

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa,.....MAR 13 1906

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 who 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.

Beechwood

Beechwood formerly

Beech Hill a small Post settlement in Antigonish
County Nova Scotia four miles from Antigonish Station
As Post is Antigonish distant 5 miles it contains 12 families
mostly Scotch the reason that it was called Beech Hill was
that there was a big round Hill full of Beech trees on the
Path that the settlers used to travel between Antigonish
and St Andrews it was reported that the people used

to see and hear ghosts at this hill and the
settlers got a new road made in the
direction to avoid meeting the monster
The Bochan was a big terror to men and women
traveling there in the night time

There is no lake only one little one
which is of value to the settlers to procure
Ice for the winter summer season
hoping you will have

every success in your undertaking

I am Sir

your obt servant

Alfred McDonald

Postmaster Beechwood

Antigonish Nova Scotia