

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, FEB 21 1906

DEAR SIR,

I wish to obtain information respecting the derivation of the place-names of Canada—of the names of the villages, towns, cities and of the natural features, such as rivers, lakes, capes, bays, mountains, etc.—and shall be much obliged if you will give me any information that you may possess or can procure, respecting the below-mentioned name and also respecting the names of any other features in the vicinity of your residence concerning which you have knowledge.

In many localities, the older generation is passing, or has passed away, and unless steps are taken to collect this information, it will, in many instances, be too late. In most communities there are persons who take an interest in things of this nature or who have been connected with the early settlement of the locality. If there are any such in your neighbourhood, will you kindly submit this to them.

Below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information and also the commoner derivatives of place-names in Canada :—

(1.) Whether named after a village, town or city, or natural feature in any other province or country ; if so, the name of province or country in which the original locality is situated.

(2.) Whether named after a person ; if so, the person's name, occupation, spelling of name as rendered by the person and any details of interest respecting him (or her) such as (a) Whether alive or, if dead, approximate year of death ; (b) Whether at any time a resident of the locality and, if so, whether still living there.

(3.) Whether named after a natural feature ; if so, any details respecting the origin of the name as applied to the feature and the geographical position of the latter.

(4.) Whether the town, village or city ever had any other name or names ; if so, at what dates, approximately, and the origin of these obsolete names.

Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a courtesy.

Yours truly,

JAMES WHITE,
Geographer.

Kindly write your reply on the attached sheet.

To ensure free transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

"Braut"
Alta.

27-18-26-W4

Brantford March 20th

Mr James White
Geographer
Ottawa

My dear Sir:

In answer to your printed inquiry respecting derivation of the name of Brant I beg to say that it is an arbitrary name given to the town by its founder Mr E E Thompson of High River when he first laid it out. Some have suggested that the name was given on account of the Canadian white geese or Brants which come here in the fall and spring but as they do not come in any great numbers I doubt if that is what suggested the name to Mr Thompson.

Brant is the original name of the town. It is a place of eight families, a General store and P.O. blacksmith shop, meat market, implement office restaurant and ferd stable. It is a small but flourishing little place about 18 months old.

Yours truly
Ed Kelly
Geo J McAuliffe

AGENTS FOR
C. P. RY. LANDS
C. & E. RY. LANDS
HUDSON BAY LANDS

E. E. THOMPSON & CO.
HIGH RIVER,
ALBERTA - - CANADA

OWNERS OF TOWNSITE OF
BRANT AND GENERAL
STORE, TWENTY MILES
EAST OF HIGH RIVER

May 26, 1906.

Mr. Jas. White,

Geographer,

Ottawa, Ont.

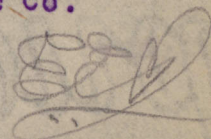
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours of May 19th, asking the origin of the name "Brant", 20 miles east of High River on the N. E. 1/4 of section 27, township 18, range 26 west of the 4th, would say that it was named for the white goose or brant, which were so very plentiful that season on the summer lakes in the vicinity of the new town.

A point of more than passing interest is the fact that Brant is in the center of the best and surest hard fall wheat district in America. J. E. Bowen, two miles east of High River, threshed sixty bushels of this variety last year.

Yours truly,

E. E. Thompson & Co.



Brant
Alta.