

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, OCT 19 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 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.

*Agincourt
York Co. Ont.*

The Re-naming of Agincourt Post-Office

Mr. John Hill who was keeping store at this place about the year 1858 had petitioned the Postmaster General several times for a post-office but without success.

About this time Mr. Hill met Mr. Thibideau of Port-Neuf in Toronto.

They had been friends when Mr. Hill lived in Port-Neuf. In course of their conversation Mr. Hill told him of his desire to get a Post-Office in connection with his store but had not been able

Oh he said I can get you a Post-Office you know I am not a strong Party man and John, Q, will give anything to keep me on his side, but if I get it for you you must give it a French name.

All right if ~~I get it~~ you let me choose the name, very well what shall it be.

Mr. Hill said Agincourt is a very pretty name, Oh he says that ~~is~~ ^{is} where you beat the French, but it is a pretty name so let it go. Your obedient servant
W. A. Kennedy P.M.