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Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, APR 12 1906

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.

*Effingham*

Welland Co. Ont.

Effingham in May 2. 1906

Dear Sir: - In reply to your queries  
respecting the name of Effingham  
I have been told by some  
of the old settlers that  
somewhere in the 60's the  
residents of this locality  
applied for a Post office and  
in their application named  
it for their choice Beckett's  
Mills, but were surprised  
when the application was  
accepted to find that  
the Government or Post-  
office Department in replying  
had named it Effingham.  
For the origin of the name  
you will have to look in the  
archives of the P.O. Dept't  
~~where the village was previously~~  
~~called Beckett-Town or Beckett's~~  
~~mills on account of persons~~  
~~of that name numbering two~~  
~~first mills in the place.~~

Yours, White Esq  
Attornee

Respectfully Yours  
A. W. Moore P.M.

Cand for Beckett's Mills.