

11 K/7

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 23 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.

*Lingan
Cape Breton Co N.S.*

As. White Esq. Geographer, Ottawa,

LINGAN
1853
N.S.

Dear Sir:-

I have purposely delayed answering your questions to this day, in order that I might get the information you desire to have. Now about the origin of the name "Lingan", I have asked the oldest inhabitants of this place, how it got that name, but they could not give me any information about it. "Lingan" is not the name it had first, previous to seventy years ago this place was called Indian Bay owing to the fact of the Indians resorting to this place and making short stays here; and the harbour here which is a small one which is about two hundred yards wide was called House harbor, it is only two or three feet deep, but at the western end of it there is a bay of shallow water muddy bottom, and nearly a mile wide. There is no large hills here, but some Capes, the northern head of Lingan is the highest. The rivers are small, all entering into the Atlantic Ocean.

I cannot find the word *Lingon* in
books in my possession, and no one here
can tell the meaning of the word. I wish
what the name is derived is beyond any
means in my power to find out. This
locality is a small one, and rather ob-
-scure; once there was a coal mine
here, but closed up about 30 years ago,
there is an abundance of coal here.
Seams on top of seams of various thick-
-ness from one foot to nine feet of good
quality. The earlier inhabitants of this
place as you know were the French,
but they made no progress in Agriculture.

This is all the information that
I am able to give you respecting
the questions on other side.

Respectfully
Ch. L. Macneil,
p. M.