

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 28 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.

"Woodroyd"
Man

Department of the Interior

Office of Conservation

Washington

Royd - a place that has been "ridded" of trees

Woodroyd

Sept 29 - 05

Replies to Queries re above name

To James White Esq
Geographer

Dear Sir

In the district around Low-Moor in the West-Riding of Yorkshire, England, (from whence I came to this Country) there are numerous — Royd's — I was living for some length of time in a Terrace in Wood-royd-Road, on inquiry I was informed that Royd meant a piece or parcel of Land.

The Homesteads which I took up here being well-wooded and in memory of the Old-Place, I gave the name Woodroyd, to the P. O. Authorities when I made application for a Post Office to be located here, no other P. O. of that name being in the Official list, the name was allowed —

I was Postmaster until about five years ago when I removed into Winnipeg but now returned and living at Woodroyd
My Son-in-law is now Postmaster

Trusting the reply is satisfactory
I am Dear Sir yours Respectfully
John Cook