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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.

*Honeywood  
Dufferin Co. Ont*

Honeywood Oct 5. 1905

Mr James White,  
Ottawa,

Sir.

Our Postmaster handed me your letter to him re the naming of our village and hence I will give you all the information I can.

Years ago Mr Buchanan and others forwarded a petition to the Post Office Department asking for a post office and suggesting that, if they were favoured, it be called "Rosewood". Their request was granted in part. They were granted an office but had to choose a new name as the first chosen name was already claimed elsewhere. The Department sent a list of names they might choose but as the country was covered with a heavy hardwood forest standing upon a fertile soil which produced good crops it must have made the pioneers think of the land "that flowed with milk and honey" and hence they chose the name "Honeywood".

This place never had any other name but as the land in this vicinity was first settled by men from the shire of York in England it was for half a century known as the "Yorkshire Settlement". But as nearly all the old settlers have passed away so it is with the name.

Yours respectfully,  
Alex Gupling