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# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, ..... AUG 28 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.

"High Bank"  
Kings Co. P.E.I.

High Bank  
Nov 10 '05

James White Esq  
Geographer Ottawa Can

Dear Sir

In reply to your letter of  
inquiry of Aug 28<sup>th</sup> regarding the derivation of the name  
"High Bank," may say that it has been so named  
from the nature and appearance of the shore or bank  
along the "Strait of Northumberland," the bank for a  
distance of 3 miles being about 75 feet in height  
or above the level of the sea; composed of rugged cliffs  
of red sand-stone rock. This bank falls off gradually  
to a low sandy shore at either extremity, called —  
"White Sands" at the East and "Little Sands"  
at the west.

Yours Truly

Donald McLeod P.M. High Bank

East Queen's P.E. Island