

Provincial Government Lands.

Crown lands in British Columbia are classified as either surveyed or unsurveyed lands, and may be acquired by entry at the Government Lands Office, pre-emption or purchase.

The following persons may pre-empt Crown lands: Any person being the head of a family, a widow, or a single man over eighteen years of age, being a British subject, may record surveyed or unsurveyed Crown lands, which are unoccupied, or unreserved, and unrecorded (that is unreserved for Indians or others, or unrecorded in the name of any other applicant).

Aliens may also record such surveyed or unsurveyed land on making a declaration of intention to become a British subject.

The quantity of land that may be recorded or pre-empted is not to exceed 320 acres northward and eastward of the Cascade or Coast Mountains, or 160 acres in the rest of the province.

No person can hold more than one pre-emption claim at a time. Prior record or pre-emption of one claim, and all rights under it, are forfeited by subsequent record or pre-emption of another claim.

Land recorded or pre-empted cannot be transferred or conveyed till after a Crown grant has been issued.

Such land, until the Crown grant is issued, is held by occupation. Such occupation must be a bona-fide personal residence of the settler or his family.

The settler must enter into occupation of the land within thirty days after recording, and must continue to occupy it.

Continuous absence for a longer period than two months consecutively of the settler or family is deemed cessation of occupation; but leave of absence may be granted not exceeding six months in any one year, inclusive of two months' absence.

Land is considered abandoned if unoccupied for more than two months consecutively.

If so abandoned the land becomes waste lands of the Crown.

The fee on recording is two dollars (8s.)

The settler shall have the land surveyed at his own instance (subject to the rectification of the boundaries) within five years from date of record.

After survey has been made, upon proof, in declaration in writing of himself and two other persons, of occupation for two years from date of pre-emption, and