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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, SEP 27 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.

Poplar Mills
Algoma Dist.

Poplar
Oct. 5th / 56

Poplar is a small country
Postoffice in the Township of Mills
There is no rivers or bays

W. McArthur.

Poplar
Oct. 19th

P. D.

Poplar P. O. was so named by the ^{first} ~~the~~ Postmaster 20
years ago. Mr Thomas Sides, because the Poplar trees
were so plentiful in this vicinity

Ottawa, Oct. 13th, 1905

Dear Sir,

Is your P. O. so named because the Poplar tree is abundant in the vicinity ?

Thanking you in advance,

Yours truly,

James White
Geographer

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some legible fragments include:]

...the name of Canada...
...information that you may...
...the above mentioned...
...any other feature in the vicinity of your residence...
...in many instances the older generation...
...taken to collect this information...
...there are persons who take an interest...
...the early settlement of the locality...
...kindly submit this to them...
...below I have indicated the lines along which I desire information...
...derivative of place-names in Canada:—
(1) Whether named after a village, town, or city, or natural feature in any other province or county; if so, the name of province or county in which the original locality is situated.
(2) Whether named after a person; if so, the person's name, occupation, spelling of name as recorded 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 place.
(4) Whether the town, village or city ever had any other name or names; if so, at what date, approximately, and the origin of these designations.
Any information bearing on the above will be deemed a courtesy.
Kindly write your reply on the attached sheet.
To ensure the transmission of your reply I enclose herewith an addressed envelope which will come free of postage.

JAMES WHITE
Geographer

[Handwritten signature:]
Poplar
Winnipeg