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# 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.

*Cape George Harbour*  
*Richmond Co. N.S.*

Dear Sir

as I am no great Historian

I cannot give you a History of Canada  
But I can relate you few things about Cape Breton  
which may be of interest to you.

Cape Breton As it is) Cape Breton Island is to the  
North West - of the Peninsula of Nova Scotia.  
It is divided into four Counties. <sup>Richmond</sup> ~~Im~~ Guernsey.  
Victoria. Cape Breton <sup>Richmond</sup> Cape Breton Island is remarkable  
for its Beautiful Scenery. Good Harbours are plentiful  
Before you and I were young; Cape Breton Island belonged  
to France. Unwilling France was quick to learn and  
wise to know the great value of Isle Royal, as they called  
Cape Breton. They built a Town on the East Coast -  
fortified to kill, and called it  
Louisburg, in honour of the King Louis of France  
Louisburg's fortifications were but kept in good  
repair. In 1745 A.D. it was taken by a small  
fleet from Great Britain and an Army of New  
Englanders. France was kept of Isle Royal -  
afterwards it was ceded to France. Again in 1758  
however Louisburg was finally captured by Great-

Britain. The Bon. Isle Royal. was Ceded forever to Great  
Britain. 1763. A.D. From 1784 to 1819 the Island formed  
a separate province under Military Government. -  
on the eastern part of Victoria County a few miles to the west  
of Great-Bras-d. or Lake. The tourist suddenly beholds  
a Bay. Which is truly lovely. This is St-Annis Bay.  
It is over six miles in length and has an average  
breadth of over a mile. At the Mouth of St-Annis Bay  
on the West-Side is the Town. English Town  
along the Bay for the most part: on both Sides  
are excellent - Farmers. Scores of Sailing and  
Steaming vessels plough the waters of St-Annis  
every week; The chief industries occupation of St-Annis  
people are Farming. Fishing & Lumbering.

The Capital Towns of Cape Breton are  
Orichat. The Capital of Richmond: Fort Hood  
Capital of ~~Richmond~~ Government  
Baddeck. Capital of Victoria. Sydney Capital  
of Cape Breton

Cape George Harbour. in Richmond Co.  
is situated along the shore of the Bras-d-ore Lake  
about six miles from St-Peters; which is the  
nearest village to it. It has derived its name  
after an Old Gentleman who sailed from Scotland  
Built a small Shanty on the Cape: Remains  
there for a couple of years.

when <sup>the</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>very doubtful</sup> winter ~~of~~ in March of 1834  
he mysteriously disappeared. Three weeks  
after <sup>he was missed</sup> his remains were found on the Ice. on  
Bras-d-ore Lake about 10 miles from his home -  
his name was George Mc Intosh  
a Carpenter by Trade

Scotts River is the best place.  
a Man by the name of Scotts. got a portion  
of Land Granted <sup>around the River</sup> in the <sup>early</sup> days of Cape Breton  
the River derive its name after Scotts

Ken MacKenzie  
Post-Master  
Cape George N.S.