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Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, OCT 20 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 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.

Fairbank
York Co. York Tp. D.W.
New part of City of Toronto
Dry Yorkville

3rd Con.

Lot III

the "parsons estate"



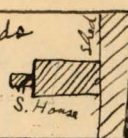
Needon
2 1/2 acres

3rd Con. line of West York

2nd Con. West of George St.

Lot II the "Ross estate"

P.S. grounds



1 1/4 miles to 2nd Con line

Lot II



Lot II
"Watson estate"



80 rods

James White, Esq
Ottawa
Kan

Fairbank Ont
Jan 1st 1906

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of 20th Oct last has been handed to the writer by the postmaster at Fairbank & I have obtained following information from my father Mr. W. Parsons and others of the oldest surviving, the original settlers having passed away.

A man by the name of "Needon" purchased the lot opposite present school which the school which was formerly a little further north was for a time known as "Needon's" Later the writer's grandfather re-purchased the 2 1/2 acres & Needon left the locality.

The school house is on a pronounced rise running from north about where the "Watson's" bldgs are shown to its highest where "Parsons" bldgs are shown & tradition has it the "Ross" family wanted to call the place Springbank there being fine springs on that farm but the geographical name as now given became the popular one probably about 1845- or 1850. (Perfect Fairbank is also the name of some English localities but do not know)

There was no post office here in those days but after the erection of the brick school house & probably about 1875 - Fairbank Post Office became established 1/2 mile further south, as also the hotel. Prior to this the residents got their mail from Yorkville P.O.

I should be pleased to make any further enquiries
You might desire to be made

Yours truly
J. Parsons