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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 18 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.

Fennells
Simcoe Co. Ont.

Fennells P.O. Was named after an old Pioneer who lived about four miles distant to the south he was a Farmer by occupation and lived probably two miles west of the Holland River that divides that portion of York County from Simcoe County, and extends into Cooks Bay Lake Simcoe.

Fennells P.O. is located three miles west of Cooks Bay at the Town line between the Townships of Innisfil & West Gwillimbury Simcoe County. Mr Fennell, who served a number of years as Council and rose to the Reevship for the Township of West Gwillimbury also was of J.P. for a long period so was highly respected and was a steadfast member of the Episcopalian Church and lived to a ripe old age and passed away on his own Farm full of years.

The writer can only locate two of the old Pioneers for miles round one of those now bordering Chindytown and came here in 1832. She is hale and hearty still and can converse at ease about all things of Pioneer life and can tell the ages of those that was Borne in the Neighbourhood in the thirtys & Fortys of the 19 century. The writer was Born ^{March 4th 1839} on the Bush Farm then half a mile east of Fennells P.O. and has lived ^{here} ever since to see the country all cleared up most of which is fit to run the Binder over to cut the Harvest.

October 30th 1905. Thomas Sawyer