

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.

Westbourne

Man

5009 98 35

Westbourne
Sept 9/05

This settlement was started about 1868
by Archdeacon Cochrane of the English
Church Missionary Society London
England

It was called at that time 1st crossing
White Mud River as the Main Highway
from Winnipeg to Edmonton crossed the
river here the river was given this name I
believe by the Indians as White mud shows
in the banks in some places

Afterwards it was given the name of Westbourne
by Mr Henry George (a son in law of
Archdeacon Cochrane) who succeeded him
in charge of the Mission & School He
named it after the name of the street
he lived in London England

Mr Henry George has been dead for some
years but his widow is still alive and
resides at Portage la Prairie with her son
in law M. H. M. Pratt

One of the old Indian Mounds is to be
seen here on the farm of Wm M. Hind
but nothing beyond a few stone pipes, axes,
&c has been found there & it is now used as
a potato pit

I came up here from England in 1874 &
have resided here since that date

A. J. Smalley P.M.