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Canoma

News and views concerning Canadian toponymy compiled by the Secretariat of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names

Nouvelles et commentaires concernant la toponymie du Canada recueillis par le Secrétariat du Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques

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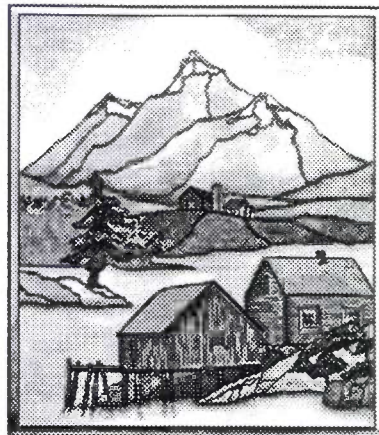
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1897–1997

**Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names
Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques**

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The Geological Survey of Canada and the naming of Canada

Contribution de la Commission géologique du Canada à la toponymie canadienne

Martha Armstrong[1]

Abstract: *The Geological Survey of Canada had a prominent part in the establishment of the Geographic Board of Canada. Its involvement continues to this day.*

Résumé : *La Commission géologique du Canada a joué un rôle d'importance dans la création de la Commission de géographie du Canada. Sa participation continue de nos jours.*

During his 49-year career with the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), Dr. Robert Bell is said to have named more than 3 000 geographical features in Quebec, Ontario, and the North. He therefore spoke with some authority, when in 1886 he called for the formation of a central map bureau.

In a paper presented at the annual meeting of the Dominion Land Surveyors' Association, Bell pointed to some "glaring shortcomings in the map-making policies and practices of the federal government departments."[2] He suggested that all departments involved in cartographic work adopt a uniform base map and proposed that map nomenclature be made consistent. The existence of five different spellings for what is now **Lake Nipigon** supported his point.

At the time of Bell's comments, GSC's geologists had been surveying and mapping Canada for 44 years. They were often the first Europeans to explore the country and, as such, went far beyond their initial mandate of identifying potential mineral deposits. They took notes on almost everything they came across, including wildlife, vegetation, and the country's indigenous cultures.

The geologists were also among the country's first topographers because they needed topographic base maps on which to record the geological information they collected. As a result, the Canadian landscape is dotted with countless geographical features and places named by, and for, GSC staff. Some geologists, like Bell, made a point of adopting the names used by the Aboriginal people. Others named places after prominent scientists, their field party colleagues, or the feature's physical attributes.

On raconte qu'en 49 ans de carrière à la Commission géologique du Canada (CGC), le géologue Robert Bell dénomma plus de 3 000 entités géographiques situées au Québec, en Ontario et dans le Nord. C'est donc avec une certaine autorité qu'en 1886, il plaida en faveur de la création d'un bureau cartographique central.

Dans une communication adressée à l'assemblée annuelle de l'Association des arpenteurs fédéraux, Bell attira l'attention de ses confrères sur «des lacunes flagrantes dans les politiques et pratiques cartographiques des ministères fédéraux»[2]. Il suggéra que tous les ministères effectuant des travaux de cartographie adoptent un même fond de carte et proposa d'uniformiser la nomenclature toponymique des cartes. Il cita à témoin de ses demandes la coexistence de cinq différentes orthographes pour le nom du lac qui s'appelle aujourd'hui **lac Nipigon**.

À l'époque où Bell formula ces propositions, les géologues de la CGC s'employaient depuis déjà 44 ans à faire les levés et à dresser les cartes du territoire canadien. Dans bien des cas, ils furent les premiers Européens à explorer le pays, débordant le mandat qui leur avait été confié à l'origine : circonscrire les gîtes minéraux potentiels. Ils notèrent pratiquement toutes leurs observations, qu'il s'agisse de faune, de végétation ou de culture autochtone.

Les géologues furent également au nombre des premiers topographes du pays, puisqu'ils avaient besoin de fonds de carte topographiques pour y consigner l'information géologique recueillie. C'est pourquoi on trouve aujourd'hui au Canada d'innombrables entités géographiques et lieux habités qui ont été nommés par des employés de la
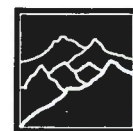
As Canada grew, so did the numbers of geologists, surveyors, and explorers — representing both federal and private interests — who were mapping and naming Canada. This led to the confusion that so concerned Bell. The GSC's George Mercer Dawson repeated Bell's complaint in 1888, again at the Association's annual meeting. Well-known for his ground-breaking mapping work in the Yukon and British Columbia, Dawson's detailed records of Native groups on the West Coast earned him the designation as "The Father of Canadian Anthropology". Distinguished surveyor William Ogilvie named the city of **Dawson**, Yukon Territory, after him.
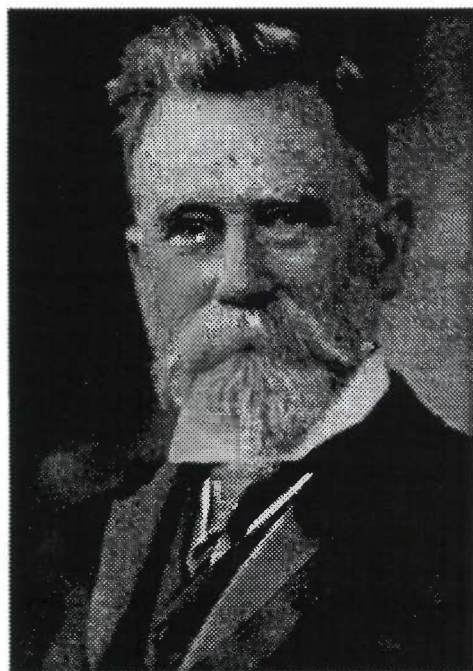
Fig. 1 Dr. Robert Bell
(Source: Earth Sciences Information Centre, Earth Sciences Sector, NRCan / Centre d'information sur les sciences de la Terre, Secteur des sciences de la Terre, RNCan, GSC 68775)

At the Association meeting, Dawson commented on the liberty some explorers were taking in naming areas that already had established names. His opinion was backed by the GSC's Bell and John Macoun, and by Commander J. G. Boulton from the Hydrographic Service.[3]

To give surveyors guidance when recording geographical names in the field, the Dominion Land Surveyors' Association decided to form a committee to prepare rules on geographical nomenclature and orthography in Canada. The Association's Secretary-Treasurer, Arthur Wheeler, asked Dawson, Macoun, Surveyor

CGC ou en leur honneur. Certains géologues - Bell était de ceux-là - tenaient à adopter les noms utilisés par les Autochtones. D'autres donnaient aux lieux visités les noms de chercheurs éminents ou de collègues avec qui ils avaient travaillé sur le terrain, ou encore choisissaient des toponymes qui décrivaient des traits physiques des entités désignées.

Le nombre de géologues, d'arpenteurs et d'explorateurs du gouvernement fédéral ou du secteur privé qui contribuaient à construire l'infrastructure cartographique et toponymique du Canada augmenta au rythme de l'expansion du pays. La confusion que Robert Bell dénonçait avec tant d'ardeur était précisément attribuable à la prolifération des intervenants. Un autre géologue de la CGC, George Mercer Dawson, réitéra les demandes de son confrère à l'occasion de l'assemblée annuelle de 1888 de l'Association. Reconnu comme un pionnier de la cartographie du Yukon et de la Colombie-Britannique, Dawson consigna en détail ses observations sur les groupes autochtones de la côte Ouest, ce qui lui valut son surnom de «père de l'anthropologie canadienne». C'est d'ailleurs en son honneur que le distingué arpenteur William Ogilvie nomma la ville de **Dawson**, au Territoire du Yukon.

Au cours de l'assemblée de l'Association, Dawson condamna l'attitude des explorateurs qui prenaient la liberté de baptiser des régions qui avaient déjà des noms bien établis. Plusieurs se rangèrent à son opinion, dont Robert Bell et John Macoun, de la CGC, ainsi que le commandant J.G. Boulton du Service hydrographique[3].

Afin de guider les arpenteurs qui avaient à relever des noms géographiques sur le terrain, l'Association des arpenteurs-géomètres fédéraux décida de constituer un comité qui avait pour mandat d'établir des règles concernant la dénomination des lieux et l'orthographe des toponymes. Le secrétaire-trésorier de l'Association, Arthur Wheeler, demanda à Dawson, Macoun, Édouard Deville (arpenteur général) et Boulton de s'acquitter de cette tâche.

Dawson et Macoun avaient des opinions particulièrement tranchées sur la question. Dawson écrivit :

En ce qui concerne l'introduction ou l'utilisation des noms géographiques dans une contrée nouvelle ou non cartographiée, il n'existe pas, à ma connaissance, de code qui ait été officiellement établi ou qui soit respecté uniformément. L'usage en

General Édouard Deville, and Boulton to help draw up the guidelines.

Dawson and Macoun had particularly strong opinions on the subject. Dawson wrote:

So far as I have been able to discover, no code of rules bearing on the introduction or use of geographical names in new or unmapped country have been authoritatively formulated or consistently followed. Usage in the matter has been very varied, and often quite manifestly absurd and unjust, both toward the native races inhabiting such new countries, and to the earlier civilized explorers. The names given by them have, too often, been ignored, in consequence of the egotism, ignorance or, in some cases, the sycophancy of later explorers and surveyors.[4]

Macoun, a prominent naturalist in charge of GSC's natural history section, lamented the confusing tendency to put an "English dress on a French form" in such names as *River de Loup* or *River de Brigand*. He related this embarrassing tale:

Even Cape d'Espoir, on the Bay of Chaleurs, has become Cape Despair; you may imagine how foolish I looked when I said to a gentleman as we passed along it on a calm day, that it was well named Despair, for there would be no hope for any vessel forced upon the cliffs. The answer was: 'You are wrong regarding the name, as it means Cape of Hope, not the Cape Despair as you seem to think.[5]

The Geographic Board of Canada was eventually formed in 1897 and GSC staff members were included on it. According to the Board's Second Annual Report, published in 1900:

Probably no branch of the public service is more competent to afford expert advice and information with regard to nomenclature than the Geological Survey Department; it was therefore suggested that Dr. Robert Bell, Assistant Director, Mr. D. B. Dowling, Assistant Geologist, and Mr. C. O. Senécal, Geographer and Chief Draughtsman, should be members of the Geographic Board.[6]

During the year leading up to that report, the Board had been busy sorting through the 2 066 geographical names submitted for approval. The

la matière est très variable; il est souvent inepte et d'une injustice flagrante à l'endroit des races autochtones qui habitent ces contrées et à l'égard des explorateurs du monde civilisé qui nous ont précédés. Les noms qu'ils on donnés ont été trop souvent ignorés, en raison de l'égotisme, de l'ignorance ou, dans certains cas, de la flagornerie de ceux qui ont exploré et arpenté le pays par la suite[4].

Macoun, un éminent naturaliste à la tête de la section de l'histoire naturelle, déplorait cette tendance qu'on avait à mettre «des habits anglais à des formes françaises», comme dans les noms *River de Loup* ou *River de Brigand*, qui était source de confusion. À ce sujet, il raconta cette anecdote pour le moins embarrassante :

Même le cap d'Espoir, sur la baie des Chaleurs, est devenu cap Despair («désespoir» en français). Vous pouvez imaginer à quel point j'ai eu l'air idiot le jour où, en passant devant le promontoire par un temps calme, j'ai dit à la personne qui m'accompagnait qu'on l'avait appelé «Despair» par allusion à la situation désespérée dans laquelle se retrouverait un navire entraîné par les vagues contre les falaises. Mon interlocuteur me corrigea aussitôt : Vous vous trompez sur le sens du nom; le vocable français signifie «espoir», et non «désespoir» comme vous semblez le penser[5].

La Commission de géographie du Canada fut formée quelque temps après, en 1897; des membres de la CGC en faisaient partie. Dans le deuxième rapport annuel de la Commission, publié en 1900, on pouvait lire ceci :

Aucune direction de la fonction publique n'est probablement plus compétente pour fournir des avis d'expert et de l'information sur les noms géographiques que les services géologiques; il a donc été suggéré que Robert Bell, directeur adjoint, D.B. Dowling, géologue adjoint, et C.O. Senécal, géographe et dessinateur en chef, siègent à la Commission de géographie[6].

Durant l'année couverte par ce rapport, la Commission s'était penchée sur les cas des 2 066 noms géographiques qui avaient été soumis à son approbation. De ce nombre, 1 455 avaient été proposés par la CGC, et le reste par le ministère de

GSC proposed 1 455 and the rest were from the departments of Marine and Fisheries (458) and the Interior (153). Many names were rejected for a variety of reasons and in the end the Board approved only 1 307 names.

A hundred years later, the GSC is still submitting geographical names to the Board's successor, the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CPCGN). There is also a new frontier — the ocean floor. These names are submitted to the Advisory Committee on Names for Undersea and Maritime Features (ACNUMF). Present knowledge about Canada's coastal and offshore areas is roughly equivalent to what was known about onshore Canada in the late 1800s. Once again, in the search for natural resources, GSC scientists are helping shape the country's toponymy. One of the most recent additions by GSC is **Michael Keen Canyon**, accepted by CPCGN in 1994. This underwater canyon lying east of The Grand Banks of Newfoundland was named in memory of the second director of GSC's Atlantic office. His name joins a long list of GSC scientists, including Bell, Dawson, and GSC founder Sir William Logan, whose names live on in the Canadian landscape.

Endnotes

1   Martha Armstrong, Communications Officer, Geological Survey of Canada

2   Don W. *Thomson, Men and Meridians (1972): 1867 to 1917*, volume 2, Information Canada, Ottawa, p. 116.

3   *Report of Proceedings of the Association of Dominion Land Surveyors*, at its Fifth Annual Meeting, held at Ottawa, March 15th and 16th, 1888 (1888): John Lovell and Son, Montreal, p. 65.

4   Geographic Board of Canada, *First Annual Report of the Geographic Board of Canada*, 1898, Ottawa, 1899, p. 10.

5   *Op. cit.*, p. 56

6   Geographic Board of Canada (1900): *Second Annual Report of the Geographic Board of Canada*, Ottawa, p. 9.

la Marine et des Pêches (458) et par le ministère de l'Intérieur (153). Un grand nombre de propositions furent rejetées pour diverses raisons, de sorte que la Commission n'approuva finalement que 1 307 noms.

Un siècle plus tard, la CGC continue de soumettre des propositions toponymiques au successeur de la Commission de géographie, le Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques (CPCNG). Le CPCNG a étendu son activité aux entités du fond marin, dont les noms sont soumis à l'approbation du Comité consultatif des noms d'entités sous-marines et marines (CCNESMM). Actuellement, on en sait à peu près autant sur les régions côtières et extracôtières du Canada qu'on en connaissait sur le Canada continental à la fin du XIXe siècle. Toujours à la recherche de ressources naturelles, les scientifiques de la CGC contribuent encore aujourd'hui à façonner la toponymie du Canada. Une des additions les plus récentes à la nomenclature est le toponyme **Michael Keen Canyon**, que le CPCNG a adopté officiellement en 1994. Situé à l'est des Grands Bancs de Terre-Neuve, ce canyon sous-marin a été nommé à la mémoire du deuxième directeur du bureau atlantique de la CGC. Son nom s'ajoute à une longue liste de chercheurs de la CGC, notamment Bell, Dawson et sir William Logan (fondateur de la CGC), dont le souvenir se perpétue à travers la toponymie canadienne.

Notes

1   Martha Armstrong, Agent de Communications, Commission géologique du Canada

2   Don W. Thomson (1972) : *L'homme et les méridiens : 1867 à 1917*, volume 2, Information Canada, Ottawa, p. 116.

3   *Report of Proceedings of the Association of Dominion Land Surveyors*, at its Fifth Annual Meeting, held at Ottawa, March 15th and 16th, 1888 (1888) : John Lovell and Son, Montreal, p. 65.

4   Commission de géographie du Canada (1899) : *First Annual Report of the Geographic Board of Canada*, 1898, Ottawa, p. 10.

5   *Op cit.*, p. 56.

6   Commission de géographie du Canada (1900) : *Second Annual Report of the Geographic Board of Canada*, Ottawa, p. 9.

Canada's national names authority - Chairs and Secretaries

L'autorité toponymique nationale du Canada - Présidents et secrétaires

Alan Rayburn[1]

Abstract: *The national names authority of Canada has been served by 16 Chairs and 10 Secretaries / Executive Secretaries during its one hundred years.*

Résumé : *Au cours des cent ans d'existence de l'autorité toponymique nationale du Canada, 16 présidents et 10 secrétaires ont été au service de l'organisme.*

Canada's national names authority was established as the Geographic Board of Canada in 1897. It became the Canadian Board on Geographical Names in 1948 and was reconstituted as the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names in 1961. During its one hundred years, 16 Chairs and 10 Secretaries / Executive Secretaries have served the names authority. Brief biographies of each follow, in chronological order.

L'autorité toponymique nationale du Canada fut créée en 1897 sous le nom de Commission de géographie du Canada. Elle changea son nom pour celui de Commission canadienne des noms géographiques en 1948 et, en 1961, devint le Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques. Au cours de ses cent ans d'existence, 16 présidents et 10 secrétaires et secrétaires exécutifs ont été au service de l'organisme. Une courte biographie de chacun de ces derniers vous est ici donné par ordre chronologique.

1. Chairs / Présidents

1. François (Fred) Gourdeau
2. William P. Anderson
3. Édouard G. Deville
4. James White
5. John D. Craig
6. Walter H. (Bill) Boyd
7. Alexander Dickison
8. F.H. Peters
9. Kenneth Chipman
10. Philip E. (Phil) Palmer
11. Cyril H. (Cy) Smith
12. Norman L. Nicholson
13. Jean-Paul Drolet
14. J. Hugh O'Donnell
15. Henri Dorion
16. E. Anthony (Tony) Price

François (Fred) Gourdeau (1844-1923)
Chair / Président, 1898-1910

François Frédéric Gourdeau de Beaulieu was born in the city of Québec on 16 October 1844. He joined the civil service of the Province of Canada in 1866. Four years later, he was named the private secretary of the Hon. Peter Mitchell, the Minister of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. In 1896, he was appointed the department's Deputy Minister. Colonel Fred Gourdeau, as he became known in Ottawa, was appointed the first Chair of the Geographic Board of Canada (GBC) in May 1898. He was a founder and later the Honorary Colonel of the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, and, in 1905, he was

François Frédéric Gourdeau de Beaulieu est né à Québec le 16 octobre 1844. Il est entré à la fonction publique de la Province du Canada en 1866. Quatre ans plus tard, il est devenu le secrétaire particulier de M. Peter Mitchell, ministre de la Marine et des Pêcheries. En 1896, il a accédé au poste de sous-ministre du Ministère. Le colonel Fred Gourdeau, comme on le désignait à Ottawa, a été nommé premier président de la Commission de géographie du Canada (CGC) en mai 1898. Le colonel Gourdeau a été fondateur et, plus tard, colonel honoraire des Princess Louise Dragoon Guards. En 1905, les services qu'il avait

made a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honour for services rendered to French fishermen. He participated in the Board's meetings until January 1906, and although he retired in 1909, he remained as the Chair until 1910. Colonel Gourdeau died on 2 October 1923, and was buried in the city of Québec.

rendus aux pêcheurs français lui ont mérité le titre de chevalier de la Légion d'honneur. Il a participé aux réunions de la Commission jusqu'en janvier 1906 et, bien qu'il ait pris sa retraite en 1909, il en demeura le président jusqu'en 1910. Le colonel Gourdeau est mort le 2 octobre 1923. Il a été enterré à Québec.

William P. Anderson (1851-1927)
Chair / Président, 1911-1913, 1924-1926

William Patrick Anderson, a native of Lévis, Quebec, was appointed to the GBC in 1898, as a representative for the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and continued to serve until December 1926. On 3 December 1911, he was elected as the second Chair, and served until 4 February 1913. When Colonel Anderson retired from the civil service in 1918, the Department of Marine and Fisheries appointed him to continue as its representative on the Board. Two years later he offered to resign, but the members of the Board unanimously urged him to withdraw his resignation. He was the Chair again from December 1924 to December 1926. Colonel Anderson died on 1 February 1927. **Anderson Ledge**, in Georgian Bay adjacent to Manitoulin Island, was named after him in about 1910.

William Patrick Anderson, né à Lévis, au Québec, a été nommé à la CGC en 1898, à titre de représentant du ministère de la Marine et des Pêcheries, et il y est resté jusqu'en décembre 1926. Il en a été le deuxième président du 3 décembre 1911 jusqu'au 4 février 1913. Lorsque le colonel Anderson a pris sa retraite de la fonction publique, en 1918, le ministère de la Marine et des Pêcheries lui a demandé de continuer à le représenter à la Commission. Deux ans plus tard, lorsqu'il a voulu partir, les membres de la Commission l'ont unanimement prié de ne pas le faire. Il a donc occupé de nouveau le poste de président de décembre 1924 à décembre 1926. Le colonel Anderson est décédé le 1er février 1927. L'entité **Anderson Ledge**, dans la baie Georgienne près de l'île Manitoulin, a été ainsi désigné en son honneur en 1910.

Édouard G. Deville (1849-1924)
Chair / Président, 1913-1924

Born in 1849 at La Charité-sur-Loire, France, Édouard Gaston Deville graduated from the naval college in Brest, and undertook hydrographic surveys in the South Seas. In 1874, he emigrated to Canada, and became Inspector of Surveys in Quebec. In 1880, Dr. Deville joined the civil service of Canada, and was appointed the Surveyor General five years later. He was a member of the GBC from May 1898 to his death in September 1924, and was its Chair from 1913 to 1924. In 1904, Dr. Deville received an honorary LL.D. from the University of Toronto, and, in 1916, he was made a Companion of the Imperial Service Order by King George V. Geographical features named after him include **Mount Deville**, on the west side of Kicking Horse Pass, named in 1886, and **Mount Deville**, north of Dawson, in the Yukon, named in 1888. Other features honouring him include **Deville Lake**, in Saskatchewan, a locality in Alberta, and a township and two lakes in Quebec.

Né en 1849 à La Charité-sur-Loire, en France, Édouard Gaston Deville a d'abord obtenu un diplôme du collège naval de Brest puis a entrepris des levés hydrographiques dans les mers du Sud. En 1874, il a émigré au Canada et est devenu inspecteur des levés au Québec. En 1880, M. Deville a joint les rangs de la fonction publique du Canada. Cinq ans plus tard, on le nommait arpenteur général. Il est devenu membre de la CGC de mai 1898 à son décès en septembre 1924. Il en a été président de 1913 à 1924. En 1904, M. Deville a reçu un doctorat honorifique en droit de l'université de Toronto et en 1916, George V l'a honoré du titre de chevalier de l'Ordre du service impérial. Un certain nombre d'entités géographiques portent son nom : deux **Mount Deville**, un du côté ouest du col Kicking Horse, ainsi désigné en 1886, et un autre au nord de Dawson, dans le Yukon, dont la désignation date de 1888; le **Deville Lake**, en Saskatchewan; une localité en Alberta et un canton ainsi que deux lacs au Québec.

James White (1863-1928)
Chair / Président, 1927-1928

Born in Ingersoll, Ontario, in 1863, James White attended the Royal Military College in Kingston. Appointed a topographer in the Geological Survey in 1884, he became its Geographer and Chief Draughtsman ten years later. In 1899, he was appointed Geographer (later Chief Geographer) of the Department of the Interior, a position he held until 1909. He was then an official with the Commission of Conservation until 1921, when he became a technical advisor to the Minister of Justice. James White was a member of the GBC from July 1898 to his death on 27 February 1928, and was its Chair during the last year of his almost 30 years service. His extensive research and writing on the developing country's toponymy have provided an excellent repository. Among his publications are *Altitudes in the Dominion of Canada* (1901, 1915), *Dictionary of Altitudes in the Dominion of Canada* (1903, 1916), the first edition of the *Atlas of Canada* (1906), and names studies of Quebec and Northern Canada (1910).

Né en 1863 à Ingersoll, en Ontario, James White a étudié au Collège militaire royal de Kingston. Nommé topographe à la Commission géologique du Canada en 1884, il en est devenu le géographe et le dessinateur en chef dix ans plus tard. En 1899, il a été nommé géographe (et plus tard géographe en chef) du ministère de l'Intérieur, poste qu'il a occupé jusqu'en 1909. Il a ensuite été agent au sein de la Commission de la conservation jusqu'en 1921, année où il est devenu conseiller technique du ministre de la Justice. M. White a été membre de la CGC de juillet 1898 jusqu'à sa mort, le 27 février 1928. Il en a été le président durant la dernière de ses trente années de service. Ses travaux approfondis de recherche et de rédaction sur la toponymie des pays en voie de développement ont constitué d'excellentes archives. Parmi les ouvrages qu'il a publiés, on trouve *Altitudes in the Dominion of Canada* (1901 et 1915), *Dictionary of Altitudes in the Dominion of Canada* (1903 et 1916), la première édition de l'*Atlas du Canada* (1906) ainsi que des études toponymiques du Québec et du Nord canadien (1910).

John D. Craig (1878-1936)
Chair / Président, 1928-1931

Born on 30 January 1878, John Davidson Craig was commissioned as a Dominion Land Surveyor in February 1902, and joined the Canadian staff of the International Boundary Commission that year. From 1904 to 1914, he worked on the surveying of the International Boundary separating Alaska from British Columbia and Yukon. In 1922, he led an expedition to the Arctic to enforce Canadian sovereignty. On his return from the Arctic, he was appointed the International Boundary Commissioner. Mr. Craig was a member of the GBC from 12 February 1925 to 8 June 1931. He served as its Chair from 6 March 1928 to his retirement from the civil service in 1931. Mr. Craig died on 5 April 1936, and was buried in Cape Vincent, New York (opposite Kingston, Ontario). **Craig Creek** and **Mount Craig** (4 039 m) in the Yukon are named after him, as was the locality of **Craig Harbour**, near the southeastern point of Ellesmere Island, in 1922.

Né le 30 janvier 1878, John Davidson Craig a été nommé arpenteur fédéral en février 1902 et s'est joint au personnel canadien de la Commission de la frontière internationale au cours de cette même année. De 1904 à 1914, il a travaillé à l'arpentage de la frontière internationale séparant l'Alaska de la Colombie-Britannique et du Yukon. En 1922, il a dirigé une expédition dans l'Arctique pour faire respecter la souveraineté du Canada. À son retour, il a été nommé commissaire de la frontière internationale. M. Craig a été membre de la CGC du 12 février 1925 au 8 juin 1931. Il en a été le président du 6 mars 1928 jusqu'à sa retraite de la fonction publique en 1931. M. Craig est décédé le 5 avril 1936 et a été inhumé à Cape Vincent, à New York, en face de Kingston, en Ontario. Les entités **Craig Creek** et **Mount Craig** (4 039 m) au Yukon ont été nommés en son honneur, tout comme l'a été la localité de **Craig Harbour** au sud-est de l'île d'Ellesmere, en 1922.

Walter H. Boyd (1878-1960)
Chair / Président, 1932-1940

A son of Sir John and Lady Elizabeth Boyd, Walter Halcro (Bill) Boyd was born in Toronto on 31 January 1878. He attended Upper Canada College and the University of Toronto, where he developed his skills as a mapmaker. Mr. Boyd joined the Geological Survey of Canada in 1900, and was appointed the Chief of the Topographical Division in 1908, serving in that role until 1936. He was appointed on 23 November 1909 to the GBC, as a representative from the Geological Survey, and served continuously until 1 May 1940. He was elected as GBC Chair on 2 February 1932. From 1936, when four departments became the Department of Mines and Resources to his retirement in 1940, he was the Chief Topographical Engineer. He died in Toronto on 10 January 1960.

Walter Halcro (Bill) Boyd, fils de sir John et lady Elizabeth Boyd, est né à Toronto le 31 janvier 1878. Il a étudié au collège d'Upper Canada et à l'université de Toronto, où il s'est perfectionné en cartographie. Il est arrivé à la Commission géologique du Canada en 1900 et a été nommé chef de la Division de la topographie en 1908; il a occupé ce poste jusqu'en 1936. Il est entré à la CGC du Canada le 23 novembre 1909 à titre de représentant de la Commission géologique et il l'a quittée le 1er mai 1940. Il a été élu président de la CGC le 2 février 1932. De 1936, année de la fusion de quatre ministères en celui des Mines et des Ressources jusqu'à sa retraite, en 1940, il a été ingénieur topographique en chef. Il est décédé à Toronto le 10 janvier 1960.

Alexander Dickison (1880-1957)
Chair / Président, 1940-1945

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1880, Alexander Dickison studied map-making in the offices of John Bartholomew and Son, and subsequently joined the Topographical Section of the Intelligence Office of Britain's War Office. In 1905, he immigrated to Canada and joined the staff of the Geological Survey as a draughtsman. In 1919, Mr. Dickison became the Supervisor of the Map Preparation and Reproduction Division, and subsequently became the Chief of the Map Engraving Division. On the retirement of C.-O. Senécal as the Chief of the Geographical and Draughting Division in 1931, Mr. Dickison was appointed Chief Draughtsman of the Draughting and Reproducing Division. Mr. Dickison was a representive of the Geological Survey on the GBC from 30 January 1930 to 1 May 1940, and was its Chair from then to 1945, when he retired from the public service. Mr. Dickison died on 14 July 1957, and was buried in Pinecrest Cemetery in Nepean.

Né à Edinburgh, en Écosse, en 1880, Alexander Dickison s'est familiarisé avec la cartographie en travaillant pour la société John Bartholomew and Son avant d'entrer au service de topographie du bureau du renseignement du ministère de la guerre de Grande-Bretagne. En 1905, il a immigré au Canada et s'est joint au personnel de la Commission géologique à titre de dessinateur. En 1919, il a été promu surveillant de la Division de la préparation et de la reproduction des cartes avant d'être nommé chef de la Division de la gravure des cartes. Lorsque C.-O. Senécal a pris sa retraite comme chef de la Division de la géographie et du dessin des cartes, en 1931, M. Dickison est devenu dessinateur en chef de la Division du dessin et de la reproduction. M. Dickison a été représentant de la Commission géologique au sein de la CGC du 30 janvier 1930 au 1er mai 1940 et a présidé cette dernière de 1940 à 1945, année où il a quitté la fonction publique. M. Dickison est décédé le 14 juillet 1957 et a été enterré au cimetière Pinecrest à Nepean.

F.H. Peters (1883-1982)
Chair / Président, 1946-1948

Frederic Hatheway Peters was born in the city of Québec in 1883, and studied engineering at the Royal Military College in Kingston. He joined the Public Works Department in Ottawa in 1904, and undertook surveys in Ontario, Manitoba, and

Frederic Hatheway Peters est né à Québec en 1883 et a étudié le génie au Collège militaire royal de Kingston. Entré à l'emploi du ministère des Travaux publics à Ottawa en 1904, il a effectué des levés en Ontario, au Manitoba et en Alberta.

Alberta. Commissioned as a Dominion Land Surveyor in 1910, he served as the Commissioner of Irrigation for the Department of the Interior in Alberta from 1911 to 1921. He then returned to Ottawa and was appointed Surveyor General in 1924. Mr. Peters was a member of the GBC from 1924 to 1948. He considerably influenced the standards for identifying geographical features on maps, and in establishing toponymic principles and practices. He retired in 1948, and died in 1982, just after his 99th birthday. Among geographical features named after him are **Mount Peters** and **Peters Creek** in Alberta, **Peters Lake** in Saskatchewan, **Peters Point** in the Northwest Territories, and **Lac Peters** in Quebec.

Nommé arpenteur fédéral en 1910, il a été commissaire à l'irrigation pour le ministère de l'Intérieur de l'Alberta de 1911 à 1921. Il est par la suite revenu à Ottawa, où on lui a confié le poste d'arpenteur en chef en 1924. M. Peters a été membre de la CGC de 1924 à 1948. Il a eu une grande influence sur les normes d'identification des entités géographiques sur les cartes et sur l'établissement des principes et méthodes en toponymie. Il a pris sa retraite en 1948 et est décédé en 1982, peu après son 99e anniversaire de naissance. Parmi les entités géographiques qui portent son nom, citons le **Mount Peters** et le **Peters Creek** (Alberta), le **Peters Lake** (Saskatchewan), **Peters Point** (Territoires du Nord-Ouest) et le **lac Peters** (au Québec).

Kenneth G. Chipman (1884-1974)
Chair / Président, 1948-1949

Born in 1884 near Berwick, Nova Scotia, Kenneth Gordon Chipman earned a degree in mining engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1908. He joined the Topographical Survey Division of the Geological Survey that year. During his early years with the Geological Survey, he helped develop the photo-topographical techniques of mapping in British Columbia. From 1913 to 1916, he ran surveys along Canada's northern mainland coast from Alaska to Bathurst Inlet. In 1925, he became the Supervisor of eastern field surveys in the Topographical Surveys Division, and on Walter Boyd's retirement in 1940, succeeded him as the Chief Topographical Engineer and as a representative of the Geological Survey on the GBC. He was chosen as its Chair in 1948, and served for a single year. He retired in 1949, and died in Ottawa on 29 April 1974.

Né en 1884 près de Berwick, en Nouvelle-Écosse, Kenneth Gordon Chipman a obtenu un diplôme en génie minier du Massachussets Institute of Technology en 1908. La même année, il a été engagé à la Division des levés topographiques de la Commission géologique. Au cours des premières années qu'il a passées à la Commission géologique, il a contribué à la mise au point des techniques phototopographiques de levés en Colombie-Britannique. De 1913 à 1916, il a effectué des levés le long de la côte nord du Canada continental, de l'Alaska à l'inlet Bathurst. En 1925, il est devenu surveillant des levés sur le terrain dans l'Est à la Division des levés topographiques. Lorsque Walter Boyd a pris sa retraite, en 1940, c'est M. Chipman qui lui a succédé à titre d'ingénieur topographique en chef et comme représentant de la Commission géologique à la CGC. Nommé président en 1948, il a occupé ce poste pendant un an. Il a lui-même pris sa retraite en 1949 et est décédé à Ottawa le 29 avril 1974.

Philip E. (Phil) Palmer (1888-1970)
Secretary / Secrétaire, 1946-1948; Chair / Président, 1949-1954

Philip Ebenezer Palmer was born in Dorchester, New Brunswick, on 6 May 1888. From 1908 to 1954, he was employed in the Topographical Survey of the Department of the Interior (from 1936, Mines and Resources), except for two years overseas during the First World War and two years in the office of the Director of Mines, Forests and Scientific Services from 1947 to 1949. On 13 June 1946, Mr. Palmer was appointed the Secretary of

Philip Ebenezer Palmer est né à Dorchester, au Nouveau-Brunswick, le 6 mai 1888. De 1908 à 1954, il a été engagé aux Levés topographiques du ministère de l'Intérieur (Mines et Ressources à partir de 1936), sauf pour une première période de deux ans où il a servi outre-mer pendant la Première Guerre mondiale; il a aussi été employé pendant deux ans au bureau du directeur des Services scientifiques, des Forêts et des Mines,

the GBC (the Canadian Board on Geographical Names (CBGN) from 3 August 1948). In 1949, he became Chair of the Board, a position he held until he retired on 14 December 1954. During his eight and a half years with the Board, there was a considerable increase in the volume of geographical names reviewed for approval, and the *Gazetteer of Canada* series was begun. Mr. Palmer died on 26 June 1970, and was buried in Nepean's Pinecrest Cemetery.

entre 1947 et 1949. Le 13 juin 1946, M. Palmer a été nommé secrétaire de la CGC (la Commission canadienne des noms géographiques (CCNG) à partir du 3 août 1948). Il devint président de la Commission en 1949, poste qu'il occupa jusqu'à sa retraite le 14 décembre 1954. Pendant les huit années et demies au sein de la Commission, il y eut une augmentation marquante du nombre de noms géographiques étudiés par la Commission aux fins d'approbation et la série du *Répertoire géographique du Canada* a fait ses débuts. M. Palmer est décédé le 26 juin 1970 et fut inhumé au cimetière Pinecrest à Nepean.

Cyril H. (Cy) Smith (1909-1996)
Chair / Président, 1955-1959

Cyril Horace Smith was born in England in 1909, and the next year his family settled in Mission, British Columbia. In 1933, he graduated as a civil engineer from the University of British Columbia, and from 1935 undertook surveys in Western Canada for the Topographical Division of the Geological Survey. In 1939, he was transferred to Ottawa, but the following year he was sent overseas by the Department of National Defence. In England, Col. Smith became the Assistant Director of Surveys of the First Canadian Army and later of the British 21st Army Group. In October 1946, he was put in charge of the newly established Army Survey Establishment in Ottawa. Col. Smith represented military mapping on the GBC (the Canadian Board on Geographical Names (CBGN) after 3 August 1948) from 21 May 1946 to 27 January 1959, and was Chair of the Board from 1955 to 1959. He retired from the Army in 1962, and undertook surveys for private companies and the United Nations until the late 1970s.

Cyril Horace Smith est né en Angleterre en 1909. Sa famille s'est établie à Mission, en Colombie Britannique, l'année suivante. En 1933, il a obtenu un diplôme en génie civil de l'université de British Columbia et, à partir de 1935, il a réalisé des levés dans l'Ouest canadien pour le compte de la Division topographique de la Commission géologique du Canada. Il a été transféré à Ottawa en 1939, mais a été envoyé outre-mer l'année suivante pour le ministère de la Défense nationale. En Angleterre, M. Smith est devenu le directeur adjoint des levés de la Première armée canadienne et, plus tard, du British 21st Army Group. En octobre 1946, on lui a assigné la direction de l'établissement topographique de l'Armée, récemment installé à Ottawa. Du 21 mai 1946 au 27 janvier 1959, Cyril Horace Smith a représenté les cartes militaires pour la CGC (renommée Commission canadienne des noms géographiques (CCNG) à partir du 3 août 1948). Il a présidé la Commission de 1955 à 1959. M. Smith a quitté l'armée en 1962 et a fait des levés pour le compte d'entreprises privées et des Nations Unies jusqu'à la fin des années 70.

Norman L. Nicholson (1919-1984)
Chair / Président 1959-1964

A native of Barking, England, Norman Leon Nicholson came to Canada during the Second World War as a meteorological officer with the Commonwealth Air Training Plan. He returned to Canada after the war, and took a B.A. and an M.A. at the University of Western Ontario, where he also lectured. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Ottawa (1951), with his dissertation reviewing the national and provincial boundaries of Canada. In 1949, Norman Nicholson joined the

Né à Barking en Angleterre, Norman Leon Nicholson a séjourné au Canada durant la Deuxième Guerre mondiale comme agent météorologiste du Programme d'entraînement aérien du Commonwealth. Il est revenu au Canada après la guerre et a obtenu un baccalauréat et une maîtrise à l'université Western Ontario où il a également donné des cours. Il a reçu un doctorat de l'Université d'Ottawa (1951) avec une thèse portant sur les frontières nationale et provinciales

staff of the Geographical Bureau in Ottawa, and became its Director in 1954. He joined the CBGN in 1951, and became its Chair in 1959. He restructured the Board as the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CPCGN) in 1961, with membership from each province as well as a wider range of federal departments. In 1964, Dr. Nicholson returned to Western as a Senior Professor of Geography, and continued to teach until his death on 30 November 1984.

du Canada. En 1949, M. Nicholson est entré au Service géographique à Ottawa et y a tenu les fonctions de directeur en 1954. Il s'est joint à l'équipe de la CCNG en 1951 et l'a présidée en 1959. Il a remanié la structure de la Commission qui est devenue le Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques (CPCNG) en 1961 où étaient représentées toutes les provinces ainsi qu'un plus grand nombre de ministères fédéraux. En 1964, M. Nicholson est retourné à l'université Western Ontario comme professeur principal de géographie et a continué d'y enseigner jusqu'à sa mort le 30 novembre 1984.

Jean-Paul Drolet (1918 -)
Chair / Président, 1964-1988

Jean-Paul Drolet, an Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, presided over the CPCGN from 1964 to 1988. He led the Canadian delegations to the first four United Nations Conferences on Geographical Names (1967 to 1982), and organized the fifth conference in Montréal in 1987. Born in the city of Québec in 1918, Dr. Drolet studied at Université Laval, and at Columbia University, New York, where he was granted an M.Sc. in mineral economics and mining engineering in 1948. Honorary doctorates were conferred on him by McGill University (1978) and by Laurentian University (1979). Before coming to Ottawa in 1964, Dr. Drolet pursued a career in mineral prospecting, first with the provincial Department of Mines, and then with Quebec Cartier Mining. He was actively involved in the founding of the towns of Port-Cartier and Gagnon.

Jean-Paul Drolet, un sous-ministre adjoint au ministère de l'Énergie, des Mines et des Ressources a assumé la présidence du CPCNG de 1964 à 1988. Il a dirigé les délégations canadiennes aux quatre premières conférences des Nations Unies sur les noms géographiques (de 1967 à 1982) et il a organisé la cinquième, qui a eu lieu à Montréal en 1987. Né à Québec en 1918, Jean-Paul Drolet a étudié à l'Université Laval et à l'université Columbia de New York, où il a obtenu, en 1948, une maîtrise en sciences avec spécialisation en économie des minéraux et en génie minier. L'Université McGill et l'Université Laurentienne lui ont toutes deux décerné un doctorat honorifique, la première en 1978 et la deuxième en 1979. Avant d'arriver à Ottawa, en 1964, M. Drolet a fait carrière dans la prospection minière, d'abord au ministère des Mines au Québec, puis à la compagnie minière Québec Cartier. Il a participé activement à la fondation des villes de Port-Cartier et de Gagnon.

J. Hugh O'Donnell (1941 -)
Chair / Président, 1988-1990, 1991-1992

John Hugh O'Donnell was born in 1941 in the city of Québec, and received a B.A.Sc. from Université Laval in 1969. He pursued a varied career with Survair Limited and the Surveys and Mapping Branch in Ottawa, the consulting firm Marshall, Macklin, Monaghan in Don Mills, Ontario, and the Ministry of Natural Resources in Ontario. He became the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Surveys, Mapping and Remote Sensing Sector in the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources in 1987. Mr. O'Donnell served two brief terms as Chair of the CPCGN. Soon after his first appointment in April 1988, he urged the

John Hugh O'Donnell est né en 1941 à Québec et a obtenu un baccalauréat en sciences de l'Université Laval en 1969. Il a eu un cheminement de carrière diversifié : il a travaillé pour Survair Limited et la Direction des levés et de la cartographie à Ottawa, la société d'experts-conseils Marshall, Macklin, Monaghan de Don Mills en Ontario et le ministère des Richesses naturelles de l'Ontario. En 1987, il est devenu sous-ministre adjoint du Secteur des levés, de la cartographie et de la télédétection du ministère de l'Énergie, des Mines et des Ressources. M. O'Donnell a présidé le CPCNG pendant deux brefs mandats. Peu de temps après

selection of an independent (i.e., non-government) Chair. After Dr. Henri Dorion served from May 1990 to October 1991, Mr. O'Donnell began a second term until the appointment of Mr. Anthony Price in August 1992. He left the public service in 1995, and joined SHL Systemhouse, where he is the Managing Director Geomatics for the VISION* Solutions business unit.

sa première nomination, en avril 1988, il a insisté pour que l'on nomme un président externe. Il a commencé son deuxième mandat quand M. Henri Dorion a quitté le poste de président, qu'il a occupé de mai 1990 à octobre 1991. Il a ensuite cédé sa place à M. Anthony Price au mois d'août 1992. En 1995, il a quitté la fonction publique et s'est joint à l'équipe de SHL Systemhouse, où il est le directeur de la division en géomatique pour la section Solutions VISION*.

Henri Dorion (1935 -)
Chair / Président, 1990-1991

Henri Dorion was the Chair of the CPCGN from May 1990 to December 1991. He had been the first Chair of the Committee's Advisory Committee on Toponymy Research, serving from 1975 to 1980. Dr. Dorion has had a wide-ranging career in the field of toponymy: having taught courses at Université Laval from 1964 to 1978, having served three terms (1978-1980, 1985-1988, 1993-1996) as President of the Commission de toponymie du Québec, and having been the Chair of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names from 1987 to 1991. A native of the city of Québec, Dr. Dorion earned degrees in law and political geography. Among his appointments have been Delegate General to Mexico, 1980-1982, Director General and Assistant Deputy Minister of Planning in the Ministry of International Relations, 1982-1985, and Director of Research, Conservation, and International Relations at the Musée de la civilisation du Québec, 1988-1993. He holds an honorary doctorate from the Université de Sherbrooke.

Henri Dorion a occupé la présidence du CPCNG de mai 1990 à décembre 1991. Il a été le premier à présider le Comité consultatif de la recherche toponymique de 1975 à 1980. La carrière de M. Dorion touche à de nombreux aspects de la toponymie. Il a enseigné à l'Université Laval de 1964 à 1978, a occupé la présidence de la Commission de toponymie du Québec pendant trois mandats (1978-1980, 1985-1988, 1993-1996) et de 1987 à 1991, il a assumé les fonctions de président du Groupe d'experts des Nations Unies pour les noms géographiques. Natif de Québec, M. Dorion a obtenu des diplômes en droit et en géographie politique. Il a été nommé délégué général au Mexique de 1980 à 1982, directeur général et sous-ministre adjoint de la planification au ministère des Relations internationales de 1982 à 1985 et directeur de la recherche, de la conservation et des relations internationales au Musée de la civilisation du Québec de 1988 à 1993. L'Université de Sherbrooke lui a décerné un doctorat honorifique.

E. Anthony (Tony) Price (1929 -)
Chair / Président, 1992 -

Born in the city of Québec on 30 September 1929, Edward Anthony Price studied at Bishop's University, the Faculté de Droit at the Université Laval, and McGill University. He practised law from 1956 to 1966. Since 1965, Mr. Price has operated the Musée du Fort, which depicts, in sound and light, the six sieges of Québec in the mid-1700s. From 1968 to 1982, he was a senior official in Africa involved in organizing policies and practices relating to international development. In the 1980s, he negotiated Aboriginal land claims in Quebec, and mediated with both the Cree and the Inuit in the implementation of the James Bay and Northern

Né à Québec le 30 septembre 1929, Edward Anthony Price a étudié à l'université Bishop, à la faculté de droit de l'Université Laval et à l'Université McGill. Il a exercé le droit de 1956 à 1966. Depuis 1965, M. Price dirige le Musée du Fort, où sont illustrés en son et lumière les six sièges dont la ville de Québec a fait l'objet au milieu des années 1700. De 1968 à 1982, il a occupé un poste de cadre en Afrique, où il a participé à l'organisation de politiques et de pratiques relatives au développement international. Dans les années 80, il a négocié des revendications territoriales autochtones au Québec et a été médiateur (dans les deux cas au nom du

Quebec Agreement, both on behalf of the government of Canada. Mr. Price was appointed Chair of the CPCGN on 25 August 1992, and was reappointed for two-year terms in 1994 and 1996.

gouvernement du Canada) auprès des communautés crie et inuit lors de l'adoption de la Convention de la Baie James et du Nord québécois. M. Price a été nommé président du CPCNG le 25 août 1992 et a été nommé de nouveau pour des mandats de deux ans en 1994 et en 1996.

2. Secretaries / Executive Secretaries / Secrétaires / Secrétaires exécutifs

1. Arthur Whitcher
2. Robert Douglas
3. J. Harry Corry
4. Philip E. (Phil) Palmer

5. Lyman B. Skinner
6. G. Max Munroe
7. J. Keith Fraser

8. Gordon F. Delaney
9. Alan Rayburn
10. Helen Kerfoot

Arthur H. Whitcher (1840-1931)
Secretary / Secrétaire, 1897-1916

Arthur Henry Whitcher was born in Sherbrooke, Quebec, on 10 April 1840. From 1862 to 1872, he was a provincial land surveyor and a civil engineer in the province of Quebec. He was then appointed an Assistant Inspector of Surveys in the Dominion Land Surveys office in Winnipeg and ran the office from 1874 to 1880. Mr. Whitcher was appointed in 1890 by the Department of the Interior to coordinate Canada's geographical names, with the observation that 'no one in the service of the Department available for the duty is so well qualified to perform it as Mr. Whitcher.' When the Geographic Board of Canada (GBC) was created in 1897, he was named its first Secretary. Mr. Whitcher advised surveyors and mapmakers on nomenclature, and edited the first 14 reports of the Board's decisions. He took his retirement on 30 September 1916. Mr. Whitcher died on 7 March 1931, and was buried in Sherbrooke.

Arthur Henry Whitcher est né à Sherbrooke, au Québec, le 10 avril 1840. De 1862 à 1872, il a occupé les postes d'arpenteur provincial et d'ingénieur civil à Québec. Il a par la suite été nommé inspecteur adjoint des levés au bureau d'arpentage des terres fédérales à Winnipeg, bureau qu'il a dirigé de 1874 à 1880. Quand M. Whitcher a été nommé par le ministère de l'Intérieur, en 1890, pour coordonner les activités associées aux noms géographiques du Canada, on fit mention qu'aucune autre personne du Ministère disponible pour occuper le poste n'était aussi qualifiée que lui pour le faire. Au moment de la création de la Commission de géographie (CGC), en 1897, on l'a choisi comme secrétaire. M. Whitcher conseillait les arpenteurs et les cartographes sur la nomenclature et il a publié les 14 premiers rapports sur les décisions de la Commission. M. Whitcher a pris sa retraite le 30 septembre 1916. Il est décédé le 7 mars 1931 et a été enterré à Sherbrooke.

Robert Douglas (1881-1930)
Secretary / Secrétaire, 1916-1930

A native of Scotland, Robert Douglas was a journalist in London, England, and in Toronto before coming to Ottawa in 1915. He was appointed the second Secretary of the GBC the following year. An accomplished writer, he compiled the *15th, 16th, 17th, 18th,* and *19th Reports* of the Board during his 15-year career at the Board. The *18th Report* recorded all the decisions of the GBC from 1898 to 1924.

Né en Écosse, Robert Douglas a été journaliste à London en Angleterre et à Toronto avant de déménager à Ottawa en 1916. Il a été le deuxième secrétaire de la CGC l'année suivante. Rédacteur accompli, il a compilé les *15e, 16e, 17e, 18e* et *19e rapports* de la Commission au cours des 15 ans qu'il a passés à la Commission. Le *18e rapport* contenait toutes les décisions de la CGC de 1898 à 1924. M. Douglas est l'auteur de *Meaning of*

Mr. Douglas wrote *Meaning of Canadian City Names* (1922), *Place Names of the Magdalen Islands* (1922), and in French in the *Bulletin de la Société de géographie du Québec* (1925), *Place Names of Prince Edward Island, with Meanings* (1925), *Place Names of Alberta* (1928), and *Place Names of Manitoba* (1933). Shortly before his death, he accepted an invitation from the Editor of the *Canadian Geographical Journal* to contribute a monthly column on Canadian place names. Mr. Douglas was buried in Pinecrest Cemetery, in Nepean.

Canadian City Names (1922), *Place Names of the Magdalen Islands* (1922), et en français dans le *Bulletin de la Société de géographie du Québec* (1925), *Place Names of Prince Edward Island, with Meanings* (1925), *Place Names of Alberta* (1928) et *Place Names of Manitoba* (1933). Peu de temps avant sa mort, il a accepté à la demande de l'éditeur du *Canadian Geographical Journal* de rédiger une rubrique mensuelle sur les toponymes canadiens. M. Douglas repose au cimetière Pinecrest à Nepean.

J. Harry Corry (1879-1951)
Secretary / Secrétaire, 1931-1946

Jonathan Henry (Harry) Corry was born in Ottawa in 1879, and was raised in Woodstock, Ontario. After attending Harvard University, he joined the civil service of Canada in 1911 and served overseas during the First World War from 1914 to 1919. Mr. Corry was appointed as Secretary of the GBC in June 1931, eight months after the death of Robert Douglas. He kept the minutes of GBC meetings, and maintained the card and file records of the Board until he retired in 1946 at the age of 66. Mr. Corry died on 24 March 1951, and was buried in the family plot in Beechwood Cemetery, Ottawa.

Jonathan Henry (Harry) Corry est né à Ottawa en 1879 et a grandi à Woodstock, en Ontario. Il a étudié à l'université Harvard, après quoi il s'est joint à la fonction publique du Canada en 1911 et a été envoyé outre-mer pendant la Première Guerre mondiale entre 1914 et 1919. M. Corry a été nommé secrétaire de la CGC en juin 1931, soit huit mois après la mort de Robert Douglas. Il était responsable des procès-verbaux des réunions de la CGC et de l'entretien des enregistrements sur cartes-index et dans des dossiers jusqu'à sa retraite en 1946, à l'âge de 66 ans. M. Corry est décédé le 24 mars 1951 et a été inhumé dans la concession familiale du cimetière Beechwood, à Ottawa.

Lyman B. Skinner (1910 -)
Secretary / Secrétaire, 1948-1953

Lyman Bennett Skinner was born in Ottawa on 17 March 1910. He attended the Royal Military College in Kingston from 1927 to 1930. In the 1930s, he worked with the Geological Survey distributing publications. During the Second World War, he served overseas with the Second Battery, Fourth Field Regiment. After returning to Canada, he worked in the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys before being appointed the Secretary of the CBGN in 1948, a position in which he served for six years. During his term of office, the first volumes of the *Gazetteer of Canada* were compiled, and those for *Southern Ontario* and *British Columbia* were published. From 1954 to 1967, he was employed in the Naval Secretariat of the Department of National Defence. He moved to Vancouver in the spring of 1995.

Lyman Bennett Skinner est né à Ottawa le 17 mars 1910. Il a étudié au Collège militaire royal de Kingston entre 1927 et 1930. Dans les années 30, il a travaillé à la Commission géologique du Canada où il s'est occupé de la distribution de publications. Pendant la Deuxième Guerre mondiale, il a été envoyé outre-mer avec la 2e Batterie, 4e Régiment de campagne. À son retour au Canada, il a travaillé au ministère des Mines et des Levés techniques avant d'être nommé secrétaire de la CCNG en 1948; il a exercé ces fonctions pendant les prochaines six années. Pendant cette période, les premiers volumes du *Répertoire géographique du Canada* ont été compilés et les éditions sur le sud de l'Ontario (*Southern Ontario*) et la Colombie-Britannique (*British Columbia*) ont été publiées. De 1954 à 1967, il a travaillé au Secrétariat de la Marine du ministère de la Défense nationale. Il a déménagé à Vancouver au printemps 1995.

Philip E. (Phil) Palmer (1888-1970)
Secretary / Secrétaire, 1946-1948; Chair / Président, 1949-1954

Philip Ebenezer Palmer was born in Dorchester, New Brunswick, on 6 May 1888. From 1908 to 1954, he was employed in the Topographical Survey of the Department of the Interior (from 1936, Mines and Resources), except for two years overseas during the First World War and two years in the office of the Director of Mines, Forests and Scientific Services from 1947 to 1949. On 13 June 1946, Mr. Palmer was appointed the Secretary of the GBC (the Canadian Board on Geographical Names (CBGN) from 3 August 1948). In 1949, he became Chair of the Board, a position he held until he retired on 14 December 1954. During his eight and a half years with the Board, there was a considerable increase in the volume of geographical names reviewed for approval, and the *Gazetteer of Canada* series was begun. Mr. Palmer died on 26 June 1970, and was buried in Nepean's Pinecrest Cemetery.

Philip Ebenezer Palmer est né à Dorchester, au Nouveau-Brunswick, le 6 mai 1888. De 1908 à 1954, il a été engagé aux Levés topographiques du ministère de l'Intérieur (Mines et Ressources à partir de 1936), sauf pour une première période de deux ans où il a servi outre-mer pendant la Première Guerre mondiale; il a aussi été employé pendant deux ans au bureau du directeur des Services scientifiques, des Forêts et des Mines, entre 1947 et 1949. Le 13 juin 1946, M. Palmer a été nommé secrétaire de la CGC (la Commission canadienne des noms géographiques (CCNG) à partir du 3 août 1948). Il devint président de la Commission en 1949, poste qu'il occupa jusqu'à sa retraite le 14 décembre 1954. Pendant les huit années et demies au sein de la Commission, il y eut une augmentation marquante du nombre de noms géographiques étudiés par la Commission aux fins d'approbation et la série du *Répertoire géographique du Canada* a fait ses débuts. M. Palmer est décédé le 26 juin 1970 et fut inhumé au cimetière Pinecrest à Nepean.

G. Max Munroe (1923 -)
Secretary / Secrétaire, 1954-1962

Garnet Max Munroe was born on 6 June 1923 in Maberly, west of Perth, Ontario. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1942, trained as a pilot, and served overseas until 1945. He joined the staff of the CBGN in 1949, and five years later succeeded Lyman Skinner as the Board's Secretary. During his service at the Board, the *Gazetteer of Canada* series was conceived, and the first volume - *Southern Ontario* - was published. Before he left in 1962, eight more volumes had been published for British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Prince Edward Island, Ontario, and the two territories in a single volume. After working with the Board for 13 years, he transferred to the Administration and Technical Services Division of the National Library and Public Archives, where he worked in programme planning and budgets, organization and methods, and finance until 1978.

Garnet Max Munroe est né le 6 juin 1923 à Maberly, à l'ouest de Perth, en Ontario. Il est entré dans l'Aviation royale du Canada en 1942, a suivi la formation de pilote et a été envoyé outre-mer jusqu'en 1945. M. Munroe a débuté à la CCNG en 1949. Cinq ans plus tard, il succédait à M. Lyman Skinner au poste de secrétaire de l'organisme. Pendant la période où il a travaillé à la Commission, on a conçu la série du *Répertoire géographique du Canada* et publié le premier volume sur le sud de l'Ontario (*Southern Ontario*). Ce premier volume a été suivi de huit autres couvrant les provinces de la Colombie-Britannique, du Manitoba, du Nouveau-Brunswick, de la Saskatchewan, de l'Alberta, de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, de l'Ontario et des deux territoires (en un seul volume). Après avoir travaillé à la Commission pendant 13 ans, il a été transféré à la Division de l'administration et des services techniques de la Bibliothèque nationale et des Archives nationales où il s'est occupé, jusqu'en 1978, de planification de programmes, de budgétisation, d'organisation et de méthodes ainsi que de finances.

J. Keith Fraser (1922 -)
Executive Secretary / Secrétaire exécutif, 1962-1968

John Keith Fraser was born in Ottawa, the younger son of Robert Fraser (Dominion Hydrographer). He earned his B.A. and M.A. at the University of Toronto, majoring in geography, and received his Ph.D. from Clark University in Worcester, Massachussetts. Dr. Fraser joined the Geographical Branch in 1950. Twelve years later, he was appointed Chief of the newly-established Toponymy Division in the Geographical Branch and became Secretary of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CPCGN). In 1964, this title was changed to Executive Secretary. When the Branch was discontinued in 1968, Dr. Fraser transferred to Environment Canada, where he was a Senior Scientific Advisor. After retiring from the public service in 1982, Dr. Fraser was appointed General Manager of The Royal Canadian Geographical Society and Publisher of *Canadian Geographic*. In 1988, he stepped down as General Manager and Publisher, but continued as Executive Director of the Society for two more years.

John Keith Fraser est né à Ottawa; il est le fils cadet de Robert Fraser (hydrographe fédéral). Il a étudié à l'université de Toronto où il a obtenu un baccalauréat et une maîtrise avec spécialisation en géographie. Il détient également un doctorat de l'université Clark à Worcester, au Massachusetts. M. Fraser s'est joint à la Direction de la géographie en 1950. Douze années plus tard, il fut nommé chef de la nouvelle Division de la toponymie dans la Direction de la géographie et il est devenu le secrétaire du Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques (CPCNG). En 1964, ce titre fut changé pour celui de secrétaire exécutif. En 1968, à la dissolution de la direction, M. Fraser fut transféré à Environnement Canada, où il a occupé un poste de conseiller scientifique principal. Après sa retraite de la fonction publique en 1982, M. Fraser fut nommé directeur général de la Société géographique royale du Canada et éditeur de la revue *Canadian Geographic*. En 1988, il a quitté ses fonctions de directeur général et d'éditeur, mais est demeuré au sein de la Société à titre de directeur exécutif pendant deux autres années.

Gordon F. Delaney (1909 -)
Executive Secretary / Secrétaire exécutif, 1968-1973

Gordon Frederick Delaney was born in 1909 in Nepean Township, Ontario. Briefly, he was a primary school teacher in Ottawa before becoming an Administrative Officer in the federal Department of Agriculture in 1929. In 1942, Mr. Delaney joined the Hydrographic and Map Service Division of the Department of Mines and Resources, where he was responsible for the content and quality of the nomenclature on the Division's maps. For several years during the 1940s, he prepared lists of names for the signature of the Surveyor General and distributed the official decisions of the GBC to its federal and provincial members. In 1968, Mr. Delaney was appointed Chief of the Toponymy Division, and in that capacity he served as the Executive Secretary of the CPCGN. He retired in 1973, and lives in Ottawa.

Gordon Frederick Delaney est né en 1909 dans le canton de Nepean, Ontario. Il a enseigné pendant une courte période au niveau d'enseignement primaire à Ottawa avant de devenir agent administratif au ministère fédéral de l'Agriculture en 1929. En 1942, il entre à la Division des services hydrographiques et cartographiques du ministère des Mines et des Ressources où il est chargé de la teneur et de la qualité de la nomenclature des cartes de la division. Pendant plusieurs années durant les années 40, il prépare des listes de noms nécessitant la signature de l'arpenteur en chef et diffuse les décisions officielles de la CGC du Canada aux membres fédéraux et provinciaux. En 1968, M. Delaney est nommé chef de la Division de toponymie et c'est à ce titre qu'il devient secrétaire exécutif du CPCNG. Il a pris sa retraite en 1973 et vit depuis à Ottawa.

Alan Rayburn (1932 -)
Executive Secretary / Secrétaire exécutif, 1973-1987

A native of Brampton, Ontario, John Alan Rayburn was raised near Orangeville, Ontario. In 1956 he received a B.A. (history and geography) from the University of Western Ontario, and the following year completed an M.A. at the University of Kentucky. In 1971-1972, he finished the course work for a doctorate in place name study at Université Laval. Mr. Rayburn joined the Toponymy Division of the Geographical Branch in 1964, and became the Chief of the Division and Executive Secretary of the CPCGN in December 1973. Among his publications are *Geographical Names of Renfrew County* (1967, 1989), *Geographical Names of Prince Edward Island* (1973), and *Geographical Names of New Brunswick* (1975). Between 1983 and 1996, he published 75 articles on place names in the *Canadian Geographic* magazine. Since leaving the public service in 1987, he has written *Naming Canada* (1994), *Place Names of Ontario* (1997), and *Dictionary of Canadian Place Names* (1997).

Natif de Brampton (Ontario), John Alan Rayburn a grandi près d'Orangeville (Ontario). En 1956, il a reçu un baccalauréat (histoire et géographie) de l'université Western Ontario et l'année suivante, il a terminé une maîtrise à l'université du Kentucky. En 1971-1972, il a achevé des travaux menant à un doctorat sur la toponymie à l'Université Laval. M. Rayburn s'est joint la Division de toponymie de la Direction de géographie en 1964 et y a occupé les fonctions de chef de la division et de secrétaire exécutif du CPCNG en décembre 1973. Parmi les titres qu'il a publiés figurent : *Geographical Names of Renfrew County* (1967, 1989), *Geographical Names of Prince Edward Island* (1973) et *Geographical Names of New Brunswick* (1975). Entre 1983 et 1996, il a publié 75 articles sur les toponymes dans la revue *Canadian Geographic*. Depuis qu'il a quitté la fonction publique en 1987, il a publié *Naming Canada* (1994), *Place Names of Ontario* (1997) et *Dictionary of Canadian Place Names* (1997).

Helen Kerfoot (1938 -)
Executive Secretary / Secrétaire exécutive, 1987 -

Born in 1938, in Purley, England, Helen (Mackenzie) Kerfoot graduated with a B.Sc. from the University of London. She came to Canada in 1961, taught school in Vancouver and St. Catharines, and undertook environmental studies in the North before joining the Geological Survey in 1972. In 1976, she accepted a position in the CPCGN's Secretariat and became Executive Secretary of the CPCGN late in 1987. She has placed strong emphasis on building the Canadian Geographical Names Data Base and disseminating toponymic information through the World Wide Web. She has managed the production of provincial volumes of the *Gazetteer of Canada* series, and the first *Concise Gazetteer of Canada* (1997). Ms. Kerfoot has continued *Canoma*, and promoted CPCGN work with Aboriginal toponyms. She has served as the Vice Chair of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names since 1991. Ms. Kerfoot served on the Board of Managers of the American Name Society, 1990-1992 and 1996-1998, and has been President of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names since 1994.

Helen (Mackenzie) Kerfoot est née en 1938 à Purley, en Angleterre; elle a obtenu un baccalauréat en sciences de l'université de London. Elle est arrivée au Canada en 1961 et a enseigné à Vancouver et à St. Catharines avant de se joindre à l'équipe de la Commission géologique du Canada en 1972. En 1976, elle a accepté un poste au Secrétariat du CPCNG et est devenue secrétaire exécutive du CPCNG vers la fin de 1987. Elle a accordé beaucoup d'importance à l'automatisation complète de la base de données des noms géographiques du Canada et à la diffusion de l'information toponymique par l'entremise du World Wide Web. Elle a dirigé la production de volumes provinciaux de la série *Répertoire géographique du Canada* et du premier *Répertoire toponymique concis du Canada* (1997). Elle a continué la publication de *Canoma* et a favorisé la toponymie autochtone au sein des travaux du CPCNG. Mme Kerfoot a occupé le poste de vice-présidente du Groupe d'experts des Nations Unies sur les noms géographiques depuis 1991. Elle a occupé un poste au sein du conseil de gestion de l'American Name Society de 1990 à 1992 et de 1996 à 1998; elle est aussi présidente de la Société canadienne d'onomastique depuis 1994.

Endnote / Note

1. Alan Rayburn, writer / écrivain, Nepean, Ontario.

Fig. 1. **Signatures of the Chairs and Secretaries / Signatures des présidents et secrétaires**

Geographical names and members of the national names authority

Kathleen O'Brien[1]

Abstract: *Members of the national names authority have been commemorated by having geographical features in Canada named after them. The article is about names that have been found; others may turn up after further research.*

Résumé : *Des membres de l'autorité toponymique nationale ont été honorés; des entités géographiques du Canada portent leurs noms. Cet article couvre ceux qui ont été retrouvés, mais d'autres peuvent apparaître avec une recherche plus approfondie.*

Part one

Part one of this article will look at the geographical features named after members of the national naming authority, under all three of its names, starting with the provincial and territorial members, followed by the federal members. A second part will look at geographical features named after advisory committees and their members and end with a look at geographical features named after family members.

Not all of the geographical features named after the members of the national names authority have been found. There are many which may not have come to light because the information was not recorded when the name was approved, because the surname is common, or because another part of the member's name was used for the commemoration. Should anyone have any additional names for this inventory, I would be pleased to hear about them. Likewise, should anyone have information on titles, dates of service, and the like, it would also be appreciated.

Shortly after the Geographic Board of Canada (GBC) was created in 1897, 16 'Rules of Nomenclature' were established. These Rules were revised from time to time over the years. On 3 July 1928, Major Aitken addressed the GBC on various aspects of nomenclature. One point he raised was that, " ... naming features after living persons should be avoided as much as possible ...." Members of the Geographic Board of Canada and its successors, the Canadian Board on Geographical Names and the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CPCGN), have followed this principle to a greater or lesser extent over the years, especially as it applies to commemorating members.

I. Provincial and territorial members of the national names authority

British Columbia

Geographical features have been named after British Columbia's first three representatives: William Fleet Robertson, Provincial Mineralogist; Major George Griffith Aitken, Chief Geographer; and William George Hourston Firth, Chief Geographer.

William Fleet Robertson was appointed in November 1900 as British Columbia's first representative on the Geographic Board of Canada which he served on until 1924. There are eighteen Robertson features on British Columbia's toponymic landscape; most of those honour other Robertsons, while the remainder do not say who they are named after. Robertson has been commemorated by **Fleet River** which flows southwest into the San Juan River in Malahat District.

Aitken is remembered by three names: **Aitken Creek** which flows into the Blueberry River in the Peace River District, **North Aitken Creek** which flows into Aitken Creek, and by **Aitken Islands** lying in the approach to Laredo Inlet. Aitken Creek and Aitken Islands were named directly after G.G. Aitken, while North Aitken Creek was named later, in association with Aitken Creek. The names were adopted in 1945, 1955, and 1927, respectively. George Griffith Aitken was British Columbia's second representative on the GBC for more than twenty years, with a break of just over three years during WWII. Aitken, who was born in Scotland, was a Major in the Canadian Militia. He attained the rank of Lt. Col. one year after joining the Canadian Forces during World War II.
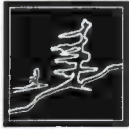
On retiring from the army in 1943, his rank reverted to his reserve force status of Major. Aitken retired from the civil service in 1945 and died in 1955.

Three names in the Cariboo District commemorate W.G.H. Firth, British Columbia's third representative: *Firth* (Station) now rescinded; **Firth Creek**, flowing into the Parsnip River and **Firth Lake** lying east of the south end of McLeod Lake. Firth retired in 1950. The station, creek, and lake names were all adopted on the same day in 1962.

Alberta

Alberta has been represented on the national names authority since 1914. So far, the only member of the national names authority to be commemorated is the sixth representative, the Hon. George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture. Hoadley was appointed Minister of Agriculture in 1921. **Hoadley** is a hamlet southwest of Pigeon Lake in Alberta. The hamlet name was adopted in 1928.

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan has been represented on the GBC since 1900 when it was part of the Northwest Territories. The first two representatives, Col. John Stoughton Dennis, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, Regina, and B.J. Saunders, DLS, are discussed under Section IV and Section III, respectively. No features named for the six subsequent members have been found. However, the next three gentlemen representing Saskatchewan have each been commemorated by one feature.

Doake Island honours Percy W. Doake, a former Deputy Minister of Natural Resources. The island was named in 1964 almost exactly twenty years after he represented Saskatchewan on the GBC. Doake was the ninth representative; appointed in March 1944 and replaced by December 1944.

Donald Alpine Smith, DLS, worked on a railway survey in Saskatchewan in 1903. He was the province's Controller of Surveys from 1940 to 1946 and the 10th representative on the GBC. Smith served from December 1944 to 1946 when he was replaced by A.I. Bereskin. Smith has been commemorated by **Alpine Bay** in Jerrold Lake. The name was adopted in 1964.

Abraham Bereskin, the 11th Saskatchewan member followed Donald A. Smith as Controller of Surveys. He has been remembered by **Bereskin Island** in Lac la Ronge, which was adopted in April 1968, shortly before he retired. Bereskin died in February 1997 in Toronto.

Manitoba

So far, only two toponyms have been found named after Manitoba's members on the national names authority. **Gauer Lake**, east of Southern Indian Lake, and **Gauer River** which flows through the lake on its way to Missinipi Lake, an expansion of the Churchill River, were both named after Mr. Edward Gauer, Director of Surveys. The lake name was adopted in 1944 while the river name was adopted in 1949. Gauer was Manitoba's fourth representative, being appointed in 1960. Gauer was the surveyor in charge of the survey of the 23rd base line. He retired in 1970.

Ontario

Ontario did not begin to participate on the GBC until 1902. Since then, it has had eight members but only the first two members - Aubrey White and Louis V. Rorke - appear to have been commemorated by geographical names in Ontario.

Aubrey White served as a member of the Royal Commission which recommended the establishment of Algonquin Park, organized the provincial fire ranging service, and served as Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, Assistant Commissioner of Forest Resources, and Deputy Minister of Lands and Forest.[5] His toponymic namesakes are: **Aubrey** (Geographic Township), **Aubrey Lake**, and **Aubrey Creek** in Kenora District; **Aubrey Lake, Aubrey Falls** on Mississagi River, and **Aubrey Falls Provincial Park** in Algoma District; **Aubrey Lake** and **White Lake** in Haliburton County; and **White** (Geographic Township) in Nipissing District. He died around 1914. The two township names were supplied by Louis V. Rorke to the Board Secretary around 1916. The remaining names were all approved long after that.

Louis Valentine Rorke was Director of Surveys. Appointed to the GBC in 1916, he served until June 1935. One of his tasks was to name the geographic townships being surveyed each year. He named the Geographic Townships of **Valentine** (in Cochrane District) and **Rorke** (in Timiskaming District) after himself around 1916 (when he supplied these names to the GBC's Secretary). **Rorke Lake** in Bronson (Geographic) Township, Nipissing District, was named by the township's

surveyor in 1888 after L.V. Rorke when he was a student surveyor, but the name only received official approval in 1957. Another **Rorke Lake**, lying on the Ontario-Manitoba boundary, in the Patricia Portion of Kenora District was adopted in 1936, the year after Rorke retired.

Quebec

Quebec has been served by seven members over the years. The first member was appointed in 1907. Quebec withdrew from the GBC when the Geographic Board of Quebec was established in 1912. From then until 1961, geographical names information from Quebec came through the Secretary of the Quebec naming authority. Since 1961, Quebec has once again been represented on the CPCGN.

Two geographical features were named after Eugène Rouillard, Quebec's first representative, but only one remains today. Both features were called **Lac Rouillard**; the more southerly one, approved in 1948, has been renamed Lac Clair, while the northern one, approved in 1968, has retained its name. Mr. Rouillard, who served as Inspector of Crown Lands (1894 - 1926) and also as Président of the Commission de géographie de Québec, died in 1926.

New Brunswick

New Brunswick's first representative on the national names authority was appointed in 1900. Ten more have succeeded him. New Brunswick's representatives typify the mixture of areas that CPCGN members represent - from culture to surveying. Two features have been named after this province's representatives.

J.G. Blaine Pugh was Director of Surveys. *Pugh's Peak* had been approved in 1966 but was changed to **Pughs Peak** in 1969. The peak is found in Bright and Douglas Parishes in York County. Pugh, who was an honorary NBLS, served on the GBC from 1946 to 1948 and on the CBGN from 1948 to 1957.

Arthur F. Wightman, Director of the Photogrammetry Branch, was the man responsible for naming mountains in New Brunswick after the reindeer in the poem *The Night Before Christmas*. He is remembered far away in Manitoba by **Wightman Point**, on the east shore of Playgreen Lake.

Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia took up the invitation to participate in the GBC's activities in February 1900. No geographical features have been named after Nova Scotia's representatives.

Prince Edward Island

Another province to begin its toponymic activities early was Prince Edward Island. The members have mainly been politicians, including the Premier and Lt.-Governor of the time. However, the only member to be honoured toponymically, appears to be the province's 12th member, B. Graham Rogers, Director of Transportation. The other members have names which are more common and, therefore, difficult to research, e.g., MacMillan, Stewart, McKinnon, etc.

Graham Rogers Lake is a lake that was formed by a causeway over the North River in the Charlottetown area. Rogers was appointed as a member of the CPCGN in 1964 but died in the spring of 1968. In October of that year, the Prince Edward Island Lt. Governor proclaimed the lake's name. This name was confirmed by the CPCGN in November 1968.

Newfoundland

Newfoundland's first representative was appointed in 1953, four years after joining into confederation with Canada. Since that time, there have been nine representatives on the national names authority. No toponym in Newfoundland bears the name of any of these representatives.

Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory

Until 1984, the Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory were represented on the national naming authority by federal government employees from a department having jurisdiction over northern affairs, such as the Department of the Interior. There have been eight such representatives for both jurisdictions. In 1984, authority over names within their jurisdictions was given to the Yukon and Northwest Territories. Since then, both territories have each had two representatives.

II. Federal members of the national names authority

Only federal members of the national names authority who have been commemorated by a

toponym are discussed below. They are listed, as far as possible, by the agency for which they worked and in alphabetical order.

Department of Marine and Fisheries

Anderson Ledge in Lake Huron was named after Col. William P. Anderson who served as Chief Engineer in the Department of Marine and Fisheries. James White recorded this name in *Place Names of Georgian Bay and the North Channel* in 1913. However, the name only became official in 1948.

The first Chair of the GBC was Lt. Col. F.F. Gourdeau, Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries. He has been commemorated by three features: **Gourdeau Island** in Lake Superior, northeast of Thunder Bay; **Gourdeau Patch** in Georgian Bay; and by **Gourdeau Point** on Lowther Island in the Northwest Territories. He was appointed to the GBC in 1897, became Chair in 1898, and served until 1910.

W.J. Stewart's career has been described by David Gray in *Canoma* 14 (2). As Chief Hydrographer, Stewart was appointed to the GBC in 1915. He named two features after himself in the Great Lakes, where he spent much of his surveying life. **Stewart Rock** in Owen Channel, Manitoulin District, was adopted in 1948. **Stewart Island**, in Algoma District, was adopted four years later. **Stewart Patch**, in Ontario's Simcoe District, was probably named by Stewart after himself. **Stewart Point**, in Lake Winnipeg, may have been named by staff after W.J. Stewart.

Canadian Hydrographic Service

Robert James Fraser (1887 - 1965) worked for the Hydrographic Survey from 1907 to 1952; the last four years as Dominion Hydrographer. He served as a member of the GBC and CBGN from 1947 until 1952. Fraser died in March 1965. **Fraser Point** on St. Ignace Island in Thunder Bay District, Ontario, was named after him in 1954. **Fraser Island**, northwest of Nottingham Island in the Northwest Territories, was named in his honour, in October 1965.

Gray Point on Black Island in Lake Winnipeg honours Norman Gerald Gray. The feature was named in 1949. Gray became Dominion Hydrographer in 1957 and was appointed a member of the CBGN that same year.

Geological Survey of Canada (Department of Mines)

For a name like Bell, it is often hard to distinguish the features named after bells or resembling bells from people named Bell. So far, two features named after Dr. Robert Bell have come to light; there may be more. Bell was Chief Geologist and also served as Assistant Director of the Geological Survey from 1901 to 1906. **Rivière Bell** which flows north into Lac Matagami, just north of Matagami, Quebec, was explored by Dr. Bell in 1896. The name appears in reports on geographical names in Quebec published in 1916 and 1921. In 1939, it was approved as *Bell River*, but was changed to its present form in 1968. **Bell Cove**, also named after Robert Bell, is on the north shore of Great La Cloche Lake in Ontario's Manitoulin District.

Perhaps the most recent feature to be given the name of a CPCGN member is **Mount Bostock**, lying south of Red Mountain on the Stewart Plateau, in the Yukon. Dr. Hugh Bostock (1901 - 1994) worked for the GSC beginning in 1924. He spent more than twenty years mapping and surveying the geology of the Yukon. Bostock was appointed to the CBGN in 1953. He was also the author of *Pack Horse Tracks - recollections of a geologists [sic] life in British Columbia and the Yukon, 1924 - 1954* which he wrote about his life's work.

Dr. Clive E. Cairnes worked for GSC from 1922 to 1953; from 1943 to 1953 he was Technical Editor. Cairnes was appointed as a member of the CBGN in 1950. During the summers of 1951 and 1952, he held the position of Acting Chair. Dr. Cairnes retired in 1953. Two creeks in areas where he worked in British Columbia are named **Cairnes Creek** after him. One creek is on Graham Island in the Queen Charlotte District; the other is in the Lillooet District.

Dickison Lake may be named after Alexander Dickison who joined the GSC in 1905 and eventually became a Chair of the GBC. The lake was named Dickison Lake on GSC's map 964, 1911 edition. However, official approval was not given to the lake name until 1950, five years after Dickison had retired. (See "The Draughting Room" in this issue of *Canoma* for some interesting perspectives on Dickison.)

Five geographical names commemorate Dr. Donaldson Bogart Dowling (1858 - 1925). He worked for the GSC as temporary staff from 1885

to 1895; from 1895 to 1925 he served on a permanent basis. While he was a student, Dowling worked as an assistant to J.B. Tyrrell, who named **Dowling Lake** and **Dowling** (Ry. Pt.) south of Sullivan Lake in Alberta after him. Dowling was appointed as a member of the GBC in 1900 and served, it appears, until his death in 1925. **Dowling Lake** (Locality), south of Endiang, and **Mount Bogart**, north of the Kananaskis Range, both in Alberta, may have been named before 1928 when they were approved in *Place Names of Alberta*. British Columbia's GBC member, G.G. Aitken, proposed in 1943 that **Dowling Creek**, flowing into Gething Creek in the Peace River District, be named after Dowling.

Anthropologist Diamond Jenness was appointed as an Advisor to the GBC on Indian and Eskimo names in 1933. Three features in Northern Canada bear the name of this famous anthropologist: **Diamond Jenness Peninsula** on Victoria Island, **Jenness Island** west of Borden Island, and **Jenness River** which flows into Parry Bay. For further details of his career, see "The Canadian Arctic Expedition, 1913 - 1918" in this issue of *Canoma*.

Clovis Omer Senécal was appointed to the GBC in 1900 and served until about 1930. He served as Chief Draftsman of GSC from 1899 to 1931. **Mount Senecal**, named by J. Elzéar Bernier after Senécal in 1907, is on the Brodeur Peninsula of Baffin Island.

Department of Mines and Technical Surveys

Maxwell George Cameron, DLS, was an assistant on a survey in 1922 when B.W. Waugh proposed naming **Cameron Hills** after him. The hills lie across the Alberta-Northwest Territories boundary. However, it was more than twenty years later that the name was officially adopted (1944 in Alberta and 1945 in NWT). **Cameron River**, in the NWT's Mackenzie District, flows north into Tathlina Lake. This name, also proposed by Waugh, received official recognition in 1923. **Cameron Island** lies north of Île Vanier in Franklin District, NWT. This name was approved in 1952. The Locality of **Cameron Hills**, in the vicinity of the hills of the same name, was adopted in 1964 and likely took its name from the hills. M.G. Cameron was Chief Cartographer of the department's Surveys and Mapping Branch from 1948 to 1951. He died in October 1951.

Department of Mines and Resources

Kenneth Gordon Chipman started out with the GSC and worked with them as a Topographer on a temporary basis from 1908 to 1910 and on a permanent basis from 1910 to 1936, but he then transferred to Topographical Surveys Branch in the Department of Mines and Resources. Chipman served as the topographer on the Anderson expedition of 1916 (See the article by Stuart Jenness elsewhere in this issue of *Canoma*). **Chipman Point** on Chantry Island in the NWT was proposed in his honour by the Hydrographic Service in 1959 and approved in 1960. **Chipman Portage** and **Chipman Lake** are in Saskatchewan. The portage is between Square Lake and Black Lake; the lake lies to the northeast of the portage. Both names were originally adopted in 1935. The extent of the lake was made smaller in 1962.

Athos Maxwell Narraway, DLS, was Controller of Surveys for the Department of Mines and Resources. He died in May 1974. **Narraway River**, in Alberta and British Columbia, which flows northeast into the Wapiti River, was approved before 1924. It appeared in both the *18th Report*, 1924, and *Place Names of Alberta*, 1928.

As a young man, Noel J. Ogilvie, DLS, worked for the International Boundary Commission (IBC) from 1905 to 1914. He served as Dominion Geodesist from 1922 to 1947 and as the IBC Commissioner from 1931 to 1947. He became a member of the GBC in 1931. **Noel Peak**, west of Mussell Peak and northwest of Mount Ratz in British Columbia's Cassiar District, was named after Ogilvie before 1924 and appeared in the *18th Report*, 1924.

Frederic Hatheway Peters, Surveyor General and Chief of the Hydrographic Service, has been commemorated by five geographical features bearing his name. The features are: **Point Peters** in the Franklin District of the Northwest Territories, **Lac Peters** in Quebec, **Peters Creek**, and **Mount Peters** in Alberta and **Peters Lake** in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Peters was appointed to the GBC 1924 and retired in 1948. Point Peters was the only feature named for him after he retired. For details on these features and his career, see *Canoma* 4 (2).

Young Inlet, south of Killiniq Island in the NWT, honours Dr. G.A. Young, who was Chief Geologist from 1924 to 1943. Like many others, he worked for the GSC on a temporary basis before signing on full-time in 1905. He was appointed as a

member of the GBC in 1925. Young retired in 1943. The inlet name was adopted in 1951.

Department of the Interior

John Davidson Craig (1875 - 1936), DLS, was Director General of Surveys from 1924 to 1931. He served two stints with the International Boundary Commission (1905 to 1908 and 1920) before becoming International Boundary Commissioner from 1925 to 1931. Craig was appointed as a GBC member in 1925. **Mount Craig** in the Yukon's Kluane National Park Reserve lies south of Ice Fall Peak. The feature was named in 1916 but was not approved until 1921. On Ellesmere Island, NWT, is **Craig Harbour** (Locality). This name was adopted in 1962.

Surveyor General of Dominion Lands Édouard-Gaston-Daniel Deville was appointed to the Geographic Board of Canada in 1897. The features bearing his name are: **Deville** (Canton) and **Lac Deville** in Quebec; **Deville** (Locality) in Alberta; **Deville Glacier, Deville Névé,** and **Mount Deville** in British Columbia; **Deville Lake** in the Northwest Territories; and **Mount Deville** in the Yukon. (Details of the features named after him and of his career can be found in *Canoma* 4 (2).)

Finnie Bay, just west of Foxe Peninsula on Baffin Island in Northwest Territories, was proposed by J. Dewey Soper after Oswald S. Finnie, Director of the North West Territories and Yukon Branch of the Department of the Interior (1922 - 1931) in 1930. **Finnie River** flowing north into the Thelon River in the Northwest Territories was also named after this man. Finnie was appointed to the GBC in 1923 and served as Acting Chair in June 1931.

James White (1863 - 1928) has been commemorated by **Mount White** in the Bare Range of Alberta. White was appointed a member of the GBC in 1897 and served until 1928. During that time, he worked for the GSC as Chief Geographer, the Department of the Interior as Geographer, the Commission of Conservation as Secretary, and Technical Advisor to the Minister of Justice. David Gray, in "Geographical naming practices of W.J. Stewart", *Canoma* 14 (2), indicates that **White Island** in Algoma District may have been named after White.

The surveyor of the 11th Baseline, Bryce J. Saunders, has been commemorated by three geographical names in Alberta. The Locality of **Saunders**, west of Rocky Mountain House, and **Saunders Creek,** flowing southeast into the North Saskatchewan River, are still official names. The post office of *Saunders West* was only open for slightly more than five years before it closed in 1929. All three names are in Alberta and were originally adopted in 1928.

Bureau of Translation

Pierre Daviault was the Director of the Bureau of Translation from 1955 to 1964. He has been commemorated in Quebec by **Lac Daviault,** which curves east and south around Fermont beside the boundary with Labrador. He was appointed to the CPCGN in 1961 and died in 1964. The lake name was approved in May 1967. (*Canoma* 10 (1) reprinted an article by Daviault, originally published in 1948 in another journal. The introduction to that article, written by Laurent Fillion, is a brief biography of Daviault.)

Northern Affairs and National Resources / DIAND

L.A.C.O. Hunt was Chief, Information and Liaison, Advisory Committee on Northern Development, DINA, and Secretary, National Advisory Committee on Northern Development; not necessarily in that order. He served as a member of the CPCGN before 1974 when Alex Stevenson took over that position. During his time on the CPCGN, Hunt represented the NWT, the Yukon, Indian Reserves, and Parks Canada - all at the same time. **Mount Hunt** in the Nahanni Range in the NWT's Mackenzie District was named after him.

Graham W. Rowley, MBE, was a member of the British Canadian Arctic Expedition which crossed Baffin Island by way of the **Rowley River** in 1939; the name was adopted in 1946. Rowley was the first white man to visit or pass nearby Rowley Island in the Northwest Territories. The name was proposed by T.H. Manning in 1941, but was not adopted until 1946. Rowley became a member of the CBGN in 1953.

Stevenson Island honours Alex Stevenson, who had a long association with the Canadian Arctic. The Pond Inlet Hamlet Council recommended that this feature be named in recognition of Mr. Stevenson's contributions to the development of the North and his representation of its people. Stevenson was appointed as a CPCGN member in 1974 and served until 1978. He was also a member of the Advisory Committee on

Glaciological and Alpine Nomenclature (ACGAN).

To be continued in Part two in a future edition of *Canoma*.

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Endnote

1. Kathleen O'Brien, CPCGN Secretariat, Ottawa.

Some meetings concerning names / Quelques réunions sur les noms

	1997	
Western States Geographic Names Conference	23-27 Sept.	Flagstaff, Arizona
American Name Society	27-30 Dec.	Toronto, Ontario
	1998	
Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names / Septième conférence des Nations Unies sur la normalisation des noms géographiques	13-22 Jan./janv.	New York, New York
Canadian Society for the Study of Names / Société canadienne d'onomastique	29-30 May/mai	Ottawa, Ontario
Western States Geographic Names Conference	8-12 Sept./sept.	Cody, Wyoming
Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names / Comité permanent canadien des noms géographiques	15-19 Sept./sept.	Regina, Saskatchewan

Walter Halcro Boyd

W.H.C. Boyd[1]

Abstract: *This article, written by his son, describes some of the non-toponymic experiences of W.H. Boyd, one of the GBC'S longest-serving members.*

Résumé : *Cet article, écrit par son fils, décrit quelques-unes des expériences non toponymiques de W. H. Boyd, un des membres qui a servi le plus longtemps la CGC.*

Walter Halcro Boyd, the longest serving member of what is now the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, was born in Toronto on 31 January 1878, the seventh son of twelve children of John A. Boyd, Q.C., later Sir John, Chancellor of Ontario and President of the High Court.

Boyd attended Upper Canada College not long after its move to its present site. Family history has it that it was here he acquired the nickname "Bill". One year, at the end of the school term, the class master was compiling a list of the boys' full names. When it came to Boyd's turn he responded "Walter Halcro Boyd". The master, who had assumed the "W" stood for William and had called the boy "Willie" throughout the term, was furious and gave him a licking. The master, whose sense of humour apparently was not equal to the occasion despite the reputation he subsequently acquired as a humorist, was Stephen Leacock. The nickname stuck, and Boyd, who had a tremendous sense of humour himself, was "Bill" to his family and friends.

Upper Canada was followed by the University of Toronto where he played centre halfback on the football team. They won the Canadian Intercollege Rugby Football Union championship in 1898. Boyd graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Applied Science the following year.

His first job was an office one with, the writer believes, the Iron Ore Company, but he found the indoor life not to his liking and on 1 May 1900 joined the Department of the Interior in Ottawa as a topographer with the Geological Survey. One month later he found himself in Vancouver, B.C., boarding a steamer bound for Skagway, Alaska. The vessel's deck was crowded with sheep and crates while in the saloon, a party, for a theatrical troupe heading for Dawson, was in progress with a brass band and much drinking and hilarity. Boyd shared a stateroom with two others: his boss, J.C. Gwillim, a Departmental geologist, and a bartender

going to Dawson. When they got to Skagway, the notorious outlaw, Soapy Smith, was said to be in the vicinity. They travelled from Skagway to Bennett and thence by boat to their destination, Atlin in the northwest corner of British Columbia. They arrived in early June and put up in the town's canvas hotel for the first few days.

Their survey in the Atlin gold mining district involved methods somewhat different from those of today. There were many mornings when Boyd the topographer set off up a mountain and Gwillim, who had done a reconnaissance survey in the district the preceding year, headed off in another direction. At about four in the afternoon, the cook/packer lit a smudge fire to direct them back to camp - obviously an essential procedure, especially if he had been instructed to move camp during the day. This may have been the cook/packer who possessed a mighty temper: when sufficiently provoked he would hurl his hat on the ground and invite God to come down and fight. So far as is known the challenge was never accepted.

The two surveyors left Atlin in early October. The football season was nearly over but Boyd got back to the capital in time to play in the Ottawa Rough Riders' game against McGill late in the month and in the Riders' two November games when they defeated the Toronto Argonauts for the Ontario Rugby Football Union (ORFU) championship and finished the season with a win over Brockville for the Dominion championship.

The young topographer's rigorous introduction to surveying in mountainous country (which, according to Gwillim's report, he did in an "able manner") was followed the next year by a survey of part of the west coast of James Bay. The party travelled by Canadian Pacific Railway from Ottawa to Missanabie where they transferred to canoes and followed the old fur trade route down the Missinaibi and Moose Rivers arriving at Moose Factory on James Bay in mid-June. There they

rented a 40-foot sea-going mackinaw from the Hudson's Bay Company and sailed to Albany. Continuing up the coast they transferred to canoes at the mouth of the Ekwan River which they ascended for some 150 miles then turned north and reached Cape Lookout on the south shore of Hudson Bay by means of various rivers, lakes, and portages. Bad weather, flies, and having to track the canoes through many rapids made for heavy work during this inland round trip of some 540 miles. Excluding railway journeys, the 1901 season involved about 1 800 miles of travel, 1 400 by canoe and 400 by boat.

Survey work was great for physical fitness, but it did interfere with football because the ORFU schedule always began before Boyd got back to Ottawa. However, for four consecutive seasons he played as much as possible; helping his team win two Dominion championships (1900 and 1902).

For the next several years, his field work was in southern B.C. and southwestern Alberta - the Boundary Creek mining district, Lardeau, Rossland, Phoenix, Slocan, Deadwood mining camp, Blairmore, and Frank. The work in Frank, Alberta, followed upon the disastrous landslide in the spring of 1903 which killed more than sixty inhabitants of the coal mining town (the exact number was never known) and destroyed much property including more than a mile of the CPR's Crow's Nest line. Two governmental Commissions (1903 and 1911) investigated the calamity. Boyd assisted both and was in charge of the mapping of the area.

It is not possible within the confines of this article to give more details of his early seasons in the field but the above outline of the first two years will indicate the rugged nature of the work. He made some notes in later years which help to remind the writer of one or two anecdotes, such as the night in camp in the Lardeau area when he was awakened by a heavy weight on his chest. He opened his eyes and looked into those of a large porcupine. Boyd's tent-mate lit a candle and holding it very delicately in front of the animal's nose gradually backed him off without any damage being done. The survey parties met numerous prospectors when in the mining districts and there was one who deserved to be mentioned because of his disagreement with the surveyors' geological explanation of how the mountains were created. His theory was that when God had finished making the world He had a lot of material left over and not knowing what to do with it, dumped it "here". In the Blairmore area a miners' strike threatened to

give rise to violence. The survey party had become friendly with the single Royal North West Mounted Police officer charged with keeping the peace and when they asked him if he was concerned about the situation he replied no, he was getting reinforcements. Several days later they looked in at his office and asked whether the reinforcements had arrived. "Yes", the officer replied, pointing to a stalwart young man sitting in a corner of the room polishing his leather equipment, "he's over there." There was no violence.

Boyd's imaginative and inventive skills were evident in his Niagara Falls survey of 1927. This was conducted for the Special International Niagara Board which required a survey of the crest lines of the Horseshoe and American Falls in order to establish their exact location and the rate of recession of the Falls.

His study of earlier surveys disclosed inconsistencies which he concluded were due to the method employed. Those surveys had used instrumental intersection for determining points along the edge of the falls. Surveyors' instruments, such as the transit, were employed and photographs were taken to assist in identifying the points. The chief difficulty was the identification of a point on running water from at least three stations in turn because of the constantly changing appearance.

Boyd devised a new method in which surveying cameras were used to take photographs of the same portion of the falls simultaneously from three stations. Identification of points was then easy as the appearance of the crest lines was the same in each picture. Since the surveying camera recorded direction automatically in the picture another difficulty inherent in earlier surveys was overcome, namely the correct pointing of the instrument to the spot selected on the crest. The American Falls did not present the same difficulty as nearly all the rock crest could be clearly seen. As to determining the rate of recession, Boyd's method took into consideration the directions of the currents over different parts of the crest line, whereas previous methods either assumed one general direction of recession or adopted an area approach.

Boyd's paper entitled *A New Method of Determining the Rate of Recession of Niagara Falls* was presented before the Royal Society of Canada[2] and he was elected a Fellow in 1928. A vertical photograph of the Falls had been taken by

the Royal Canadian Air Force for purposes of comparison and in a later memoir, The Niagara Falls Survey of 1927,[3] Boyd described how the data given in the photograph had been plotted. The result was termed a tour de force by the *Empire Survey Review*, a British government publication.[4]

The topographical Division of the Geological Survey was first set up in 1908. Boyd, who was its first chief organized it. In 1936, when the Department of Mines and Resources was formed by the merger of four departments, his title became Chief Topographical Engineer, a position he held until his retirement. His thirty-one years of service on the Geographic Board of Canada began with his appointment in June of 1909. He became a member of the Executive Committee in 1924 and was Chairman of the Board from 1932 until retirement.

After forty years of government service, Boyd retired on 1 May 1940. The writer is not qualified to speak of the changes in surveying methods and techniques during those forty years, but the advent of aerial surveying was perhaps the most important advance and Boyd was involved with that from its outset.

His retirement was marked by a dinner given in his honour by his fellow members of the Survey. Included in the presentations was a handsome illuminated address which is now in the Public Archives. The Deputy Minister, Dr. Charles Camsell, a friend of long standing, said in his speech to the gathering: ... *Those who know Mr. Boyd's work best will say that he is the outstanding topographer in the Dominion of Canada. I go further and say that I do not know a better topographer in the world. In a vast and varied country such as ours, a topographer is bound to be faced with many problems of representation, but Mr. Boyd has never yet been stumped by any of these problems. I could give you many an illustration, but mention only the Fraser river delta and Niagara Falls surveys as instances in which (he) had to exercise both ingenuity and initiative.* Under the heading of "A Fine Career of Public

Service", the *Ottawa Citizen* spoke of "a life unselfishly devoted to the public service of the country." [5]

Boyd's marriage in November of 1908 to Marion Calvin of Kingston was the beginning of a happy alliance which lasted more than fifty years. Their Golden Wedding anniversary was celebrated in Toronto where they lived quietly after his retirement. Hopes of leisurely motor trips around Southern Ontario were dashed by the gasoline rationing of World War II and his eyes, strained from peering through countless surveying instruments, gave him pain and trouble. He used to enjoy golf with his cronies at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club but, sad to say, played very little in retirement. Faithful and long time members of First Baptist Church in Ottawa, Boyd and his wife continued their church affiliation in Toronto at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church.

Despite failing health in his latter years, he maintained his sense of humour and cheerful outlook till the end. A gentleman, generous father, fine sportsman and good companion, he died at home on 10 January 1960, leaving his widow, his daughter Margaret, and son Walter (the writer of this article).

Endnotes

1. Walter H.C. Boyd, son of W.H. Boyd, lives in Oakville, Ontario.

2. *Transactions of the Royal Society, Canada*, sect. IV, vol. XXII (1928).

3. Canada. Dept. of Mines: Geological Survey Memoir 164. The statement in *Men and Meridians*, Vol. II (Ottawa, 1967), p. 144 that Boyd's 1927 survey was by "vertical air photography" is misleading. The ground survey was paramount. Indeed his new method could only be done by means of ground stations.

4. (1931) 1 *Empire Survey Review* , p. 40.

5. *Ottawa Citizen*, 8 May 1940.

*C*elebrating
100
years

Geographical names and the Canadian Arctic Expedition, 1913-1918

Stuart E. Jenness[1]

Abstract: *Fifty geographical features in the Canadian Arctic were named to remember eleven scientists and fourteen non-scientists on the Canadian Arctic Expedition, 1913-1918.*

Résumé : *Cinquante entités géographiques de l'Arctique canadien ont été nommées en mémoire de onze scientifiques et de quatorze non-scientifiques qui ont participé à l'Expédition arctique canadienne (1913-1918).*

The names of geographical features in the Canadian Arctic were of little interest to me before Bill Taylor telephoned one day early in 1971. As the Director of the National Museum of Man (now the Canadian Museum of Civilization), he wanted the government authorities to name a significant geographical feature in the Arctic to honour my recently-deceased father. Two large peninsulas on Victoria Island had been suggested to him, and he wanted the Jenness family to choose one. We selected the one on the west side of that island, where the little settlement of Holman is located. The following April, Dr. Taylor presented a specially inscribed commemoration map showing the newly-named **Diamond Jenness Peninsula** to my mother during a brief ceremony in his office. That map is now proudly displayed in my home.

Thirteen years later, I undertook to edit my father's 1913-1916 Arctic diary for publication. During the several years I spent with his manuscript, I learned much about the Canadian Arctic Expedition (CAE) and spent many hours examining topographic maps, trying to trace his traverses around Coronation Gulf and on Victoria Island.

This focus on the maps of the central Arctic aroused my curiosity about the origin of many of the geographical names I saw around Coronation Gulf and its vicinity, a curiosity that, in turn, led me to undertake, in 1995, a genetic study of all names on the four-mile (1:250 000) topographic maps between Paulatuk and Cambridge Bay. After many days searching the map files and computerized data base of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CPCGN), I presented a copy of my resultant compilation on 701 geographical names to Ms. Helen Kerfoot, Executive Secretary, Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, in October 1995. I now have copies of my 1996 studies on the names on Banks, Victoria, and Stefansson islands completed in time for the CPCGN's Centennial in 1997.

As a small added project, I checked the CPCGN files and computer data base to see how well the members of the Canadian Arctic Expedition have been remembered in the North, at least toponymically, if not in fact. They have, it turns out, been rather well remembered.

Over the duration of the expedition, there were fourteen scientific personnel, including its leader, Vilhjalmur Stefansson, and about fifty non-scientific members. The CPCGN data base divulges that the names of eleven of the scientists and fourteen of the others have been given to geographical features in the North. Table 1 lists the names of the twenty-five men, the features named for them, and their geographical locations.

The three scientists who have been overlooked toponymically are: Dr. Alister Forbes Mackay, the expedition's medical doctor; James Murray, its oceanographer; and Dr. John J. O'Neill, one of its two geologists. Mackay and Murray both perished in 1914 following the sinking of the expedition's flagship, *Karluk*.

O'Neill, between 1914 and 1916, investigated the geology from Darnley Bay to Bathurst Inlet and the copper deposits in the latter locality. He later became a well-known Professor of Geology and then Vice-Principal at McGill University. In 1966, the Canadian Hydrographic Service proposed the name *Cape O'Neill* in his honour, for a promontory on the south coast of Victoria Island, but later withdrew their proposal. In 1995, I proposed the name *O'Neill Island* for one of the Stockport Islands on the west side of Bathurst Inlet, an island he examined for copper in 1915. NO decision had been reached by late 1997.
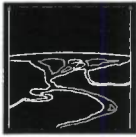
Fig. 1 The scientific staff of the Canadian Arctic Expedition at Nome, Alaska, 1913. Front row, left to right: A.F. MacKay, R.A. Bartlett, V. Stefansson, R.M. Anderson, J. Murray, F. Johansen. Back row, left to right: B. Mamen, B.M. McConnell, K.G. Chipman, G.H. Wilkins, G.S. Malloch, H. Beuchat, J.J. O'Neill, D. Jenness, J.R. Cox, and W.L. McKinley.
(Source: Earth Sciences Information Centre, Earth Sciences Sector, NRCan, GSC 27790)

Several of the CAE scientists, in turn, named a few of the coastal features around Coronation Gulf and Amundsen Gulf. Dr. Anderson named Bernard Harbour, Hornaday River, and Brock River all along the mainland coast northwest of Coronation Gulf, and Ikalulia Island in Bathurst Inlet. The two geographers, Chipman and Cox, named Agiak Headland, Napaaktoktok River, and Anialik River, all along the coast east of Kugluktuk (formerly Coppermine), Algak Island, and Iglorua Island in Bathurst Inlet. The anthropologist Jenness named the Asiak River, east of Kugluktuk, Kugaluk River, Singialuk Peninsula, and Naoyat Cliff on the southwestern coast of Victoria Island, and Ekailuk River near Cambridge Bay. He is also credited in the CPCGN data base with naming

Tahiryuak Lake north of Prince Albert Sound, Victoria Island, but that lake was actually named a few years earlier by Stefansson. Jenness did use the name Tahiryuak Lake in 1915 for a lake on the Wollaston Peninsula, but it is now identified as Quunnguq Lake. Stefansson named many geographical features farther north, including Thomsen River, Storkerson Bay, Castel Bay, and Sachs Harbour (the embayment, not the settlement) on Banks Island, and islands such as Brock Island, Borden Island, Meighen Island, and Jenness Island farther north.

The following list clearly demonstrates the important toponymic influence of the CAE, 1913-1918 in the Canadian Arctic.

Name	Geographical feature	Latitude - N	Longitude - W	Map sheet
Dr. R.M. Anderson (mammalogist)	Anderson Creek Anderson Headland	67°15' 66°22'	117°55' 71°12'	86N 26L
Henri Beuchat (anthropologist)	Beuchat Lake Cape Beuchat	70°03' 77°31'	127°18' 113°10'	97F 89D
Kenneth G. Chipman (geographer)	Chipman Point	68°47'	114°43'	87A
John R. Cox (geographer)	Cox Island Cox Lake	68°46' 67°54'	114°44' 116°35'	87A 86N

Name	Geographical feature	Latitude - N	Longitude - W	Map sheet
Diamond Jenness (anthropologist)	Jenness Island	78°17'	113°55'	89E
	Jenness River	67°48'	81°53'	46O
	Diamond Jenness Peninsula	71°00'	116°00'	78B
Fritz Johansen (naturalist)	Johansen Bay	68°34'	111°05'	77B
George S. Malloch (geologist)	Cape Malloch	78°46'	110°43'	79F
	Malloch Dome	78°12'	101°15'	69F
	Malloch River	78°07'	101°12'	69F
	Malloch Hill	70°01'	126°57'	97F
William Laird McKinlay (magnetician)	McKinlay Lake	70°25'	127°37'	97F
Bjarne Mamen (topographer)	Cape Mamen	77°37'	110°03'	97C
	Mamen Lake	70°30'	127°59'	97F
Viljhalmer Stefansson (explorer)	Stefansson Creek	68°49'	125°17'	97B
	Stefansson Island	73°20'	105°45'	78D
	Stefansson Lake	68°55'	124°59'	97B
	Stefansson Point	80°09'	99°39'	560B
George Hubert Wilkins (photographer)	Wilkins Bay	73°37'	124°10'	98C
	Wilkins Strait	78°10'	112°00'	89E
	Wilkins Point	68°47'40"	93°37'50"	57B
Ole Andreasen (sailor)	Cape Andreasen	77°21'	118°46'	89C
	Andreasen Head	70°48'	96°35'	67E
Robert Bartlett (captain, *Karluk*)	Bartlett Bay	79°10'	74°45'	39H
	Bartlett Point	68°56'	79°25'	37B
Peter Bernard (captain, *Mary Sachs*)	Bernard Island	73°36'	124°14'	98C
	Bernard River	73°34'	124°05'	98C
Aarnout Castel (sailor)	Castel Bay	74°12'	119°35'	88F
	Castel Butte	77°40'	111°23'	79C
John Hadley (sailor)	Hadley Bay	72°30'	108°12'	78B
Storker Storkerson (sailor)	Storkerson Bay	72°56'	124°50'	98B
	Storkerson Lake	72°49'	122°49'	98A
	Storkerson Peninsula	72°30'	108°30'	78A
	Storkerson River	72°56'	124°29'	98A
Billy Natkusiak (Inuk hunter)	Natkusiak Peninsula	72°45'	109°45'	78B
Martin Kilian (sailor)	Kilian Island	73°35'	107°53'	78D
	Kilian Lake	72°10'	111°35'	78B

Name	Geographical feature	Latitude - N	Longitude - W	Map sheet
E. Lorne Knight (sailor)	Knight Harbour	73°31'	115°18'	88D
James Asasela (Jim 'Fiji') (sailor)	Fiji Island Jim Fiji Harbour	70°10'30" 70°10'	125°03' 125°05'	97F 97F
Harold Noice (sailor)	Noice Peninsula Noice Point	78°25' 80°08'	104°00' 99°04'	79E 560B
August Masik (sailor)	Masik Pass Masik River	71°34' 71°32'	122°08' 123°48'	97H 97H
Daniel Sweeney (captain, *Alaska*)	Sweeney Island	68°46'	114°45'	87A
Charles Thomsen (sailor)	Thomsen River	74°08'	119°45'	87F

Endnote

1. Stuart E. Jenness, Arctic historian, Gloucester, Ontario.

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The draughting division [1]

H.S. Bostock[2]

Abstract: *Dr. H.S. Bostock, CBGN member 1954 - 1965, describes some encounters he had as a young geologist with Alexander Dickison, GBC member, 1930 - 1945.*

Résumé : *H. S. Bostock, membre du CCNG de 1954 à 1965, décrit quelques-unes des rencontres dont il a été témoin lorsqu'il était un jeune géologue avec Alexander Dickison, membre de la CGC, de 1930 à 1945.*

In exploratory geological work the maps are the graphical representation of the results of field, office and laboratory researches. They present in a form that can be readily grasped from single sheets of paper what would otherwise take hundreds of pages of print to describe in words. Reports may be needed to explain details but maps are by far the most valuable products of these studies. To make such maps was the prime purpose of my work.

Being convinced of the superiority of the use of maps and figures over words wherever possible led me from the beginning to a keen interest in all phases of the production of accurate, clear and artistic maps. Through this I learned how necessary it was to make manuscript maps and figures as close as it was feasible to the final printed product as I conceived it should be. The nearer the geologist can come to this the closer the draughtsmen and printers will come to his desire and the better the ultimate results will be for those who use the maps.

The Geological Survey is much indebted to the men of its Draughting Division who have turned out complex, multicoloured maps and figures with clarity of line and characters and artistic shades not surpassed anywhere. Throughout the years my own publications have benefited immeasurably from their skills applied with such pains to my manuscripts so that here a brief picture of the Division as I remember it in my first years is warranted.

Late in 1929 after Dr. Young had seen my thesis "The Geology and Ore deposits of the Nickel Plate Mountain" (*Sum. Rept. A*, 1929) he called me to his office and asked me to take the map and diagram to Mr. Alexander Dickison, Chief of the Draughting Division. He wished me to inquire if they could be printed in colour. The map was done on the huge sheet of linen-mounted, paragon drawing paper at least 6 x 8 feet referred to in 1926. The scale was 100 feet to the inch and many details were as small as a tenth of an inch wide. This large size had been necessary to allow the whole triangulation to be plotted on a single sheet. The area actually covered by geology was less than one-third of the length and breadth. The diagram showed the mine workings and tabular ore bodies lying on echelon over each other drawn on an isometric block grid on a sheet of tracing linen, 3 x 4 feet. Both were rolled up and I took them to Mr. Dickison and told him why Dr. Young had sent me. ....

Messrs. Alexander Dickison, Arthur Joannes, and Stanley G. Alexander were map craftsmen who came from Britain to the Draughting Division of the Survey then under Mr. C.O. Senécal, geographer and Chief Draughtsman before the first war, Mr. Dickison before 1910, the other two later. Joannes had been trained in the Royal Hydrographical Survey in Southampton and the other two in Bartholomew's Map and Atlas Company in Edinburgh. Mr. Dickison followed Mr. Senécal and was made Chief of the Draughting Division of the Survey and Joannes and Sandy Alexander became his right-hand men; subsequently they followed him in succession as Chief. ....

Mr. Dickison was generally to be found at his draughting table outside his office. Here he stood with his sleeves rolled up looking over some map or other that he was examining with a large hand lense [sic]. All the while he kept an eagle eye on his staff. He was a stern disciplinarian and suffered no waste of time. While in this he was a hard and meticulous taskmaster, the tremendous pride he had in the work of his division and the pains he took to train and instill industry and excellence into his craftsmen brought him their respect and admiration. Indeed, as years went by men trained by him were to be found in many of the choice positions open to their profession in both government and commercial organizations.

Mr. Dickison had a commanding presence. He was about six feet tall and of athletic build, with massive shoulders and arms. His long, bald head was typically Scotch [sic] in form, and his face

was strong with a sallow complexion. In his youth he had been a county rugby player and was proud of it. In addition he had a fine tenor voice.

But returning to this visit to Mr. Dickison, he unrolled my huge map on his draughting table and looked it over in silence for several minutes and then called, "Mr. Joannes". Joannes was at his table nearby and came promptly. He, in turn, looked over the map for some minutes and measured it. Mr. Dickison said "I think we can print that on 300 feet to the inch without losing the detail Mr. Joannes." Joannes agreed and showed me how large the printed map would be and how the detail would be kept clear. Mr. Dickison turned to me. "Will that suit you, Dr. Bostock?" I said it certainly would. Indeed I was delighted, as I had thought it could only be printed in a simplified form.

Fig. 1 Alexander Dickison (Source: Earth Sciences Information Centre, Earth Sciences Sector, NRCan, GSC 92981)

Mr. Dickison rolled up the map, unrolled the tracing of the diagram and looked it over for some time. Then he turned abruptly to me and asked, "And who did this?" I answered that I had drawn the figure. "But", he said at once, "you did not do the lettering?" "No", I said, "another geology student, named Rudolph at Wisconsin University did it for me." "I thought so", returned Mr. Dickison and after Joannes also had looked over the figure, Mr. Dickison said to him, "This needs no redraughting, Mr. Joannes. We can photograph it as it is." Joannes agreed. Then Mr. Dickison wrote a note to Dr. Young. When he wrote his pen seem to move at a snail's pace as he drew each individual letter of each word right to his signature beneath. When he had finished his note in his characteristic, clear script it was concisely worded and to the point. He turned to me again. "Tell Dr. Young we can print the map and the figure in colours." Then as I turned to go he said to Joannes, "At last, the geologists have produced a draughtsman." ....

Among my visits to Mr. Dickison was another that portrays how he ran the Draughting Division. He had some ink erasers that would remove india ink and leave the surface of the drawing paper almost as good as new. They were not available from anywhere else. When I took the manuscripts of my five Okanagan and Similkameen maps up to Mr. Dickison I submitted a single combined legend for them all as I wished to be sure that each formation would be shown in the same colour wherever it occurred throughout this group of maps. After looking over the manuscripts and legend for awhile he said, "Dr. Bostock, could you let me have separate legends for each of these maps. It would enable me to distribute them among my staff." Here was my chance to get a couple of his good ink erasers. I knew he was proud of being a Scot. I said, "Mr. Dickison, that is going to take me some time. Bostock is a Cheshire name but there is Scotch [sic] blood in me, as in you, it appreciates a bargain." He was looking at me intently. I went on, "You have some ink erasers that are better than I can get anywhere. I would like two." "Mister Dessaint", called Mr. Dickison in his strong, measured voice. Dessaint was his 'general secretary' and was sitting at his desk about halfway down the hall. He rose promptly from his work and came quickly. Mr. Dickison drew the keys of the vault from his pocket and handing them to him said, "Bring me two erasers, number XY, please." Dessaint went to the vault and returning gave the keys and erasers to Mr. Dickison, who handed the erasers to me saying, "Will that satisfy you, Dr. Bostock." "Thank you Mr. Dickison", I answered. "You shall have the legends just as soon as I can get them drawn." As I left and passed Joannes, he turned slightly towards me and gave me a wink with a bright twinkle in his eyes. .... A day or so later downstairs Joannes told me he did not think Mr. Dickison had ever let any of those erasers out of the Draughting Division before.

Endnotes

1. The full text of this article appears in Appendix III, "The Draughting Division", *Pack Horse Tracks - recollections of a geologists life in British Columbia and the Yukon, 1924-1954*, Geological Survey Open File 650, Ottawa, 1979 by H.S. Bostock. Permission to reproduce the above excerpts from a Natural Resources Canada publication was granted by the Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada, 1997.

2. H.S. Bostock, Geologist; CBGN member, 1954 - 1965.

Quatre-vingt cinq ans au service du patrimoine du Québec

Eighty-five years serving Quebec's heritage

Commission de toponymie du Québec[1]

Résumé : *Depuis 1912, la gestion des noms de lieux du Québec a été la préoccupation suivie d'un organisme de toponymie provincial intéressé aux inventaires, à la conservation et à la reconnaissance des toponymes québécois.*

Abstract: *Since 1912, the management of Quebec's place names has been the ongoing occupation of the provincial names board, through field work, and preservation and recognition of Quebec's toponyms.*

Excerpts from Commission de géographie - Commission de toponymie, 85 Years Serving Quebec's Heritage and Territory.

Extraits de Commission de géographie - Commission de toponymie, 85 ans au service du patrimoine et du territoire du Québec.

Commission de géographie

As far back as 1907, a Quebec representative, geographer Eugène Rouillard, secretary of Quebec's Department of Lands and Forests, was appointed to participate in the work of the Geographic Board of Canada. ... In 1912, a provincial names board, the Commission de géographie, was created to designate geographical features on unnamed territories, and to correct improper naming ...

The management of place names

As place names are indispensable reference points for all human activities, it was inevitable that the government would take responsibility for managing their accuracy and usage, at all levels of operation. Conscious of this necessity, a number of international authorities advocated the establishment of an agency with the mandate to draft the principles, standards and criteria for toponymic management. The United Nations Economic and Social Council, therefore, established in 1959 a Group of Experts on Geographical Names and organized five-year conferences, starting in 1967, to study all aspects of toponymic management, both national and international, and to draw up the necessary recommendations.

As part of the Canadian participation in the work of the Group of Experts and of the conferences, the Commission de toponymie du Québec has

Commission de géographie

On se rappellera que, dès 1907, un représentant québécois, le géographe Eugène Rouillard, secrétaire du Département des Terres et Forêts, était désigné pour participer aux travaux de la Commission de géographie du Canada. ... En 1912, fut instituée la «Commission géographique de la Province de Québec» pour dénommer les points géographiques des nouveaux territoires qui sont encore innommés, rectifier au besoin les appellations impropres ...

La gestion des noms de lieux

Comme les noms de lieux constituent des points de repères indispensables pour toutes les activités humaines, il était inévitable que l'Administration se charge d'en gérer la précision et l'usage et cela, à tous les niveaux d'intervention. Conscients de cette nécessité, plusieurs instances internationales ont préconisé l'institution d'un organisme chargé de formuler les principes, normes et critères pour la gestion toponymique. Le Conseil économique et social de l'Organisation des Nations Unies a donc institué en 1959, un Groupe d'experts sur les noms géographiques et organisé depuis 1967 des Conférences quinquennales pour étudier l'ensemble des aspects de la gestion toponymique, tant au niveau national qu'international, et formuler les recommandations qui s'imposent.

La Commission de toponymie du Québec, dans le cadre de la participation canadienne aux travaux

endorsed the resolutions of these advisory bodies and has reflected them in its practices. Accordingly, the *Guide toponymique* (1968, 1979, 1987, 1990), which constitutes the code of practice for toponymic management in Quebec, adopts in turn the main elements forming the basis for a toponymic management approach that takes into account both the technical aspects and the cultural dimension of toponymy.

The golden rule of toponymic management, in fact, is respect for usage, provided, however, that it does not conceal the risk of confusion which would divert toponymy from its primary objective, that is, to locate and orient correctly.

Several other rules support or qualify this basic principle, such as the principle of univocity (one place, one name), the rules for spelling in accordance with the requirements of the language, toponymic stability, the use of diacritics, and a number of others. All these rules, none of which is absolute, must be applied with flexibility and in accordance with a balance ensured by the structure of the Commission de toponymie, which consists of a highly specialized technical staff from the public service and an assembly of Commission members from various backgrounds of Quebec society.

A Commission de toponymie is established at the Office de la langue française

On August 26 [1977], with the sanction of the *Charter of the French Language*, the Commission de géographie was renamed the Commission de toponymie....

The change reflects the legislative intent to give Quebec an agency with a broadened mandate to manage the geographical nomenclature of its territory. The term toponymy, which is more encompassing than geography, indicates that the field of activity is not limited to geographical features, as the former name could unintentionally suggest, but includes all types of places, whether classified as point, linear or spatial, natural or constructed.

Policy and standards

The Commission de toponymie thought it advisable to adopt toponymic policies to ensure that its decisions were based on a philosophy consisting of principles which reflect Quebec's sociocultural environment. These principles fuel

du Groupe d'experts et des Conférences, a endossé les résolutions de ces organes consultatifs et les a traduites dans ses pratiques. Ainsi, le *Guide toponymique* (1968, 1979, 1987, 1990), qui constitue le code de pratique de la gestion toponymique au Québec, reprend-il à son compte les principaux éléments qui constituent la base d'une gestion toponymique qui tient compte des aspects techniques autant que de la dimension culturelle de la toponymie.

La règle d'or de la gestion toponymique est en effet le respect de l'usage, pour peu cependant que celui-ci ne recèle pas des risques de confusion qui détourneraient la toponymie de son objectif premier qui est de localiser et d'orienter correctement.

Plusieurs autres règles viennent appuyer ou pondérer ce principe de base, comme le principe d'univocité (un lieu, un nom), les règles d'écriture en conformité avec les exigences de la langue, la stabilité toponymique, l'usage de signes diacritiques et plusieurs autres. Toutes ces règles, dont aucune n'est absolue, doivent être appliquées avec souplesse et selon un équilibre que permet de garantir la structure de la Commission de toponymie, composée d'un personnel technique de la fonction publique, hautement spécialisé, et d'une assemblée de commissaires provenant de divers horizons de la société québécoise.

Une Commission de toponymie est instituée et rattachée à l'Office de la langue française

Le 26 août [1977], avec la sanction de la *Charte de la langue française*, la Commission de géographie est rebaptisée sous le nom de Commission de toponymie. ...

Le remplacement du nom correspond à la volonté du législateur de doter le Québec d'un organisme au mandat élargi pour gérer la nomenclature géographique de son territoire. Plus englobant que géographie, le terme toponymie indique que le domaine d'intervention ne se limite pas aux accidents géographiques, comme l'ancienne dénomination pouvait le laisser croire involontairement, mais qu'il vise tous les types de lieux, qu'ils soient de catégorie ponctuelle, linéaire ou spatiale, naturelle ou artificielle.

Les politiques et les normes

La Commission de toponymie a cru bon se doter de politiques toponymiques afin d'assurer à ses

the selection criteria and the spelling rules which it proposes to the government, as well as the geographical terminology of the toponymy which it has standardized or recommended in cooperation with the Office de la langue française. ... The Commission has, therefore, adopted five policies: the policy of standardization, the language policy, the terminology policy, the policy concerning Aboriginal names, and the policy on commemorative toponymic designation all of which were published in the *Guide toponymique du Québec* in 1987. These policies were reviewed, revised and confirmed in 1995....

Toponymic surveys

The Commission de géographie was interested in the toponymic surveys done by land surveyors, geographers, historians, forest engineers, and mining engineers who, in their work, crisscrossed Quebec. We read in the account by Eugène Rouillard in 1919 that a month-long cruise was organized along the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, between Betsiamites and Blanc-Sablon, and that a representative of the Department of Lands and Forests was to explore the rivers and lakes there. He had done as much himself in 1906 and 1911 on his many cruises in the same area, where he made precise notes of his geographical and toponymic observations. Several other researchers subsequently became interested in toponymy. We should mention, in passing, the surveys done in 1942 by Jacques Rousseau on Île aux Coudres, those in the 1960s by the geographers Ludger Beauregard and Camille Laverdière north of Montréal and in the Ottawa Valley, and finally those by the anthropologist Bernard Saladin d'Anglure and his collaborators among the Inuit of Northern Quebec. It was also during these same years that the toponymist Jean Poirier perfected his *Méthode d'enquête* (1965) which, from then on, was to structure the procedure for toponymic inventories.

Only in 1977, however, was a systematic programme of toponymic surveys established by the Commission de toponymie.

Preservation of place names

Since the early part of the century, the production of toponymic inventories has resulted in the collation of a large amount of data for several thousand toponyms. ... On each record, the effort was made at that time to record the administrative and toponymic facts which marked the life of a place name, as well as its spelling history, its

décisions un fondement philosophique constitué de principes qui reflètent le cadre socio-culturel du Québec. Ces principes alimentent les critères de choix et les règles d'écriture qu'elle a proposés au gouvernement, de même que la terminologie géographique de la toponymie qu'elle a normalisée ou recommandée en collaboration avec l'Office de la langue française. ... La Commission a donc adopté cinq politiques : la politique de normalisation, la politique linguistique, la politique terminologique, la politique relative aux noms autochtones et la politique de désignation toponymique commémorative, qu'elle a publiées dans le *Guide toponymique du Québec* dès 1987. Ces politiques ont été revues, retouchées et confirmées en 1995. ...

Les inventaires toponymiques

La Commission de géographie du Québec s'est intéressée aux relevés toponymiques effectués par les arpenteurs-géomètres, les géographes, les historiens, les ingénieurs forestiers et miniers qui, par le biais de leurs travaux, ont sillonné le Québec. Ainsi, peut-on lire à travers le récit d'Eugène Rouillard en 1919, qu'une croisière d'un mois avait été organisée sur la côte nord du golfe du Saint-Laurent, entre Betsiamites et Blanc-Sablon, et qu'un représentant du ministère des Terres et Forêts devait y explorer les rivières et les lacs. Lui-même n'en avait-il pas fait autant dans les années 1906 à 1911 lors de ses nombreuses croisières effectuées sur le même territoire où il note précisément ses observations géographiques et toponymiques. Plusieurs autres chercheurs s'intéresseront par la suite à la toponymie. Mentionnons au passage les relevés faits en 1942 par Jacques Rousseau à l'île aux Coudres; ceux des années 1960, par les géographes Ludger Beauregard et Camille Laverdière, dans le nord de Montréal et en Outaouais, et enfin par l'anthropologue Bernard Saladin d'Anglure et ses collaborateurs chez les Inuits du Nord-du-Québec. C'est aussi dans ces mêmes années que le toponymiste Jean Poirier mettait au point sa *Méthode d'enquête* (1965) qui, dès lors, allait encadrer la procédure d'inventaire toponymique.

Ce n'est qu'en 1977 toutefois qu'un programme systématique d'enquêtes toponymiques a été mis en place par la Commission de toponymie.

La conservation des noms de lieux

Depuis le début du siècle, la réalisation des inventaires toponymiques a permis de colliger une grande quantité de données pour plusieurs milliers

variants, its status, the date it appeared in a gazetteer or on a map, and so on. ... Later, it was decided that a computerized system would be developed to preserve, manage, and publicize toponymic information. In 1971, therefore, with the technical support of the data processing centre at Laval University, the Commission de géographie had its first STRATO automated file....

.... The early 1990s marked a new turning point in the computerized management of place names. TOPOS [Quebec's data base since 1986] was overhauled, increasing the efficiency of information processing and the user-friendliness of its operation. From then on, the Commission would manage its toponymic data base alone on a minicomputer. Moreover, all the stages involved in producing toponymic files submitted to Commission members became an integral part of the system. Today, TOPOS has more than 310 000 records.

Dissemination of information

• Gazetteers of Quebec

These products are the synthesis of decisions made by the Commission de géographie and the Commission de toponymie du Québec. Six gazetteers have been published since 1916. However, the first real index of Quebec toponymy, incorporating all of the agency's decisions, was not published until 1969 and included more than 45 000 place names. The most recent gazetteer *Répertoire toponymique du Québec* was published in the year of the Commission's 75th anniversary, 1987, and contains more than 107 000 official toponyms.

• An illustrated dictionary

In November 1994, the Commission de toponymie launched the illustrated dictionary *Noms et lieux du Québec*. This book is both an accurate
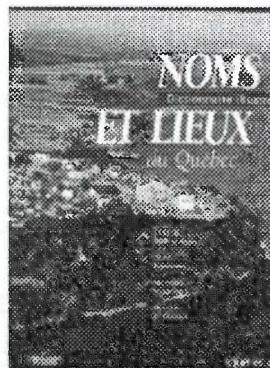
de toponymes. ... Sur chacune des fiches, on s'applique alors à y consigner les faits administratifs ou toponymiques qui marquent la vie d'un nom de lieu, comme son évolution graphique, ses variantes, son statut, la date de sa parution dans un répertoire ou sur une carte, etc. ... Plus tard, la décision fut prise de développer un système informatique pour conserver l'information toponymique, l'administrer et la diffuser. Dès 1971, avec le soutien technique du Centre de traitement de l'information de l'Université Laval, la Commission de géographie dispose donc de son premier fichier automatisé STRATO....

... Le début des années 1990 marquera un nouveau tournant dans la gestion informatisée des noms de lieux. TOPOS [base de données du Québec depuis 1986] subira une refonte qui aura pour effet d'accroître l'efficacité du traitement de l'information et la convivialité de son fonctionnement. Dorénavant, la Commission gérera seule sa banque de données toponymiques sur un mini-ordinateur. Par ailleurs, toutes les étapes de réalisation des dossiers toponymiques présentés aux membres de la Commission deviennent partie intégrante du système. Aujourd'hui, TOPOS compte plus de 310 000 enregistrements.

Diffusion de l'information

• Les répertoires toponymiques du Québec

Ces ouvrages constituent la synthèse des décisions prises par la Commission de géographie et la Commission de toponymie du Québec. Six répertoires ont été publiés depuis 1916. Toutefois, le premier véritable répertoire de la toponymie québécoise regroupant la totalité des décisions de l'organisme n'est publié qu'en 1969 et est constitué de plus de 45 000 noms de lieux. Au cours de l'année du 75e anniversaire de la Commission, soit en 1987, le plus récent *Répertoire toponymique du Québec* est publié, présentant plus de 107 000 toponymes officiels.

• Un dictionnaire illustré

En novembre 1994, la Commission de toponymie a lancé le dictionnaire illustré *Noms et lieux du Québec*. Ce volume est à la fois un outil de référence précis et un ouvrage de prestige. En un peu plus de 6 000 rubriques, 500 photographies et cartes couleurs, l'ouvrage grand format, de près de 1 000 pages, raconte l'histoire de plus de 20 000 toponymes. ... L'élaboration du *Dictionnaire* a demandé plus de dix années de recherche à une soixantaine de personnes sous la gouverne de la

reference tool and a prestigious work. In a little more than 6 000 entries and 500 photographs and colour maps, this coffee-table-sized volume of nearly 1 000 pages relates the history of more than 20 000 toponyms. ... Preparation of the dictionary required more than ten years of research for about 60 people under the Commission's guidance. ... It should be emphasized that the Commission has always considered research into and documentation of Quebec's toponymic heritage as one of the important activities related to its duties, and the production of a dictionary is one of the best ways of presenting and publicizing cultural heritage.

• **The** *Gazette officielle du Québec*

The Commission de toponymie publishes its decisions once a year in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*. This publication comprises two sections: the first gives the new official toponyms and odonyms and name changes, while the second provides the list of decisions withdrawing official approval. ...

• **Internet**

The Commission intends to publicize Quebec's place names itself on the Internet soon (while maintaining dissemination of its data through the federal site) and to eventually provide users of its web site with access to a broader spectrum of names and data on them ... names of thoroughfares and names not officially approved, and to provide additional information for each name found, such as the language of the name in question and the date it was officially approved, where applicable.

Commemorative toponymic designations

The toponymy and odonymy of an area contain reminders of milestone events and important dates in the history of a country, and evoke the memory of people who have influenced their environment or have been recognized by society for their qualities.

In 1987, the Commission adopted a policy for commemorative toponymic designation to ensure a degree of consistency in the choice of designations, and fair regional distribution and geographical diversity in the places chosen. This policy, which has been widely publicized in a leaflet, has enabled the Commission, in cooperation with the communities involved, to give toponymic recognition to more than 140 persons and to recall a number of events which have marked Quebec society.

Commission. ... Il faut souligner que la Commission a toujours considéré la recherche et la documentation du patrimoine toponymique du Québec comme une de ses activités importantes liées à ses devoirs, et la production d'un dictionnaire est l'un des meilleurs moyens de présenter et de faire connaître le patrimoine culturel.

• **La** *Gazette officielle du Québec*

La Commission de toponymie publie une fois par année ses décisions à *la Gazette officielle du Québec*. Cette publication est constituée de deux chapitres : le premier présentant les nouveaux toponymes et odonymes officiels et les changements de noms, et le deuxième fournissant la liste des décisions de désofficialisation. ...

• **Internet**

La Commission se propose de diffuser bientôt elle-même les noms de lieux du Québec sur Internet (tout en conservant la diffusion de ses données par l'intermédiaire du site fédéral) et d'assurer éventuellement aux usagers de son site web un accès à un plus large spectre de noms et d'informations sur ces derniers. ... Il est envisagé de permettre aux usagers d'effectuer notamment des recherches sur des noms de voies de communication, sur des noms qui ne sont pas officiels et de présenter, pour chaque nom retrouvé, un supplément d'information, comme la langue du nom en question et la date de son officialisation le cas échéant.

Les désignations toponymiques commémoratives

Le rappel d'événements marquants, de dates importantes dans l'histoire d'un pays, le souvenir de personnes qui ont influencé leur milieu ou dont la société a reconnu le mérite trouvent leur écho dans la toponymie et dans l'odonymie.

En 1987, la Commission se dotait d'une politique de désignation toponymique commémorative afin d'assurer une certaine cohérence dans le choix des désignations, une répartition régionale équitable et une diversité géographique des lieux choisis. Largement diffusée par le biais d'un dépliant, cette politique a permis à la Commission, de concert avec les milieux intéressés, d'assurer une reconnaissance toponymique à plus de 140 personnes et de rappeler plusieurs événements qui ont marqué la société québécoise.

Prospects for the management of toponymy in Quebec

In the short, medium, and even long term, as far as we can determine, continuation of the present basic activities involved in cataloguing, processing, officially approving, preserving and publicizing place names and monitoring their use seems inescapable, because the needs which dictate such activities will continue to be felt. ... The methods chosen to meet some of these needs, on the other hand, should undergo appreciable change. ... Through the dissemination of a greater amount of information on the information highway and the development of a network of discussion groups specializing in subjects relating to the management of toponymy, Quebec's toponymic activity should evolve in the medium term toward improved self-sufficiency for the users of place names, while preserving the essentials for toponymic standardization and for fulfilling the territorial and identity needs of Quebec.

Endnote

1 Commission de toponymie du Québec and others.

Les perspectives dans la gestion de la toponymie au Québec

À court, à moyen et même à long terme, le maintien des activités de base actuelles que sont l'inventaire des noms de lieux, leur traitement, leur officialisation, leur conservation, leur diffusion et le contrôle de leur utilisation apparaît incontournable, parce que les besoins qui président à leur exercice demeureront à combler. ... Les moyens choisis pour combler certains de ces besoins devraient connaître quant à eux une évolution notable. ... Par la diffusion d'un volume d'information accru grâce à l'autoroute de l'information et par le développement d'un réseau de groupes de discussion spécialisés dans des sujets qui se rapportent à la gestion de la toponymie, l'activité toponymique québécoise devrait donc évoluer à moyen terme vers une meilleure autonomie des utilisateurs des noms de lieux, tout en préservant les impératifs de la normalisation toponymique et des besoins territoriaux et identitaires du Québec.

Note

1 Commission de toponymie du Québec et autres.

Useful reference information / Renseignements utiles

Gazetteer of Canada Series / Série Répertoire géographique du Canada

Canada - concise / concis	1997			
Newfoundland / Terre-Neuve	1968	1983		
Nova Scotia / Nouvelle-Écosse	1961	1977	1993	
Prince Edward Island / Île-du-Prince-Édouard	1960	1973	1990	
New Brunswick / Nouveau-Brunswick	1956	1972	1994	
Ontario	1952 ("Southwestern Ontario")			
	1962	1974	1988	
Manitoba	1955	1968	1981	1994
Saskatchewan	1957	1969	1985	
Alberta	1958	1974	1988	
British Columbia / Colombie-Britannique	1953	1966	1985	
Northwest Territories / Territoires du Nord-Ouest	1971	1980		
"N.W.T. & Yukon"	1958			
Yukon Territory / Territoire du Yukon	1971	1976	1981	1988

Répertoire toponymique du Québec (* Répertoire géographique du Québec)

	1969*	1978	1987

Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names / Répertoire des noms d'entités sous-marines

	1983	1987

Célébrant le **100e** anniversaire

Ninety-two years of accomplishments and counting - Alberta's toponymic legacy

Merrily Aubrey [1]

Abstract: *Alberta looks at its naming activity over the last 92 years and then looks briefly to the future of geographical naming in the province.*

Résumé : *Alberta jette un coup d'oeil à ses activités toponymiques au cours des 92 dernières années et s'attarde brièvement au futur du programme de désignation toponymique de la province.*

The Centennial of official naming in the country gives us reason to reflect on our own toponymic histories. Although the formation of Alberta post-dated that of the Geographic Board of Canada by eight years, written record of the area and its names was about 150 years old by that time. The fur traders and explorers were active in recording, after a fashion, some of the names used by their chief suppliers, the Aboriginal people. They also named many features themselves. It is likely, therefore, that we can claim many of these names are centuries old.

After the creation of Alberta in 1905, the duties of liaison with the Geographic Board of Canada were given to the Provincial Librarian. The first to hold the post was Katherine Hughes, a woman with an interesting history herself. Up to 1974, the office of the Provincial Librarian was the coordinating body for Alberta's Geographical Names. (There was a brief time in the 1930s or 1940s when the Provincial Statistician acted as liaison.)

Alberta often prides itself on being a leader. In toponymy, we can lay a claim to this as well. In 1946, a certain prime minister decided that a mountain should be named in honour of a visiting American hero of World War II. As we all know, this was done unilaterally, against the wishes of both Alberta and the national board. It was not the sentiment that was anathema, it was the method. Within a couple of weeks of Castle Mountain being renamed Mount Eisenhower, the Geographic Board of Alberta was established. At the Board's first meeting of 28 March 1946, the minutes recorded the Board was "to establish a suitable authority to which all questions relating to geographical names within the province shall be referred". The minutes also explicitly stated "the question of Dominion and Provincial powers regarding place names arose". Mount Eisenhower was used as an example. Is it mere coincidence that just a few years later, the Canadian Board on Geographical Names began to devolve its powers

to the provinces? Many would argue by that time, provincial governments were at a stage where they were able to take over these responsibilities. Perhaps it was an idea whose time had come.

When the responsibility for coordinating geographical names was transferred to the recently created Department of Culture in 1974, toponymy was firmly entrenched as a cultural resource. To this day, the Geographical Names Program (GNP) coordinates geographical naming between those who want features named and the group that approves names, the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation Board. New names are adopted using criteria set out in the *Geographical Names Manual*.

The GNP also maintains a data base of all officially-named geographical and cultural features. Entries contain as much origin information as possible, making the data base an excellent historical resource. From this has been produced *Place Names of Alberta*. This four-volume series is a comprehensive exploration of all officially-named cultural and geographical features in Alberta. We are the first province in Canada to provide such complete coverage.

The future of geographical names in Alberta looks busy. There is always more historical research to do, and new names to record. Along with GNP's cooperating group, the Friends of Geographical Names of Alberta Society, we look forward to new joint ventures, building on past successes such as the 1988 map exhibit, *From Terra Incognita to Prairie West*, the *Native Mapping Project* of 1993-1994, the *Local Histories Mapping Project* of 1995, and publication support for the *Place Names of Alberta* series.

Endote

1. Merrily Aubrey, Geographical Names Program Co-ordinator, Alberta Community Development, Edmonton

Naming in Ontario

Jeffrey R. Ball[1]

Abstract: *Geographical naming activities in Ontario over the last one hundred years are examined in this article.*

Résumé : *Les activités toponymiques de l'Ontario au cours du siècle dernier sont discutées dans cet article.*

This article looks at the past, present, and future of geographical naming in the province of Ontario. Three eras are identified and examined to explain the Ontario experience.

The federal era (1897 - 1961)

From 1897 to 1961, the federal government was responsible for standardizing and regulating the use of geographical names in Ontario. Specific authority rested with the Geographic Board of Canada, created by Order in Council in 1897, and its 1948 successor, the Canadian Board on Geographical Names.

On 14 December 1899, the Province of Ontario was formally invited to advise on naming matters, through the passing of an Order in Council that allowed for provincial and territorial representation on the Geographic Board. The invitation was taken up in 1902. Ontario was initially represented by Aubrey White, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Crown Lands. Staff support for the work of the first Ontario member was handled through the Surveys, Patents and Roads Branch. This arm of Crown Lands was headed by George Kirkpatrick, Director of Surveys (the Ontario equivalent of Surveyor General).

In the early stages of the federal era, the Crown Lands Department and the departments that succeeded it - the Department of Lands and Mines (1905); the Department of Lands, Forests and Mines (1906); and the Department of Lands and Forests (1928) - maintained only correspondence files. Data base records of geographical names were not kept in Ontario until the latter part of the initial era.

Documentary evidence suggests that a card index file of Geographic Board decisions may have been initiated in Ontario as early as the late 1930s. The development of this file, and Ontario's first map record devoted solely to geographical nomenclature in 1948, represent significant achievements in Ontario naming. Generally, these developments are attributed to W.A.C. Barnard, who was appointed to the Department of Lands and Forests on 1 January 1928.

Bill Barnard, a litho artist and drafter, was originally hired as a map draughtsman. He eventually retired as Chief Cartographer in 1965. In addition to laying the groundwork for Ontario's toponymic record, Barnard managed to work for four of the five individuals who would represent Ontario on the geographic boards during the federal era and the post-transition phase: Louis Rorke (Director of Surveys, 1918 - 1927 and Surveyor General, 1928 - 1935); Charles Fullerton (Surveyor General, 1935 - 1945); Frank Beatty (Surveyor General, 1945 - 1962); and Robert Code (Surveyor General, 1962 - 1983).

The provincial era (1961 - present)

From a provincial perspective, 1961 represented a significant turning point in the affairs of Canadian geographical naming. During that year, the Canadian Board on Geographical Names became the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, and the theoretical passing down of naming powers from the federal government to the provincial jurisdictions began.

In Ontario's case, the actual devolution of authority took place gradually, and was not official until *Bill 99 — An Act to provide for the Establishment and Functions of the Ontario Geographic Names Board* was passed in 1968.

With the passing of this enabling legislation and the proclamation of *The Ontario Geographic Names Board Act* in 1969, Ontario legally took control of its own naming destiny.

Basing its system on the earlier federal model, and consistent with its focus on land administration, Ontario worked quickly to establish the organization it required to provide and maintain a systematic and accurate geographical nomenclature for the province.

Guided by its architect, Robert Code, Surveyor General, and Ontario's first Geographic Names Board member, Ontario appointed a Secretary (Michael B. Smart) to the newly-created Board on 20 July 1970. By 1971, they had filled the Board complement of seven members by appointing a geographer, a historian, a linguist, a retired Cree Chief, and the Ontario Archivist.

On 28 June 1971, the Ontario Geographic Names Board held its inaugural meeting in Toronto. Dr. C.F.J. Whebell, Professor of Geography at the University of Western Ontario, presided as chair.

Since 1971, the Board has met 94 times in various locations across Ontario. It has provided valuable advice on geographical naming issues and has recommended thousands of names to the Minister of Natural Resources for approval. Key among its achievements in many years of deliberations have been the publication of *Principles of Geographical Naming* in 1975 and the championship of the "local usage" principle.

In addition, the Ontario Board has worked closely with Secretariat staff supplied by the Ministry of Natural Resources and has done much to foster a unique working relationship with the federal Committee. (Note: the Department of Lands and Forests and the former Department of Mines and Northern Affairs merged in 1971 as part of the reorganization that created the present Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.)

The success of the Board and the naming programme in Ontario owe much to the efforts of the founding member, Robert Code, and the three Surveyors General who followed him: Hugh O'Donnell (Surveyor General, 1983 - 1985); Barnard Panting (Surveyor General, 1985 - 1990); and Pier Finos (Surveyor General and current member of the Ontario Geographic Names Board).

The future (1997 and beyond)

On 29 May 1996, the Ontario government announced the steps it was taking to streamline and eliminate unnecessary provincial advisory agencies. The Ontario Geographic Names Board was identified as one agency whose work was deemed important and would continue.

The importance of geographical naming to the province and the Ministry of Natural Resources has also been reaffirmed. However, staffing levels have been reduced as we examine new ways of doing business.

Our hope is that new technologies and refocussing of priorities will lead the history-rich, provincially-driven agency into the twenty-first century.

How will this be accomplished? Stay tuned — the answer may be as near as your favourite web site!

Endnote

1. Jeffrey Ball, Geographic Names Data Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Peterborough

Update

Change to Internet Address!

The GeoNames site on the WWW has now a shorter address:

http://geonames.NRCan.gc.ca

Come and visit us!
There is always something new!

Mise à jour

Changement à l'adresse Internet!

Le site Toponymes sur le WWW a maintenant une adresse plus courte :

http://toponymes.RNCan.gc.ca

Venez nous voir!
Il y a toujours de la nouveauté!

Celebrating **100** *years*

Renaming settlements - a priority of the first Nomenclature Board in Newfoundland

Gordon Handcock[1]

Abstract: *This article discusses the settlement renaming activities of Newfoundland's first Nomenclature Board, from 1904 until 1954.*

Résumé : *Cet article porte sur les activités de dénomination toponymique de la première commission de toponymie de Terre-Neuve suite à la colonisation, entre 1904 et 1954.*

Note: Place names in italics have been changed to something else or do not exist in the Canadian Geographical Names Data Base today. Names in bold still exist today.

The naming and renaming of geographical features in Newfoundland, both cultural and natural, have gone on spontaneously and in varied ways from the time of first occupation by different cultural groups.[2] The process of regulating names officially is much more recent and may be dated from a Post Office Act of 1891 and especially the establishment of a Nomenclature Board which first met on 30 January 1904.[3] The 1891 Act gave the Postmaster General the power to alter the name of, and to name or rename any settlement, village, or town in the Dominion of Newfoundland. In 1904, official naming authority passed to the Nomenclature Board which was set up under a Post and Telegraph Act.[4]

The primary concern of the Newfoundland Nomenclature Board[5] for several decades was the renaming of settlements to create convenience and efficiency in postal and telegraph services. There were simply too many places with the same name - too many Fox Coves, Northwest Arms, Island Coves, Holyroods, Flat Islands, Riverheads, Sandy Points, and New Harbours.

But there were other problems. Chief among these was that many names were complex or awkward, or that the names were simply disliked by their inhabitants or others, including members of the Board. A settlement called *North Side*, *Norris Arm* was renamed **Alderburn** in 1913, *Botwoodville*, *Ship Cove* was reduced to **Botwood** (1910), and *Upper Rocky Brook* and *Middle Rocky Brook* were united and simplified to **Monroe**. The missing component, *Lower Rocky Brook*, became **Clifton**. Meanwhile the residents of *Silly Cove*, Trinity Bay, took little prestige, comfort or pride from the name of their community and prevailed upon the Board for the more acceptable **Winterton** (1912). In a somewhat similar vein *Bloody Bay* became **Glovertown**, *Turk's Gut* was altered to

Marysvale, and *Famish Gut* was changed to **Fair Haven**.

Between 1910 and 1920, the Board renamed over 90 settlements. Among current settlements in the province, numbering about 800, some 160 (c. 20 per cent) have had formal names alterations or changes since 1904.

Before 1904, place naming and renaming was almost entirely autocratic. Members of the clergy and other prominent leaders could seemingly on a personal request effect name changes. Roman Catholic clerics were especially active in this respect and were responsible for changing such settlement names as *Gallows Cove* to **St. Joseph's**, *Oliver's Cove* to **St. Leonard's**, *Caplin Cove* (near Tors Cove) to **St. Michaels** and *Pinch Gut Tickle* to *Assumption Passage* [now **Tickles**]. Extant records of the first Nomenclature Board show that the general public then became much more involved in the renaming process. Thus many name changes resulted from community petitions or the representations of community leaders and politicians on behalf of petitioners. In some instances, the Board consulted communities on name options before a final decision was made. Occasionally, the Board imposed its own choice but with varied consequences. Some examples will illustrate the manner and processes of renaming.

Old Tilt, Trinity Bay, becomes **Ivanhoe**. In November 1915, the residents of Old Tilt petitioned to change the name of their community to *Ivanyville* to commemorate the pioneering and principal family name of the settlement. The Nomenclature Board asked to have the suffix 'ville' dropped and to use the name 'Ivany' alone. This was rejected. A subsequent request by the petitioners to use the name Ivanhoe was approved.

Northern Bight becomes Hillview. This change was approved in January 1913 because, as Board minutes indicate, Hillview was preferred by residents over all other names proposed.

The Board created a controversy when it attempted to rename one of the two settlements named **Flat Island**. On 21 March 1916, *Flat Island*, Bonavista Bay, became officially *Samson Island* after a prominent local family to distinguish it from its namesake in Placentia Bay. The new name did not sit well with all residents and in a petition in 1918, inhabitants (presumably a majority) requested a reversion to the old name. One document indicates that the Post Mistress of the community (surnamed Ralph, one of the other principal families) adamantly refused to use the new cancellation stamp. Eventually the Board dealt with the problem by changing **Flat Island**, Placentia Bay, to *Port Elizabeth* and *Flat Island*, Bonavista Bay, retained its historic name.

The renaming of settlements became less frequent from the 1930s onward and accordingly the Nomenclature Board was less active. None the less, Board meetings held at the Postmaster General's Office continued to render proclamations, such as the following:

- changing the settlement called *Crabbes*, Bay St. George, to **St. David's**, and naming a nearby settlement that had grown up around a

railway station, **St. Fintan's**. 4 July 1930.

- resolving that *Boat Harbour*, Placentia Bay, be renamed **Brookside** (in response to an application by Mr. Leo Murphy, Member for the district and "pretty well all the residents of the place"). 9 March 1931.

- changing the settlement previously known as *Bank Head*, Bay St. George, to *St. Teresa's* (as requested by Roman Catholic Bishop Renouf). [Now **St. Teresa**]

- renaming **South Dildo**, Trinity Bay, *Avenue River*. Note: Although inhabitants petitioned for a renaming, it does not appear that they suggested an alternative name. Subsequently, the Board's choice was rejected and the name South Dildo was retained. It is still used.

- and, declaring that **Boyd's Cove**, Friday Bay, Notre Dame Bay, become **Fairbank**. 28 August 1931.

It took the Board nearly seven years to resolve the renaming of **Grand Falls Station**, a community that had grown up around the railway station adjacent to the newly-developed pulp and paper town of *Grand Falls*. The Board heard proposals from petitioners to have it renamed Yorkville, Bondville, Bondston, Northcliffe, Grand Falls West, and North Grand Falls before, in 1938,
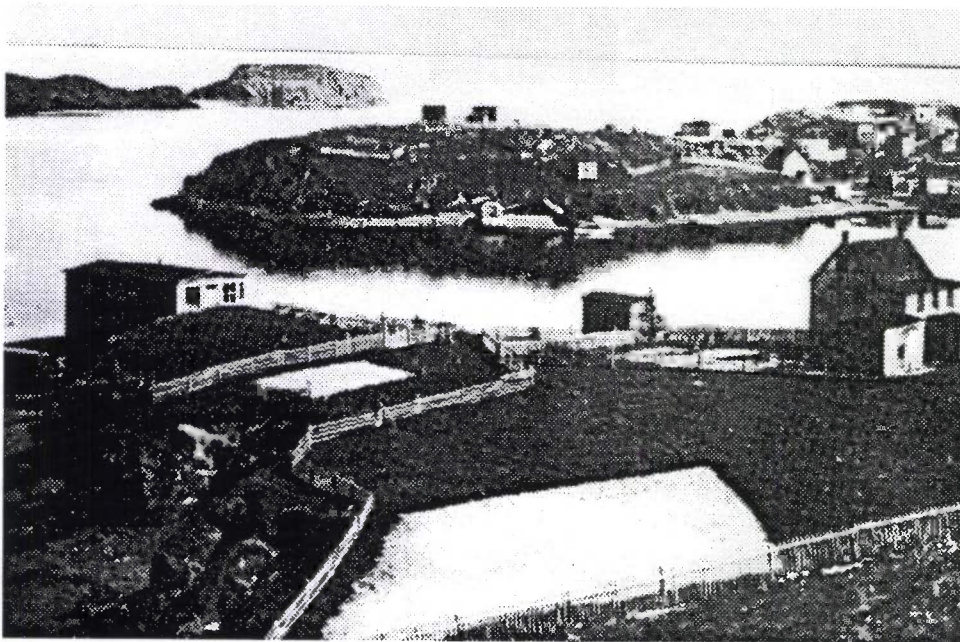

Fig. 1 Ship Cove, shown above, and nearby Robinhood, Trinity Bay, were renamed Port Rexton in 1910. The Nomenclature Board approved the change following a petition of residents. (Source: The Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador, B13-176)

finally consenting to the name *Windsor* to commemorate the British Royal Family. [Now **Grand Falls-Windsor**].

As indicated, Board decisions did not always prevail and some communities stubbornly and effectively resisted losing place names to which they had become accustomed. Thus when the Board rescinded **Joe Batt's Arm**, a name which because of its mix of words is strikingly colourful and amusing, and replaced it with *Queenstown*, in honour of Queen Victoria, the local population refused to accept the imposition and Joe Batt's Arm, a name in use since the mid-eighteenth century, lived on. Other names approved by the Board but rejected by the communities directly affected included:

> *Hollingside* for **Harcourt**, Trinity Bay
> *Innishmara* for *Wood's Island* ,[6] Bay of Islands
> **Freshwater** for *Parsonsville*, Bell Island
> **Parkers Cove** for **Burns Cove**

The Nomenclature Board greatly reshaped the linguistic and cultural character of settlement names in Newfoundland from 1904 up to the entry of the province into Confederation in 1949. Many of the changes were practical and necessary, however, many have been the laments over the years that the Nomenclature Board also destroyed many place names of outstanding cultural quality and expressive meaning. Some examples might include *Distress* (Cove) becoming **St. Bride's**, Famish Gut being changed to *Fair Haven*, *Jack-of-Clubs* being replaced by **Aguathuna**, *Turk's Cove* being exchanged for **Marysvale**, and *Piper's Hole* yielding to **Swift Current**.

A.B. Perlin, a prominent journalist and historian, was so upset with name changes approved between 1949 and 1954 that he wrote an editorial in the *Newfoundland Quarterly* recommending that the Government should appoint a new nomenclature committee or entrust changes to the Newfoundland Historical Society.[7] He also questioned whether local opinion was ever sought when changes were considered and argued that name changes should reflect local historical significance.

It is quite clear that official name changes, despite often being unpopular, tended to force public acceptance, yet one often hears the older names in local oral usage. One can still hear frequent use of *Silly Cove* for **Winterton**, *Damnable* for **St. Chads**, and *Squid Tickle* for **Burnside**, despite the official changes made in these cases nearly a century ago.

Board minutes show clearly that the Nomenclature Board became increasingly conservative in its decision-making as time went on and, more frequently, rejected proposals. For example, in 1933, a request that **Dildo** be renamed *Port Dornier* (after a German seaplane that landed there in 1931) was refused. The Board also rejected the naming of features near Cape Mugford in coastal Labrador by the Bowdoin-MacMillan Expedition in 1935 on the grounds that the features already had names which were "very well-known to the Newfoundland fishermen and the natives, although not marked on the charts." When a petition was presented in 1935 to have **Little Catalina** changed on the grounds that the place was "too big to have 'Little' applied to it", the Board baulked at the idea of having it renamed Orangeville. The request was tabled and subsequently withdrawn. However, when the Board refused to act on a petition to have *Hibb's Hole*, in the District of Port de Grave, changed to the more respectable **Hibbs Cove**, some local residents reacted by using the latter on their postal correspondence. Subsequently, the government of Premier J.R. Smallwood made the change to Hibbs Cove official by a motion passed in the House of Assembly.

In the 1950s, the Board's work was still largely that of dealing with requests for settlement name changes.[8] On 26 November 1952, the Minister of Education, representing the District of Trinity North, asked that **Little Catalina** be changed to *Dayton*, a proposal the Board refused. The next year, a request for **Cape Freels North** to be renamed by the totally ridiculous and patronizing *Pickersville* was also wisely denied.[9] In 1954, the Board itself raised the issue of postal confusion between the settlements of **Musgrave Harbour** and **Musgravetown**.[10] Members suggested a few alternatives to rename Musgrave Harbour including *Penguin Harbour*, *Abbotsville*, *Dotingville*, and *Anchorville*. Subsequently, *Bantingville* was added and a further suggestion that the new name simply be *Musgrave*. Nothing came of any of these and **Musgrave Harbour** it is today. One of the more unusual decisions of the Board after Newfoundland joined Confederation was a proposal made on 20 May 1952 to send a memorandum to the Canadian Board on Geographical Names with the suggestion that it would be more accurate to rename the *Coast of Labrador* as the "*Coast of the Coast of Labrador*".

Endnotes

1. Dr. W. Gordon Handcock is an honorary research professor in Geography at Memorial University of Newfoundland and a member of the Advisory Committee on Toponymic Research, CPCGN.

2. Handcock, W.G. (1993): "Nomenclature", in C.P. Poole (ed.)., *Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador*, Vol. 4, St. John's, pp. 88-93.

3. Information in this article is mostly drawn from collection GN 2/5 Colonial Secretary Nomenclature Board No. 11A-2 and 374, Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador. This collection contains minutes, correspondence, decision lists, and proclamations related to the Nomenclature Board, 1904-1958.

4. Thomas, Gordon S. (1979): *Annual Report - Newfoundland*. This report to the CPCGN reviews the various Acts governing official naming in the province, from the Nomenclature Act (1904) up to the Geographical Names Board Act of 1974 (proclaimed in 1975). An amendment was made in 1991; the province now operates under this legislation.

5. Over the years, the Nomenclature Board was composed of some of the leading intellectuals, educators, and public figures of the day, particularly those who took a serious interest in naming. The first board had as Chairman, the noted toponymic scholar, Archbishop M.F. Howley, who published a series of 41 articles and essays on Newfoundland place names, 1901-1914. Other early notable members included the scholarly educators Canon William Pilot, the Reverend Dr. Levi Curtis, Dr. W.W. Blackall, Dr. Vincent P. Burke, Dr. S.P. Whiteway, Warwick Smith, and I. J. Samson; also journalist and politician, Alexander A. Parsons; and politician-educator, W.W. Halfyard. Successive Ministers of Posts and Telegraphs were always included as ex officio members and among these were W.J. Carroll, Capt. W.C. Winsor, and G.D. Frazer.

6. *Wood's Island* is a rescinded name; however, it appears on Newfoundland road maps as *Woods Island*.

7. Wayfarer (March 1954): "Place names being changed", *Newfoundland Quarterly*, Vol. 53, p. 41; reprinted from the *Daily News* (date unknown). Wayfarer was a pseudonym used by A.B. Perlin.

8. The Nomenclature Act was amended in 1951 to include the Curator of the Museum and the Deputy Minister of Public Works as ex officio members of the Board and the Curator as Chair. Further structural changes came with a new act in 1959 to be administered by the Minister of Provincial Affairs with the Deputy Minister as Secretary. In 1961, the Nomenclature Board had as members: Premier J.R. Smallwood, the Attorney General, and the Ministers of Highways and Health. Members who served in the 1960s and 1970s included distinguished scholars of Newfoundland history, such as the eminent toponymist Dr. E.R. Seary, lexicographer-toponymist Dr. G.M. Story, Dr. Leslie Harris, A.B. Perlin, E.B. Foran, Michael Harrington, and F.M. O'Leary.

9. J.W. Pickersgill was a key supporter of Newfoundland joining Canada. In 1953, J.R. Smallwood and Pickersgill hatched a plan to have Pickersgill, a virtual unknown in Newfoundland, enter active politics as Newfoundland's representative in the federal cabinet. The Cape Freels area of Bonavista North strongly supported J.R. Smallwood and Confederation. "Pickersville" was probably suggested by some political partisan and probably had considerable local support. However, to recognize a man in a place name simply because he was a client of J.R. Smallwood and had not yet demonstrated any ability or made any significant political contribution to Newfoundland would have been very shortsighted on the part of the Board. Pickersgill represented the riding of Bonavista-Twillingate until 1967.

10. Both places were named for Anthony Musgrave, Governor of Newfoundland, 1864-1869.

*C*elebrating
100
years

Researching name origins - an exciting and rewarding experience

Gerald F. Holm[1]

Abstract: *Researching the history of geographical names can be an exciting and rewarding experience as shown by some of the examples described by Manitoba's current representative on the CPCGN.*

Résumé : *Faire des recherches sur l'origine et l'histoire de toponymes peuvent être une expérience enrichissante et même excitante comme en témoignent les exemples apportés par le représentant actuel du Manitoba au sein du CPCNG.*

The following text has been excerpted from the full-length article of the same name.

In my work with geographical names and the research into their history, I have often been asked "where should I start?"

I've come to recognize that hundreds of origins are out there waiting to be re-born and entered into the geographical names data base. Some will appear by chance while others are enhanced from systematic and chronological studies.

In the late 1970s, Manitoba was fortunate to be part of a toponymic field study programme that recorded thousands of new names and hundreds of origins. Yet, there remain many questions relating to unrecorded origins - most of them involve searching for clues to additional information.

I will show readers a few examples of historical and current sources of data to provide a place to start in researching lost or hidden name origins and their correct applications.

If I look hard enough - what will I discover?

It is in this Centennial year of the founding of the Geographic Board of Canada that one can recognize the strong association geographical names have with human activity ....

Let's look at some instances of names gathering experiences and sources of information still waiting to be discovered. It may entice you to look further, dig deeper for a hidden treasure - the discovery of lost name origins.

Canadian geographical names records

The most obvious sources of information are the names origins recorded in geographical names data bases. It does not take long to realize that the origins recorded are only brief summaries of the stories told ... Our office has a microfilmed copy of the early records of the Geographic Board of Canada ....

Manitoba is fortunate to house The Hudson's Bay Company Archives which contain Peter Fidler's journals, maps, and daily ledgers reflecting many aspects of the work of this surveyor, cartographer, trader, scholar, and naturalist. These form a source of names information on which the Geographic Board based decisions.

Hudson's Bay Company Archives

The Hudson's Bay Company Archives has an astounding collection of maps and company post records and reports. In 1988, we researched Peter Fidler documents to support the application of some names along a portion of the Churchill River. We knew that he had mentioned 'The Kiln' in his journal and we wanted to determine if he had also noted it on his map as 'Kiln - a bad rapid'.

Our goal, in this research project was to determine if the name, Bad Cache Rapids, rescinded in 1964, and Kilnabad Rapids were one and the same feature or not, and, if so, was the extent of Kilnabad Rapids correct as shown on the 1:50 000-scale topographic maps.

In digging deeper, we located Peter Fidler's journal dated 4 August 1807, where he refers to 'the Kiln & a very bad rapid' ...

As a result of subsequent investigations and correspondence with Samuel J. Nelson, Professor

Emeritus of Historical Geology, The University of Calgary, who had named Bad Cache Rapids,[2] we were able to record additional names data for this section of the Churchill River. Bad Cache Rapids was reinstated; the applications of Portage Chute and Kilnabad Rapids were altered to reflect their correct locations, and Brandy Creek and Brandy Point were approved as official names.

A jewel in all this treasure was the photo of a yet unnamed falls on Surprise Creek (between 10.7 and 12.2 m high) received from Mr. Nelson with his letter dated 24 March 1988, together with details of the origin of the names Surprise Creek and Caution Creek.

Early exploration reports

A valuable source of name origins and feature descriptions are exploration reports of the mid-1800s, such as the *Reports on the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan Exploring Expedition* (1858), printed in 1859, authored by Henry Youle Hind. This is demonstrated in the following quotation:

> *Sept. 24th-We made the traverse of Great Washow Bay, thirteen miles across, and breakfasted at a point half-way between Bull's Head and Dog's Head. - The limestone cliffs here were about thirty feet high, and occupy the coast from Bull's Head to Whiteway's Post, opposite the Dog's Head .... One cave was more than sixty feet long, and with the exception of a small aperture, closed at one end and roofed throughout. We named the spot Limestone Cave Point.- [Compare the current map to the map in the report - there are many similarities but also several changes, i.e., Little Long Bay is now Big Bullhead Bay, Limestone Cave Point is now Little Bullhead Point, etc.] ... Leaving Jack Fish River, or the Pike Head, as it is also termed, from a promontory bearing that name near the mouth of the stream, we coasted under sail past Wicked Point across the traverse of Kinwow Bay, rounded Macbeth Point, and camped at Lynx Point, beyond the Cat Head ...* [3]

Further in this segment of the report, Mr. Hind discusses the slight rise in land dividing the waters of the Mississippi River and those of the Red River. This is also a topic for discussion today in the wake of the 'Flood of the Century'.

This is just a glimpse at the names information found in exploration reports; many of the early place name records are based on them.

In touch with the public

Today, in order to find non-recorded origins of names, sometimes long lost with the passing of generations, it is a matter of luck and circumstance in meeting the right person with authentic support for origin data.

For example, we recently recorded new information on four names: De Winton, Drunken Point, Navin, and Wasagaming, the townsite within Riding Mountain National Park. Here is a short background of the new findings for Navin ....

Navin: This is a local community, east of Winnipeg. *Place Names of Manitoba*, 1933, noted it as a C.N.R. [Canadian National Railway] station, 10-4E, (1904), after a resident. Records indicate the post office opened later in 1961, in Lot 81, (St. Boniface area), around 20, 21-10-4 E.

Recently, Larry Naven visited our office and said that he understood the Navin post office and station were named after his great-grandfather, Thomas Naven. Mr. Naven was a dairyman in the area as identified on a Certificate of Title dated 1903. We are in the process of confirming this information and there appears to be support for the information provided by Mr. Naven. He showed me a Certificate of Title dated August 1903, relating to Thomas Naven of the City of Winnipeg in Manitoba, Dairyman. It shows his great-grandfather's interest in a number of lots near the Elm Park area. This corresponds to a newspaper article appearing in the *Winnipeg Free Press* on 29 February 1964 titled: "Doomed Bridge Has Happy Memories" [It relates to the new Osborne Street bridge replacing the Elm Park bridge built in 1912 and linking Winnipeg and St. Vital].

... Actually, the story begins at the turn of the century when a Mr. Nevin (records are vague on the spelling of this name) built a pontoon bridge at the same site as the present bridge. He ran a dairy farm on his land, which lay within the Elm Park peninsula, formed by the winding of the river. In time he set up gates at the beginning of his property (where Dunkirk Drive turns off Kingston Row), and turned the land into a parksite.

The area soon became popular as a picnic site and a camping ground enjoyed by Winnipegers, rich and poor alike. Mr. Nevin ran concessions during the summer, and numerous people built wood and

canvas cottages where they could spend summer holidays without travelling difficult roads to the lake ...

Over the next few months supporting evidence that the community of Navin was, indeed, named after Thomas Naven, Dairyman, was received.

Centennial history books

During the CPCGN's Centennial, it is very appropriate to mention the value of Centennial publications. Many communities and municipalities in Manitoba have published extensive historical documents containing a detailed picture of the life and times of the communities and their pioneer families ....

An example of information in these references comes from *Forest to Field - Centennial History of the Rural Municipality of Clanwilliam and Village of Erickson, Manitoba, Canada.* References to place names include: "The Rolling River (whoever chose this name must have had the soul of a poet) crosses it [the municipality] ... Some of the lakes do not much more than add to the scenic beauty of the countryside whereas others like Otter Lake, Peacey Lake [Pacey Lake], Ditch Lake, and "18" [Eighteen] Lake have been popular family resort and picnic areas since the early days ... Scandinavia, commonly called 'New Sweden' those first years."

In a letter written to the Editor of the *Tribune* dated 4 December 1885, B. M. Armitage states:" ...on a visit to New Sweden or the Scandinavian colony, the centre of which is 18 miles north of

Minnedosa...our trip with Mr. John H. Noreus, President of the Scandinavian Society ... the centre of the proposed capital of New Sweden, and the name of which is Noreus." The letter goes on to describe the settlement in detail, from the location of tents to the size of the stable ...

Not long afterwards Mr. Noreus fell out with the settlers and the name of the post office was changed from Noreus to New Sweden.

*****

It has been said, time and time again, what's in a name? Researching the wealth of information in historical maps and texts becomes an opportunity to understand that names convey the pioneering spirit in those who lived before us.

Endnotes

1. Gerald F. Holm, Provincial Toponymist and Manitoba CPCGN member.

2. In checking our records, we found that it was this Mr. Nelson who had named Bad Cache Rapids in 1954 - " ... it was necessary to take a sick assistant to the hospital in August, 1950. Before leaving, a hurriedly constructed cache was made beside these rapids. When we returned about a week later, we found that a bear had taken most of the food and destroyed the cache."

3. Hind, Henry Youle (1859): *Reports on the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan Exploring Expedition (1858)*, p. 84.

Websites about Ontario's municipal restructuring / Sites du web concernant les réorganisations municipales

Municipal restructuring

English - http: //www.mmah.gov.on.ca/business/munres-e.htm
French- http://www.mmah.gov.on.ca/business/munres-f.htm

News releases / Nouvelles

English- http://www.mmah.gov.on.ca/inthnews/press-e.htm
French- http://www.mmah.gov.on.ca/inthnews/press-f.htm

Nova Scotia's geographical names - looking ahead

Keith P. AuCoin[1]

Almost all of the 26 000 or so geographical place and feature names in Nova Scotia have been in use for at least 100 years; many for as long as 200 years. In the early 1970s, a huge effort was made by staff from the CPCGN Secretariat in Ottawa to verify these names through an extensive field work programme. Accordingly, all Nova Scotia's place and feature names in use at the time were either confirmed or designated as official geographical names.

So it looked as though all the work was all done. NOT SO! There are still a significant number of places and features yet to be named, some spelling and positional corrections have to be changed, many requests from special interest groups for the renaming of features and places to commemorate early settlers or settlements have to be dealt with, access to the new geographical names data base through a yet-to-be-designed query programme must be developed, conversion of the positional coordinates for each feature name from the NAD27 to NAD83 reference framework is still to be done and data distribution agreements with provincial government departments, private companies, and the general public must be established.

Nova Scotia has never had the benefit of geographical names legislation nor a provincial names board to oversee its geographical names activities. The work has always been handled on a part-time basis by the Director of Surveys and one Technician. The Director, who has acted mainly as a committee of one, has been following long-established policies for the approval of new and altered place names. The manner in which the Province's geographical names information is handled and distributed has undergone significant changes through the 1990s and this will require new processes and resources in order to cope with future increased demand for this information.

The introduction of new geographical names legislation in Nova Scotia and the establishment of a provincial board to oversee these activities are viewed as an essential next step to start the new century. The interest in geographical names is growing continuously and with the development of the digital geographical names data base, the business community and the general public will be much better served in the next century.

Endnote

1 Keith P. AuCoin, Nova Scotia Member, CPCGN

More publications / Autres publications

Barry, Bill (1997): *People Places: Saskatchewan and its Names*, Canadian Plains Research Center, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 0A2; $29.95; ISBN 0-88977-114-6.

Scott, David E. (1997): *Ontario Place Names* (2nd ed./2e éd.), Lone Pine Publishing, #206 10426 - 81 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1X5 or /ou 202A 1110 Seymour Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 3N3; $11.95; ISBN 1-55105-087-0.

The Friends of Quetico Park (1992): *Lake Names of Quetico Provincial Park*, Friends of Quetico Park, Box 1959, Atikokan, Ontario P0T 1C0; ISBN 1-895269-03-2.

Geographical names in PEI today

Robert Kenny[1]

Geographical names have become key elements in searching recently developed applications of PEI mapping and tourism data.

Place names, with their associated keys, are now being used to search the province's digital mapping application - Geoline. After transforming NAD27 coordinates to ATS77 coordinates, place names were batch-digitized into a digital file containing PEI's coastline, road centre lines, and various other geographical boundaries, such as county and municipality, into which PEI is divided. With the addition of place names to this file, a key for the place name was assigned that matches to a textual data base of the place. The Geoline application can then centre around the place name to help find properties in a community, town, city, village, etc. Place names are also used in the production of many hardcopy products sold through the Geomatics Centre.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism uses place names to search the Province of PEI Web Site. Potential visitors to the Island can search by place name to find accommodations, attractions, activities, and information.

PEI recently signed the Availability and Distribution of Canadian Geographical Names Data Agreement. It is hoped that the Agreement's objective of disseminating digital data to end users and the issuing of licences to non-end users will be successful.

Endnote

1. Robert Kenny, Manager of Client Services, Taxation and Property Records, Provincial Treasury, Charlottetown

Provincial naming authority members

Kathleen O'Brien

Several of the provinces have honoured members of their names board by naming a geographical feature after them.

Alberta
Dr. Morden Heaton Long, Chairman of the Alberta Geographical Names Board was involved for a long time with geographical names in Alberta. **Mount Morden Long,** northeast of Mount Confederation in the Winston Churchill Ranges, was adopted in recognition of his services on 30 August 1966.

Ontario
W.A.C. (Bill) Barnard was Chief Cartographer, Ontario from 1947 -1965. He died 10 November 1973. **Barnard Lake** and **Barnard Creek,** both on 31 F/3, are thought, by Ontario, to be named after him and were adopted in 1948. Barnard Lake is the source of Barnard Creek, which flows into a tributary of the Little Mississippi River.

Quebec
F.H. Peters, the Surveyor General of Canada, proposed that **Lac Nantais,** on the Péninsule d'Ungava, be named after Isaïe Nantais, Secretary of the Commission de géographie de Québec. The name was adopted 29 May 1946.

Lac Bédard, east of Rivière Montmorency, was named after the first Secretary of the Commission de géographie (1913 - 1915). Avila Bédard (1884-1960) was a forest engineer.

Lac Eugène-Rouillard, commemorates the first Président de la Commission de géographie (1913-1915) and second Secretary of the Commission (1915 - 1920), Eugène Rouillard (1851-1926). The lake lies between Rivière Gravel and Rivière Schmon.

Mont Jean-Charles-Bonenfant, north of Lac Jacques-Cartier, was named after Jean-Charles Bonenfant, Président de la Commission de géographie (1963-1967).

Amos (Canton) was named after the second Président de la Commission de géographie (1916-1920). Arthur Amos (1875-1950), a civil engineer, was involved with geographical names in Quebec from 1913 until he retired in 1937. The township lies east of Chicoutimi County.

Endnote

1. Kathleen O'Brien, CPCGN Secretariat, Ottawa

Northern Aboriginal toponymy

Randolph Freeman[1]

Abstract: *The NWT Geographic Names Program was created to record, preserve, and disseminate traditional Aboriginal names for geographical features, populated places, and formerly populated places to help younger generations of Aboriginal northerners retain their culture.*

Résumé : *Le programme des noms géographiques des Territoires du Nord-Ouest fut créé pour consigner, conserver et diffuser la toponymie autochtone traditionnelle se rattachant aux entités géographiques, lieux habités et anciens noms de localités afin d'aider la jeune génération d'Autochtones du Nord à préserver leur culture.*

As we celebrate one hundred years of official 'standardization' of Canadian toponyms, this would be an appropriate time to reflect upon the state of toponyms used by the Aboriginal people of Canada. Few among us would dispute the belief that the ancestors of North American Aboriginal people crossed the Bering Land Bridge at least twelve thousand years ago. It would also be difficult to dispute the likelihood that these 'First Nations' were not unlike modern cultures in their need to label the geographical features they encountered. Whether or not any of these very early traditional names survive through to today would be impossible to say, though some tantalizing evidence exists that some have. This evidence comes to us in the form of accurately descriptive names for ancient archaeological sites, or in traditional names made up of words no longer used in the Aboriginal language.

Within Aboriginal language groups, traditional toponyms tend to form cohesive systems that can only be fully appreciated when viewed in their entirety. Over the past one hundred years, Canadian naming authorities have given official recognition to only small parts of these once extensive systems and those Aboriginal toponyms that have been approved have been transformed, deformed, mangled, and anglicized or francisized, prior to absorption into the Canadian names system. The resulting toponyms can no longer be considered Aboriginal, only as having been derived from Aboriginal sources. Most Canadians are unaware that names such as Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ottawa, etc., are, at best, poor renditions of the original Aboriginal names. These names now form a solid part of the Canadian cultural mosaic and it is unlikely that the general public would approve of any substantive orthographic changes to names of this type.

The situation in northern Canada is considerably different. Aboriginal name systems remain relatively intact and are still in use by a large, but quickly diminishing, portion of the population. In many parts of the north, these systems are breaking down as names, assigned to many geographical features by non-Aboriginal people, are becoming accepted and used by the younger generations of Aboriginal northerners. While some would suggest that this is a perfectly natural process in the evolution of toponyms, the NWT Geographic Names Program was created specifically to counteract this natural process! The creation of the Geographic Names Program in 1985 came about as a direct result of the alarm felt by many Dene, Metis, and Inuit Elders that their traditional toponyms would be lost forever, if not given official recognition. The mandate of the Program was clear from the beginning; it was to be an active part of a much broader effort to slow, and perhaps reverse, the loss of Aboriginal culture and language.

While the Geographic Names Program has all the usual responsibilities of a provincial-type naming authority, the largest portion of its resources are expended on the recording, preservation, and dissemination of traditional Aboriginal names for geographical features, populated places, and formerly populated places. The NWT Geographic Names Program is actively involved in providing financial, technical, and training support to community-based research projects oriented towards the gathering of traditional Aboriginal toponyms. To date, the Program has participated in more than 70 community-based projects, many directly funded by the GNWT. These projects have recorded more than 15 000 traditional Aboriginal names for creeks, mountains, lakes, islands, archaeological sites, etc. The development
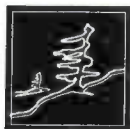
Fig. 1 Kweteni?aá (Bear Rock), a Dene sacred site near Tulita (formerly Fort Norman), sits at the junction of Sahtú Dé (Great Bear River) and Dehcho (Mackenzie River). (Source: NWT Archives)

of easier public access to the NWT Geographic Names Data Base, which currently contains information on more than 22 000 official, historic, and proposed geographical names, also continues as a priority of the Program. Much of this information will soon become available on the Internet.

Communities undertaking projects that gather traditional land-based knowledge are encouraged to develop means by which research data can be used in the community. This will ensure that valuable cultural information is not lost with the passing of Elders and that the trend for younger generations to use non-traditional toponyms is reversed. Projects that receive funding from the Geographic Names Research Contribution Program are required to submit copies of maps, data forms, cassettes, video tapes, etc., to the NWT Geographic Names Program. All other toponymic research projects are encouraged to submit the results of their research. This information is entered into the Geographic Names Data Base and subsequently used to support the official recognition of traditional geographical names.

Many of the Aboriginal people of the NWT know and use traditional names for geographical features but, as each year passes, fewer and fewer of these remain in common use among the general population. The opportunity to record and preserve these toponyms, and associated valuable cultural information, is quickly passing. Traditional toponyms are closely associated with traditional land use; the generations of Aboriginal people having intimate knowledge of the land will soon be gone. Similar conditions exist in many areas of southern Canada; therefore, a concerted and coordinated effort, by all levels of government in Canada, including Aboriginal, must be made to record and 'standardize' traditional Aboriginal toponyms, so that this facet of Canadian culture and history is not lost.

Endnote

1. Randolph Freeman, Territorial Toponymist, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, NWT

Cape Town or Kapkaupunki, München or Munich?

Cape Town ou Kapkaupunki, München ou Munich?

Helen Kerfoot[1]

Abstract: *Canada's national names authority celebrates 100 years in 1997. By coincidence, 1997 also marks the 30th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names. It seems fitting to trace briefly the work of the UN in this field and the involvement of Canada during these years.*

Résumé : *Le CPCNG, l'organisme toponymique national du Canada, célèbre en 1997 son centenaire, qui coïncide avec le 30ᵉ anniversaire de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur la normalisation des noms géographiques. Le moment semble particulièrement opportun pour faire une courte rétrospective des travaux des Nations Unies et de la participation du Canada.*

"Names spelled in different ways; frequently changing names; one name applied to more than one feature; more than one name applied to one feature. These are but a few elements impeding effective communication."[2]

So how has the United Nations become involved in solving these geographical names problems?

During the late 1940s, in the early days of the United Nations, questions of the standardized writing of geographical names were raised in connection with cartographic services provided through the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This was followed up at the First Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 1955, and in 1956 by an ECOSOC resolution, drafted by Canada and Ecuador. As a result, the Secretary General of the UN reported that work in this field involved two basic questions:

> *"The standardization in one form of geographical names at the national level by the country concerned; and the agreement on standard methods of transliteration of the accepted forms into other languages at the international level."* [3]

ECOSOC Resolution 715A (XXVII) in 1959 became the basis for a six-member group of experts to assemble the following year under the chairmanship of Dr. Meredith F. Burrill (USA). In addition to providing over 20 technical recommendations, members of this group unanimously recommended holding an

«L'utilisation de diverses orthographes pour le même nom, les changements fréquents de noms, l'application d'un même nom à plus d'une entité, l'application de plusieurs noms à la même entité. Ce ne sont là que quelques-uns des problèmes qui font obstacle à l'efficacité des communications[2].»

Alors, comment l'Organisation des Nations Unies en est-elle venue à s'intéresser aux problèmes de nature toponymique?

À la fin des années 40 — les Nations Unies venaient à peine de voir le jour — la question de l'uniformisation de l'écriture des noms géographiques s'est posée à propos des services cartographiques assurés par l'entremise du Conseil Économique et social des Nations Unies. Relancée en 1955 à l'occasion de la Première conférence cartographique régionale des Nations Unies pour l'Asie et le Pacifique, la question a fait l'objet en 1956 d'une résolution du Conseil Économique et social rédigée par le Canada et l'Équateur. Le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies a alors déclaré que les travaux dans ce domaine comportaient deux questions fondamentales :

> *«À l'échelle nationale, l'uniformisation des noms géographiques dans chaque pays; à l'échelle internationale, la normalisation des méthodes de translittération des formes reconnues dans d'autres systèmes d'écriture[3].»*

Par suite de la résolution 715A (XXVII) du Conseil économique et social, déposée en 1959, on a formé dès l'année suivante un groupe d'experts

international conference to study national and international problems involved with standardization, to exchange technical information and to determine further steps to be taken.

Since this time, six United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names have been held in five-yearly cycles: 1967 Genève; 1972 London; 1977 Athína; 1982 Genève; 1987 Montréal; and 1992 New York. Table I indicates participation at the six conferences. Clearly the interest in this work has been sustained over the three decades since the first conference. Sixteen countries (including Canada) have been represented at all conferences and 121 countries have participated in at least one conference.

To facilitate the work of the conferences and to follow up on the resolutions adopted there, the Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) was formed. With open participation, this group convenes at the time of the Conference and at two-yearly intervals between. UNGEGN's tasks are facilitated through more detailed cooperation at the level of geographic/linguistic divisions, of which there are 21 at this time. The needs to increase international communication are also met through UNGEGN working groups formed to tackle the major issues. At present, groups exist to address training courses, digital data bases and gazetteers, toponymic data transfer, romanization systems, country names, terminology, publicity and funding, and toponymic guidelines.

Since the first conference in 1967, considerable progress can be seen.

- Much needed training courses have been held in various languages and in different parts of the world (Indonesia, Morocco, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, and Latvia, as well as in South American countries under the auspices of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History); teaching materials are available from many of these courses.

- Whereas some 30 years ago, only a handful of countries had a national names authority, today the need for such an organization or a suitable administrative process has been recognized by most governments and such arrangements are becoming a reality.

- The international community welcomes toponymic guidelines to assist map and other editors. Based on ideas formulated by Prof.

de six membres sous la présidence de Meredith F. Burrill (É.-U.). En plus de formuler au-delà de 20 recommandations techniques, le groupe d'experts a proposé à l'unanimité de tenir une conférence internationale pour étudier les problèmes que posait la normalisation nationale et internationale, échanger de l'information technique et déterminer les mesures à prendre.

Depuis, la Conférence des Nations Unies sur la normalisation des noms géographiques s'est réunie à six reprises, à intervalles de cinq ans : en 1967 à Genève, en 1972 à London, en 1977 à Athína, en 1982 à Genève, en 1987 à Montréal et en 1992 à New York. Le tableau 1 indique le nombre de participants à chacune de ces conférences. Seize pays (dont le Canada) ont participé à toutes, et 121 ont assisté à au moins une.

Pour faciliter les travaux de la Conférence et assurer le suivi des résolutions qui y sont adoptées, les Nations Unies ont formé le Groupe d'experts sur les noms géographiques (GENUNG). Ce comité, auquel tous les pays peuvent être représentés, se réunit à l'époque de la Conférence et, dans l'intervalle, tous les deux ans. Pour faciliter l'exécution de ses travaux, le GENUNG a créé des divisions géographiques et linguistiques, actuellement au nombre de 21, qui se penchent sur des questions plus précises. Afin d'améliorer la communication internationale, le GENUNG a également formé des groupes de travail qui s'intéressent à de grands dossiers, en l'occurrence la formation en toponymie, les bases de données et les répertoires toponymiques, l'échange de données toponymiques, les systèmes de romanisation, les noms des pays, la terminologie, la publicité et le financement, ainsi que les lignes directrices en matière de toponymie.

Des progrès considérables ont été accomplis depuis la conférence inaugurale de 1967.

- Des cours de formation répondant à des besoins réels ont été donnés en plusieurs langues et dans différentes régions du monde (Indonésie, Maroc, Canada, Afrique du Sud, Nouvelle-Zélande et en Lettonie, ainsi que dans des pays d'Amérique du Sud sous les auspices de l'Institut panaméricain de géographie et d'histoire); on peut se procurer le matériel didactique d'un grand nombre de ces cours.

- Il y a une trentaine d'années, peu de pays avaient un organisme toponymique national; aujourd'hui, la plupart des gouvernements ont

Breu of Austria, over 30 countries have now presented their guidelines, many of which have been published in UN reports.

- Increasingly, countries are developing digital data bases which contain the nationally recognized geographical names for use on maps and in documents. Many have produced paper copy gazetteers as a way of disseminating these standard names, and today Canada is among the first countries to make their geographical names data available to the general public through Internet.

- The adoption of scientifically-based single romanization systems for each non-Roman alphabet or script has been an important objective since 1967. Progress has been made in many areas, for example, in the conversion of Thai, Chinese, Hebrew, Greek, Russian, Persian, etc.

- To aid in communication, a glossary of terminology used in geographical names standardization has been developed. The first edition was published in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and Russian by the United Nations Secretariat; the text for a revised and expanded version and is now reaching completion.

- At each conference, technical papers are presented by various UN member states addressing questions of standardization in their own countries. This most useful body of knowledge is published in a series of volumes and is available from the UN Secretariat. Recently a short text has been compiled to outline the work achieved by UNGEGN and to help promote the ongoing needs for improved international communication.

Canada has played a key part in the efforts of UNGEGN and the UN conferences. We have hosted the 1987 conference, we have provided leadership in UNGEGN and in the various committees at the conferences. In Québec we hosted a training course in 1988 and Canadians have assisted in a number of courses in other parts of the world. The CPCGN which brings together provincial, territorial, and federal authorities in Canada is viewed worldwide as a good example of a functional structure for names approval and the development of national standards.

Challenges continue to face us in improving international communication. Canada as part of

reconnu la nécessité de mettre en place sur leur territoire une organisation ou un processus administratif pour s'occuper des noms géographiques, et prennent des mesures en ce sens.

- La communauté internationale est en faveur de l'élaboration de lignes directrices toponymiques pour faciliter la tâche des éditeurs de cartes et d'autres publications. En s'appuyant sur les idées formulées par le professeur Breu d'Autriche, plus de 30 pays ont présenté leurs lignes directrices et bon nombre d'entre eux les ont publiées dans des rapports des Nations Unies.

- Les pays sont de plus en plus nombreux à se doter de bases de données numériques contenant les noms géographiques officiels à utiliser sur les cartes et dans d'autres documents. Une bonne partie d'entre eux ont produit des répertoires sous forme imprimée pour assurer la diffusion de leurs noms officiels, et le Canada est aujourd'hui un des premiers à donner l'accès à sa base de données toponymiques par le réseau Internet.

- Un des objectifs importants du GENUNG depuis 1967 est l'adoption de systèmes de romanisation uniformes et scientifiquement éprouvés pour chacun des alphabets ou des systèmes d'écriture non latins. Des progrès ont été faits dans de nombreuses régions du monde, par exemple en ce qui concerne la transcription du thaï, du chinois, de l'hébreu, du grec, du russe, du perse et d'autres langues.

- Pour faciliter la communication, le GENUNG a établi un glossaire de la terminologie employée dans la normalisation des noms géographiques. La première édition a été publiée en six langues (anglais, français, espagnol, arabe, chinois et russe) par le Secrétariat des Nations Unies. Une édition revue et augmentée est en préparation; la rédaction est presque terminée.

- À chaque conférence, plusieurs États membres des Nations Unies présentent des communications techniques traitant de questions de normalisation qui se posent sur leur territoire. Cette masse d'information des plus utiles est publiée en plusieurs volumes que distribue le Secrétariat des Nations Unies. On a récemment rédigé un court texte qui brosse un tableau succinct des travaux accomplis par le GENUNG et qui contribue à

Table I / Tableau 1

Conference/ Conférence	1	2	3	4	5	6
No. of delegates present / N^{bre} de délégués présents	111	~110	152	136	106	158
No. of countries represented / N^{bre} de pays représentés	54	52	59	62	53	69

the United Nations has a role to play in making geographical names bring clarity, rather than confusion, to society.

Endnotes

1 Helen Kerfoot, Executive Secretary, CPCGN and Vice-Chair, UNGEGN.

2 *The United Nations and geographical names*, UNGEGN manuscript 1994.

3 *United Nations activities in the field of standardization of geographical names*. Prepared by Max de Henseler as paper CRP.3 for the Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 1992.

Le site du web de la Toponymie du Canada comprend maintenant des renseignements sur les activités de normalisation toponymique des Nations Unies et vous pointe vers d'autres sites connexes. Le texte des résolutions de l'ONU, les buts et fonctions du GENUNG et l'ordre du jour des Conférences sont parmi les données incluses.

http://toponymes.NRCan.gc.ca/francais/unindex.html

The Canadian GeoNames website now includes information on United Nations' activities on the standardization of geogrpahical names and provides links to other sites with related information. Texts of UN resolutions, the aims and functions of UNGEGN, and Conference agendas are among the items accessible.

http://geonames.NRCan.gc.ca/English/unindex.html

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faire valoir la constante nécessité d'améliorer la communication internationale.

Le Canada apporte une contribution majeure aux travaux du GENUNG et aux conférences des Nations Unies. Il a été l'hôte de la conférence de 1987. Il joue un rôle de premier plan au sein du GENUNG et dans les divers comités des conférences. Il a tenu au Québec, en 1988, un cours de formation en toponymie et participé à l'organisation d'un certain nombre de cours à l'étranger. Le CPCNG, qui réunit les autorités toponymiques des provinces, des territoires et du gouvernement fédéral, est réputé dans le monde entier pour la qualité de la structure fonctionnelle qu'il utilise pour approuver les noms géographiques et élaborer des normes nationales dans le domaine de la toponymie.

Il reste encore beaucoup à faire pour améliorer la communication internationale. Dans le contexte des Nations Unies, le Canada doit contribuer à faire en sorte que les noms géographiques soient pour la société une source de lumière, et non de confusion.

Notes

1 Helen Kerfoot, secrétaire exécutive du CPCNG et vice-présidente du GENUNG.

2 *Les Nations Unies et les noms géographiques*, texte non publié du GENUNG, 1994.

3 *United Nations activities in the field of standardization of geographical names*. Communication CRP.3 de la sixième Conférence des Nations Unies sur la normalisation des noms géographiques, préparée par Max de Henseler, 1992.