

18. At the expiration of such month, if such cause shall not be shewn, the Magistrate shall record the claim in the name of the said applicant, and upon receipt of a fee of four shillings and two pence shall grant a certificate under his hand of such record to the applicant, and preserve a duplicate thereof in his office.

Land may be re-recorded at the expiration of a month.

19. Such certificate shall specify the conditions under which the land included therein shall be held, and may be pleaded in bar to all previous claims (if any) in respect of or against any of the said land.

Certificate of such record bars prior claim.

20. Any person in possession of 160 acres of land as aforesaid, may acquire the right to pre-empt and hold any further tract of unsurveyed and unoccupied land contiguous thereto, not exceeding 480 acres (and no more either directly or indirectly save with the express sanction in writing of the Governor in that behalf) over and above the quantity of 160 acres aforesaid, upon the payment to the Stipendiary Magistrate of the District of the sum of two shillings and one penny per acre for the same, as by way of instalment of the purchase money to be ultimately paid to the Government, after the survey of the same land.

Over 160 acres how to be pre-empted.

21. If such land shall not have been previously recorded, any person so paying such deposit shall forthwith enter into possession, and if previously recorded, after one month's notice as aforesaid, and cause to the contrary not shewn, record his claim to such last mentioned tract of land and enter into possession in manner hereinbefore prescribed.

Rules to be observed in this case.

22. The claimant or applicant shall in all cases make his application in writing, and give the best possible written description of the land, to the Stipendiary Magistrate of the District to whom he applies to record his claim, together with a proper plan thereof, and identify the plot in question by pointing out the position of the said posts, and by stating in his description any other land marks of a noticeable character; and all such plans and descriptions shall be in duplicate.

General rules to be observed in pre-empting.

23. Every piece of land sought to be acquired under the provisions of this Ordinance, shall, save as hereinafter mentioned, be of a rectangular shape, and the shortest line thereof shall be at least two-thirds the length of the longest line.

Rectangular shape, or as nearly as possible proportion of the lines.

24. Where the land sought to be acquired is in whole or in part bounded by mountains, rocks, lakes, swamps, or the margin of a river, or by other natural boundaries, then such natural boundaries may be adopted as the boundaries of the land sought to be acquired, and in such case it shall be sufficient for the claimant to show to the satisfaction of the Stipendiary Magistrate of the District, that the said form conforms as nearly as circumstances permit to the provisions of this Ordinance.

Natural boundaries may be adopted in certain cases.

25. If the land sought to be acquired be bounded by land already pre-empted or surveyed, the line of such land may be adopted by the person so seeking to acquire, notwithstanding any irregularity in such line which may have been occasioned by the adoption of a natural boundary by the claimant of the adjacent land.

Lines of adjacent claims may be adopted.

26. Where a piece of land is partially or entirely enclosed between two or more claims, the claimant may acquire such enclosed piece notwithstanding any irregularity of form, or disproportion in length, of any of the sides.

Enclosed spaces may be adopted, notwithstanding any irregularity of shape.

27. The boundaries shall run as nearly as possible by the cardinal points of the compass.

Boundaries to run as nearly as possible according to the points of the compass.

28. When the Government shall survey the land claimed, the claimant who has recorded his claim as aforesaid, or his heirs or devisees, or in the case of the grant of a certificate of improvement

When pre-empted land may be purchased.