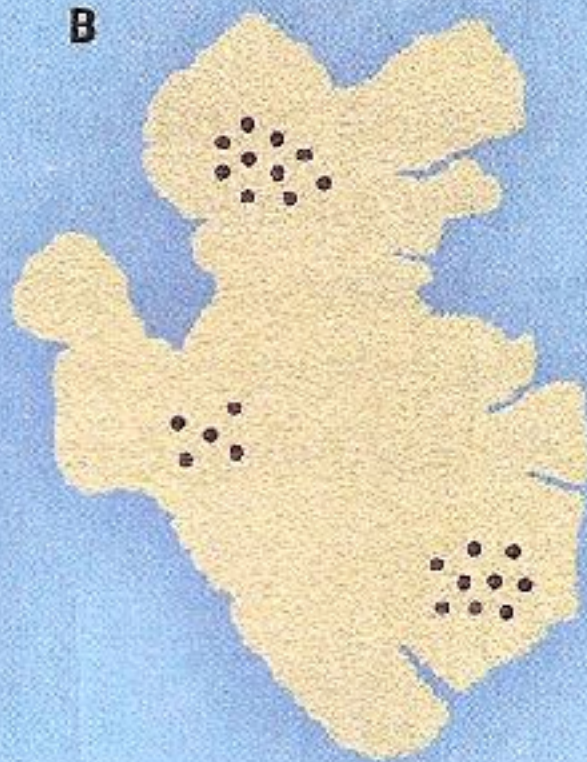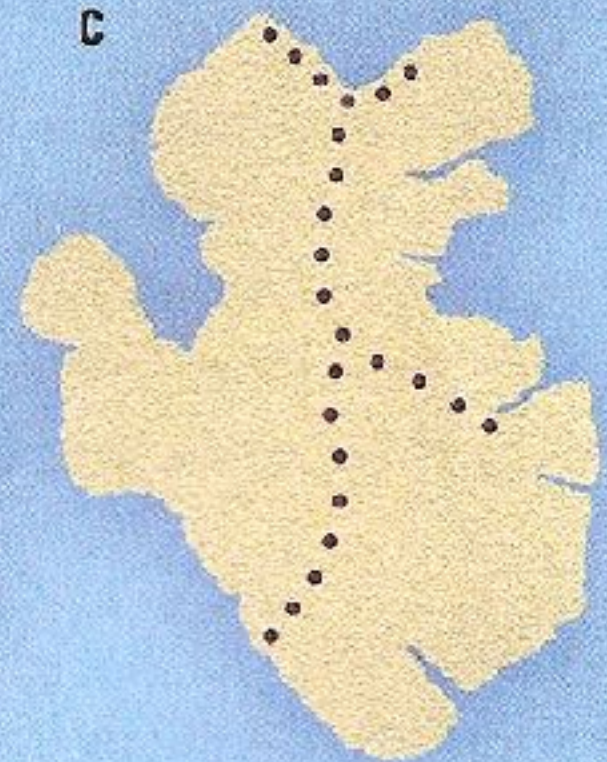# Settlement Patterns

Distribution Patterns

- There are three main distribution patterns:

- **<u>Dispersed</u>** - (spread out) patterns that are found in areas that have a strong agricultural base, since people tend to be spread out on the farms in the region

- **<u>Concentrated</u>** - (close together) occur in areas where resources are focused in small areas

- **<u>Linear pattern</u>** - is a special kind of concentrated pattern where the most important economic reasons for settlement exist in lines

A. Dispersed population　　**B. Concentrated**　　**C. Linear Pattern**

Settlement Patterns

- Settlement in Canada can be divided into two major categories:

- Rural

- Urban

Rural Settlement

- Settlement of areas outside cities and towns where population density is low and the settlement pattern is dispersed

Rural Settlement

Factors that affect the pattern of rural Settlement:

1. **Resources in the area**
2. **Transportation methods**
3. **Government policies**

Rural Settlement

1**. What kind of resources are found in the area?**

- The most important influence on settlement is the kind of resources that are available

- An agricultural area (Southwestern Ontario) will develop a very different population pattern that an area of the Canadian Shield where forestry provides most of the jobs

Rural Settlement

2. What transportation methods were available at the time of settlement?

- Transportation methods before the 1800's was by water, so settled areas were next to rivers and lakes

- Settlement that occurred after that time, were increasingly based on road and rail transportation

Rural Settlement

3. **What role did government policy play in the settlement?**

- Some governments planned how, where and when settlement would occur and it controlled such things as which land would be settled, the size and shape of farms, the pattern of road that would be built, and the location of town sites, schools, and churches

Rural Settlement

Three types of rural settlement patterns:

1. Long lots of southern Québec
2. Concession system of southern Ontario
3. Section system of the Prairies

Rural Settlement

Long Lots of Southern Québec

- Settled before railways and roads
- Influenced by the agricultural resources
- Long, thin farms along the St. Lawrence River
- Row of long lots was settled along a road parallel to the river

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Rural Settlement

Advantages of Long Lots of Southern Québec

- Each farm house was very close to its neighbours - excellent for companionship and help in emergencies

Disadvantages of Long Lots of Southern Québec:

- Not very efficient to work - the back of the farm is a long way from the farmhouse - difficult to use the land properly

Rural Settlement

Concession System of Southern Ontario

- Agricultural resources similar to southern Quebec
- Survey system used first
- Grid pattern of the survey system used in Southern Ontario
- Concessions were divided into equal farm lots
- Roads and railways were available
- Groups of concession blocks were called townships and counties

Rural Settlement

Advantages of Concession System

- Efficiency

Disadvantages of Concession System

- Isolation from neighbours

Rural Settlement

Section System of the Southern Prairies

- Section system involved dividing the land into blocks that were 9.6 km by 9.6 km

- Each of these blocks was divided into 36 sections, each of which was then divided into four lots

- Farmers needed more land than the government had planned, so farmers started to buy their neighbour's farms, starting a process that came to be known as farm consolidation

Rural Settlement

Advantages of Section System of the Southern Prairies

- The large farms on the Prairies are efficient to work since they are very well-suited to the use of modern farm machinery

Disadvantages of Southern Prairies

- Can feel isolated because they are a long way from their neighbours
- Farm consolidation has only made this problem worse

Urban Settlement

- More than 10,000 people living together in a city or town

- Nearly 80% of Canadians live in urban areas

Metropolitan Area

- A large city (>100 000 people) with attached sub-urban areas not directly part of the city

How do we divide land in cities?

There are 6 major land uses in cities.

1. Residential – single unit, row housing, apartments
2. Commercial – stores, malls, offices, banks, restaurants,
3. Industrial – factories, warehouses, manufacturing
4. Transportation – roads, parking lots
5. Recreational – parks, bike paths, beaches, museums
6. Institutional – schools, courts, police/fire stations, gov.

How do cities start?

- Transportation "stop" areas.

    - Example: Montreal is at the junction of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers

- Central place for providing markets and services for the surrounding area

    - Example: Regina, SK

- Special function city built around a specific industry

    - Example: Sudbury is a mining city

- Some cities grow so large they incorporate all of the above and become multipurpose cities.

    - Example: Toronto

THE END