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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.

*Garden Hill*  
Durham Co. *Orth*

GARDEN HILL  
NO 101  
05  
ONT

In the year 1868. James Dyer  
of Orono, purchased the sawmill and  
water power <sup>here</sup> belonging to Francis Beamish  
and proceeded to erect a woolen mill  
as the inhabitants increased. a  
future village was seen and of course  
a Post office became a necessity. and  
a name had to be applied

A public meeting was called to make  
a choice. "Waterford" was first suggested  
but it was found there was a place  
of that name in Western Ontario  
other names were suggested, but it was  
finally resolved to call it "Garden Hill"  
in honor of the Royal Orange Lodge that  
had been established here <sup>many years before</sup> and it is  
thought that name was given to the  
Lodge as it was in a valley surrounded by hills.

James Dyer, J.P. was first P.M. He was  
succeeded by J. G. Honey; J. H. Cook; and  
the present incumbent

Your humble servant

J. M. Little P.M.

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