

31 G/7

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 29 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.

M Connick
Glenn Army *CCW*

McGinnis P.O. Glenora County Ont

In the year 1887 about the first of March the late Hugh R. McDonald was appointed first Postmaster of McGinnis. There was no Post Office here before that time neither did the place go by any other name. The surrounding country was at that time a strictly Highland Scotch settlement with the exception of a couple of Irish families & a couple of French. The late Hugh R. McDonald owned the place upon which the P.O. now stands. & was petitioned by the people of the vicinity to be Postmaster. He at once built a small store, & the following Spring was appointed Postmaster. His daughter M.A. sworn in as assistant P.M. He had the P.O. called McGinnis on account of his wife being a Miss McGinnis and her people were about the first and principal settlers in the vicinity. J.P. French was P.O. Inspector at that time. In the year 1891. Aug 22. H.R. McDonald died, and his wife Mrs H.R. McDonald (Mrs M.C.S.) was appointed P.M. & is still P.M. occupying the same building. There are no other buildings, only those owned by the widow of the late H.R. McDonald - Such as a cheese factory, leased to the farmers for a number of years, a blacksmith shop, the store & P.O. & dwelling house. D. McMaster D.C. R.R. McGinnis & M.P. & Senator McMillan of Alexandria - were strong supporters, & did all they could to establish the P.O. & have the late H.R. McDonald P.M.

Date Mar 21st 1906

M. McDonald

Department of the Interior
Office of Geographer

Named after the wife of the late
Hugh R. McDonald, the first
postmaster. Her maiden
name was McCormick.