

Area number three shall be three hundred feet along a lead by five hundred feet across; Area No. 3.

Area number four shall be four hundred and fifty feet along a lead by five hundred feet across. Area No. 4.

16. Areas shall be laid out as far as possible uniformly, and in quadrilateral and rectangular shapes. Measurements of areas shall be horizontal, and each area shall be bounded by lines vertical to the horizon. Areas—how laid out—measurement.

17. The rents per annum of these areas shall be, for area number one, forty dollars; area number two, eighty dollars; area number three, one hundred and sixty dollars; and for area number four, two hundred and forty dollars. Rents.

18. No more than one area shall be included in one lease; but such area may be of any of the classes above named. Lease to contain one area.

19. Under special circumstances, leases of larger areas, and on modified terms, may be granted, with the approval of the Governor in Council. Larger areas—how granted.

20. In lands not lying within any proclaimed gold district, the rights of parties shall be governed as far as possible by the spirit and provisions of this Act. Parties occupying and staking off areas corresponding in size with those prescribed hereby, shall be entitled to priority in the order of their occupation, so as each occupant shall apply to the chief Gold Commissioner for the area occupied by him, and pay for the same at the rate prescribed by this Act within the time allowed hereby. Every such applicant shall be entitled to one week, and thereafter to twenty-four hours' time for making his application, for every fifteen miles distance of the mine applied for, from the office of the chief Gold Commissioner at Halifax. In case the lands so applied for shall afterwards be included within any gold district, and laid off as prescribed by this Act, the rights of the occupants shall be respected so far as is consistent with the terms of this Act, on adjusting the boundary lines between the parties in occupation. Rights of parties in land not within a gold district.

Priority.

Time in which application to be made.

When lands included in district, rights of occupants to be respected.

21. When any alluvial or placer diggings are discovered, it shall be the duty of the Gold Commissioner, or some other person duly appointed by the Governor for the purpose, to examine and report upon the same, and upon such report the Governor in Council may declare the same to be sufficiently auriferous to be worked in small lots, and order them to be laid off accordingly. In such case the diggings shall be laid off in lots of one thousand square feet, but the shape of the lots in each locality shall be governed by the circumstances and situation of the locality, to be decided by the Gold Commissioner; provided always, that if at any future time such diggings or any part thereof should prove not sufficiently auriferous to be worked, such order may be repealed or modified, as occasion may require. Proceedings on discovery of alluvial or placer diggings.

Size of lots, &c

Proviso.

22. Alluvial or placer diggings, not ordered to be laid off