



SECRETARY-TREASURER'S OFFICE,

BRANDON, MANITOBA,  
CANADA.

GEORGE F. SYKES,  
SEC'Y-TREAS.

October 6th, 1905.

The Geographer,  
Department of the Interior  
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir:-

Having been unable to procure the information asked regarding the derivation of the name given to the City of Brandon, acting under advise of His Worship, the Mayor, I forwarded your enquiry to Rev. George Roddick, Brandon Hills, requesting him to furnish all the particulars he was able and forward direct to you.

I trust you will hear from him in the course of a few days. If you do not, please write me again and I will endeavor to get the information from another source.

Yours truly,

*George F. Sykes.*

Secretary-Treasurer.

*Man*

*Rev. Geo. Ross*

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

SEP 12 1905

Ottawa, .....

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.

Brandon  
*Ans'd*

Brandon Hills Mass  
Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> 1905

To the inclosed inquiry which has been forwarded to me by the Sec. Treas of the City of Brandon I beg leave to state

That the City of Brandon was named after the large and important Fort and trading post situated on the South bank of the Assivaboine River about 15 miles below the present site of the City. It was known in early days as the "Brandon House" and no doubt named after some place in the "Old Land"

Some time before the City of Brandon was thought of we had our first Post office named "Brandon", but at the earnest request of the founders of the City we surrendered the name to them and adopted the name of Brandon Hills for our Office.

Shortly after my arrival in the Spring of 79, I was prompted by Curiosity to visit the site of the old "Brandon House". The situation was a beautiful one at the head of the river and ~~near~~ a sparkling stream of pure water flowing near by. I found no difficulty in tracing the site of the large stockade as well as the foundations and cellars of the buildings inclosed within. On the North bank of the river but about a mile further down were to be seen the remains of Forts of the rival Company known as the North West Fur trading Co. We also found that the Range of Hills situated about 10 miles West of the "Brandon House" were designated on all the maps "The Blue Hills of Brandon", so named by Sir John Palliser when employed in early days by the Imperial Gov. to take a general survey of the country.

Respectfully - Rev Geo Roddick  
Brandon Hills.

A previous to that time they were known by the Indian name "Moose Mountain Head".