

It was in the summer of 1864 when the first settlers came into the unsurveyed lands which later became the township of Humphrey. They were Edward Clifford and Albert Williams, an old trapper, and between them they owned most of the land in what was to become the Village of Rasseau.

John Clifford obtained his lots by "squatters rights", and were bordered on two sides by Rasseau Bay and Shadow River. Albert Williams was located directly across the river.

It was that same summer, that the first party of holiday campers were to reach the head of Lake Rasseau. Their method of travel was by rowboat from the foot of Lake Truskoka.

In their account of their camping trip here, they tell of finding a river but could not enter it because of the marsh at its mouth. Presumably this was White Oak Creek, later changed to Shadow River. In those days, before the locks at Port Carling, the level of the lake would be much lower, and no doubt parts of Rasseau Bay would also be a marsh of reeds and bullrushes.