

318/10

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 25 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.

*L'Original
Prescott's Club*

Ans'd

Weed Nathaniel Hazard Treadwell to
Charles Platt Treadwell -
dated 17th Nov. 1874 -

all the night before of him the
said Nathaniel Hazard Treadwell
in a certain tract of land
two leagues in front by two
leagues in depth which being
and being at a place which
in the original grant is called
à L'Original on the bank of
Ottawa River in the Province of
Upper Canada, described in a
certain report and plan thereof
made on the 15th day of March
1784 by Joseph Papineau Surveyor
residing in the City of Montreal
Que. the said tract or parcel
of land or seigniorie having been
originally granted by the Compagnie
des Indes Occidentales of France at
Paris on the 27th Nov. in the

year of our hand 16/4 to Mr. Vailant
then down Major of Luchee -
to have x to hold etc. -
subject to rendering fealty &
homage to His Majesty at every
renewal thereof etc. and to
the said ...
the ...
renewed

Address:

INQUIRY:

ANSWER:

Lat:

Long:

Province:

Answered by:

Time Taken:

Minutes

Referred to:

Card Made:

Date:

L'Orignal - derivation conjectural - the earliest
form is Pointe à L'Orignal - and
sometimes called Pointe à L'Orignal.
The present Village of L'Orignal was
incorporated by special Act in 1876.
Before that it formed part of the
Township of Rougemont which is a
new name for the old seignory of
Pointe à L'Orignal comprising 2
leagues in front on the Ottawa River
by 2 leagues in depth supposed to
have been ceded by the Compagnie des
Indes Occidentales on 27th Nov. 1674 to
M. Perrot Town Major of Quebec. The
title is supposed to have passed from
M. Perrot to the Boulanger family and to
have descended to the Baron de Rougemont
from whom Nathaniel Hazard Leadwell
of Clarksburg bought it for 1,000. guineas
about 1790. Nathaniel H. Leadwell
afterwards sold the seignory to his
son Charles Clark Leadwell. and I enclose
an extract taken from the Registry office
showing the description in this last
mentioned deed. There are many deeds
registered prior to this one from Nathaniel H.
Leadwell to various parties and in
many of them the name is written
"L'Orignal" which is the correct form
it is difficult to determine - (over)

I believe "L'Original" or "Signal" is the French term for a certain species of "U" (see "Rapide à l'Original" on the Pierre Rouse) and there is a point on the Ottawa River at the lower end of the seigniorie adjoining the lower tip of West Lake Huron which is called the "Pointe à l'Original" in the field notes of William LaBine dated in 1798 when he flouted a post as the starting point for his survey of West Lake Huron. This point was formerly a famous place for hard-hunting deer and may have acquired the name of Pointe à l'Original from the Voyageurs as long ago as 1674 - It would be naturally from a good point of call after ascending the Louge Stult Rapids -

young in Paris - King's Mountain, collected
by Prof. Geo. B. Silliman
New York, Oct. 1905

On the other hand "L'Original" has an ^{old word} ~~word~~ ^{which} suggests that the seigniorie may have been named after some place in Normandy or Brittany or perhaps Provence. I believe the termination "de" ^{is} ~~is~~ common - It is more probable however that the place ^{had acquired a name from} ~~was named by~~ the Voyageurs some time before the grant in 1674 - and as they would give it if deer were often seen there - If you wanted further information with regard to Broadwell's purchase there are