

Grabbing stolen land:

Explaining land grabs in eastern Canada with decolonial historical materialism

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Dr. Christy Kelly-Bisson
Research Assistant
Dalhousie University



How should we theorize land grabs
within the Canadian settler colony?

Contradictions of settler private property

- 1) Colonialism and neo-colonialism
- 2) Land inheritance trap
- 3) Capitalist accumulation of farmland
- 4) Financialization of farmland

Explaining settler-capitalist land tenure

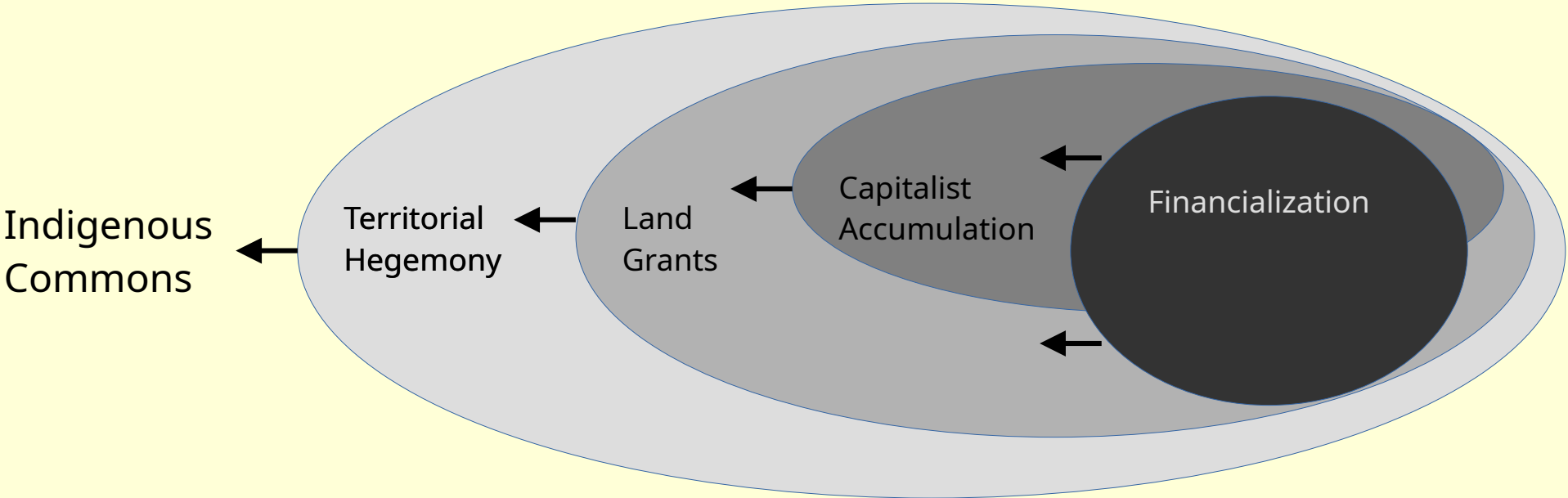
- Original accumulation and settler-colonialism as process (Coulthard, Simpson, and Wolfe)
- Possessive Individualism (Macpherson)
- Territorial logics of accumulation (Arrighi and Harvey)
- Spatial Production (Lefebvre)

Long Grab Theory

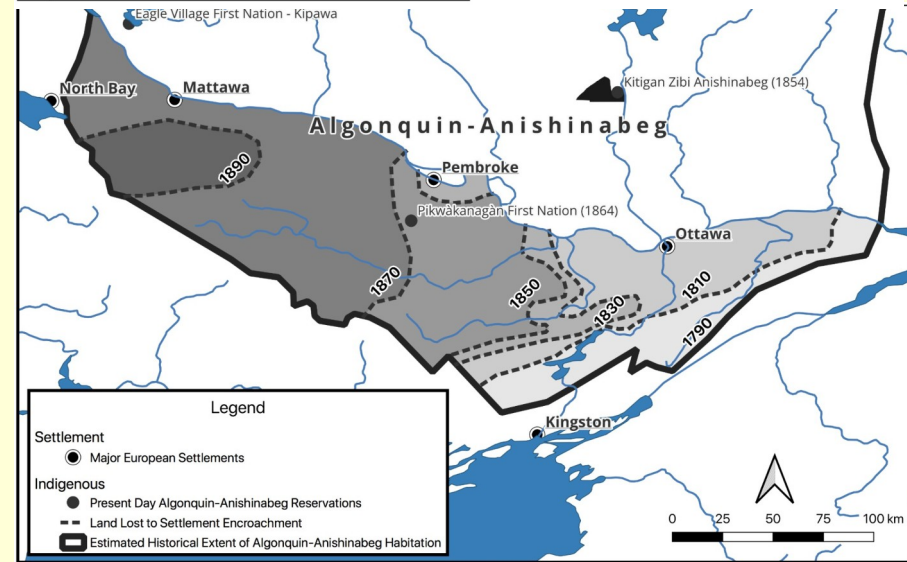
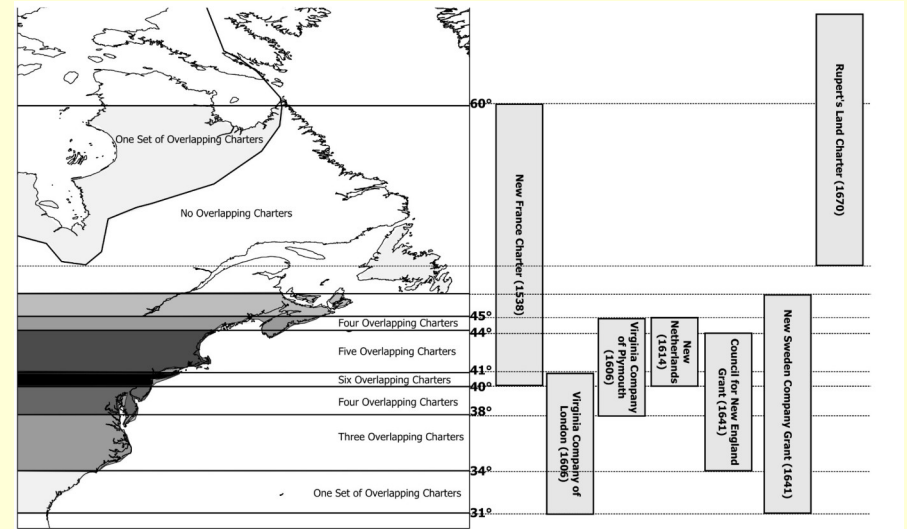
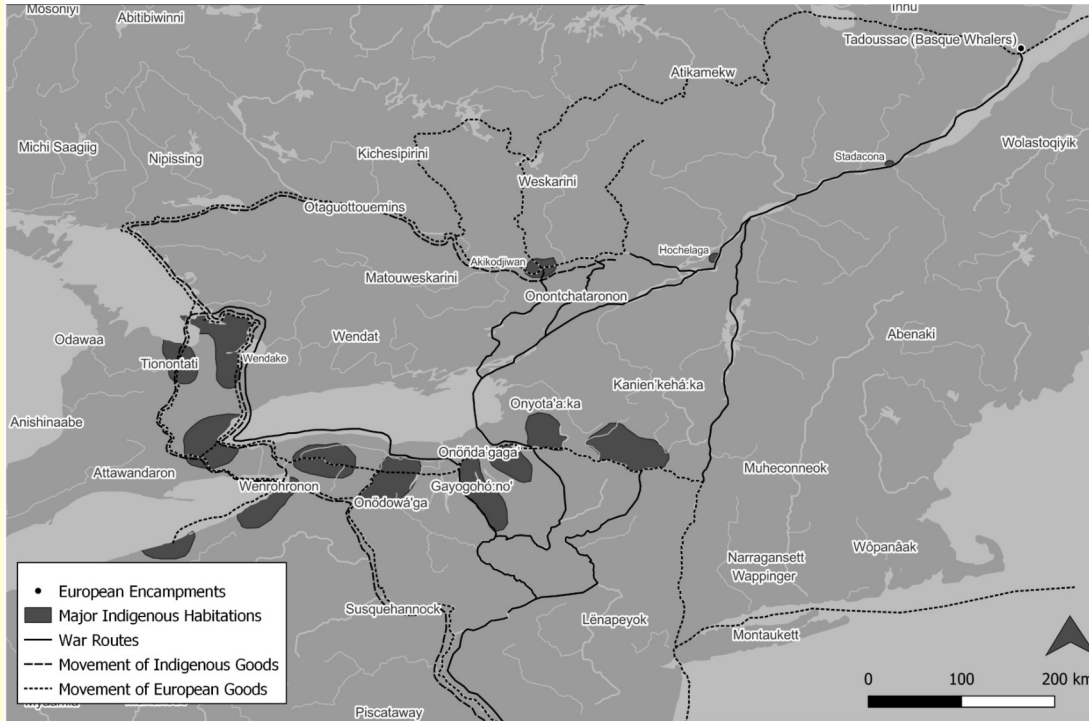
Long Grab

A long-historical succession of property regimes either conquering or emerging from within existing ones resulting in periodic waves of colonial expansion and internal dispossession

Long Grab Process of Frontier Expansion

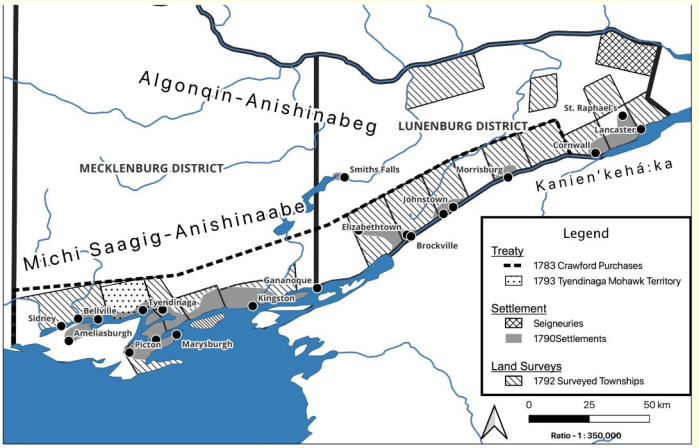


Territorial Hegemony

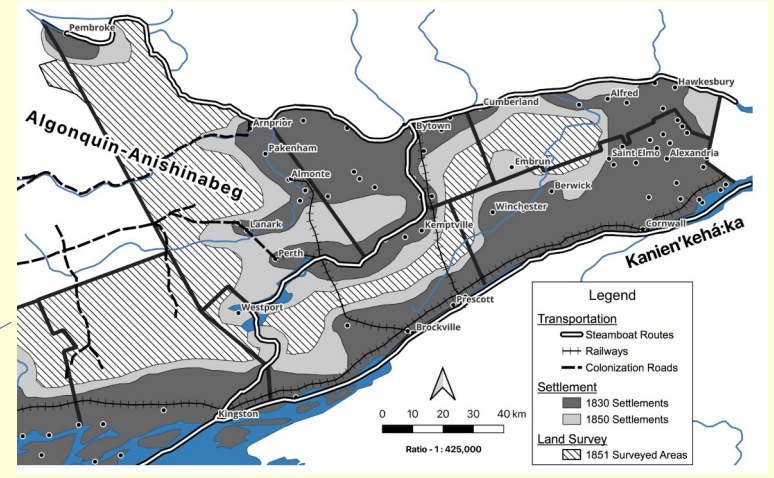


Land Grants

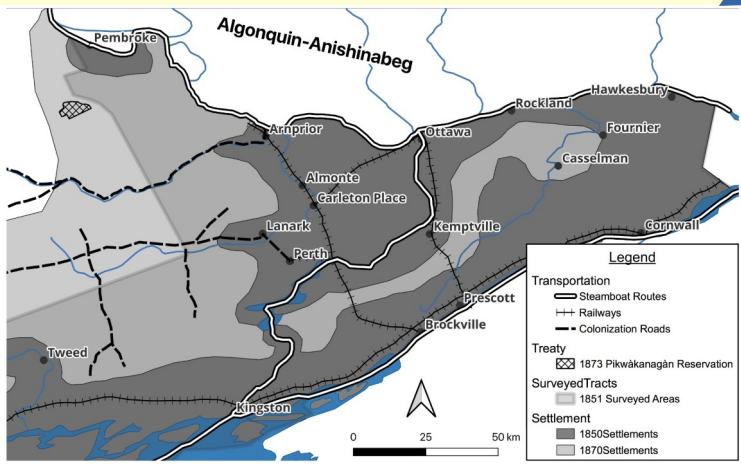
1783-1793



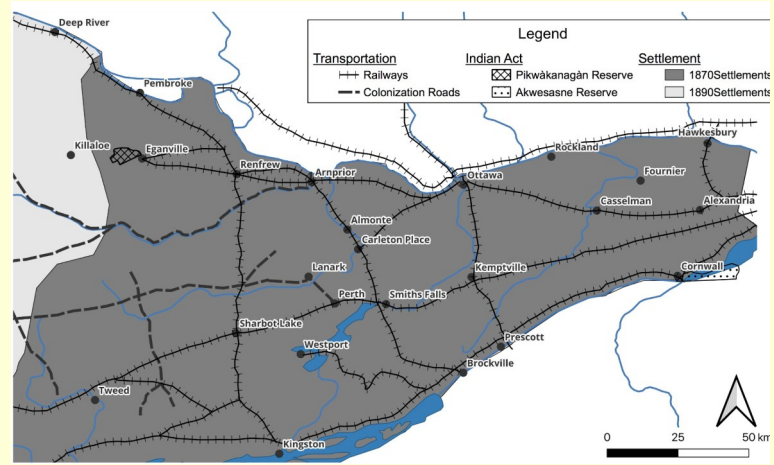
1830-1850



1850-1873

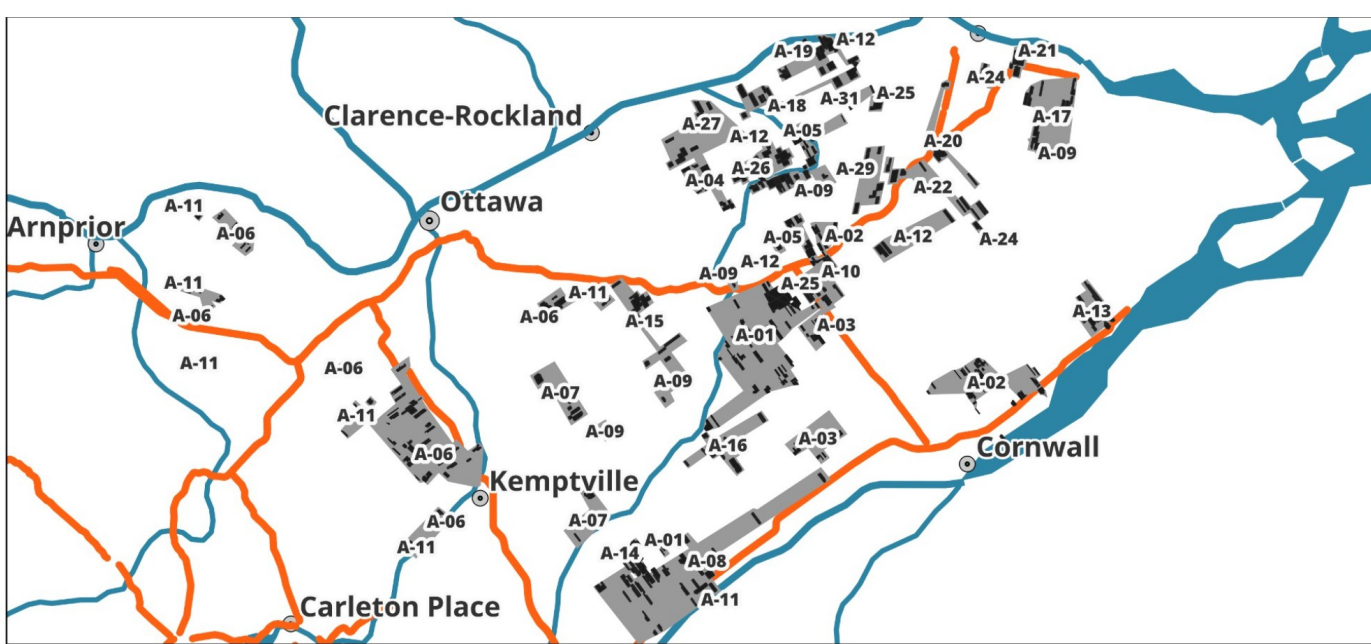


1870-1890



Capitalist Accumulation

1950-2017



Legend

Farmland Properties	[A-08] THIRD HIGH FARMS SERVICES LTD	[A-17] 1716505 ONTARIO INC	[A-25] MODUGNO-HORTIBEC INC.
[A-01] BRETZLER FARMS LTD	[A-09] LEMOINE, MARC	[A-18] 1055466 ONTARIO INC	[A-26] LEON DELORME LIMITEE
[A-02] CHARLOTTENGRO FARMS INC	[A-10] DOMAR FARMS LTD	[A-19] FERME AGL MALETTE LTD	[A-27] KAELIN FARMS INC
[A-03] LEDUC FAMILY	[A-11] 1737814 ONTARIO INC	[A-20] BARTON FAMILY	[A-28] FERME HENRARD & FILS INC
[A-04] WAHLER FARMS INC.	[A-12] LA GANTOISE INC	[A-21] KIRBY FAMILY	[A-29] CHICKEN LITTLE FARM INC
[A-05] SONIBRAND FARM INC.	[A-13] VAN DER BURG FARMS INC	[A-22] 1024248 ONTARIO INC	[A-30] MANDERLEY TURF PRODUCTS INC
[A-06] SCHOUTEN CORNER VIEW:DAIRY:TRUST:FARM	[A-14] TIBBEN FARMS INC	[A-23] SCHNECKENBURGER FAMILY	[A-31] HAEFELE FAMILY
[A-07] FOSTER'S CUSTOM FARMING INC	[A-15] 1259139 ONTARIO INC	[A-24] BONNEFIELD FINANCIAL	
	[A-16] SYBRENSON FARMS INC		

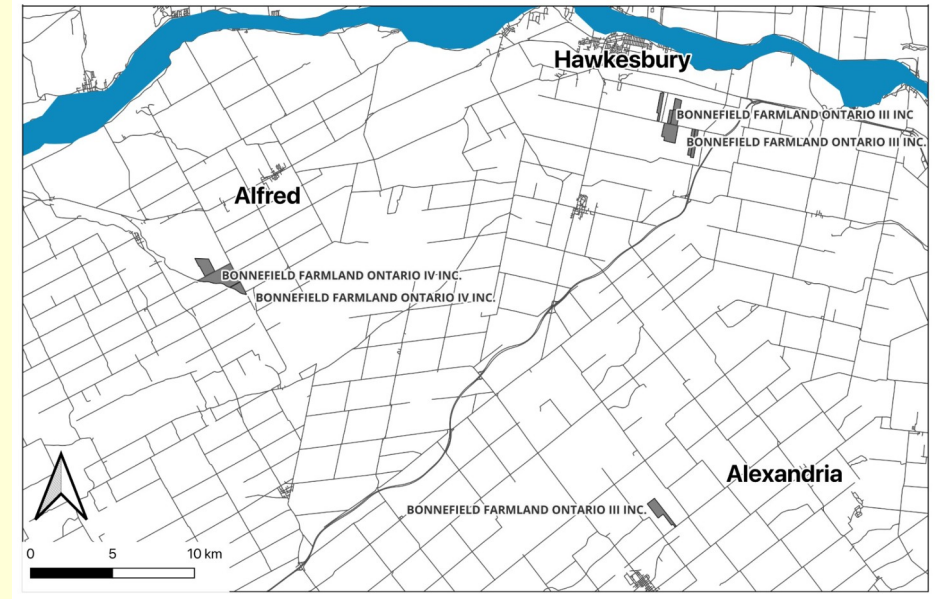


Financialization

Walton International – 2006-2017



Walton International – 2009-2017



What does the Long Grab tell us about land tenure in the Canadian settler colony?

Theoretical considerations:

- 1) Land grabbing an inherent characteristic of private property
- 2) Private property cannot produce land tenure security in the long run
- 3) Land regimes produce the conditions for their eventual dispossession
- 4) We need a regime of common land tenure to curb the long grab phenomenon
- 5) A regime of common land tenure must include Indigenous land rematriation

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