

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 18 1905

31 B/15

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.

Bill Ewart
Simcoe Co. Ont

Dear Sir:

In reply to the questions on the foregoing sheet, I cannot say anything very definite.

Bell Ewart is situated on the West shore of Cook's Bay, Lake Simcoe; in the 4th Concession of the Township of Innisfil, and was owned in 1853 by a man named Ewart, and has been called the Ewart Estate.

I have heard that ^{it was} owned by a man called James Bell Ewart, ^{in 1853} and that the Village was named accordingly. I have also heard that he had a daughter Bell, and that the place was named for her. Which of these statements is correct I cannot say.

I came here in 1854, but was never acquainted with the former owner, of the estate.

I have never heard any other name for the place. The original way of spelling is still used, Bell Ewart. But the last few years it has become a habit to add an E, to the end of everything, and a great many spell it Belle Ewart.

Yours Truly
S. C. Webster