

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

AUG 28 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.

"Margaret"  
man

The Village of Margaret Received its name in the following manner in July 1891 the settlers of the locality then known as Greenfield that was the name given to the school district and the school district still goes by the name of Greenfield. But the time had come that we felt the want of a Postoffice so we got a petition drawn up and signed by the settlers and the name selected for the Post-office was Greenfield But before sending the petition to the department I shewed it to Hon. J. M. Daley who was our sitting member for Limerick Electoral Division at that time and on looking into the Postal guide we found that there was other Greenfield P. O.s in the Dominion so Mr Daley suggested the name be changed from Greenfield to some other name and the name of the <sup>thems</sup> Post Masters Wife was selected Mr David Nixon was the P. M. and his Wifes name was Margaret Nixon so the Post office got the name Margaret then the Mr. Pipe built a line from Belmont to Hartney

and they put a siding near to where  
the Margaret Post-office was situated  
and called it Margaret siding then  
the next year there was a village site  
surveyed on the farm then owned  
by Mrs Margaret Nixon and the  
village was called Margaret village  
Mrs Nixon is now living in Vancouver B.C.

so the village received its name from  
the Post office and the Post office  
was called ~~for~~ after the Wife of the then  
Postmaster. But Mr Nixon moved away  
he for the Post office was granted  
which necessitated the change of the name  
of the Postmaster from D. Nixon to  
John Mazwood the Present P.M. at Margaret

this account is written by the ~~the~~ <sup>for the P. office</sup>  
the man that got the Petition, signed  
~~signed~~ and ~~took~~ it to Mr Daleys office at  
Brandon so I know where off I speak  
I am yours  
John Mazwood