

40 P/10

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 19 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.

*Linwood
Waterloo Co. Ont.*

To select a name for the present village of Linwood, a public meeting was called. We do not know of any name that was given to the place before that time. In the public meeting referred to above the name "Linwood" was proposed by Mr. Hutton who was teaching here at that time. Mr. Hutton, now Mr. Hutton gave the following reasons for the name he suggested. "Linn" means a pool and there are to this day several overflowing wells in Linwood which are the source of Speed Creek which runs into the bonestoga river which in turn is a tributary of the Grand River. East of Linwood where the Speed Creek crosses the road leading to Hawkesville is a very picturesque bridge fronted on the south by a bold scarp. Elm trees stand in verdant majesty by the still water and furnish the name "wood" for the latter part of the name. Willows also stand clustered around the wells referred to above. We have not been able to determine accurately the date of the public meeting when Mr. Hutton's suggestion was adapted but think it must have been about 1860.



C. A. H. H. H.
D. M.