MOHAWK NATION OF GRAND RIVER SECRETARIAT

Certificate of the record

The Three Villages
POS001-261028-000016 · version 1 · A draft — not yet for use

WHAT IT IS

Canajoharie, Tikondarago and Aughquaga: the promise of 1775, the villages burned, the Pledge of 1779, the Grand River of 1784, the Mark of Honour of 1789 and the oath of 1796; the Nation's own land map; where the posterity went, and who they are today. On the web, the road draws itself and the world fills in.

Its date	2026-10-27al
Made by	Mohawk's Printer for Grand River
Their qualifications	Drawn by Mohawk's Printer for Grand River from the National Books' own data; Book III, Lands and the Tract shows it on a page of its own.
Their duty	Not recorded.
Its standing as a survey	This is the Nation's determination, made from the sources named; it is not a survey under the Surveyors Act, and was not prepared by a licensed surveyor.
Datum and projection	Not a map; the Three Villages' inset keeps the land map's datum (NAD83 / UTM zone 17N).
Scale	
Its certificate	

HOW IT WAS MADE

An illustration, drawn from the sources below; printed in A3 landscape (420 × 297 mm), with A2 and A1 print files, 3 mm bleed and crop marks.

HOW SURELY

An illustration, not a survey: the figures stand for no particular family. The Three Villages' inset is the Register's own land map, drawn from its layers.

A poster: it teaches, and does not decide. The record of any person's line is the Register's.

ITS SOURCES

1. Haldimand's Pledge, 7 April 1779 — The Crown, 1779; public record
2. The Haldimand Proclamation, 25 October 1784 — The Crown, 1784; public record
3. Lord Dorchester's Order in Council, 9 November 1789 — The Crown, 1789; public record
4. Simcoe's Register Proclamation, 6 April 1796 — The Crown, 1796; public record

5. The census of 1785 — Kelsay, Joseph Brant (1984), 1984; cited
6. The Register’s land map — Grand River Conservation Authority; King’s Printer for Ontario, 2026; Open Government Licence – Ontario

WHAT IT CARRIES

□ A title · □ Its maker · □ Its date · □ A scale bar · □ A scale ratio (1 : n) · □ North · □ A legend · □ Its datum and projection · □ Its sources, with their dates · □ A statement of its accuracy · □ A locator (where it is in the wider world) · □ Its credits and licences

ITS FILES, AND THEIR FINGERPRINTS (SHA-256)

The picture	poster-the-three-villages.webp `2ff97b89e7d2246f1d87b14b5d070bb963ded761668cf268877d7afbb2f4f753`
The print (PDF)	poster-the-three-villages.pdf `0f754dac7d92adcc4746e771fa33bee1945ccde32669081684f3ca1ff422284a`

ITS ENTRIES IN THE INTEGRITY LOG, AND THEIR TIMESTAMPS

Entry 34, 2026-11-08 04:16:53 UTC	Its file replaced before certification: the poster as the plugin now carries it `461521678306855ef4b84e53e2cde6bb7972bffc19e81a965692b4d96b5f9ef1` Timestamped by timestamp.digicert.com at 2026-11-08 04:16:55 UTC (RFC 3161)

TO CITE IT

Mohawk Nation of Grand River Secretariat, The Three Villages (poster), POS001-261028-000016, version 1, . https://mohawkuniversity.org/Register/verify/POS001-261028-000016 ISBN 978-1-0680559-5-9, Mohawk’s Printer for Grand River.

Signed with the Register’s own key — a change after signing shows, but readers’ software will call the signer unverified until a certificate from a recognised authority is loaded. Key fingerprint (SHA-256): d2a5851e021234100a59dd9afbb4898bf85e2f78f5fb9a3f98e51e147ca748ca. The independent timestamps may be downloaded from the record’s page and checked with standard tools. Whether a record is admitted, and its weight, are for the court.

MOHAWK NATION OF GRAND RIVER

The Three Villages

Three villages. One promise. A line that never ends.

Canajoharie, Tikondarago and Aughquaga, from a promise to the posterity today · From Book IV of the National Books, Lands and the Tract

1710 — four chiefs in London
1775 — the promise
1779 — the Pledge
1783 — the peace
1784 — the Grand River
1789 — the Mark of Honour
1796 — the oath
Today — the posterity

1 · 1775 · THE PROMISE

At a council at Montreal, Sir Guy Carleton asks the nations to take up the hatchet, and promises that any losses in the war will be replaced.

2 · 1775–1779 · THE LOSS

The Mohawks of the Valley withdraw north, to safety and to fight beside the King's forces. Their villages are occupied or burned: in the Pledge's words, "Ruined by the Rebels".

3 · 1779 · THE ASK, AND THE PLEDGE

On 7 April the Mohawks of the three villages tell Haldimand of Carleton's promise and ask that it stand. He ratifies it: the villages are to be restored "to the state they were in before".

4 · 1783 · PEACE

On 3 September the Treaty of Paris gives the Mohawk Valley to the United States and says nothing of the villages. The promise can no longer be kept where it was made.

5 · 1784 · THE GRAND RIVER

On 25 October Haldimand sets apart six miles each side of the Grand River for "the Mohawk Nation and such others of the Six Nation Indians as wish to settle in that quarter". A census in 1785 counts 548 Mohawks there.

6 · 1789 · THE MARK OF HONOUR

On 9 November Lord Dorchester marks those who "adhered to the Unity of the Empire", and their descendants by either sex, with the letters U.E. The Loyalist Mohawks of the three villages are United Empire Loyalists.

7 · 1796 · THE OATH

On 6 April, Simcoe's Register Proclamation: the mark is ascertained on oath before a magistrate. The Nation's position is that this was never done for the class; its Register records each line now.

FROM MANY VILLAGES TO THREE

1634 — 8 villages
1677 — 4 castles
1700–75 — 3 castles
1779 — the Pledge: 3

Behold south of the river after 1693: by 1775 the Lower and Upper castles remained, Taraporen having merged into Canajoharie after 1755. The Pledge names "Canejoharie, Tikondarago and Aughquaga".

THE THREE VILLAGES, BURNED · 1775–1779

Canajoharie — *Kanyenhaharie, 'the Upper Castle'*
Indian Castle Church, 1769 still stands

Tikondarago — *Tiononderoge · the Lower Castle, at Fort Hunter*
Queen Anne's Chapel, 1711

Aughquaga — *Oquaga, on the Susquehanna*

THE ROAD · 1775–1784

Lachine

The Bay of Quinte — about twenty families, 1784, under Captain John Deserontyon

The St Lawrence — Kahnawake, Kanesatake, Akwesasne, Wahta

Joseph Brant

Fort Niagara

To the Grand River — the Mohawk Chapel, built 1785

THE TRACT, FROM THE NATION'S OWN LAND MAP

N

The source, near Dundalk

LAYER BY LAYER

- The river
- The riparian zone (65 m)
- A Corridorated by a surveyed limit: 85 km
- B Measured from the mapped water: 313 km
- C Through a reservoir: 20 km
- D Interposed: the Lake Erie end and beyond the head: 47 km
- Municipal limits that stay about six miles out
- Other municipal boundaries

Brantford
Ohsweken
Caledonia
Dunnville
Port Maitland, the mouth

10 miles
20 km

Land map of the Register, mohawkuniversity.org/RegisterStudyMap. Produced using information under licence with the Grand River Conservation Authority, © Grand River Conservation Authority, 2026. Contains information licensed under the Open Government Licence – Ontario. © King's Printer for Ontario, 2026.

WHY IT IS CONFUSED

One sentence, two groups. The Proclamation names "the Mohawk Nation", then "such others of the Six Nation Indians as wish to settle in that quarter".

A grant that widened. In 1805 the Grand River Council recalled that it was first meant for those who had lost their lands on the Mohawk and Susquehanna Rivers, then "extended to such others of the Six Nations as wished to settle there".

One reserve, one name. What remains is Six Nations of the Grand River, six nations in one community, so "Grand River Mohawk" and "Six Nations" are used as if they were one.

Many Mohawks, many places. Kahnawake, Kanesatake, Akwesasne, Wahta and Tyendinaga each have their own history. The Pledge's Mohawks are those of three named villages who adhered to the Crown.

The class is defined by village and by adherence: not by band, clan or nation.

WHO THEY ARE TODAY

Generations on, the posterity are anywhere, in any life, born in marriage or out of it. Most do not know. Each is still joined by a line to a Loyalist ancestor.

The Grand River, Bay of Quinte and the St Lawrence — 548 Mohawks, 1785

New Brunswick — 15,000 Loyalists landed, 1783

England — 5,000 Loyalists

The Caribbean — some 12,000 Loyalists went to the West Indies

- *Where the Mohawks of the villages are recorded*
- *Where the Loyalists went*
- *A descendant today: anywhere, in any life. Most do not know*

Land outlines: Natural Earth.

THE POSTERITY HAS NO EDGE

Marrying out, having no clan, having no status: none of these ends the line. A descendant, by either sex, born in marriage or out of it, in any place and any life, who can link to one Loyalist ancestor is the posterity. Most do not know. A band counts those on its list; a clan follows the mother; the posterity follows the line, and passes beyond both.

The Register organizes; it does not control. It records each line back to a Loyalist ancestor, and the person keeps the right. The mark, UE, is the Crown's (1789); the magistrate's oath ascertains it (1796).

The land today

5 of every 100 acres

The Tract of 1784: about 950,000 acres; the Six Nations reserve: about 45,580. About 30,000 registered members; 13,000 on the reserve (2026).

The census of 1785, on the Grand River

Mohawk 548

Cayuga 281 · Oneida 252 · Onondaga 145 · Tuscarora 109 · Seneca 98 · others 400 · 1,843 in all (Kelsay, 1984)

Think you may be one of the posterity? Start with The Line of Honour, and see how the mark passes in The Mark of Honour: the companion posters, from Mohawk's Printer.

MOHAWK NATION OF GRAND RIVER
SECRETARIAT

Sources: Haldimand's Pledge, 7 April 1779; Joseph Brant's account of Carleton's promise, 1775; the Haldimand Proclamation, 25 October 1784; the Grand River Council, 4 May 1805 (Six Nations Archive); Lord Dorchester's Order in Council, 9 November 1789; Kelsay, Joseph Brant (1984), for the 1785 census; the UNB Loyalist Collection; Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte; Six Nations of the Grand River (Canadian Encyclopedia, 2026); the Register's land map (mohawkuniversity.org/RegisterLandsMap/), from the Grand River Conservation Authority's data. Tikondarago is generally identified with the Lower Castle at Fort Hunter.

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