

31D/7

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 18 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.

*Little Britain  
Victoria Co. Oct*

Port Hoover out on the shore of Lake  
Sequoia five miles south of here, was  
the leading place of this Township for  
many years (named after a family of  
Hoovers) Port Perry and Port Hoover were  
dual villages for a number of years. Port Perry  
finally got the best of it and a large town or  
village has grown while Port Hoover has been  
nearly all torn down and only a farm  
house remains with 2 or 3 small old frame  
houses left. Fred Shaver <sup>here</sup> married one of  
the Hoovers he is County Commissioner for  
Mariposa Township write him for any further  
information

Ref.

(C) Little Brit in. - was named after Little Britain Township Lancaster Penn.

Re the circumstances

My Father Robert Ferguson Whiteside built a store at the corners on the S.E. corner of his farm in 1853 and in 1854 a meeting was called to name the post office that was being opened here James Mettrel - an Englishman would have it named Margaretville after mother. but my Father an Irish American secured a majority -

It was to have been Elm Grove but some one got ahead of us - There is - a section of London City called Little Britain {hardly one in 5 can spell Britain correctly especially Americans}

# Davidsons Creek was named after Samuel Davidson who bought 1000 acres - through which it happened to run - (for a mere song from pensioners &c) and our grist <sup>built on it</sup> mill ~~site~~ ~~formed on it~~ For farther information apply to Joseph Dix who came to Mariposa about 1830 - (for Oakwood to David King there)

ps I should like well to know when & how our Co Victoria and Township Mariposa were named

Ref Ref  
x Joseph Dix  
Otterville  
out  
Ref



# Samuel Davidson Downpatrick Ireland  
1797-1871 {written by R.F. Whiteside Jr}  
Little Britain out