

Department of the Interior

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OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,.....AUG 18 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.

"Granite Creek"  
Yale + Cariboo Dist. B.C.

Granite Creek B.C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep 1905

James White Esq  
Geographer  
Ottawa

Dear Sir,

Re - Granite Creek This place was discovered in 1885, creek having gold found in bed of stream. Creek was named after a large granite boulder then seen. The Placer diggings produced well for 3 or 4 years & we are left with deep workings & back channels to contend with. The creek heads well up in the Hoop Mountains & empties into the Tulameen River, the Town standing close by the spot.

The discoverer was a man called John Chance who was dared by his brother cowboys to ride a horse up the creek, he had ~~riden~~ ridden but a short way when he noticed gold attached to rock & at once investigated. It is reported that Chinese knew of the creek some years before & that they intended working same, that discoverer returned from China with Celestials for that purpose & was astonished to find a large white Population at work.

Postmaster