

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, MAR 31 1906

30 M/13

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.

Boston Mills

Peel Co. Ont

Boston Mills, June 6. 1906

Mr. James White,

Although by no means an old settler I have taken pains to secure the following items.

yours truly

H. A. Bracken

Boston Mills

12 miles north west of Brampton, on the Credit River - one mile north west run the Caledon Hills from which limestone and sandstone are quarried. settled about 1825.

Called "Boston" in 1848. - The young men of the district were wont to seek amusement in Cheltenham to the south. The dance was usually closed with a number entitled "The Road to Boston" so that this name became synonymous with home and gradually the name "Boston" was applied to home.

In 1860 "Boston Mills" was printed on the mill but the name "Boston Mills" was not applied until 1870 when it was given by railway men.

P. S. Any further information I will be pleased to give
H. A. B.