

310/1

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 5 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.

*Ross Mount
Northumberland Co. Ont.*

Ross Mount Oct 18/1905

Dear Sir

Ross Mount Post Office was started when Lewis Ross was M.P. for east Durham. This place had formerly been called Lancasterville or Browns corners Lancasters being some of the first settlers here there are still three old men by that name still here ageing 78, 84 + 86 years they were boys when their parents came from Ireland they have also a sister in Toronto about 90 years old. some time later it went by the name of Browns corners owing to so many families of Browns living here the tavern ^{both still alive here} was and is still kept by Brown ^{they were Irish} son of the old Brown that used to keep it and the Gole gate was kept by ^{still alive} Wm Brown and Englishman and Gole Brown made farming mills ^{now} of an ^{deceased} free Dutchman so when the name of Lancasterville or Browns corners was sent in for the offices of both names Mr Lewis Ross M.P.

(See over)

had it named after his own residence
in Port Hope where he lived that is how
Ross Mount came by its name
Joshua Lill kept this P. O. from the time
it started I think in 1873 May the 1st
upto 1990 ap 1st when he died since then
it has been kept by one of his daughters
I hope these answers will please you
Yours very truly

Mrs Martha Lill Aliver
Ross Mount

P. S. this place is noted for its boiling
spring water there are a number
of them it is situated on the Peterboro
gravel road 7 miles north of Lake
Ontario 3 1/2 miles south of Rice Lake
there is one ^{kept by Noble Brown} ~~one~~ store and
Post Office kept by Mrs M. L. Aliver and
one Black Smith shop kept by H. H. Moyses
and Geo Gummow the surrounding
country farmers