

was Robert Land, who was born on the banks of the Delaware, and served on the side of the British during the revolutionary war. In 1778 he took up 300 acres, occupying the greater part of the east end of the city between the mountain and the bay.

Between 1796 and 1812 several settlers arrived. In the latter year the site of the city was occupied by Robert, Abel and Ephraim Land, John Aikman, Col. Richard Beasley, Peter Ferguson, James Mills, Peter Hess, Nathaniel Hughson, Daniel Kirkendall, and Capt. Jas. Durand. A man named Barnum kept a tavern on the north-west corner of King and James streets, and owned the land from King to Merrick.

In 1814, William Sheldon, opened the first store, a frame building on the south-east corner of King and John. "Black," Carpenter, Knight and Shute, were the names of the first cabinet makers. John Aikman was the first wagon maker, and Edward Jackson the first tinsmith. McQuesten & Co., owned the first foundry, a stone building which occupied the site of the present Royal Hotel. Thomas Reynolds was the first blacksmith, his shop stood on the south-east corner of King and Ferguson avenue. John Law kept the first district school. Andrew Miller commonly known as "Yankee Miller" succeeded Barnum, and kept the tavern till it was destroyed by fire. In 1813 a portion of the site of the city was laid out in town lots by Geo. Hamilton, at that time and for many years afterwards member of Parliament for Gore district. Between 1823-4 charters were granted for the construction of the Burlington Bay and Desjardins Canals. These works gave a great impetus to the prosperity of the village. At this time King and Main streets were the chief thoroughfares. In 1833 the town of Hamilton was incorporated, three years later the population was 2,846, and the assessed value amounted to £44,020. In 1838 the population was 3,358, and the assessed value £52,130. The CITY of HAMILTON was incorporated in 1846, the population having increased to 6,832, and the assessed value to £113,720. In the following year the first council was elected, and was composed of Messrs. Colin C. Ferrie, mayor; Alex. Carpenter, Chas. O. Counsell, N. Ford, L. B. Freeman, D. C. Gunn, David Kelly, Andrew