Dist

Renfrew	1838	Bathurst	H01234	

1838 formed from Lanark Co (Horton, McNab, Pembroke, Ross, and Westmeath Twps)
1845 consists of Admaston, Bagot, Blythfield, Bromley, Horton, McNab, Pakenham, Pembroke, Ross, Stafford, and Westmeath Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Lanark and Renfrew
<1859 new twps placed: Canonto, Matawatchan, Miller
1860 Canonto and Miller Twps moved to Frontenac Co
1860 new twps placed: Brudenell, Lyndoch, Radcliffe, Raglan
1866 Oct 10 on its own
1877 Clara & Maria Twp and Hagarty Sherwood Jones Richards & Burns Twp moved from Nipissing Dist

Russell	1800	Eastern	H1	R3

1800 formed from part of Stormont Co
1800 consists of Cambridge, Clarence, Cumberland, Gloucester, Osgoode, and Russell Twps
1816 Mar 22 placed in new Ottawa District
1838 Gloucester and Osgoode Twps moved to Carleton Co
1845 consists of Cambridge, Clarence, Cumberland, and Russell Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Prescott and Russell

Simcoe	1800	Home	H01234

1798 new twp placed: Matchedash
1821 Apr 14 consists of Alba, Artemisia, Essa, Euphrasia, Flos, Gwillimbury West, Innisfil, Java, Luther, Mara, Medonte, Melancthon, Merlin, Mono, Mulmur, Orillia, Oro, Osprey, Proton, Rama, Soprey, Sunnidale, Tay, Tecumseth, Thorah, Tiny, Tosorontio, Vespra, and Zero Twps (2 Geo 4 c3, 1821 Apr 14)
1837 Mara, Rama, and Thorah Twps moved to York Co

1840 Amaranth, Luther, Melancthon, and Proton Twps moved to new Waterloo Co
1843 Jan 11 placed in new Simcoe District
1845 consists of Adjala, Artemesia, Collingwood, Essa, Euphrasia, Flos, Gwillimbury West, Innisfil, Matchedash, Medonte, Mono, Mulmur, Nottawasaga, Osprey, Oro, Orillia North, Orillia South, St Vincent, Sunnidale, Tay, Tecumseth, Tosorontio, Tiny, and Vespra Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1851 territory of future Muskoka Dist annexed
1851 Artemesia, Collingwood, Euphrasia, and Osprey Twps moved to new Grey Co
1859 new twps placed: Morrison, Muskoka
1866 new twp placed: Cardwell
1868 Mar 4 Cardwell, Humphrey, Monck, Morrison, Muskoka, and Watt Twps and unorganized territory moved to new Muskoka Dist
1881 Jan 24 Mono and Mulmur Twps moved to new Dufferin Co
1974 Jan 1 Mara and Rama Twps moved from Ontario Co

Stormont 1792 Eastern H0134
1800 part moved to new Russell Co
1800 consists of Cornwall, Finch, Osnaburg, and Roxburg Twps
1845 consists of Cornwall, Finch, Osnaburg, and Roxborough Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry

Stormont Dundas & Glengarry 1850 H2 R1
1850 Jan 1 formed

Sudbury District 1907 H04
1907 Apr 20 formed from parts of Algoma and Nipissing Dists (7 Edw 7 c25)
1907><1948 Dennison, Drury, Graham, Hallam, Harrow, May, Rayside and Salter Twps moved from Algoma Dist
1912 part placed in new Timiskaming Dist
1912 Apr 16 part of Nipissing Dist moved to Sudbury Dist (c22)
1973 Jan 1 Sudbury City, and Capreol, Nickle Centre, Onaping Falls, Rayside-Balfour, Valley East, and Walden Towns moved to new Sudbury RM
2000><2001 Killarney M moved from Manitoulin Dist

Sudbury RM 1973
1973 Jan 1 formed from part of Sudbury Dist (Sudbury City, and Capreol, Nickle Centre, Onaping Falls, Rayside-Balfour, Valley East, and Walden Towns)
2001 Jan 1 amalgamated into Greater Sudbury City

Suffolk 1792
1800 abolished

Thunder Bay District 1871 H1234
1871 formed from part of Algoma Dist
1885 Mar 30 part placed in new Rainy River Dist (48 Vic Chap 20)
1922 Oct 2 part placed in new Cochrane Dist

Name	Year Established	Original District	History	Records

Timiskaming District 1912 H14

1912 formed from parts of Algoma, Nipissing, and Sudbury Dists

1922 Oct 2 part placed in new Cochrane Dist

Victoria 1851 H0134 R13

1851 formed from part of Peterborough Co (Bexley, Eldon, Emily, Fenelon, Mariposa, Ops, Somerville, and Verulam Twps)

1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Peterborough and Victoria

1858 new twps placed: Anson, Carden, Dalton, Digby, Draper, Hindon, Laxton, Longford, Lutterworth, Macauley, Oakley, and Ryde

1863 Jan 24 on its own

1868 Mar 4 Brunel, Draper, Macauley, McLean, Oakley, Ryde, and Stephenson Twps moved to new Muskoka Dist

1874 Jun 6 Anson, Hindon, and Lutterworth Twps moved to new Haliburton Co (37 Vic c 65, 1874 Mar 24)

1974 Jan 1 Manvers Twp moved from Durham Co

2001 Jan 1 amalgamated into Kawartha Lakes City

Waterloo 1840 Wellington H01234 R13

1840 formed from parts of Halton, Huron, and Simcoe Cos (from Simcoe: Amaranth, Luther, Melancthon, and Proton Twps)

<1845 twps attached: Bentinck, Egremont, Maryborough, Minto, Mornington

1845 Eramosa, Garafraxa, Guelph, Nichol, Puslinch, Waterloo, Wilmot, and Woolwich Twps moved from Halton Co

1845 consists of Amaranth, Arthur, Bentinck, Derby, Egremont, Eramosa, Garafraxa, Glenelg, Guelph, Holland, Luther, Maryborough, Melancthon, Minto, Mornington, Nichol, Normanby, Peel, Proton, Puslinch, Sullivan, Sydenham, Waterloo, Wellesley, Wilmot, and Woolwich Twps, plus for some purposes Dumfries and Erin Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)

1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own

1850 Jan 1 Mornington Twp moved to new Perth Co (12 Vic c96, 1849 May 30)

1850 Erin Twp moved from Halton Co

1851 Bentinck, Derby, Egremont, Glenelg, Holland, Melancthon, Normanby, Proton, Sullivan, and Sydenham Twps moved to new Grey Co

1851 Amaranth, Arthur, Eramosa, Erin, Garafraxa, Guelph, Luther, Maryborough, Minto, Nichol, Peel, and Puslinch Twps and Guelph Town moved to new Wellington Co

1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wellington, Waterloo, and Grey

1852 Dumfries North Twp and Galt Village moved from Halton Co

1853 Jan 22 on its own

1973 Jan 1 dissolved into Waterloo RM

Waterloo RM 1973 H3

1973 Jan 1 formed from Waterloo Co, Dumfries North, Wellesley, Wilmot, and Woolwich Twps, and Cambridge, Kitchener, and Waterloo Cities

Welland 1845 Niagara H014 R13

1845 formed from part of Lincoln Co (Bertie, Crowland, Humberstone, Pelham, Stanford, Thorold, Wainfleet, and Willoughby Twps)

1850 Jan 1 placed in new United Counties of Lincoln, Haldimand, and Welland

1851 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Lincoln and Welland

1856 May 12 on its own
1970 Jan 1 dissolved into Niagara RM

Wellington 1851 H01234 R13

1851 formed from part of Waterloo Co (Amaranth, Arthur, Eramosa, Erin, Garafraxa, Guelph, Luther, Maryborough, Minto, Nichol, Peel, and Puslinch Twps and Guelph Town)
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wellington, Waterloo, and Grey
1853 Jan 22 placed in new United County of Wellington and Grey
1853 Dec 30 on its own
1864 Mount Forest Town moved from Grey Co
1879 Shelburne Village moved to Grey Co
1881 Jan 24 Amaranth, Garafraxa East, and Luther East Twps and Orangeville Town moved to new Dufferin Co

Wellington & Grey 1853

1853 Jan 22 formed from part of Wellington Waterloo & Grey
1853 Dec 30 dissolved

Wellington Waterloo & Grey 1852

1852 Jan 1 formed
1853 Jan 22 dissolved into Waterloo Co and United County of Wellington and Grey

Wentworth 1816 Gore H0124 R13

1816 Mar 22 formed from parts of Haldimand, Lincoln, and York (from Lincoln: Ancaster, Barton, Binbrook, Glanford, and Saltfleet Twps)
1845 consists of Ancaster, Barton, Binbrook, Brantford, Glanford, Onondaga, Saltfleet, and Tuscarora Twps, plus for some purposes Oneida and Seneca Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wentworth and Halton
1851 Brantford, Onondaga, and Tuscarora Twps, Brantford Town, and Paris Village moved to new Brant Co
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wentworth, Halton, and Brant
1852 Beverley, Flamborough East, and Flamborough West Twps moved from Halton Co
1853 Jan 22 placed in re-formed United County of Wentworth and Halton
1855 Jan 1 on its own
1974 Jan 1 dissolved into Hamilton-Wentworth RM

Wentworth & Halton 1850

1850 Jan 1 formed
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of Wentworth Halton & Brant
1853 Jan 22 re-formed from part of United County of Wentworth Halton & Brant
1855 Jan 1 dissolved

Wentworth Halton & Brant 1852

1852 Jan 1 formed from Wentworth & Halton Co and new Brant Co
1853 Jan 22 dissolved into Brant Co and United County of Wentworth and Halton

York 1792 Home H01234 R13

1808 York comprises two Ridings: East and West
1816 Mar 22 part moved to new Wentworth Co

1816 Mar 22 Beverley, Dumfries, Flamborough East, Flamborough West, Nelson, Nichol, Trafalgar, Waterloo, and Woolwich Twps moved to new Halton Co
1821 new twps placed in East Riding: Brock, Georgina, Reach, Scott
1821 new twps placed in West Riding: Albion, Caledon, Chinguacousy, Toronto Gore
1833 York comprises four Ridings (3 Wm 4 c16, 1833 Feb 13):
First: Etobicoke, King, Vaughan, York
Second: Albion, Caledon, Chinguacousy, Toronto, Toronto Gore
Third: Markham, Pickering, Scarborough, Whitby
Fourth: Brock, Georgina, Gwillimbury East, Gwillimbury North, Reach, Scott, Uxbridge, Whitchurch
1837 Mara, Rama, and Thorah Twps moved from Simcoe Co
1845 consists of
North Riding: Brock, Georgina, Gwillimbury East, Gwillimbury North, Mara, Rama, Reach, Scott, Thora, Uxbridge, and Whitchurch Twps
South Riding: Etobicoke, King, Vaughan, and York Twps
East Riding: Markham, Pickering, Scarborough, and Whitby Twps
West Riding: Albion, Caledon, Chinguacousy, Toronto, and Toronto Gore Twps (8 Vic c7, 1845 Feb 10)
1850 Jan 1 districts dissolved, on its own
1851 Brock, Georgina, Mara, Pickering, Rama, Reach, Scott, Thorah, Uxbridge, and Whitby Twps, and Oshawa Village moved to new Ontario Co
1851 Albion, Caledon, Chinguacousy, Toronto, and Toronto Gore Twps moved to new Peel Co
1852 Jan 1 placed in new United County of York, Ontario, and Peel
1853 Georgina Twp moved from Ontario Co
1853 Dec 30 placed in new United County of York and Peel
1867 Jan 1 on its own
1954 Jan 1 municipalities withdrawn from York Co and placed in Metro Toronto (East York, Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough, and York Twps, Leaside, Mimico, New Toronto, and Weston Towns, Forest Hill, Long Branch, and Swansea Villages, and Toronto City). Metro Toronto is the upper tier, the municipalities the lower tier.
1971 Jan 1 dissolved into York RM

York Ontario & Peel 1852
1852 Jan 1 formed from York Co, new Ontario Co and new Peel Co
1853 Dec 30 dissolved into Ontario Co and York & Peel Co

York & Peel 1853
1853 Dec 30 formed from part of York Ontario & Peel Co
1867 Jan 1 dissolved

York RM 1971 H2
1971 Jan 1 formed from York Co, Georgina Twp, and Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, and Whitchurch-Stouffville Towns

Appendix 4
Townships and Improvement Districts

This appendix attempts to list every administrative township that has ever existed in Ontario. The occasional geographic township is listed if it belongs in the history of an administrative township. It is surprisingly difficult to determine which townships are or were administrative units.

Some of the administrative history of each township is given. The first line of the township entry is of the form:

Name, a/b/c, d/e, Hx, Ry

where Name is the name of the township

- a — date of first survey, an "x" means that a predecessor township was surveyed. A date range (1819–21) means it took a while to complete the survey. A set of dates (1819, 1821) means the township was surveyed twice.
- b — date of first legal settler, an "x" means settlement occurred when the area was a predecessor township.
- c — date when it started functioning as a township and so is likely to have records. An "x" indicates that it never was a political township. This date may be that of incorporation (particularly after 1850), or the date of a known meeting, or the date of the start of records. It is NOT the "date of creation" since that may have been years before any other activity occurred.
- d — the *original* county the township was in
- e — the county it was in in 2003 (if different), a "-" indicates that the township no longer exists as a separate political unit.
- x — a number indicating where information about a municipal history can be found
  - 0 Morley (see Bibliography for complete reference)
  - 1 Aitken – 1951–1977 (see Bibliography for complete reference)
  - 2 Aitken – 1977–1987
  - 3 Aitken – 1987–1997
  - 4 see the Family History Library Catalogue at <www.familysearch.org>
- y — a number indicating where information on the location of records can be found.
  - 1 Original or microfilm at the Ontario Archives. See <www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/virtualrr/info22> for more details.
  - 2 Microfilm created by the Genealogical Society of Utah (and so available through the Mormon Family History Centres) **and** a copy at the Ontario Archives.

3 Microfilm created by the Genealogical Society of Utah (available through the Mormon Family History Centres) **but no** copy at the Ontario Archives.

That first line may be followed by other lines giving the date of certain events in the life of the township, such as movement from one county to another, splits, amalgamations, and so forth.

When using this data, you should be aware that it is difficult to be accurate on the dates of any of it, particularly with the older pre-1850 townships. In particular the date of the first European settler will be open to much argument. In many cases there is ample evidence of the existence of a township long before its incorporation, even with townships incorporated after 1850. Even official sources disagree as to when a township came into existence. This is due to a number of reasons. The records may simply not exist, not even the acts that established the municipality. Municipalities may have functioned without any legal existence. Many municipalities were created by acts in one year but to come into effect on a date in the following year (usually Jan 1). In these cases I have listed the later year. The Bureau of Industries' 1902 list is particularly remarkable for providing dates one year later than other sources, probably due to this reason. Some municipalities were created to come into effect when certain conditions were met (such as a population of 1 000) and that may have occurred several years later. Again I have attempted to provide the later date. But still there is much unexplained disagreement among sources. In the end I have used judgement and, realizing that I am providing information on when records might be found, I have tended to use the earlier of contradicting dates. Better to search and find records do not exist than to not search and miss valuable information.

Many apparently United Townships do not seem to have had any legal existence, raising the suspicion that new townships may have simply been administered by another township without any legal structure. For simplicity I have listed them as United Townships, although some that lasted only a few months have not been listed separately but only as a note under the constituent townships.

An interesting situation occurs when a township is split. One of the new entities (called the senior township) retains the incorporation of the original township, while the other will be newly incorporated. Thus you will see the oddity of a township seemingly being incorporated years before it came into existence. The Bureau of Industries' 1902 report frequently has a different opinion as to which is the senior township.

It is not possible to provide the location of every municipality's records. First it would take years to seek them all out; second this would then be a multi-volume set! I encourage individual OGS Branches to do this detailed work for the municipalities in their region.

Many of the above problems could be solved by a careful search of all local township records and histories. By the time you have gone through this list, I think you will understand why that has not been done here. Individual OGS Branches can do this detail work. I look forward to corrections from them and from readers that can go into the next edition of this work.

Many townships have a directional (north, south, etc) as part of their names. In nearly every case this indicates a common ancestor. In order to keep these historically related townships together, I have in all cases put the directional after the name. Thus North Monaghan and South Monaghan are listed as Monaghan, North and Monaghan, South, which keeps them together and with their ancestor Monaghan Twp. I have done this only for townships; communities and municipalities are listed with their names in