



Devonshire: Ready to Roll

Now that the new region had been discovered and exploration was well underway, it fell to the civil engineers and urban planners to develop plans for developing this new territory. Of course, it also became a favorite past time of philosophers and geographers to explain the new discoveries. What does it all mean? Are these huge new territories south and now east of the islands also islands, or perhaps part of something larger? If part of something larger, then part of what? Where is the end of this new land? And, a new theory was put forth—maybe the vast territory to the south is somehow linked to the vast territory to the east, creating a super island of some sort. Such a super island would have Schulmanicus, once revered as the center of the world, as an island located off of the coast of a far larger territory. Would this impact the development of Schulminion society? Only time will tell.

To oversee development of the vast new territory, named the Devonshire District by decree of the Supreme Wirdle, a new government agency was created. The City Planning Office was designed to initiate development of new territories and manage established cities' growth. Since Devonshire was, at least to the Schulminions' knowledge, uninhabited, initial development would be planned from the colonial government buildings in Gran Maru. The Atkinos government had plenty of practice in developing new lands and was recently promoted in stature to be equal to that of the Schulmanicus government.

As the City Planning Office finalized plans for development, engineering crews set up at the designated sites for construction. The Lake George area was selected as the first site to be developed. The Devon Creek area was selected as the second site. Both sites would require some terraforming. This manpower-intensive effort would be done mostly by hand and simple machines, as power tools and heavy earthmoving equipment are still many years away from being invented.

Let's examine the work of the teams.



At the western end of Lake George, a work camp was established. Over 150 workers toiled from dawn to dusk each day doing site preparation.



After several months, the rugged terrain around the lake was showing signs of being much smoother and more ready for development.



A closer view of the eastern end of the lake reveals terrain ready for city development.

Over on Devon Creek, workers set up camp and began site preparations as well.



Nearly 300 workers set up at Camp Monkey and began grading and other terraforming work.



The other side of Devon Creek was also being prepared for grading work. Initial plans called for a city surrounding the creek, perhaps with a Schulmania novelty – a bridge – connecting the two creeksides at the mouth. It remains to be seen if such an ambitious plan will be carried out.



The southern flank of the creek was graded and prepared quickly. The workers' camp was dismantled, though its footprint remained somewhat evident in the newly contoured landscape.