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# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 4 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.

Lanseau  
Muskoka Dist. (See over)

Ottawa, October 23rd, 1905

Dear Sir,

Is your P. O. named after the knight in  
Tennyson's poem ?

Yours truly,

*James White*  
Geographer

*Sir Lancelot*

Lancelet is situated on the Govern-  
ment road running in a Northley  
direction from the R. W. Station  
5 miles there is a great deal of Flat rock  
in this Neighborhood. it was settled  
up about 30 years ago. There is a sheet of  
Water due West about 3 miles from here  
It is about 8. x 3 miles there is plenty of  
Salmon and White fish in it and is called  
Skeleton Lake there has been found the  
Skeleton of a man supposed to be an  
Indian on one of the Islands.

One Ch. King obtained permission to open  
a Post Office about 28 years ago and  
called it Lancelet.

Yours truly

Maguire  
P. M.

Lancelot

28 Oct 03

Dear Sir

I have no doubt but Mr. King  
may have taken it from Tennyson's  
poem (Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere  
or perhaps Lancelot and Elaine the lily  
maid of Astolat. It must be many years  
since I read Tennyson's poems and  
had quite forgot all about him

I am Dear Sir

Yours truly

J. Magan  
P. M.