

112/5

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 29 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.

Keesington
Prince Co. P.E.I.

James White Esq
Geographer

Ottawa

Kensington P.C.I
Sept. 2.nd 1905.

Dear Sir, - In reply to your enquiry
the name Kensington it was adopted at meeting
of the Community called for that purpose in the
early 70's - The name was proposed by men of
English extraction after their name "at home".
Probably Kensington in London E.C.3. Previous to
the opening of the P.C.I. Railway in about 1874, the
place was called Barrett's Cross being the
name of a pioneer settler which name was
the official name of the Post Office for years after
the village grew up around the Railway Station - Though
the village was known only by the name Kensington.
The village being located away from any stream or
water it has no physical feature of note to mention.

Yours truly

Ernest Glover P.C.I.