

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 25 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.

*Blyth ✓
Huron, Co Ont*

40 P/11
Blyth - Ont Sept 30/1905

Dear Sir

The Village of Blyth was named after James Blyth of England who owned the greater part of the land in the Municipality. The Village was originally called the Village of Drummond, named after Wm Drummond, a merchant who kept store here in its early days. James Blyth was never a resident here, that I have heard of, for full particulars of James Blyth write McCarthy Boy and Murchison - Barristers etc Barrie Ont - The first settlers here were Lucius A.C. McCounell, an Irishman and Kenneth McBean a Scotchman in the year 1850. Wm Drummond came in a few years later in 1855 and sold by auction 200 Village lots.

Blyth was incorporated in the beginning of the year 1877. Patrick Kelly the first Reeve and Robert Phillips Clerk. Population 850.

The writer came here in 1875 the beginning of the year, it was then called Blyth, the Loudon, Huron & Bruce Ry was built in 1875, which gave the Village quite a start, this year the C. P Ry is building the Guelph & Goderich Ry which runs through this place

A. Elder
Clerk &
Treasurer
Blyth