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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 28 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.

*Eagle*  
*Elgin Co. Ont.*

Eagle Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 1905

Dear Sir

In reply to your request for information about the derivation of the village of Eagle I interviewed a few of the oldest inhabitants, with and have gathered the following information. There was a Post Office started here about the year 1855 named Brooks Creek P.O. by the first settlers along a small stream called Brooks Creek but it was closed in about a year for no one was willing to keep it. In the mean time more settlers came in and they began to feel the want of a P.O. and called a meeting about the year 1860 and three men were appointed to decide on a name. They decided to locate the village on a cross road on the old Talbot road and another road called Graham road named after Mr. Archibald Graham they decided to call the P.O. to be established Eagle P.O. after a bird of that species that came for a number of years and build a nest in one of Mr. St. Graham's largest Chestnut trees, and the owners of the tree took great care to protect the Eagles from the hunters and others, and Mr. W. H. Ford another one of the Committee being an American he also was in favor of calling the village Eagle. Shortly after deciding on the name the P.O. was established. Mr. Wm. Howbray was the first Postmaster. The above information is correct I got it from Mr. Wm. Howbray one of the first settlers and former Postmaster.

Yours Truly  
P. J. Lindemann Postmaster