

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, FEB 20 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.

"Kincow Island"
Kincow Inlet
Comox-Atlin

B. C.

Hingcom Inlet
June 16/06

The name Hingcom or Hingcomb
was given to this inlet by the surveyors
who made the original survey of this coast
& is after a Captain in the British
navy & probably on one of the survey
boats. This is the generally accepted
theory of the origin of the name as given
to the Inlet, & on the establishment of
the post Office on the river that flows into
the head of the Inlet, this name was given
it at our suggestion. The said river
goes by the Indian name Gwāyā.
Most of the mountain rivers etc. in the neighbour-
hood are named after parties connected with the
survey or celebrities of the day or some
peculiarity of the place & in some cases the
native name has been adopted. Such as
Mackenzie Id. Mt. Vevey in Sir Harry Ranges of
mountains.

Florence, Nightingale, Simons Id. Shaws
Bay. Hā Tā vally etc.

Believe me

yours Respectfully

W. Clifford Smith

P. Master

P. S.

I am sorry to have overlooked this
so long, but hope that the information
may not be useless

W.C.S.