

31 B/13

# Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 29 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.

Jasper  
Grenville Co

see over  
see last page

Dear Sir

Will you please supplement your very interesting memo with some further information re "Jasper"; whether after a person; if so, who? If a place, where?

Yours truly

James White

P.S. If you notice where you marked under Lines with Lead Pencil I have stated it was named after early settlers who resided along creek being Irish hence Irish Creek. Not called after any one in particular but Irish on acct. of settlers. And Post Office afterwards changed to Jasper on acct. of Irish Creek as much as Irish went away. The present site of village did not suggest name but as I have stated westward along creek.

Jasper Oct 6/05

Mr James White

Dear Sir

In reply to enclosed

circular I may say the Geography of this village is very scant. The village was named Cush Creek from the fact of a creek which has its origin some distance west of rather South West of village and passes through the North Eastern portion which is connected by a bridge. Owing to the name in fact nearly all the Residents of former years who were especially along the Western part were Mr. James Fish Creek You are probably aware the old Harvard & Bowdoin Railway (now C. P. R.) runs also through the village forming the boundary between the Townships of Tuttle and Gofford and between the Counties of Leeds & Grenville. A Station is located on the Gofford side on Northern part, and the C. P. R. still retains name of station Cush Creek Although the Post Office is named Jasper and village is generally known by similar or same name. The name of Post Office from Cush Creek to Jasper was changed about year 1861, George Cross being then Postmaster, there being another Post Office by name Fish Creek the Mails frequently went astray hence cause of change. The C. P. R. Co. have been petitioned & change name of station but then for a long time. I trust the above information may be of some value to you as requested of me. I remain  
Yours faithfully  
J. J. M. Postmaster  
Jasper

Ottawa, Oct. 20th, 1905

Dear Sir,

I have your second memo respecting name of your P. O. and note what you say respecting the derivation of the first name, Irish Creek. This is perfectly clear, but I am in doubt as to the derivation of the name "Jasper" unless it is a christian name or surname of some person, presumably one of the residents in your vicinity. I shall be much obliged to you for any information bearing on the derivation of the name Jasper.

Thanking you in advance.  
Yours truly,

James White  
Geographer

Jasper. Nov 6/05

Mr. James White

Dear Sir: I have waited and enquired of the older inhabitants and particularly the P. Mayor at the time change of name was made and cannot give you further information of its derivation. Mr. Sweetman was then Prospector and I learn he sent them a few names to select from and simply selected Jasper. Not one by that name in vicinity in place. I presume it was on acct. of the Society of the then residents that name was chosen.

Yours truly  
W. H. Brown  
Prospector