

# Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... OCT 18 1905

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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.

*Creswell*  
*Victoria Co B.C.*

We have neither, i.e. Lakes. Cape Bays. nor  
Mountains. in our vicinity. But have got ~~fine~~  
a fine farming Country. the Whitley & Manila  
Railway was Built in 1877 and on that date  
this village had its Birth. and was first named  
Manilla Station by the Postoffice Department.  
this being the name of the railway station. is the  
origin of the name. the village of Manilla is  
situated two & a Half miles north of Cresswell.  
and it was found that the two names Manilla  
Station. and Manilla Village being so much a  
like. the mail often got mixed. or miscent.  
therefore in the year 1882. the Postmaster General  
requested the patrons of Manilla Station  
Post office to find another name. they couldn't  
agree with regard to a new name. so the  
Post office department named it Cresswell.  
Can think of nothing other to tell you:

Yours Faithfully  
Joseph Miles  
Postmaster

Post office Cresswell, Eng

land for  
Manilla Station