

Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF GEOGRAPHER

Ottawa, AUG 23 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.

Moffat - Sask
~~Assa~~

Moffat
Sask

Dec Sept 12th 190-

James White Esq
Ottawa

Dear Sir

Yours to hand. Re inquiry of the origin
of Moffat, in the Spring of 1884 I pitched my
tent here & called it Moffatville after a friend
of mine in Motherwell Scotland. His name was
D^r Moffat a descendant of the great Learner
in 1886 a post office was established & the
department objected to the "Village" at the
end of Moffat, so gave me the choice of
Moffat or Moffaton, I choose Moffat
to perpetuate the memory of D^r Moffat
he paid the place a visit in 1889 & his
intention was to immigrate & make his home
amongst us, but it was otherwise ordered
he died in 1891. If I have omitted any
information in this report, I will be pleased
to do all in my power to help you in your
work I am yours faithfully
A. Kinross