

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, FEB 27 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.

Morris

Man.

Morris March 20th 1906

James White Esq
Ottawa

Dear Sir In reference to the name of
Morris I will have to go back to the
year 1816 In the story goes when Lord
Selkirk came into our province
the present Morris River close to the
town & on the north side of it was
nothing but a deep creek & ground
full of thorns & Hawthorn it was
almost impossible to get through &
consequently they got their cloths torn
& their flesh scratched & from 1816
to 1882 this place was referred to as
Scratching River. In 1882 we applied
to have the name of the River &
town called Morris. Callaghan
After Lieutenant Governor Morris
who some time previous was the
Lieutenant Governor of this province
we applied for incorporation &
got it in 1883 as the enclosure
sent shows & a plan was now
of Winnipeg every one first
Mayor I expect to be in Ottawa first
of next month & should you wish
further information shall be glad to furnish
it
Yours truly
M. Lawrie R.M. Morris

D. M. URE, MAYOR

F. N. BELL, SEC-TREAS

Corporation of The Town of Morris.

Morris, Man. _____

