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Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, OCT 4 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.

*Uffington
Muskoka Dist. Ont*

Uffington Oct 18th 1905

James White Esq
Geographer

Dear Sir

Uffington is a very small

Village situated about $10\frac{1}{2}$ Miles east from Bracebridge in the Township of Draper $1\frac{1}{4}$ Miles south of the south branch of the Muskoka river the name was given to a Post office established here about forty years ago and has always retained the name although Matthiasville situated two miles to the north west from Uffington on the Muskoka river some 25 years ago claimed the right to have the village named Matthiasville but did not succeed a person by the name of Matthias located at that place and having the privilege of a good water power built a Saw mill and erected a small grist mill about 36 years ago the Saw mill and Grist mill are still there but have done very little business for many years Mr Matthias having moved to Alberta in the N.W.; there is a Lake 2 Miles east which is known as Poverty Lake this got its name from having one or two who came from England and spent a considerable sum to make a Residence on the shores of the Lake but abandoned it, and it was called Poverty Lake this Lake will cover about 240 acres there is another small Lake on the south west of Uffington about $\frac{1}{2}$ a Mile known as Blackmores Lake getting its name from the person who located the land and cleared to the shore and is still living here, there are still one or two living here who came here 40 years ago, and did work on what is known as the Peterson line at time the Government was supposed to have been opening that line for the purpose it was said of conveying Troops from Ottawa to the west but the most part of the line is scarcely known now, Uffington is on that line and still a few miles are traveled but in a great many instances Deviations are made from the original, there may not be much in this sketch for you the writer has been 36 years here

Yours truly

J Cairns P M

Ottawa, October 23rd, 1905

Dear Sir,

Was your P. C. named after a place in England ? If so,
which of the below mentioned localities ?

Uffington, village, Berkshire
" " Lincolnshire
" parish, Shropshire

Thanking you in advance.

Yours truly,

James White
Geographer

*no person here can give me any information
there is given in regard to Uffington*

J. Cairns
P.M.