

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,.....AUG 24 1905.....

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 that 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.

"Ungahat" Alta.

Urquhart P.O.  
Sept 8 1905-

James White Esqr  
Ottawa

Sir

I reply to yours of the 24<sup>th</sup>  
ult. The Urquhart post office  
took its name from the first Post  
Master a big Scotch man by the  
name of Andrew Urquhart, who  
however left these parts about 4 years  
ago he is about 50 years old and  
still alive

For about six months the  
patrons of this Post Office have  
been doing their utmost to get the  
name changed there being a universal  
dislike for the name it being both  
hard to spell & pronounce  
The name chosen by the people

is "Valley City" but as yet  
nothing has been accomplished!

Yours Truly

F. E. Allison P. M.

Ureghart Alta