

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... OCT 4 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.

*Alport*  
*Muskoka Dist.* *Out* *31 E/3*



Alport (pronounced Allport) took its name from a person of that name who came to Canada from Australia or New Zealand in 1863. He settled at the mouth of the Muskoka River & cleared a large tract of land now occupied by J. J. Beaumont & Sons, & still known as the Alport farm. Having some amt. of Capital he was the means of providing plenty of work for the new settlers around & on this ac the first Post Office was called Alport in his honor. The P.O. was on the opposite side of the river in what is now the Township of Moreton & the first P.M. was J. B. Browning. Some years afterwards the P.O. was kept by Mr. Alport himself, the former P.M. giving up the office. After dropping most of his money in clearing land & building, Mr. Alport moved to Orillia where he conducted a Real Estate business for some years, when he moved to the Pacific Coast where he died. His son "Ted" resides in Orillia today being one of the firm of Perry & Alport - general store.