

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 25 1905

31 D/14

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.

Gravenhurst etc (summer)
Muskoka Dist, Ont.

Gravenhurst P.O. in the Township of
Muskoka in the District of Muskoka
and on the border of Muskoka Lake
was ~~for~~ originally called McCabe's till the
P.O. was established then the Post Office Dept
called it Gravenhurst after Gravenhurst in *
the old country. — Bala after Bala in
Wales, Port Carling after Hon John Carling and
Port Sandfield after Hon John Sandfield McDonald,
both of whom visited the place before the Canals
were established — Muskoka is indeed
in clear sky Jorance after Mr Jorance the
first settler a farmer, and first P.M. —

Gravenhurst is beautifully situated on a bank
between Muskoka Bay & Full Lake noted for fine
day climate thus for a resort for people who
need clear air an bracing atmosphere 80 ft
above the Lakes.

J. P. Lockman

Old Settler

Gravenhurst

Ont.

Notes for Summer & Summer resort