

31D/12

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa,

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.

Hobart
Simcoe Co Ont. (See over)

Hobart nov 27 1905-

Dear Sirs:-

I am afraid I have not the information required to answer those questions I have sent this paper to our teacher but refused to answer not having the proper information concerning the name of Hobart It is just a farming country place. perhaps Mr Alex Fowler Orillia Box 402 as he was the first postmaster in this place will give you better information. yours. sincerely

Post. master

Hobart

Ottawa, December 1st, 1905

Dear Sir,

I have been referred to you by the Postmaster of Hobart for information concerning the derivation of the name of that P.O. I shall be much obliged if you will give me a memo of any information that you have respecting the above.

Thanking you in advance.

Yours truly,

James White

Geographer

Alex. Fowler, Esq.,

Box 402, Orillia,

Ont.

Orillia Dec. 5th / 1905

Mr James White

Dear Sir: - In regard to the name Hobart the P.O. name you enquire about it was given by the P.O. department in this way
Aly Fowler my father lived about 2 miles east of the present Hobart on his farm had started a little store and as it was about 3 miles to the nearest P.O. a petition was got up and signed by a number of the neighbours asking the P.O. department to grant them a P.O. and that my father be P.M. and also that it be called Fowlers Corner and after consideration the P.O. department consented to grant their request but that it could not be called Fowlers corner as there was already another place of that name, but they suggested calling it Hobart for what reason I do not know so Hobart it got and remained there for several years before it was removed to the present site which happened

this way. The present Hobart road to be known as Langemans Mills or the Red Mills. situated on the Coldwater river. Langeman was the pioneer that started the place which consisted of a sawmill of the old style or upright saw and turning lathe. and furniture shop. and then a flour on the East Mill as they called white which was painted red and hence the place was generally called the red mills. The old man Langeman died ~~the~~ his boys drifted away the place was in debt finally a Mrs Kennedy bought it and started a bit of new life in it and applied for to have the Hobart P.O. moved over there on account of there being more business going on at that time, so the P.O. department had it moved to the present place and went by the name of Hobart. and well perhaps this will be all you need. Yours
92. John W. Fowler
Orillia
54 402