

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, MAR 28 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.

Actinolite

Hasting Co. Ont.

Actinolite Ont. Hastings Co. Elizav. Tp. The place was founded in abt 1-1856 by the name of Troy, and at that time was a heavy forest, and being situated on the Mootamatta River, which has its source from a great chain of lakes, about 25 miles north of here. Loon Lake, Sheldrake Lake, etc., and by its great capabilities of easy damming, was of great service in getting out the lumber, which was floated down this river, which empties into the Moira River, one mile south of this place, this lumbering has gone on continuously up to present time, but is about done, and as the river has exceptional capabilities, for a steady power, owing to its great reservoirs of lakes, it is intended to develop them for Electrical, & Hydraulic power, in near future. Canifton which was on the Belleville & Troy, Woods open trail, was formerly called Bridgewater, and when they changed from Bridgewater to Canifton, we changed from Troy to Bridgewater - which was about the year 1866. I can learn of no reason for this, The village was surveyed & plan made out at this time and remained that name until the year 1895. ^{Mar 25} when it was changed to Actinolite, which is a mineral of Calc nature, or Bastard Asbestos, which is here in considerable quantities, and is mined & milled here as Actinolite Fire Proof Roofing. In addition to the deposits of Actinolite, which commence about three miles east of Actinolite. There lies along the North Boundary of this village and stretching in westerly direction large deposits of Auriferous Missick Ore, and with the development of the Water power these deposits will be able to procure that which has long delayed their being worked, viz. Cheap Power, The principal product to be obtained from Hastings County Missick is Arsenic with Gold as a byproduct, It is said that no deposits workable for arsenic containing gold in fair amounts are known to exist anywhere in the world. It is this fact that enables arsenic of highest grade to be produced in Hastings Co. at a much less cost than it is possible to do it anywhere else. The production of arsenic will yet be a very large industry in Hastings Co. and particularly so at Actinolite.

Yours truly,
J. H. Roberts, J.M.