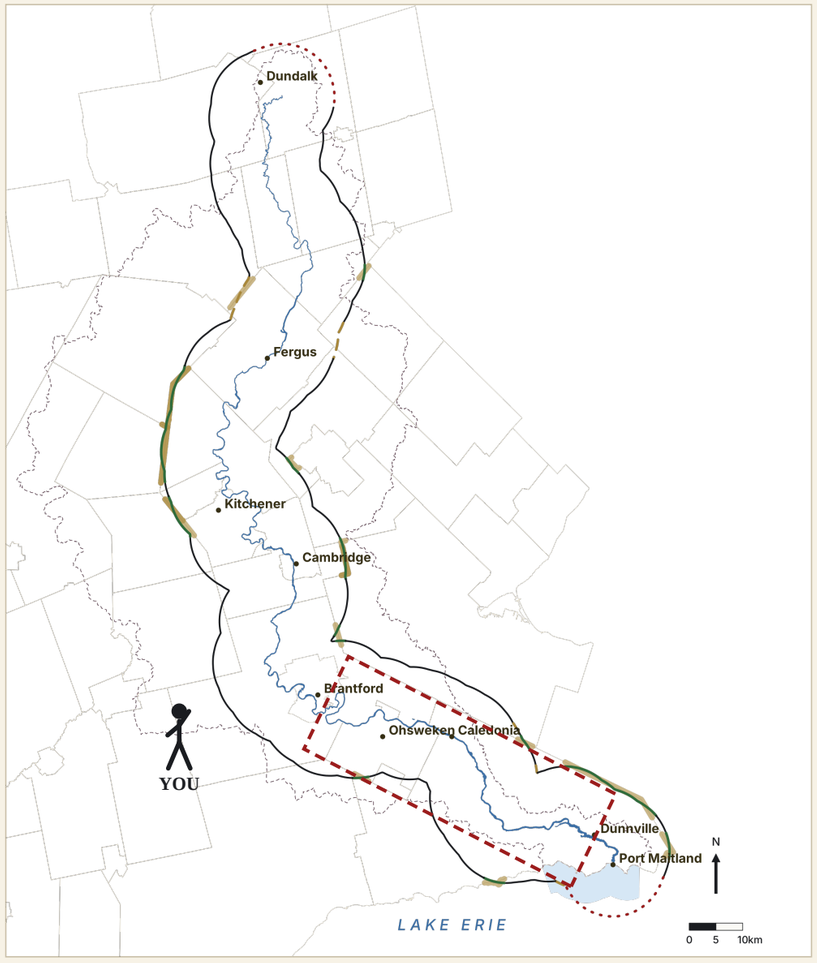
MOHAWK NATION OF GRAND RIVER

The Deed That Was Refused

The Simcoe Patent, 14 January 1793: on the map, off the list, and turned down by the only people it could bind

SIX MILES FROM THE BANK, OR A RULER?

The Proclamation measured six miles from each bank of a winding river, mouth to head. The Patent confirmed straight lines laid with a ruler, and cut some 950,000 acres to about 675,000, stopping at the Falls near Elora.



Six miles from each bank: the Proclamation, kept

The straight survey of 1791, which the Patent confirmed (lower river, approximate)

Is your home between the lines? mohreg.org/is-it-in-the-tract

THE NUMBER THAT ISN'T THERE

TREATY No. 3	TREATY No. 3½	TREATY No. 4	TREATY No. 5
Listed	Bay of Quinte, 1 April 1793 · accepted	The Grand River Patent, 14 January 1793 · refused · not on the list	Listed

Ontario's treaty map prints "Treaty 4, 1793." Its list of treaties and surrenders runs from No. 3 to No. 5. On the map, off the list.

NOTHING LEFT TO CONVEY

May 1784
The Mississaugas surrender the lands to the Crown

→

October 1784
The King gives them, by deed of gift, to the Mohawk and their posterity, for ever

→

January 1793
The Patent: nothing left in the King's hand to give

Brant asked for a better title. As it is told on the Grand River, the answer was that the King had nothing higher to give. A gift keeps nothing back.

FOLLOW THE CHAIN BACK TO THE DEED

1	1793	**The Simcoe Patent** · refused by Brant and the Grand River chiefs
2	1924	**Order in Council P.C. 1629** · the elected council imposed under the Indian Act
3	1959	**Logan v. Styres** · settlers under both deeds held to be the Crown's subjects
4	1975 · 1977	**Isaac v. Davey** · the Patent read as a mere use; the elected council upheld
5	Admitted	**A band under the Indian Act** · Canada admits the plaintiff is a band
6	1995	**The land claim** · pleads the Proclamation and the Patent together
7	If it settles	**One release, signed for all** · offered as settling a class that was never a party

THE PROCLAMATION, 1784 · KEPT

To the Mohawk and their posterity

Six miles from each bank, mouth to head

Exclusive use and enjoyment, for ever

Never surrendered; carried past 1867 by s. 109

THE PATENT, 1793 · REFUSED

To the "Six Nations" as one body

Jones's lines to the Falls, ≈ 675,000 acres

Possession and use, under protection

Refused, and recorded as refused

The Patent is the deed everyone uses. The Proclamation is the deed the Mohawk kept.

MOHAWK NATION OF GRAND RIVER
SECRETARIAT

© Mohawk's Printer for Grand River, 2026, for the Mohawk Nation of Grand River · Grand River Territory, Ohsweken · free to share, with credit