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Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, APR 14 1906

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 who 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.

*Langstaff*

Ycrk Co. Ont.

Langstaff is named after an early settler  
who came from the U.S. some-where about 1800  
purchased 200 acres here (besides various other  
farms.) being Lot 36, 1st con of Markhams  
on the corner of this lot a store was erected by  
his son John, also several houses for workmen  
a mill and factory was also erected -  
but the store was burned two of the dwelling  
houses burned and mill removed.  
on the opposite corner in Vaughan Cook's  
Hotel stood for many years and was  
well patronized in the days of omnibuses  
and stage - Mr John Langstaff was born  
here, lived here to be an old man then  
went to New York city where he has two sons  
practising medicine, he is still living over  
80 years of age but his wife died in New  
York - no other name was ever given it was  
only named Langstaff when a post

office was asked and given about  
35 years ago - a toll gate was situated  
at this corner for over forty years -  
but removed years ago - the Langstaff  
School house was built in A.D. 1811 and  
which was substituted by a brick one A.D. 1892<sup>2</sup>  
one son of Mr. Jos. Langstaff still resides here  
(Mr. Edwin Langstaff) Thornhill, P.D.

ap. 20<sup>th</sup> 1906 (This was filled out by Mr. D. James trustee  
off school). A. Darling, Notariness