

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 28 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.

Arner
Essex Co. *Arner*

Amer. Letter Co
Oct 9th 1906

James White Esq
Geographer
Dear Sir

Re the name, or the origin of the name of our post office, Arner, and of our unincorporated village of the same name, the facts are about as follows. During the early months of 1884, the brand of a P.O. was felt, though decidedly a rural district. Richard Eede took upon himself the task of circulating a petition for signature to that end, which when fairly well signed by the electors in the neighborhood he forwarded to the Hon. J. C. Patterson our M. C. who was then at Ottawa to be dealt with, while asking for an office it was necessary to give a name hence it fell to Richard Eede's lot to select the name. Being very modest he did not think proper to suggest his own name, or a approximation at Eeden, but chose the family name of his mother Elizabeth Arner (Eede) Mrs Eede's grandfather, Jacob Arner was a thorough U. S. L, having been born in Pennsylvania about 1758 of German parentage, while yet a boy he was drafted for the war and sent north

with the artillery. Young Arner went
far enough north to cross the boundary by
the time he was eighteen years of age,
and soon after drew from the govern-
ment two hundred acres of good land
on the shores of Lake Erie at Pigeon Bay,
and soon after he secured 200 more ad-
joining which makes about as desirable 400
acres of land as can be found in Essex Co.
Arner is on the Ontario division of the
Erie R. R. 26 miles from Windsor.
Richard Eede, who was the first post-
master inaugurated still applied the
seed.

Yours Truly

R. Eede ← Eede.
R. E.

P. S. You suggest the propriety of
submitting the matter to the effect
inhabitants. I may mention my mother
Mrs Elizabeth Eede nee Arner who is in
her 84th year is hale and hearty being
the oldest person in the neighborhood
and living with me is authority on
tradition almost beyond compare.
R. E. Do not use all or any part. I
have submitted if not to your mind
R. E.
R. E.