



GEORGINA

Roche's Point

James O'Dell Roch is the man for whom Roche's Point was named. 200 years ago, he wrote:

When War broke out between Great Britain and the United States of America I was advised to retreat from my residence at Roch's Point on Lake Simcoe to York as the Indians there were these deemed hostile to the White people.

This turned out to be a huge mistake. Roch was financially ruined during the sacking of York in 1813. A string of bad luck followed for the remainder of his life.

Roch sold this land at Lake Simcoe at a great loss. By 1822 it belonged to a man named Clark. William Benjamin Robinson acted as Agent for Clark and surrendered the land to the Crown in July 1822. The surrender was accepted and the land was "specially reserved for such purposes as it may be required for". An order of survey was issued in 1824, establishing a town site (named Keswick) under Government Reserve.

For over 50 years, this community was called Keswick, and the point of land— Roche's Point.