

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 21 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.

B.C.

Beechmount  
Cape Breton Co  
Cape Breton Co  
see over

Beechmont Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> 1905

Dear Sir - I can tell you very little concerning this place. The name of this place before 1892 was Rear Balls Creek, before that time there was no Post-office we received our mail at North West Arm P.O. about that time (1892) there was Copper found in Mountain which is known as the Copheath Mountain shafts were sunk but up to date it has not proved very successful, about the time the mines was opened we got a Post-office and the name of Beechmont was given to it.

Yours Respt -  
William Mc Smith

W. S. M.

Dear Sir

Is your P.O. called Beechmont because there  
are beech trees on the hill in your vicinity?

Can you give me any information re  
the name boxheath? Is it a man's name?  
If so who & what was he?

Yours truly  
James White

Beechmont B.V.B.  
October 24<sup>th</sup> 1905

The Postoffice at this place was named  
by the mine owners - "Beechmont" - for the  
reason that Beech wood predominated on  
the mountain -

all the lands on the mountain, were  
called Box's-heath - by the man Box who  
granted it