

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.

*White brush Alta
Buffalo Lake*

White Bush Alta Can

Sept. 2, 1905

Mr James White

Dear Sir,

Your letter at hand and will now endeavor to answer it. White Bush is situated in the northern part of Alta, about 35 miles from the town of Ponoika. It was named after a lake which is situated about a quarter of a mile from the Post Office. It is not a town by any means only a Post Office and a store. It is situated about 5 miles from Buffalo Lake which is nearly 34 miles wide and about 15 miles long. 30 miles all around it. And it has a great many islands on it. There arent many rivers around White Bush but about 15 miles north there is a creek called Meeting Creek and about 25 miles south-east there is a creek called ^{Red} Willow Creek. I forgot to say that White Bush was named after White Bush Lake because around the shores of the lake there are a great many bushes growing and it is nearly white. I dont suppose I have given you a satisfactory explanation but some of the people have lived here for nine years chiefly ranchmen so I'll send you the names of some of

them and you can write to them and maybe
they can tell you more about it than I can
because I have only been here 3 years. Buffalo

Lake was named that because years ago many
thousands of Buffalo roamed along the shores
and were shot and now you can see the
heads of them lying along the shore

These Ranchers names are
Mr J. Wilson ^{Water} Mr Geo. Leather ^{up}
^{and} ^{P.O.} ^{Smith}
Mr William Scott Larnston P.O. and
Mr Jarvis Larnston.

Yours Truly

W. P. Williams
P. M.