

319/15

# Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... OCT. 3. 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.

*McDonalds corners  
Lanark C. Club*

McDonalds Corners Oct 28 / 1905

James White Esq  
Toronto

Dear Sir

I have been able to gain some information with regard to the origin of the name of this place

In the year 1852 a man by the name of Alexander McDonald bought a farm here and there is cross roads here hence the name McDonalds Corners. It never had any other name, and the said Alex McDonald still lives on a farm one mile from here. he lived here about 25 years then moved to his present residence. when he is although quite old still able to visit his old farm yet. There is the Mississippi river which flows past us about one mile off and a beautiful lake on said river which is three miles long and one and a half wide - with a very beautiful summer resort at the head of the lake which is called Dalhousie Lake named after the Township a good lake for fishing Peter Block Bar rather the (Hill) as it is up on a hill any way you can approach it.

Perhaps this may be of use if not no harm done

I am yours

John C. Barr P.M.  
For the last 20 years