

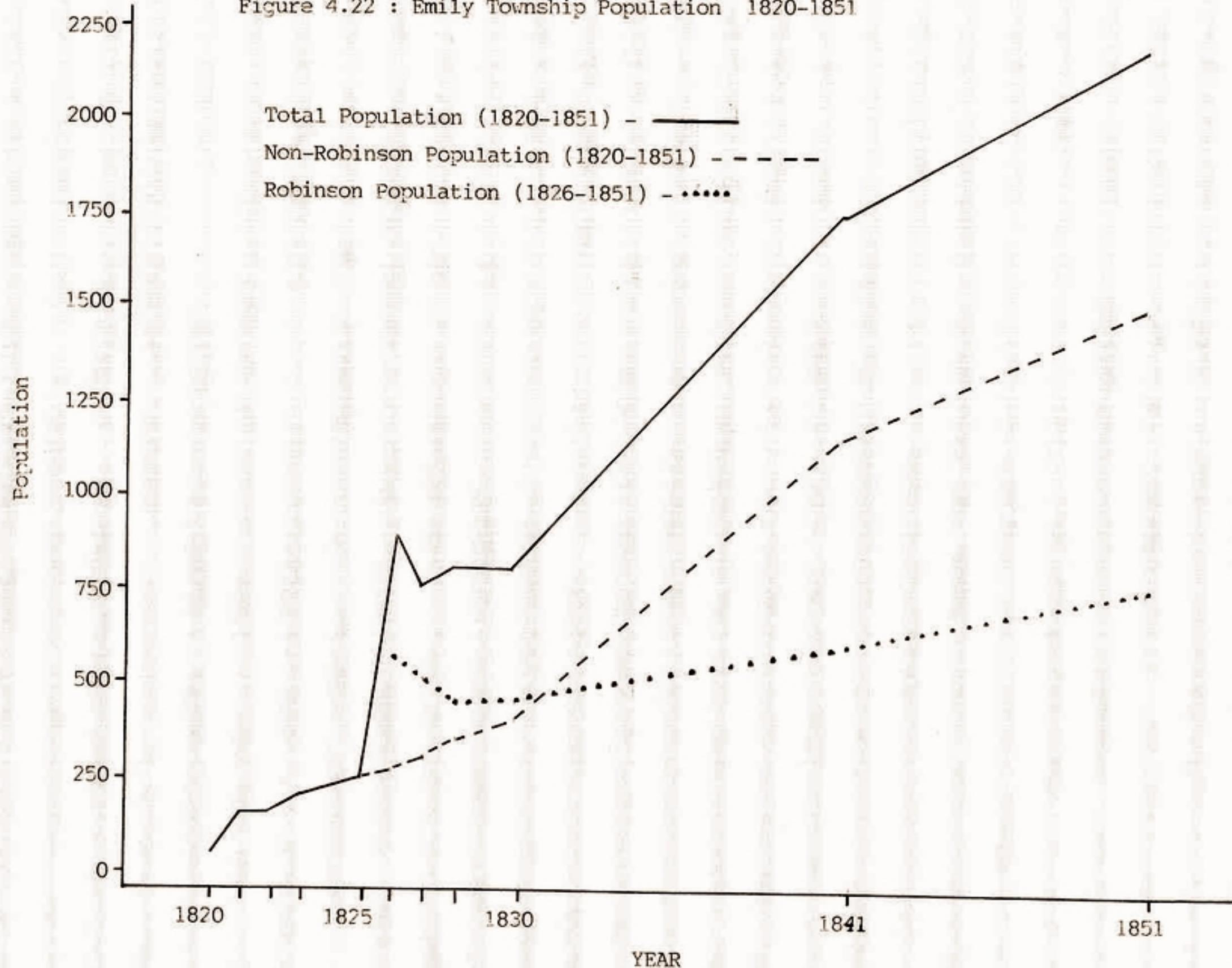
142 lots and were largely settled by the end of 1825. Figure 4.22 outlines the dramatic increase in Emily's population with the additional arrivals. The 1826 settlement map (Figure 4.23) shows the location of the Robinson lots, many (but not most, as Russell (1989) claims), in the northern tiers of the township. A surprising number (32) were settled south of the eighth concession. Of 142 allocated lots, only eighty-eight were occupied in 1826, with only twenty to thirty of the additional lots ever being settled by Robinson emigrants or their descendants (Mannion 1974, p.21).

Peter Robinson's 1826 report on the state of the settlement credits the settlers with clearing 342 acres, but, as Figure 4.21 illustrates, Robinson's statistics may have been somewhat inflated, the clearing figures for subsequent years being significantly lower.

Detailed analysis of 1826 land clearance figures shows forty-five settlers (30%), including twenty-three Robinson settlers, reporting more than 10% of their land cleared, but sixty-seven settlers claimed none to 4% cleared. James Jones at Con.2, Lot 19 and William Holroyd at Con.3, Lot 20 had 22% of their land cleared, while Thomas Trotter, Thomas Fee, and David Best I had all cleared over 20% of their farms.

The average clearing soared to 2.97 acres per year from 1.29 in 1825, a figure directly attributable to the suspiciously large land clearance recorded by Peter Robinson in his report to the British Parliament. Thirty-five settlers,

Figure 4.22 : Emily Township Population 1820-1851



MAP OF  
EMILY  
TOWNSHIP

Emily Township Settlement Pattern 1826

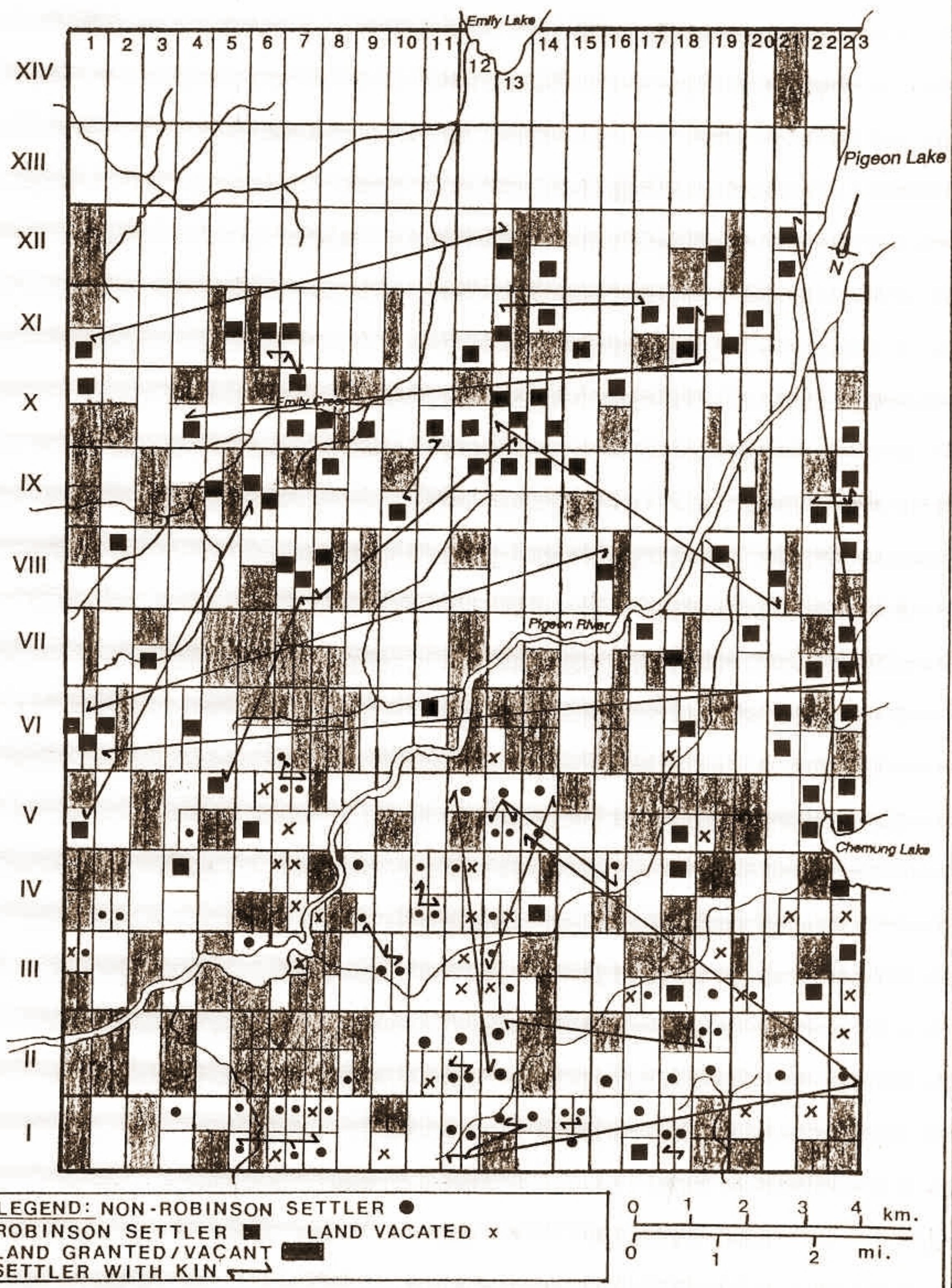


Figure 4.23 : Emily Township Settlement Pattern - 1826

mainly Robinson emigrants, allegedly cleared four to five acres in one year, with two Robinson settlers, Michael McCauliffe and Tobias Switzer, claiming ten acres cleared each, clearing rates that were never repeated.

Following the Robinson settlers' arrival, Emily's mean family size jumped to 5.6 persons, with seventy-three families of six to eleven persons - many of them extended families of Robinson settlers. Twelve Emily families had ten or more members and thirteen single settlers were assessed.

Average farm size increased from seventy-one acres in 1825 to 88.6 acres in 1826, with the addition of the one-hundred-acre Robinson lots. In 1826 ninety settlers (60%) were located wholly or partially on Class I agricultural soils; twenty-seven settlers were on Class V poor soils; Tim Cronin at Con.4, Lot 23 and Robert Gordon, Con.4, Lot 14 were 'Robinsons' settled on Class VI non-agricultural soils - and both were gone from their lots in 1827.

A total of 319 head of livestock were reported; the mode was sixteen settlers with six animals, ten settlers had seven to nine head, William Holroyd, the top land clearer, had ten animals, and eighty-four settlers, mainly Robinsons, reported no livestock. Thirty settlers (20%) had one or two oxen with fifty-seven oxen in total reported.

It is not until the 1827 census and assessment that the settlement pattern of the Robinson Irish can be accurately assessed. In some cases sons stayed on the father's lot or vice versa, some immigrants died, and others simply moved on, perhaps to work on the Welland Canal or other

public works (Guillet 1957, p.111). Cochrane (1975) contended that, with the development of the timber industry in the early 1800's, many settlers neglected their farms because of their fascination with, and dependency on, lumbering.

The 1827 settlement and assessment records list only seventy-eight locations for the Robinson Irish (Table 4.5), with only 54% of allocated lots occupied. This figure remains constant through 1830, although a few Robinson settlers change locations, or names, and in some cases the lot divisions are shifted from east-west to north-south, perhaps for better road or trail access. During the Hearings Before the Select Committee on Emigration (1827), there were concerns expressed over the size and dispersed nature of the individual land grants to Robinson settlers, with some officials suggesting fifty-acre contiguous lots would be more suitable in frontier zones (Minutes of Evidence, 1827).

The arrival of the Robinson Irish appears to have invigorated and stimulated the 'old' settlers in the southern concessions. For some it may have meant a job and money in return for assisting John Huston in getting the Robinson emigrants settled - working as axemen or in shanty construction. Between 1827 and 1830, the 'old' settlers continued to work away clearing their lands, with an average of 8.4 acres per settler cleared in 1830 (Figure 4.21). Some Crown reserves were opened for sale and a number of farmers in south-east Emily were prosperous enough to buy additional lands, usually adjacent to their original properties. By

Table 4.5 Selected Settlement Statistics 1826-1830

Variable	1826	1827	1828	1830
Settlers	149	144	153	168
Population	837	767	811	820
Population Density (per sq.mi.)	9.06	8.25	8.71	8.95
Farm Size (mean acres)	88.6	88.3	89.4	91.1
Occupied Land (%) <sup>1</sup>	48.4	47.2	49.6	55.0
Family Size (mean)	5.6	5.4	5.3	4.9
Males over 16 yrs. (%)	23.4	26.3	26.3	27.7
Females over 16 yrs. (%)	21.7	21.5	21.0	20.7
Children (%)	54.9	52.2	52.8	51.6
Cleared Land (% of Farm)	6.14	6.24	6.39	7.47
Cleared Land (acres per farm)	5.1	4.8	5.1	6.3
Farm Density <sup>2</sup>	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.6
Male Density <sup>3</sup>	4.0	4.1	4.2	5.5
Clearing Rate <sup>4</sup>	2.97	1.66	1.29	1.35
Livestock (total)	319	321	370	480
Years Settled (mean)	2.6	3.4	4.1	5.4
Robinson Settlers	88	78	77	78

Note: <sup>1</sup>Occupied Land - % of allocated

<sup>2</sup>Farm Density - Acres cleared per family member

<sup>3</sup>Male Density - Acres cleared per adult male.

<sup>4</sup>Clearing Rate - Acres per year per settler

Source: Newcastle District Census and Assessment - Trent Archives

1830, forty-four 'old' settlers had acquired additional lands for farming, woodlots, or sons and daughters.

The settlement maps for 1827 through 1830 (Figures 4.24, 4.25, 4.26) appear to show a 'filling in of the blanks' over time. In 1830, over 50% of the allocated lots are occupied (Figure 4.9), and the number of lots which had been previously occupied and abandoned had levelled off from the 1827 peak (Figure 4.27). The occupied land/vacated land plot illustrates the rapidly rising number of occupied acres between 1827 and the major upward trend through 1841.

Emily Township settlers had cleared 1063 acres in 1830, with the average farmer having cleared 7.5% of his land. Twenty-eight settlers had cleared over 20% of their farms, while fifty-four settlers had less than 4% cleared land, and seventeen settlers reported no cleared land. James Jones at Con.2, Lot 19, with sixteen of fifty acres cleared, David Armstrong at Con.4, Lot 13, and George Dixon at Con.4, Lot 11, both with fifteen of fifty acres cleared, were all over the 30% cleared mark. Farm size can be linked to land cleared (%) with five of thirty-three fifty-acre farms 20% or more cleared, and only six of 135 one-hundred-acre farms with 20% or more cleared. Time settled is a significant factor here, with fifteen of thirty-three fifty-acre farms having been settled between 1820 and 1825. Nine of eleven farmers clearing 20% or more land were 1820-25 settlers, and of those fifty-eight settlers with less than 4% land cleared, only one settler was an 1820-25 persister.

MAP OF  
EMILY  
TOWNSHIP

Emily Township Settlement Pattern 1827

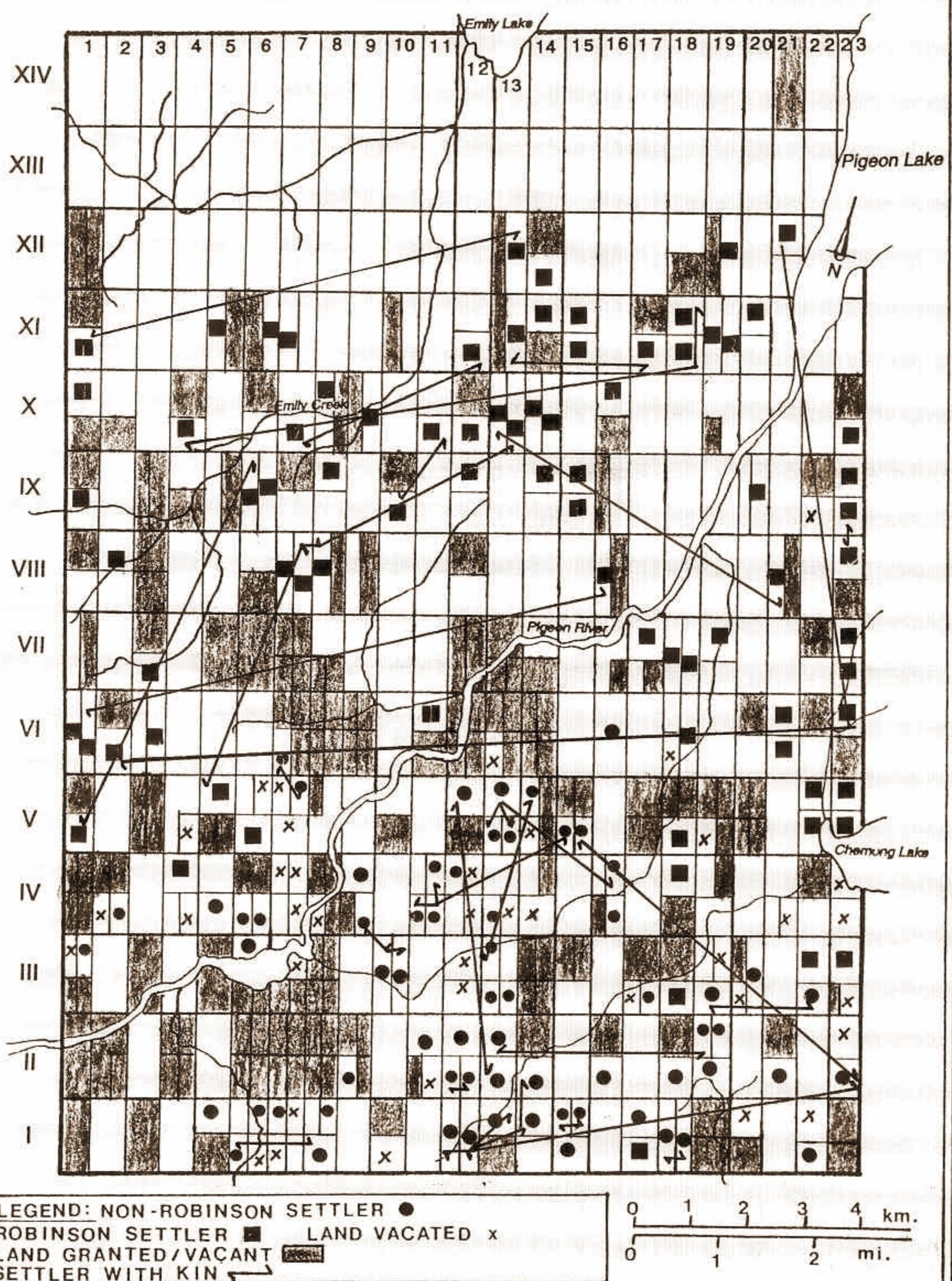


Figure 4.24 : Emily Township Settlement Pattern - 1827

**MAP OF** **EMILY** **TOWNSHIP**

Emily Township Settlement Pattern 1828

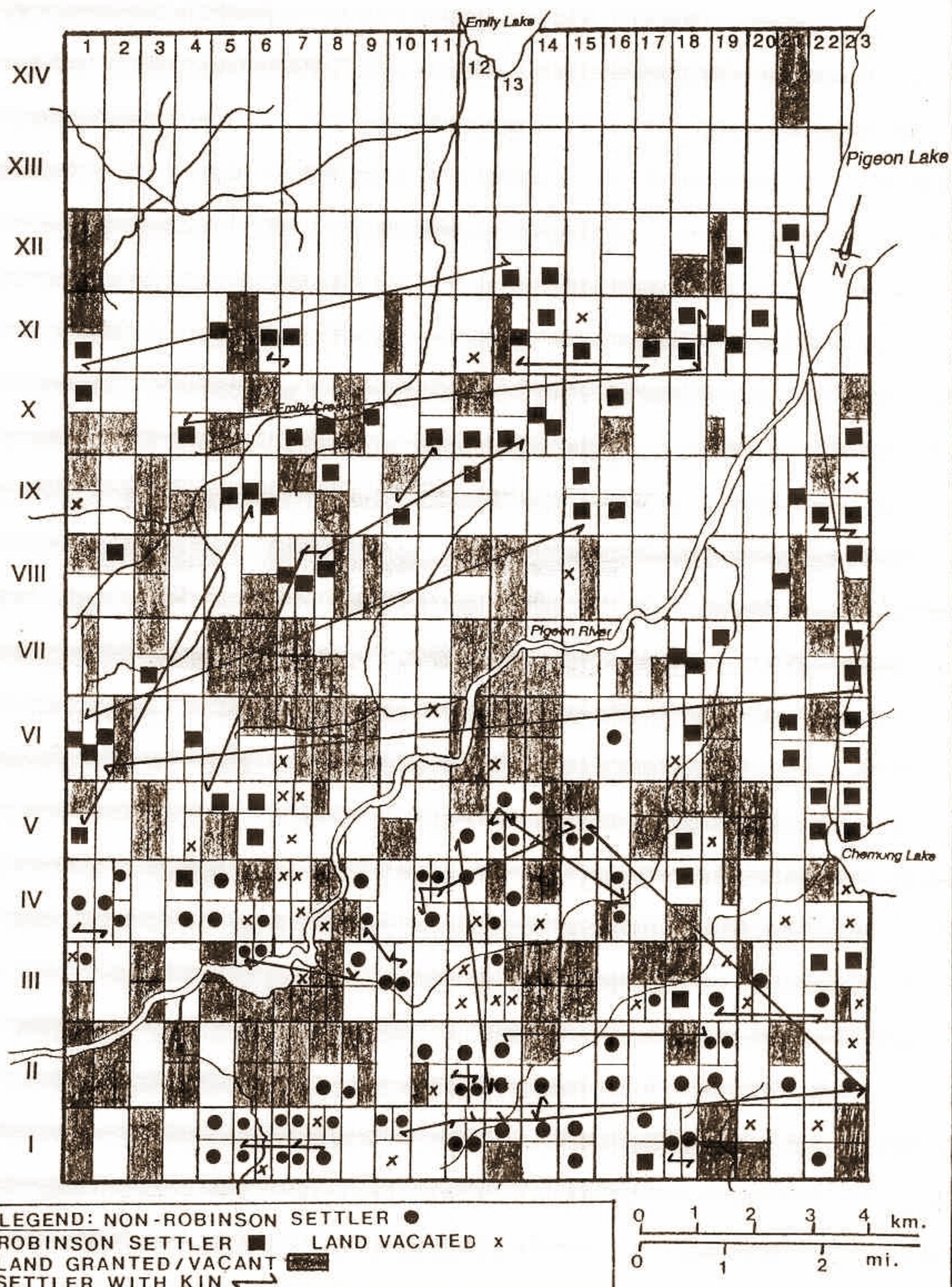


Figure 4.25 : Emily Township Settlement Pattern - 1828

MAP OF  
TOWNSHIP  
EMILY

Emily Township Settlement Pattern 1830

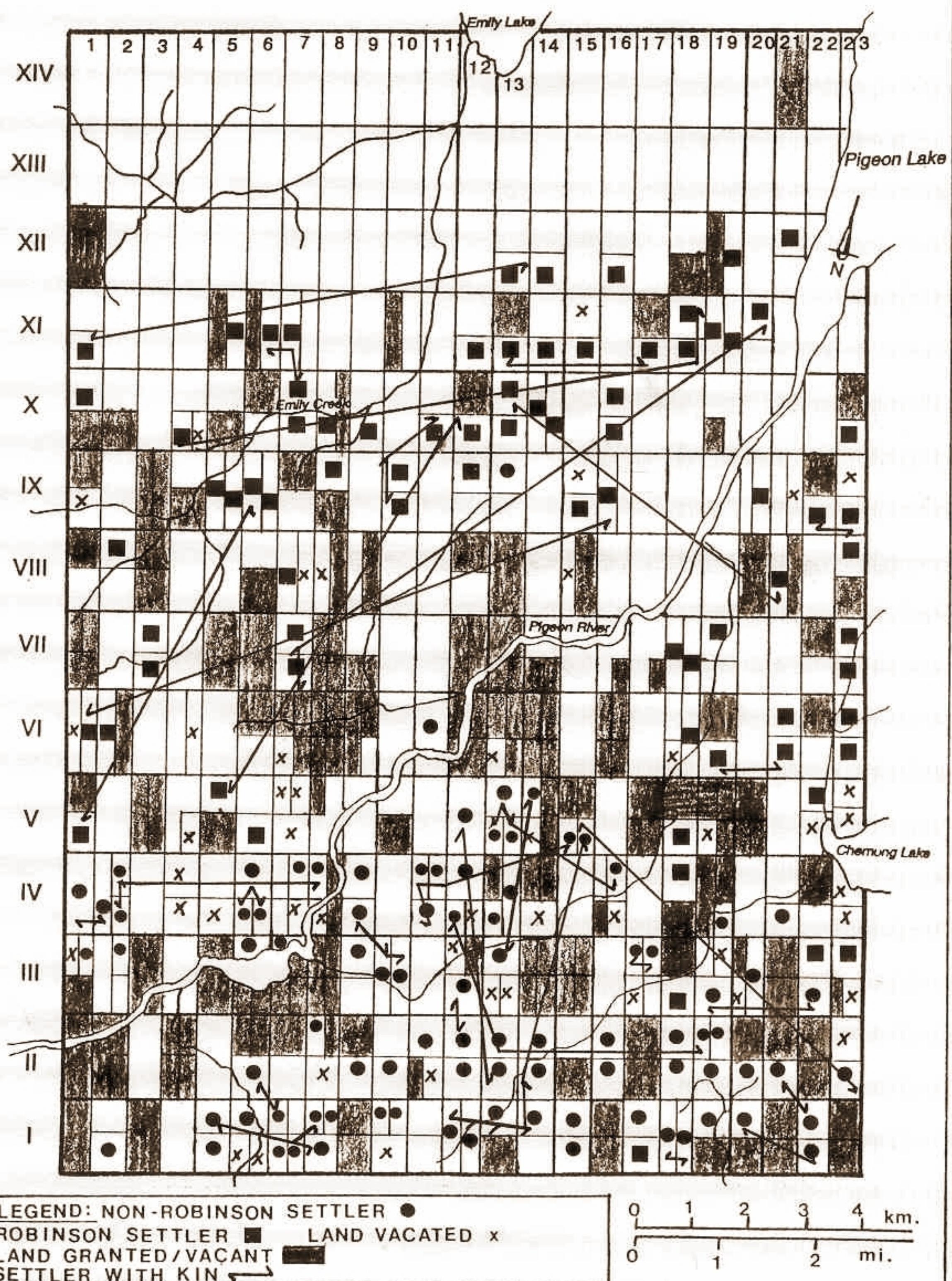


Figure 4.26 : Emily Township Settlement Pattern - 1830

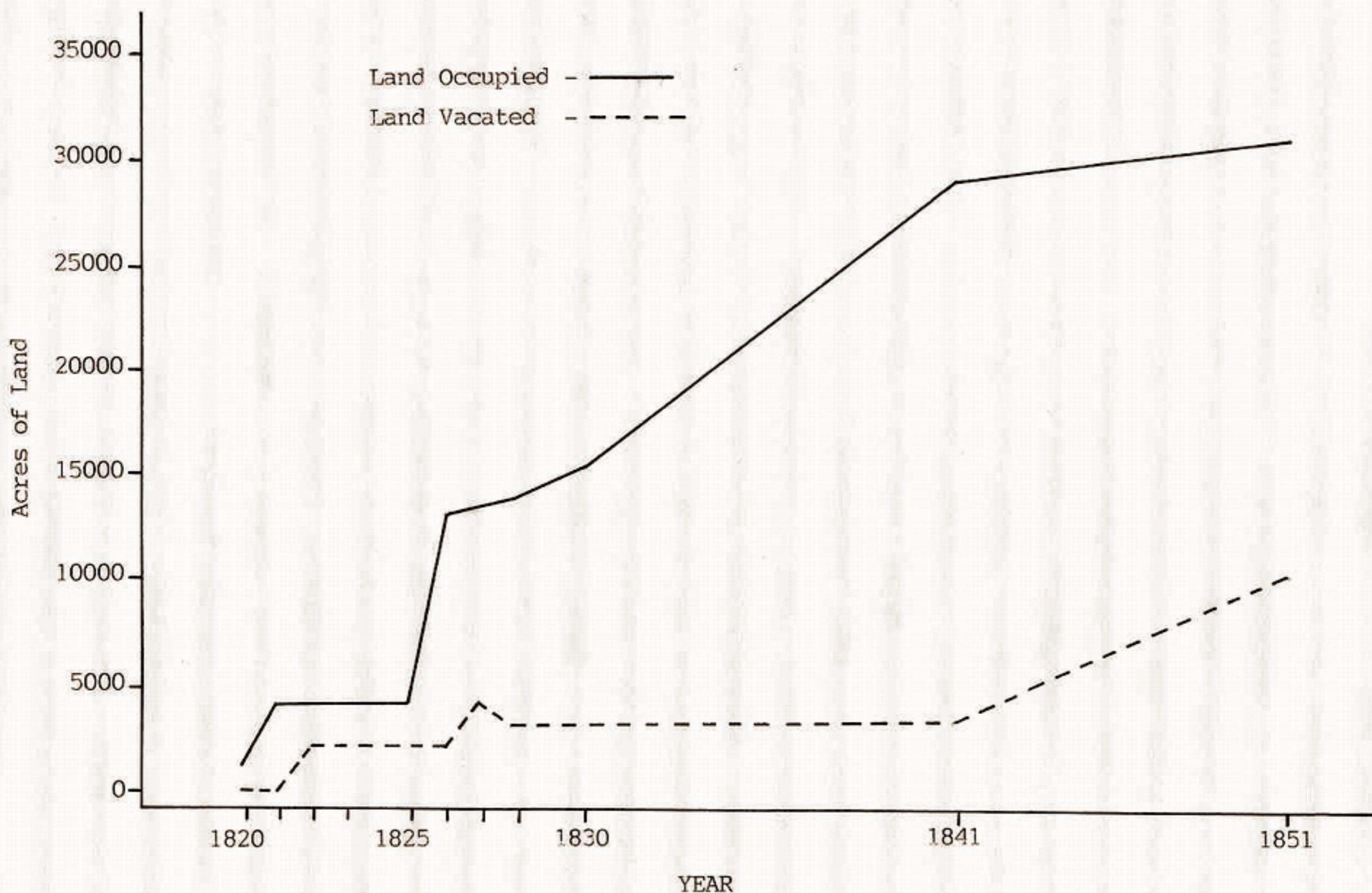


Figure 4.27 : Occupied and Vacated Land 1820-1851