

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 17 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.

"Fort Steele"
Koolenay dist. Blo

Answer,

1st It was not named after a town or village.

2nd It was named after Lieutenant Colonel Steele of the West Mounted Police who came into the District in command of Troop B. ~~It~~ put down a disturbance caused by the Hootenay Indians led by Chief Siddell. Colonel Steele is still alive and is in Africa second in command of the Baden-Powell Police.

4th The town was originally called Galbraith's Ferry, after Mr. John T. Galbraith J.P., a pioneer of the District, who located the land in the year 1864, and established a trading post where Fort Steele now is.

The name Fort Steele was given it in the year 1887.

Crainbrook -

This was also located by Mr. Galbraith and was known for years as Joseph's Prairie after Chief Joseph.

Moyie.

Moyie is called after the Moyie River and Lake and should be spelled Mouiller which means "Wet" and is a French word and was named by the old French Employés of the Hudson Bay.

ask'd

Mouiller