

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

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.

Westbourne, Man.
+ many others

- WESTBOURNE. Name of district before the Manitoba and North Western Railway was built, adopted for station.
- WOODSIDE. Name of district before the Manitoba and North Western Railway was built, adopted for station.
- KEYES. Originally called Midway as being midway between counties of Westbourne and Beautiful Plains, subsequently changed to Keyes after prominent resident.
- ARDEN. After the name of a private estate in Yorkshire.
- NEEPAWA. Named before Railway was built, means abundance.
- FRANKLIN. Originally called Bridge Creek but changed to Franklin at the request of residents of that district.
- NEWDALE. Name of district before the Railway was built, adopted for station.
- STRATHCLAIR. Hudson Bay post on Little Saskatchewan River, adopted for station.
- KELLOE. Name of district before Railway was built, adopted for station.
- SOLSGIRTH. Named after an English estate.
- FOXWARREN. Named after the English estate of Mr W.H.Barneby.
- BINSCARTH. Named after the large thoroughbred stock farm established in that vicinity, before the construction of the Railway, by the Scottish, Ontario and Manitoba Land Company.
- JOHNSTON. Have no knowledge of the origin of this name, given since my time.
- MILLWOOD. Messrs Mitchell and Bucknall established a large saw mill in this vicinity and laid out a small townsite which they

named Millwood, later when a station was opened there, the name was adopted.

HARROWBY. Called after the Yorkshire town of that name.

LARGENBURG. The Manitoba and North Western Railway Company having established a large colony of Germans in this district, the station at their request was called Largenburg in honour of one of the German princes.

CHURCHBRIDGE. This district was settled by the Church Colonization Society under the direction of the Reverend Mr Bridger and this name, obviously a combination was suggested by the Society and adopted for the station.

BREDENBURG. Named after a private estate in England.

SALTCOATS. Named after the town of that name in Scotland where the then President of the Manitoba and North Western Railway, Mr Andrew Allan of Montreal was born.

ROKEBY. Named after Mr R.T.Rokeby, a then director of the Manitoba and North Western Railway.

YORKTON. This district was settled by the York Farmer's Colonization Society, and a small village given the name Yorkton, later when the Railway was built the name was adopted for the station.

W. P. P. P.

OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE