

(2.)—ADDITIONAL Rules and Regulations for the conduct of the Land-office Department.

Regulations of the
Land-Granting
Department.

Additional Rules
and Regulations
for the conduct of
Land-office De-
partment.

Council-chamber, Quebec, 25th August 1789.

I. WHEREAS there is reason to apprehend that delays and abuses have arisen in the land-granting department, on account of the distance of the surveyor-general's office from its agents or deputy-surveyors, in various parts of the province, and that some of the said surveyors have, in divers instances, attempted to dispose of the waste lands of the Crown without authority, under pretext of executing the King's instructions to the Governor, relative to the allotments of lands to be made to disbanded troops, and under other colours and pretences: It is therefore hereby ordered and directed, that all surveyors employed by the Government, under instructions from the surveyor-general's office for making surveys and allotments of the waste lands of the Crown, in any part of the province, forthwith make reports to the land-boards of the respective districts, of all allotments made by them (the said surveyors) specifying their authority, that individuals, conceiving themselves secured in the possession of such unauthorised locations as are aforementioned, may be apprised of the error. And the boards are to keep a vigilant eye over all encroachments by individuals upon the waste lands of the Crown, under pretext of such unauthorised locations, or otherwise; communicating such full information as may be requisite for discriminating the case of deceived and incautious settlers, from other intruders, that those who may reasonably expect the favour of Government may receive such indulgences as their cases may be found to require.

II. No allotment whatever shall henceforth be made by any of the said surveyors, except by the written authority, directions or certificate of the respective boards. And as often as such certificate or authority of the board shall come to the hands of the surveyor, to whom the same is directed, it shall be his duty to locate the tract therein mentioned, and give his certificate of location to the intended grantee, at the foot or on the back of the authority of the board accordingly.

And as often as an order of the Governor in council issues for a grant of lands to be made, the clerk of the council shall transmit a copy thereof to the board of the district in which the lands to be granted are situated, to enable the board to give the authority before directed, for the tract being located by the surveyor.

III. The boards are to take care that the orders contained in the tenth article of the rules and regulations for the conduct of the land-office department, of the 17th of February last, relative to the dimensions and subdivision of townships, be duly executed by the different surveyors; and for this purpose, the said orders are here inserted at length for the information and guidance of the board, viz:

The dimensions of every inland township shall be ten miles square, and such as are situated upon a navigable river or water shall have a front of nine miles, and to be 12 miles in depth.

The town-plot in every township shall be one mile square. In an inland township, it shall be situated in the centre thereof; and in a township upon a navigable river or water, it shall be in the centre of the front bordering upon the river or water.

Every town lot shall contain one acre, more or less.

Every town park shall contain 24 acres, more or less.

Every farm lot shall contain 200 acres, more or less.

There shall be a public square or parade in the centre of the town, containing four acres, more or less. (G.)

There shall be four more public squares or parades of the like extent, at equal and convenient distances from the centre. (G.)

A square of four acres, more or less, shall be reserved on each side of the centre square, for places of Divine worship, one parsonage-house, one school-house, a court or town-house, a prison, and a poor or work-house. (B.) (C.) (D.) (E.)

A square of four acres, more or less, shall be reserved at each of the four corners of the town-plot, for a common burying ground, hospital, &c. (F.)

Four squares of four acres each, more or less, shall be reserved for market-places, at the four extremities of the town, in a line with, and at equal distances from the four corners. (H.)

The eight principal streets leading from the centre square, shall be 96 feet wide. All other streets shall be 60 feet wide. All the squares shall be open at the angles or corners.

An area of half a mile, more or less, in depth, surrounding the town, shall be reserved for works of defence if necessary, or such other disposition as shall be thought proper at a future period. (A.)

The town-parks shall adjoin and surround the area just mentioned, and shall be 280 feet in number in every inland township, and 218 in number in every township situated upon a navigable river or water.

One town-park shall be reserved for a minister, and one for a school-master, adjoining each other. (I.) (K.)

The remainder of the township shall be laid out in farm lots, the number of which, in every inland township, is to be 252, and in every township situated on a navigable river or water, 300.

Note.—The letters in the margin refer to the plans above mentioned.