

Richard Birdsall was the first surveyor of the township of Asphodel in 1820, while across the Trent River and Rice Lake, Aaron Greeley had run the first survey in 1795-6. He was one of the 40 settlers brought in from the United States in 1793 by Joseph Keeler. Hastings has a most unusual history since the south side of the village was surveyed by Greeley and the north half in Asphodel was not surveyed until 1820.

Joseph Keeler was granted the whole township of Alnwick to settle in 1793. A few settlers were so afraid of the Indians just across the lake, that they would not stay, and Keeler then begged to be allowed to surrender the township and be granted instead the township of Cramahe.