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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 4 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.

*Elgin House
Muskoka Dist.
Och*

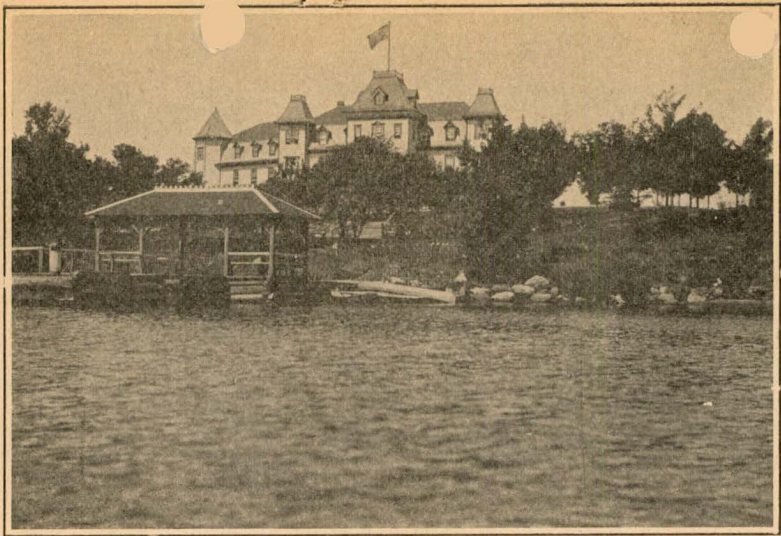
ELGIN HOUSE, OCT 11 1905

Dear Sir

Elgin House. is comparatively a
new summer resort on Lake Joseph one of the Muskogean
Lakes just 6 years since the first House was
built. The Proprietor got his wife in Port Elgin
Ont. has one son only, his name is Lambert
Elgin. when we wanted a name for our
House. Elgin House suggested itself.

On other incident, helping to settle the name, was
we have a farm connecting a professor from
one of the Universities of Cleveland Ohio. was
with us that season. and said my wife
made the best Butter he ever tasted. he said ^{it was}
as good, or better than the Elgin Butter
of Ill. hence the name Elgin

L. Howe
Post Master



THE ELGIN HOUSE.

Muskoka Lakes, the High-lands of Ontario.



IN all the great expanse of the North-American Continent there is not to be found another region of fresh water so extensive, with an atmosphere so healthful, and possessing such a variety of scenery.

Muskoka is the name of a large district 1000 feet above the sea level, and 500 feet above Toronto. It is estimated that within the territory embraced by the general name of Muskoka there are eight hundred lakes and islands, with a scenery that baffles description.

This is an ideal pleasure ground, where the over-worked and run-down man can find rest and health, where the sportsman can give vent to his longing with rod and gun, where the pleasure-seeker finds his delight in Canoeing, Bathing, Golf and Tennis, and where the artist finds more material than he has time to represent.