

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,..... AUG 26 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.

"Stuartburn"  
Man

Stuartburn Sept 4<sup>th</sup> 1880

Dear Sir

Stuartburn is a Municipality the village is situated on the Banks of the Roseau River a nice stream taking its rise in the Lake called by that name in Minnesota and emptying into the Red River 18 Miles west of here in a straight-line the river is and has very pretty Banks it is very Crooked

Stuartburn was first named for a P.O. after one the first settler in this vicinity it was first called Stuartville but the P.O. Dept changed it to Stuartburn as there was another Stuartville it was called for Stuart Millar or Farmer still residing on the River bank two Miles further East than the P.O.

The village never had any other name as there was no settlement in this Place before 1880 and then only 4 individuals ~~was~~ the population of the Municipality now is between 4 & 5000 the great Majority Austrians and Germans there is now a branch of the C. W. R.R. coming in 4 Miles south of here there is in this village 3 General stores Cheese Factory 2 Blacksmiths Flour Mill School 7 Municipal Offices 3 Implement-Business the Land is good with some stones Plenty of good Water good for kind Farmers  
Yours Respectfully  
Wm. M. Abilla Ranger P.M.