

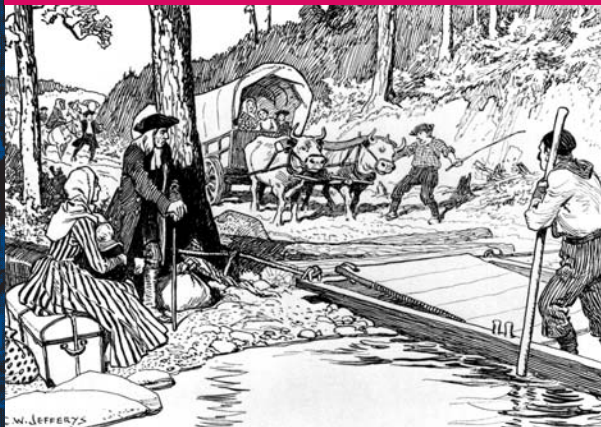
# Opening the Land

This cairn commemorates the life of Brighton's first settlers, the Simpson family. Obadiah Simpson and his son arrived in the area in February 1796 and immediately constructed a small log home and a shelter for livestock. Obadiah Simpson then returned to Adolphustown to collect the rest of his family. He left his 12-year-old son to tend to the animals until he returned three months later.

The Simpsons, who were United Empire Loyalists, left New York State in February, 1796 in order to remain loyal to the British. They worked at many different jobs in Adolphustown until they were ready to move to the Brighton area.

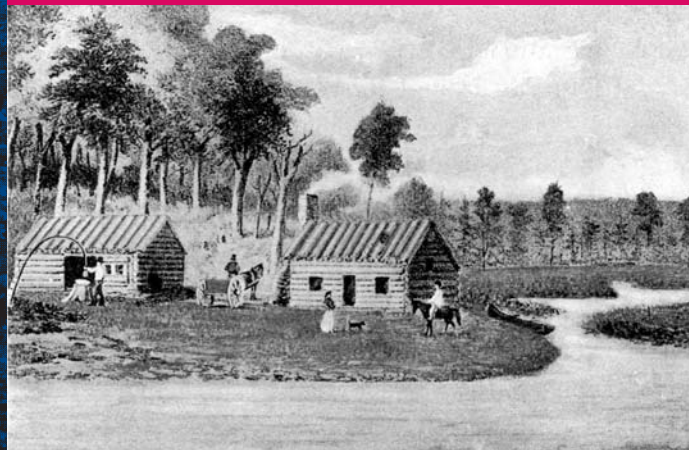
Obadiah Simpson and Mary Lord were buried in the dune area south of this location. Their relatives still live in the Brighton area.

*Many settlers loyal to the Queen of England came to what is now Canada in the 1800's to avoid conflict with the Americans.*



[www.canadianheritage.org](http://www.canadianheritage.org) ID #21771, National Archives of Canada C-20587

*A typical loyalist homestead on the water in Upper Canada.*



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