

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, APR 14 1906

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 who 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.

Newton Brook

York Co. Ont.

April 18-1906

Geographer

Dept. of the Interior

Dear

Sir - Newton Brook was called after
the name Newton and the geographical
feature of a small brook running
through the center of it - and crossing
along St. as it runs eastward.

The Newtons were residents of the locality
I think prior to the name of the place
being given, there are none of them
here now and have not been for
over 36 years. The "brook" goes
dry in the summer months.

The Newtons are either dead or
removed. I cannot say where they
have gone to.

I never heard of it having any other
name. I may possibly write you
with further information but at
present this is all I know

truly yours

J. B. Goulding J.M.
Newton Brook
Out -

I have been
a resident of the
village for 36 yrs
and am 43 yrs
of age

To The Geographer
of the Department of interior Affairs

~~Place name~~ 30^m/14

Re Name of the village of Newton Brook Ont

Dear Sir learning from G R Goulding that you was making enquiries about the origin of the name - Newton Brook as applied to this village situated, (Post office) on Yonge Street exactly nine and one quarter miles north of Queen Street ^{Toronto} (once known as Lot Street) I would submit the following facts - In the early fifties there being no post office between Thornhill and York Mills, the people decided to apply for an office and with that end in view met in their Old School room and decided in honor to the name of Sir Isaac Newton to call it Newton, however as that name was already taken up, and to prevent confusion decided upon the hyphen word Newton-Brook, a brook crossing Yonge Street about the center of the village which is to be observed upon some old maps under the title of Wilket Creek, one wilket having a saw mill upon it in earlier days, the petition for proposed office was given to one Squire Willson to be forwarded to the Government however as the said Squire Willson lived south of the village, and David Gibson, of 1837 fame ~~at~~ then I think Surveyor General as in that department, it was so manipulated that the office was located about one and a quarter miles south, very convenient to said Gibson, as well, as ^{also} more convenient for Squire Willson, it then being on his road to and from Toronto, and the office was called Willowdale, although the first proposition came from Newton-Brook,

This circumstance, is mentioned because through it by looking up the date of the establishing a post office at Willowdale, ^{you will} be able to arrive at the date of the year this village was named by the residents at a public meeting called for that specific purpose which occurred a few months or more before the Willowdale office was established, the idea of it being called after any one of that name residing in or around here is pure nonsense, some years after the original residents here succeeded in getting a P.O. here. Respectfully yours

Newton Brook Ont

Jos Humberstone
Newton Brook April 19th 95

Also

Here was located the famous Barrett Halls
in the upper Chamber of One was there for some
years the meetings of the Free Masons held it
being fixed up as a sledge room

and here it is reported that the heads were taken
out of the pork barrels while the teamsters slept
Some of the pork removed and the heads
replaced = these barrels of pork being supplied
for the Nor-Questers, then, or earlier, or later, amalgamated
with the Selkokes = the Hudson Bay Company
Talk about corruption after that,

these supplies being en route via Halland Seedeing over the waters of
Simeon, either by portage to the station, or point on the Nuttawasago
River west or north west of Kemperfeldt Bay where once was a sort of
barock or fort thence down the Nuttawasago to Georgian Bay (one route)
but probably there were others as well, toward Pentanguishine

It must but be inferred that the masons had any thing to
do with the appropriation of the Park as it was out at
the same Hall, where their sledge room was located but one
a half mile south where the appropriation was made
also here it was that Professor Hind, Author of the "Great Lone Land"
caught aboard after his escape from ^{the} captivity by the Indians
of the Great Northwest