

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... AUG 25 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.

"  
Seeburn"  
Man

Ashtabula, Ohio  
Dear Sir  
Seaburn N. N. Sep 14/05

In reply to within Circulars I  
beg to say. That when application  
was made in 1884 for the establishing  
of a post office at Seaburn another  
name had been chosen but owing  
to some objection by the Inspector  
at Wmumpcy, he suggested Seaburn  
as a suitable name. I suppose  
this was done because it takes in  
part of my own name as I was  
to be the first postmaster and was the  
first settler here. In fact if the name  
was spelled Seaburn it would practically  
be a translation of my own name  
from the German for Seebach means  
a small stream running into the sea  
I am still Postmaster here. I came from  
Ontario where I was born and am  
of German descent my Grandfather  
emigrated to Canada from Prussia  
in 1825. This will answer all the questions  
mentioned so far as I can give any information.  
I settled here in 1882

Yours truly  
Seebach