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# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 30 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.

*Nauticook*  
*Haldimand Co*      *Qudh*

Nanticoke Oct 4/08

Dear Sir

In regard to your enquiry about origin  
of name for this village would say

The name is of Indian origin and means  
in plain English Crooked or winding Creek.

There used to be an old Indian here called White  
Peter. His story was that there dwelt here  
a very warlike tribe of Indians from creations down

They lived principally by fishing & hunting trapping  
&c. Head quarters here at the mouth of the creek

They were called the Nanticoke tribe or crooked creek  
tribe a name very appropriate to the stream which  
empties into Lake Erie here,

When the white settlers came here they tried to  
change the name to Waiveny and some still  
call the shore at the mouth of the creek  
by that name on account of the neigh the  
waves make when they strike the shore but  
the Indian name still sticks to the village  
and the creek and I dont think any one  
would like to see it changed now

Yours Truly

W. H. Davidson Rm,