

Department of the Interior,

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OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, NOV 14 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 who 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.

Millfield

Megantic Co., Que.

Replied



Millfield, Ind. Mch. 2-06.

Mr. James White,  
Ottawa.

Sir:— This circular letter has just been handed me by Mr. Thos. Davidson, Postmaster at Millfield, and he has asked me to reply. The name "Millfield" was chosen by the first postmaster, Mr. Thos. McKenzie when the Post Office was started over 30 years ago. Mr. McKenzie owned and operated the grist and saw mills here. Hence the name. The mills are still in operation and owned by the present postmaster, — Mr. McKenzie now lives in Calgary Alta. — I am much in favor of having these local items of history written, as it is very true that our fathers who knew these things are passing away. If there are any other points of our local history that I can assist you in, I will be glad to do so—

I might say that 5 years ago a series of letters appeared in the Mejantio edition of the "Gazette" entitled "Early Annals of Inverness" written by Dugald McEllof, a former resident here but now of Lynn, Mass. These letters were subsequently published in book form under the title "Annals of Mejantio". The book is well written and contains much of the early history of Inverness township and Mejantio Co with derivation of names, which otherwise would have been lost. Of a large edition of this book there are only 3 copies remaining unsold. I can send you a copy postpaid for 75 cents or if you wish I will lend you a copy (over)



if you pay postal charges.  
sent 15 cents for advance postage. retain book 20 days  
and return it to me post paid

I am Yours Very Truly

M. A. McKillop

Millfield

P. D. W.

