

30 m/15

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.

*Bowmanville
Durham, Co. Ont.*

TOWN OF BOWMANVILLE.

Bowmanville is beautifully situated on an eminence, surrounded by picturesque scenery, overlooking Port Bowmanville Harbor on Lake Ontario, and one of the prettiest expanses of water in Canada. In summer boats ply daily in full view up and down and the fine boats of the Ontario & Richelieu Line call both ways in summer. The population of Bowmanville is between 3000 and 4000. Streets and sidewalks are first class and handsome residences are numerous. Streets, public buildings and residences are lighted with electricity. Abundance of spring water, good drainage and reliable fire protection. The postal service is all that can be desired. The Dominion Organ & Piano Co's. great factories for manufacturing Pianos, Organs, Bicycle Rims, etc., are located here; also the Bowmanville Rubber Co's works. There are excellent Public and High Schools, not surpassed in Canada for equipment and efficiency. The churches are Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Congregational, Disciple and Roman Catholic. Only two hotels with reasonable rates and other modern conveniences. Stores are numerous and carry full lines of all kinds of first class goods; competition is keen and prices as low as in a city. Telegraph and telephone systems connect the town with all places near and distant. Port Bowmanville is becoming a favorite summer resort, being one of the most healthful locations on the north shore.

THE STATESMAN is the popular local news paper and enjoys a very extensive circulation. The town stands ready to offer liberal inducements to factories to locate in Bowmanville. Correspondence invited.

"Statesman", August 30, '05

Bowmanville
Ont.

Bowmanville October 6th / 5

Dear Sir

Replying to your enquiry. Re Town of Bowmanville would say that - the said Town is situated about the Centre (East and West) of the Township of Darlington in the County of Durham. said Township lies on the shore of Lake Ontario, and extends north ten concessions. The Town itself is beautifully situated upon a ridge lying between two streams, and overlooks the valley extending to the lake, and is sufficiently high to command an extensive view at every point. Few places in the Dominion have more extensive and beautiful landscape views. It is naturally drained by the streams referred to. On the whole, with fresh air from the lake, good water, and drainage and the high situation make it and is noted for as being one of the healthiest Towns in the Province of Ontario. About the ^{year} 1800, the lands upon which the Town is built passed into the hands of the late Charles Bowman^{2d} Settleman after whom the Town was named, he was engaged in mercantile pursuits, owning a Saw Mill, Grist Mill and general Store; Robert Fairbairn, father of our present Postmaster, who had charge of the Store and general business at the time the Hamlet was called Darlington Mills. Mr Bowman was not a resident of the place, and died in Italy about the year 1848. From this foundation the place started to grow and in the year 1858 it was incorporated as a Town with the late James M. Peters as its Mayor.

John Lyle
Clerk
Town of Bowmanville