

316/9

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER,

Ottawa, NOV 6 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.

Point Fortune

Vaudreuil Que

Point Hortune is a very old place, it is situated at the foot of the Carillon Rapids, about half a mile below the Carillon Dam, when Mr. C. Thomas was writing a history of Argenteuil & Prescott in 1896 I helped him to get access to some very old records. you could get all particulars at page 477 of the work referred to, but as you may not have it I will give you the required information

The village municipality of what is now called Point Hortune is in the Province of Quebec, but as the line between that province & Ontario runs through the village a part is in Ontario - about 80 years ago a person named Barnum had what is now the village surveyed & a plan made and named the lots "Mount Barnum", but the name never took, some 60 years ago when the Post office was opened it was called Point Hortune, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1788 Lord Dorchester then Governor of Canada ordered a survey of 1,000 acres of land to be made in East Hawkesbury joining <sup>now</sup> the Province line for Colonel William Hortune, which was done, and the point below the Rapids was called Hortunes point (Pointe Hortune) a son of William Hortune's named Joseph was also a Lieut Col & a surveyor on the 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 1807 he purchased a piece of land in Point Hortune from Richard Barnum. both of the Hortunes are dead long ago. one of them was buried at Point Hortune, about 50 years ago his remains were removed - but no person living at the time knew which

of them it was Judge Macdonell a Norwester  
purchased part of the Fortino property at the Point  
he was appointed first Colonel of the Prescott Militia  
1<sup>st</sup> April 1822, he built a large two stories Stone  
house in 1817, which is there yet. It was at this  
Point that Battuse from Lachine on their way to  
the Northwest were unloaded for the first portage  
in their journey.

I think the foregoing is all that is necessary  
for you. but if you wished to see the work I  
referred to. The family of the late Colin Dewar  
of Ottawa will have a copy.

Yours truly  
J. W. Middleton

P. S. I am 72 years of age & the eldest male inhabitant  
J. W.

316/7

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*Pt. Fortune, Que.*

*Vaudreuil Co.*

*Ans'd*

Point Fortune, Que. - named after William Fortune  
Sv. Surv. Surveyor - who was living at this place  
in 1796 and had a grant of 1000 acres of land  
being Lots 1 & 2 in the First and Second and  
Third part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Con. of East Humberbury -  
The Village of Point Fortune is partly in  
Upper and partly in Lower Canada -  
William Fortune was born in Co. Wexford  
Ireland and emigrated to So. Carolina  
and from there to Canada. His son Joseph  
Fortune was Registrar at Original Point  
many years. This place was called Point  
Fortune as long ago as 1796 -

L. Original, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> 1915.

C. G. O. K.