Geographical Names of Renfrew County

A. Rayburn

Price: $1.50

GEOGRAPHICAL PAPER No. 40

Geographical Names of Renfrew County

A. Rayburn

Price: $1.50

Preface

The study of geographical names, generally neglected in Canada, is useful to both the historian and the geographer in developing a more accurate comprehension of the past geography of an area. Names reflect the pattern of settlement and provide evidence of the early economy and ethnic origins of the settlers. Nevertheless, the original meanings of some names are lost and they become mere labels of identification; others are superseded or fall into disuse, and new names are still being created. This toponymic study of Renfrew County, Ontario, serves not only to record and preserve the origins of many old names, but also to clarify and standardize those in common usage, especially in their application on topographic maps.

J. D. Ives,
Director,
Geographical Branch.

Préface

L'étude de la toponymie, généralement négligée au Canada, est utile à l'historien et au géographe pour assurer une meilleure compréhension de la géographie ancienne d'une région. Les noms reflètent les diverses étapes de la colonisation tout en renseignant sur l'économie initiale et l'origine ethnique des colons. Néanmoins, la signification première de quelque noms se perd et ils deviennent de simples moyens d'identification; d'autres sont remplacés ou tombent en désuétude, et de nouveaux noms sont créés sans cesse. La présente étude de la toponymie du comté de Renfrew, en Ontario, sert non seulement à consigner un bon nombre de vieux noms et à en préserver les origines, mais aussi à élucider et uniformiser ceux qui sont d'usage courant, plus particulièrement dans leur inscription sur les cartes topographiques.

J.D. Ives
Directeur
Direction de la géographie

TABLE OF CONTENTS

M A P S

Map entitled *Geographical Names of Renfrew County* in rear pocket

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OF RENFREW COUNTY

INTRODUCTION

In 1964 the author investigated the place names of Renfrew County, which has an area of 3,000 square miles in eastern Ontario. The main aims of the study were to assess the accuracy of the names shown on the national topographic maps, to gather previously unrecorded names and to compare the field approach of identifying geographical features with the correspondence approach, the usual method used by the Toponymy Division* and the provincial members of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names**.

The Toponymy Division has a file for each topographical map. The files in the area of Renfrew County were searched for background material on dates of approval by the Committee and its antecedent boards, and for information on all names with any contention regarding spelling, duplication, application or local usage. Books, periodicals and maps available in the Branch, the Geological Survey and the Public Archives were searched. Subscriptions to some local weekly newspapers provided much useful information.

In June 1964 approximately 150 interviews were conducted in the county. Comments and corrections were entered on topographical maps at the scale of 1:50,000, and a tape recorder was used directly after interviews to retain opinions and special information. Later in the year corrected maps were sent to some of the informants for verification. Further research was conducted in the Ontario Archives and in the Surveys Section, Department of Lands and Forests.

---

*The Toponymy Division of the Geographical Branch provides operational staff for the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, and its chief is the Committee's Executive Secretary.

**A history of the Committee and an outline of its functions are given in *Geog. Bull.*, no. 21, May, 1964, pp. 130-134.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL NAME

Names that are considered geographical names have provided much contention. Some authorities, such as, Boyd (1934, p. 3), have tended to restrict the scope of a geographical name to the identification of natural features and to place names. They would thus exclude the names of hills on road inclines, of man made features such as dams and of many other cultural phenomena bearing names in local usage. During field investigation the author recorded the names of everything mentioned by informants, whether roads, trails, valleys or corners. However, some of the concepts concerning the scope and map-application of geographical names still require further field study and discussion among toponymists. Therefore, the author reserves comment on those kinds of names, roads, for example, in Renfrew County where contention exists about their validity as geographical names.

The main role of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names is to approve names for use on maps. Lacking a field staff, the Committee depends on map-producing agencies such as the Army Survey Establishment to provide field information. Their fieldmen have had a natural inclination to inquire about features that could be delineated easily on maps, such as lakes and rivers, and to ignore the names of those features that are not usually demarcated precisely on maps, such as valleys and rural communities. A good example is the National Topographic System Sheet 31 F/SW, which has 278 identified hydrographic features and only 4 named terrain features. A portion of this map covers the southwest part of Renfrew where many local names of hills, mountains and rural communities were recorded for the first time by the author in 1964.

Some of the names used in this study have special local pronunciations. A simplified syllabic construction is inserted after names that correspond to common English words. For example *Canaan* is shown as being pronounced ke-nan. Many people might expect the name to be pronounced kay-nin.

To differentiate between approved and rescinded names in this study the approved are italicized from the heading "Origin of the Names" to the end of the study. In the preceding sections the italicized names are shown as they were spelled on maps and in texts. Statutory names such as, for example, Brougham Township are italicized only when the specific origin or special notes concern them.
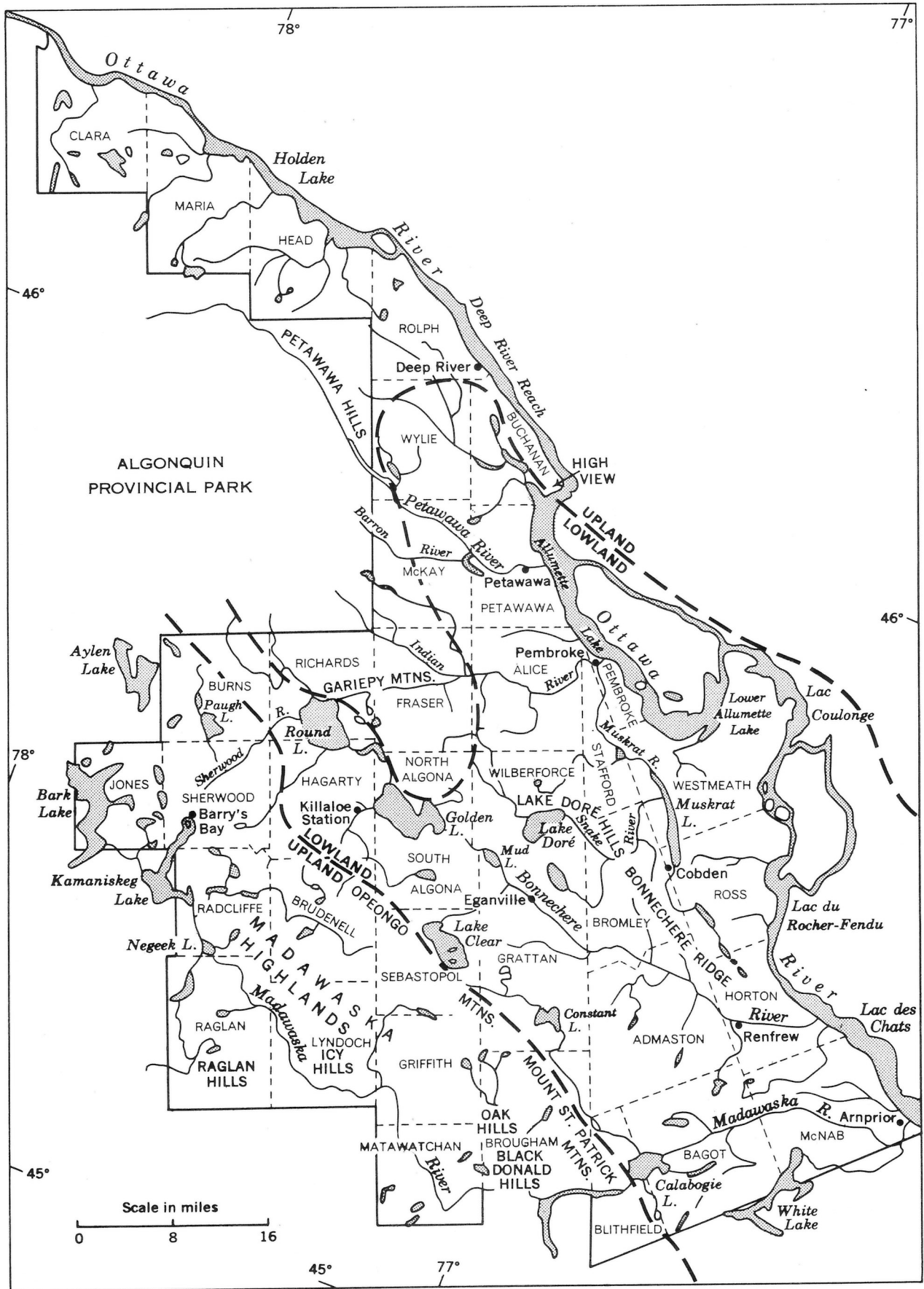
Figure 1. The townships and major terrain and hydrographic features of Renfrew County.

Sixty years ago James White, Geographer, Department of Interior, sent questionnaires to postmasters throughout Canada requesting information on local names. Replies are noted in the text under White's name, with respondents' names listed second; these letters are listed separately in the bibliography under JAMES WHITE LETTERS.

THE PHYSICAL LANDSCAPE

SITUATION

Renfrew County is flanked on the east by the Ottawa River and the Province of Quebec. Its southern and western boundaries from Lac des Chats - an expansion of the Ottawa at Arnrpior - to Bark Lake, 75 miles to the west near Barry's Bay, closely follow the course of the Madawaska River, Nipissing District bounds the county on the northwestern side. The county extends for 70 miles along the Ottawa River northwest of Chalk River, but its width in this section is only from 5 to 12 miles.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

Except near Arnprior, the county lies entirely within the Canadian Shield. Structural faulting has produced two distinctive subregions: (1) a rugged rocky highland with infrequent deep gravelly soils and a few waterlaid sand deposits, and characterized by numerous lakes, dense forest and a chaotic drainage pattern; (2) a lowland of sands, gravels, marine clays and upland outliers, which is topographically and agriculturally more akin to the St. Lawrence Lowlands.

The Highland

The physical geography of Renfrew County is dominated by a northwest-trending structural fault that may be traced from Lanark County along the western sides of Calabogie Lake, Constant Lake and Lake Clear, and into Algonquin Park between Round and Aylen lakes. The local relief along the fault approaches 800 feet in places, such as McDonalds Mountain at Lake Clear.

West of the Opeongo Mountains which extend from Dacre to Brudenell, and of the
Mount St. Patrick Mountains which lie between Dacre and Calabogie Lake, the
Madawaska Highlands* extend for 25 miles; they have been described by Kay
(1942, p. 625) as dissected block mountains. Names for group features in this
area are few and are not widely known. The following names were found in use
locally: Black Donald Hills, Oak Hills, Icy Hills and Raglan Hills.

The highland almost encircles Round Lake. Its flank extends south-
eastward along the north shore of Golden Lake where it swings northward,
crosses the Gariepy (pronounced gar-a-pee) Ravine west of the community of
Alice, and then swings in a great arc crossing the Ottawa north of Petawawa
at High View. The terrain between Golden Lake and Gariepy Creek resembles
the Madawaska Highlands. Two informants spoke of this area as foothills of
the Laurentians, possibly a reflection of school lessons. There are many
named mountains and hills in this area but no group name such as Gariepy
Mountains, which are north of the creek. North of these mountains the ter-
rain becomes much less rugged, with pronounced relief only in the Petawawa
Hills beside Cartier Lake. At the foot of Deep River Reach is the 200-foot
bluff called High View, described over 130 years ago by Alexander Sherriff
(1831, p. 272) in these words:

"The scenery of the Ottawa now becomes very striking; the
tourist, at least will little regret the want of fertile
coasts amidst the succession of romantic views, which every
mile of the river presents along these high lands. From a
hill about five or six hundred feet in height, at the foot of
the Deep River, is a prospect which I have no where seen
surpassed".

---

*Although quite appropriate, the designation Madawaska High-
lands is not used locally; most of the area of the highlands is
referred to as the Madawaska Valley, an unusual toponym considering
the marked relief and the relatively high elevation.

The Lowland

The physiography of the lowland is dominated structurally by fault scarps. The principal one, called Doré Scarp in the literature (Kay, 1942, p. 610) extends from The Pinnacle at Renfrew to north of Lake Doré, and bears the name of Bonnechere Ridge as far as the Cobden-Eganville Road. Beyond this it is known as the Lake Doré Hills. The local relief at The Pinnacle is 350 feet, grading gently down to 75 feet at Spences Hill. The Muskrat Scarp (Kay, 1942, p. 613) flanks the eastern shore of Muskrat Lake, and is locally called Sturgeon Mountain. The Deacon Scarp (Kay, 1942, p. 612), extending northwestward from Thomas Point at Golden Lake to the north side of Round Lake, presents a striking physical barrier. Pine Ridge, north of Lake Doré is an expression of cross faulting, which has given the lowland a complex topography.

The only locally used regional name in the lowland is Bonnechere Valley. This designation is used more in a cultural than in a physical sense and its precise extent cannot be easily determined.

HYDROGRAPHY

The entire county lies within the drainage basin of the Ottawa River, three of whose tributaries drain most of the area of the county. The main tributary is the Madawaska River, which drains 3,210 square miles, part of which is in Algonquin Park, and has its outlet at Arnprior. Although the Bonnechere River also rises in the Park, it drains only 910 square miles because faulting has left much of the terrain tilted away from it. The Petawawa River and its tributary, the Barron River, drain 1,586 square miles. Lesser rivers are the Muskrat, the Snake, the Indian, all of which drain the lands surrounding Pembroke, the Sherwood - formerly called Little Madawaska - a tributary of the Bonnechere that rises near Barry's Bay, and Constant Creek, which rises near Lake Clear and empties into the Madawaska at Calabogie Lake.

The Ottawa River has many wide natural and artificial expanses: Lac des Chats, Lac du Rocher-Fendu, Lac Coulonge, Lower Allumette Lake, Allumette Lake, Deep River Reach and Holden Lake. The basin of the Bonnechere has a few large lakes that lie below the fault scarp of the Opeongo

Mountains; these are Round Lake, Golden Lake, Mud Lake and Lake Clear. Paugh Lake, in the upland, also drains into the Bonnechere. Other large lakes in the lowland are Lake Doré, Mink Lake, Muskrat Lake, Constant Lake, Calabogie Lake and White Lake. The uplands are pocked with numerous waterfilled basins, including a few large lakes: Kamaniskeg Lake, Bark Lake and Negeek Lake.

EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT

THE FRENCH AND THE FUR TRADE

Although Etienne Brulé and Nicholas de Vigau may be credited with being the first European adventurers in Renfrew County, the first real exploration in the area of Renfrew County was that of the eminent geographer, Samuel de Champlain. In search of a northern sea, Champlain came up the Ottawa in the spring of 1613, struck out across country in the lee of Muskrat Scarp - losing enroute, it is believed, the now famous astrolabe - and visited the Indians of Allumette and Morrison islands and Le Borgne de l'Isle, their one-eyed leader. Two years later Champlain, whom Father Le Caron had preceded by one week, ascended the Ottawa, and visited the Hurons in southern Ontario. In 1623 Father Le Caron was joined by Brother Sagard, who, in 1632, the same year that Champlain's works were published, issued a narrative of his Canadian voyages; four years later he brought out his 4-volume *Histoire du Canada et Voyages*. During a large part of that century the Ottawa was explored by the indomitable and courageous missionaries who left a monumental account of early Canadian lore in the 73-volume *Jesuit Relations*.

During this period the great fur-trading era began and the Ottawa River, because it was safer from the Iroquois menace than the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes, became the busiest avenue of trade. Nevertheless, the Iroquois suppressed much of the profitable trade, and by 1649, had dispersed and almost completely exterminated the fur-trading Hurons, Algonquins and Nipissings. In 1652, no furs at all were brought down the Ottawa River (Greening, p. 37). The next year a "nation" called the Ottawas came down river with valuable furs, and began a long history of fur trading with the French.

Until the end of French occupation in Canada the Ottawa River remained the principal route to the interior. However, the French did virtually no colonizing in the Ottawa Valley, and their efforts to discover and develop the mineral and agricultural resources were minimal. French settlement did not take place until the early part of the nineteenth century.

THE FOREST ECONOMY

After the Treaty of Paris, in 1763, British interests, particularly the North West Company, dominated the fur trade that utilized the Ottawa route. In 1832 the Hudson's Bay Company established a post at Golden Lake, but by this time fur trading was rapidly losing its dominance in the Valley economy.

The great era of lumbering in the valley originated with Philemon Wright's experimental export of square timber in 1806. The Napoleonic blockade in Europe forced Britain to turn from her traditional sources of timber. Timber from Renfrew found an eager market in Britain, and even after the blockade was lifted, the superior quality of the Canadian product and the preferential agreements extended to Canada for several years, contributed to the rapid depletion of the pineries of Renfrew. The zenith of square-timber exporting was reached in 1863 and thereafter rapidly declined. About twenty years earlier a sawn-timber market developed in the United States and was strengthened with reciprocity arrangements between 1854 and 1866. Although lumber operations have much less relative importance in the Valley economy today, some communities, such as Barry's Bay, Braeside and Pembroke have important industries based on forest resources.

Settlement did not come to Renfrew County until 1824 when Archibald McNab established his feudal lordship over several Scottish settlers in his 80,000-acre township at the mouth of the Madawaska. Between 1830 and 1850 settlement was largely related to the forest economy of the region. While the lumbermen cleared the land and provided a ready market for farm produce, the settlers were close at hand to provide food and fodder. "Thus this association, fostered by isolation was mutually beneficial and played a leading role in the development of the valley"(Fraser, 1953, p. 56). After 1850 the

7

government of Canada sought to strengthen this association by providing new lands and colonization roads for prospective immigrants and better communication for lumber operators. However, many factors doomed the colonization venture to failure: poor soils, retreat of the forest economy to stands of timber far from settlements, opening the shanty or lumber-camp market to outside suppliers of food and fodder, and the development of the American West.

HISTORICAL REGIONS AND CULTURAL DISTRIBUTIONS

Ian Fraser recognized and described four historical regions associated with Renfrew County. He stated that these could be recognized in the "nature and period of their exploitation, in the origin of their population, in the time at which they broke from the shanty market, and in their cycles' of rise and decline of rural population" (Fraser, 1953, p. 60).

The Renfrew Region

The Renfrew Region, coincident with the clay and sandy soils and the areas of upland outliers, was developed later than other areas of eastern Ontario, and reached rural population peaks much later than adjacent lowland areas. Relatively good soils permitted development somewhat independent of the economic adjustments of the shanty market. The two southeastern townships, McNab and Horton, were originally settled principally by Scots, and still remain so (Figure 2). The surrounding townships from Admaston through Bromley, Ross, southern Stafford, Westmeath and Pembroke were settled by Irish. Coming somewhat later than the Irish, the Germans moved into the less desirable sandy and gravelly areas beyond them, and remain dominant in the townships of Stafford, Alice, Petawawa, Wilberforce, North Algona and South Algona. Some French communities were established such as La Passe in Westmeath and French Settlement in Stafford.

The Ottawa-Huron Tract Region

The Ottawa-Huron Tract, which was opened for settlement after 1850 in the belief that economic prosperity lay in the land as well as in

ETHNIC ORIGIN		1961 POPULATION	1941 POPULATION
	Irish	45,758	14,876
	German	14,014	11,125
	French	14,044	8,312
	Scottish	*	7,873
	English	*	6,066
	Polish	7,088	5,176
Total population		89,635**	54,720**

* Shown with Irish

** Includes other ethnic origins

Unshaded areas within Renfrew County are not populated

•••• Boundaries of cultural regions (after Ian Fraser, 1953, p. 61.)
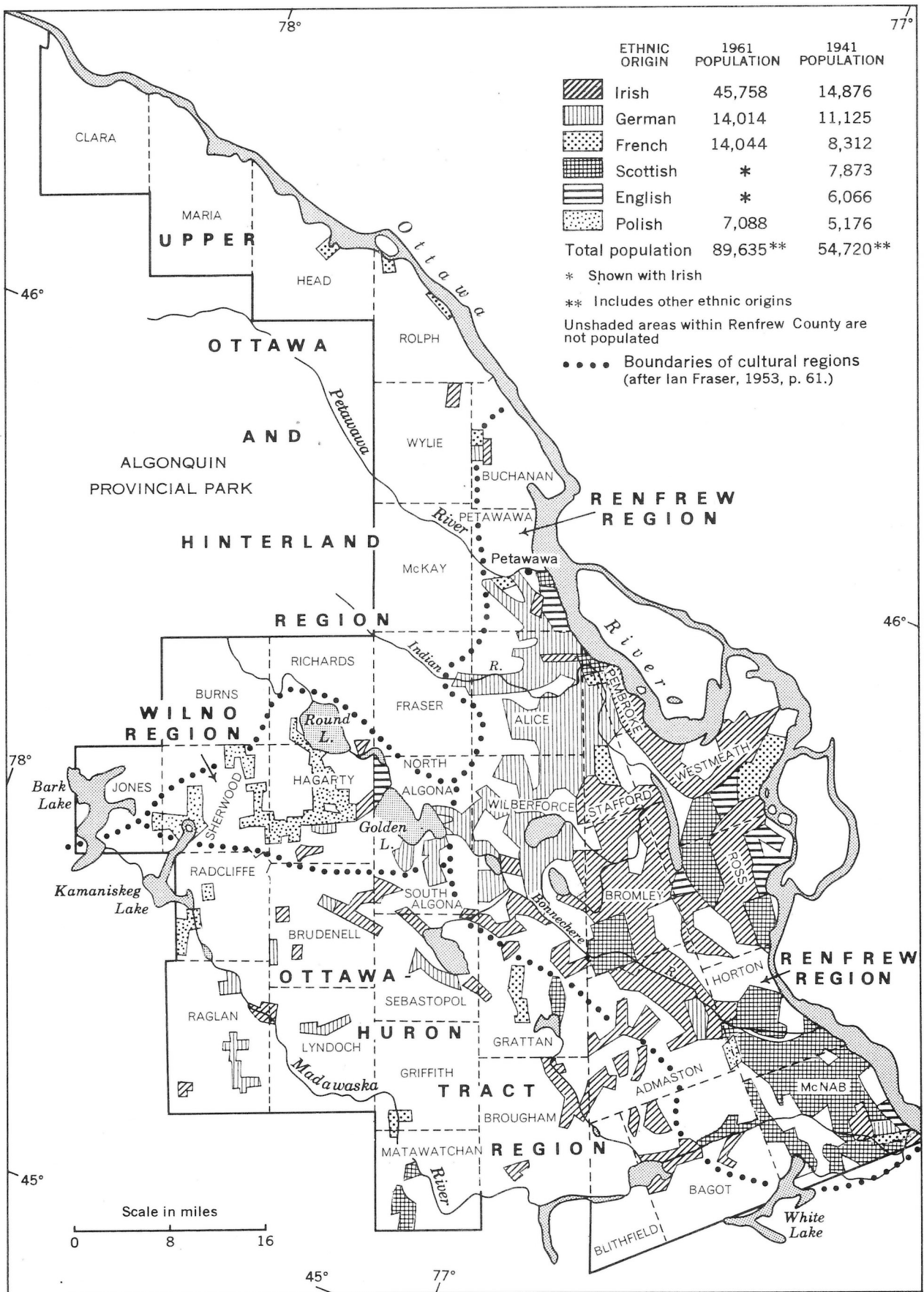
Figure 2. Generalized distribution of the population by ethnic origin. The Census for 1941 is used because the composition of British peoples thereafter is not given. The population of Renfrew for 1961 is considerably increased, but the generalized distributions are satisfactory since the increases are primarily in the urban areas.

the forest wealth, at first received Irish settlers, and later large groups of Germans and Poles. Population peaks in Brougham, Grattan, Bagot, Sebastopol, Brudenell, Griffith, Matawatchan, Lyndoch and Raglan were reached as early as 1871, but with the decline of the forest economy, population also declined. In most of these townships population continues to decrease. In Matawatchan the population is dominated by people of Scottish origin.

The Wilno Region

Fraser recognized the distinct Polish settlement in the Barry's Bay, Round Lake and Killaloe areas as the Wilno Region. This region, which has not witnessed a population decline, is partly located on kame moraines with relatively better soil fertility than in adjacent regions. It also has enough forest wealth to support several sawmills. In addition the Poles have tended to retain their group affinity and land-ownership tenacity more closely than most other ethnic groups.

The Upper Ottawa and Hinterlands Region

The fourth region, the Upper Ottawa and Hinterlands, embraces the Shield-fringe townships from Fraser northward through McKay, Wylie, Rolph, Head, Maria and Clara and includes parts of the townships of Sherwood, Jones and Burns. It is distinguished from the Ottawa-Huron Tract in that there were no colonization roads, and thus penetration by settlement, except in Wylie, did not take place. The ethnic origins of the population are varied and Buchanan, Rolph and Head are the only townships in the county where the French compose the majority of the population.

HISTORICAL TOPONYMY

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

Although the presence of the Ottawa River was suggested to Cartier, the first attempt at its cartographic portrayal was made by Champlain in 1612. He refined his map the following year after an eventful trip to Allumette Island. No names were shown on these maps. In 1632 Champlain produced a cartographic masterpiece of eastern America (Figure 3). This map bears no

names in the area of study, and only one name in his writings is indirectly suggested: when he arrived at the mouth of the Madawaska in 1613 he met some Indians whom he called Matouoüescarini (Biggar, 1925, p. 271); in Biggar, 1936 (p. 352 and p. 405) the name was spelled Matawachkarini . The name means "people of the shallows" (*Handbook of Indians of Canada*, p. 279) and suggests the origin of Flat Rapids, which is only four miles west of Arnprior.*
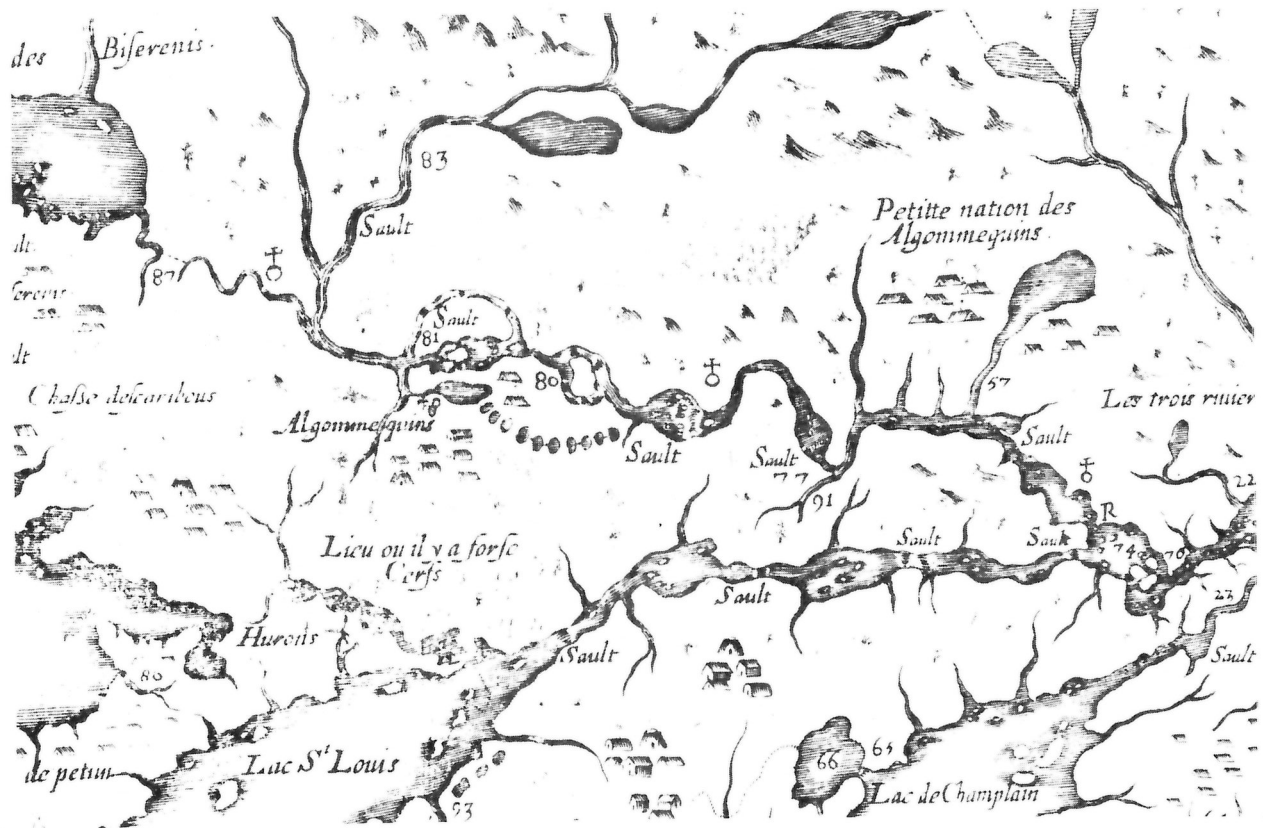

FIGURE 3. A section from Champlain's map of New France printed 1632. The portrayal of Allumette, Morrison and Calumet islands and of the string of lakes from Lac des Chats to Muskrat Lake is not only excellent for the period but was not surpassed until the surveys of the nineteenth century.

---

*Several other origins of Madawaska may be found in the literature, such as "hidden river", "having an outlet among reeds", "meadowlands", "forks of a river", "rough water", "white water", "never frozen", "tumbling waters", and "land of the porcupine".

Most of the maps between 1632 and 1680 were poor facsimiles of Champlain's cartography, with the addition of a few names learned from missionaries, explorers and coureurs de bois. Examples were Boisseau (1643), Duval (1653), Sanson (1656), Visscher (1660 ?), Ducreux (1660). Boisseau identified *R. des Algommequins* (Ottawa River), *I. de Tesouac* (Allumette Island), *Lac de Nibachis* (Muskrat Lake) and *Sault des Pierres* (at Calumet Island).

About 1680 a map was made by Bernou showing *Rivière des Outaouacs ou des Hurons ou des prairies, Sault des Chats, Sault des Calumets, Sault aux Allumettes* and *Isle du Borgne*. The first cartographic advances after Champlain were made by J.B.L. Franquelin, who was appointed King's Hydrographer in 1687, after he had been resident in Canada for about 15 years. A map of 1688, which is attributed to him but which is not clear enough for reproduction, identifies in the Renfrew area: *Portage des Chats, R. de la Bonnechere, I. a Calumets, Por de la Roche Fendue, Grandes Allumettes, I. du Borgne, Petites Allumettes, Rivière Creuse, Portage de Joachim de l'Estan,* and *Roche Capitaine*. Except for I. du Borgne and Rivière Creuse - the latter having been translated - all the specifics of these names have been retained in names in the area despite a dominance of non-French settlement during the past century and a half. Franquelin prepared another map in 1699, which showed, in addition to the names listed above, *R. Matouachita* (Figure 4).

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Soon after the turn of the eighteenth century, Franquelin's work was being used on the European maps. An example was Guillaume de l'Isle's *Carte du Canada ou de la Nouvelle France*, although his cartography was inferior to that of Champlain, and the only feature identified in the Renfrew area was *R. de la boñechere**. During the same year a map published in English as well as French by Baron Lahontan, one of America's first tourists, identified *The Great R. of Outaouacs*. A map brought out in 1711 by Decouagne added the name *Deux Rivières,* which is still used in Renfrew, and a few more names that are still used in Quebec. In all, Decouagne's

---

*The dash above a letter indicated that the letter "n" followed; e.g., la Petite Natiō.

FIGURE 4. A section from J.B.L. Franquelin's *Partie de l'Amérique Septentrionalle* which was published in 1699. Many of the names in use today may be recognized. It will be noted that Franquelin's cartography is poor in comparison with Champlain's.

map had 17 names in the Renfrew area. A map similar only in its toponymy, appeared in 1725, and was prepared by Gaspard Chaussegros de Léry, a Canadian engineer. Another map was produced by Henry Popple in 1733, but identified no more features than those named on the Franquelin map of 1699. In 1744 and 1755 Bellin produced some maps of America, but his cartography of the Renfrew area was not nearly as good as that of Champlain, and his toponymy added nothing to that of the early part of the century. Similarly, a map by D'Anville, also in 1755, showed no cartographic improvement over Champlain and no toponymic advance beyond Franquelin.

Between 1763, when Canada was officially transferred to British sovereignty, and 1800, the new maps such as those by Carver (1777) and

Mitchell (1775) showed no toponymic evidence after Franquelin and Lahontan. In summation there was no improvement in names on maps in the Renfrew area during the whole eighteenth century. However, some names of the French period must have been in use without being recorded on the maps. These would be the major inland features of *Round Lake, Golden Lake, Lake Clear* and *Lake Doré,* and features on the Ottawa such as *Sand Point* on Lower Allumette Lake, and Maraboo Rapids, now flooded, at Deux-Rivières, mentioned by Chevalier de Troyes in 1686 as *point de sable* and *marabout* (Caron, 1918, pp. 35 and 39).

NINETEENTH CENTURY

Soon after the turn of the nineteenth century some maps touching on the Renfrew area indicated attempts to anglicize the French nomenclature. Cary (1807) had *Ottawa* or *Grand River, Lake Chat (Cat), Portage du Chat, Portage Montagu*, Port des Allumettes* and *Pond deux Joachins.* A map of 1812 by Kensett produced wholesale anglicization: *Ottawa* or *Grand R., Cat Lake, Mountain Portage, Two Joachims* and *Captain Rock.*

During the 1820's the Government of Upper Canada sent various surveying parties to seek out canal routes between the Ottawa River and Georgian Bay. The results of these surveys appeared on a map by Chewett in 1826. A map made by William Henderson in 1831 to accompany an article by Alexander Sherriff, who had explored from Fitzroy Harbour to Deux-Rivières and then across country to Georgian Bay in 1829, was the first major improvement in both cartography and toponymy in the Ottawa Valley in more than a century (Figure 5). Henderson retained most of the French names in the French form; this practice was likely a major influence in retaining these names on later maps and thus in local usage. Such a deduction is based on the fact that he did anglicize Rivière Creuse to Deep River and this is the only surviving name that appeared on early French maps that has been translated. Names appearing

---

*For La Montagne, a Frenchman almost drowned at the southeastern side of Calumet Island in 1625 (Sagard, 1866, IV, p. 744).

for the first time were *Les Chenaux* and *Snows*, *La Beauce Sett**, *Muskrat Rr. and Lakes*, *Snake C.*, *L. Ronde*, *R. Nessouabique* (*Nesswabic* in text, p. 245, and now Petawawa), *Rice L.* (for Mud Lake in Muskrat drainage), *Marl Lake* (possibly Coldingham Lake in Horton Township), *Leach L.* (possibly Greenbough Lake in Clara Township) and the township names, *Horton* and *McNab*.
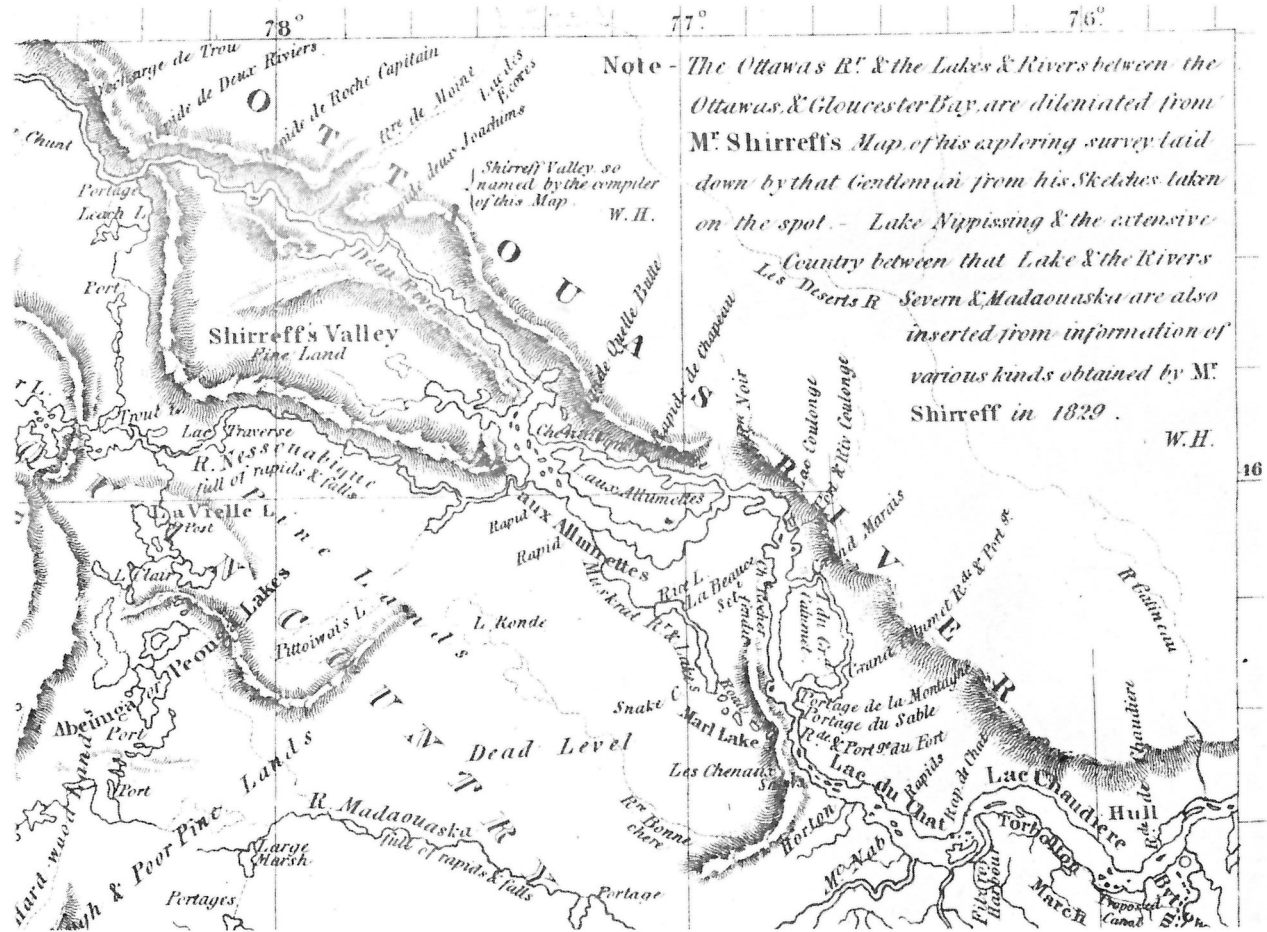

FIGURE 5. Section of a map prepared in 1831 by William Henderson to illustrate a paper written by Alexander Sherriff. There are a number of names indicated here for the first time.

The township surveys were begun about 1824 with McNab and continued until the 1880's. The townships east of the District Line (for a time Bathurst District extended to Pembroke) were surveyed and named between 1826 and 1843. All the remaining townships were identified by name between 1851 and 1863. The surveyors ascertained many locally used names. The results of most of the surveys were reflected in Crown Lands Department reports and on maps, such as

---

*Written in Sherriff's paper *La Bosse*, p. 265, corrected in errata to *La Posse*, which is present day *La Passe*.

Figure 6. The cartography had become considerably more accurate; and the nomenclature then ascertained to be in local use became the map nomenclature for the following century, disregarding changes in local usage in many instances.
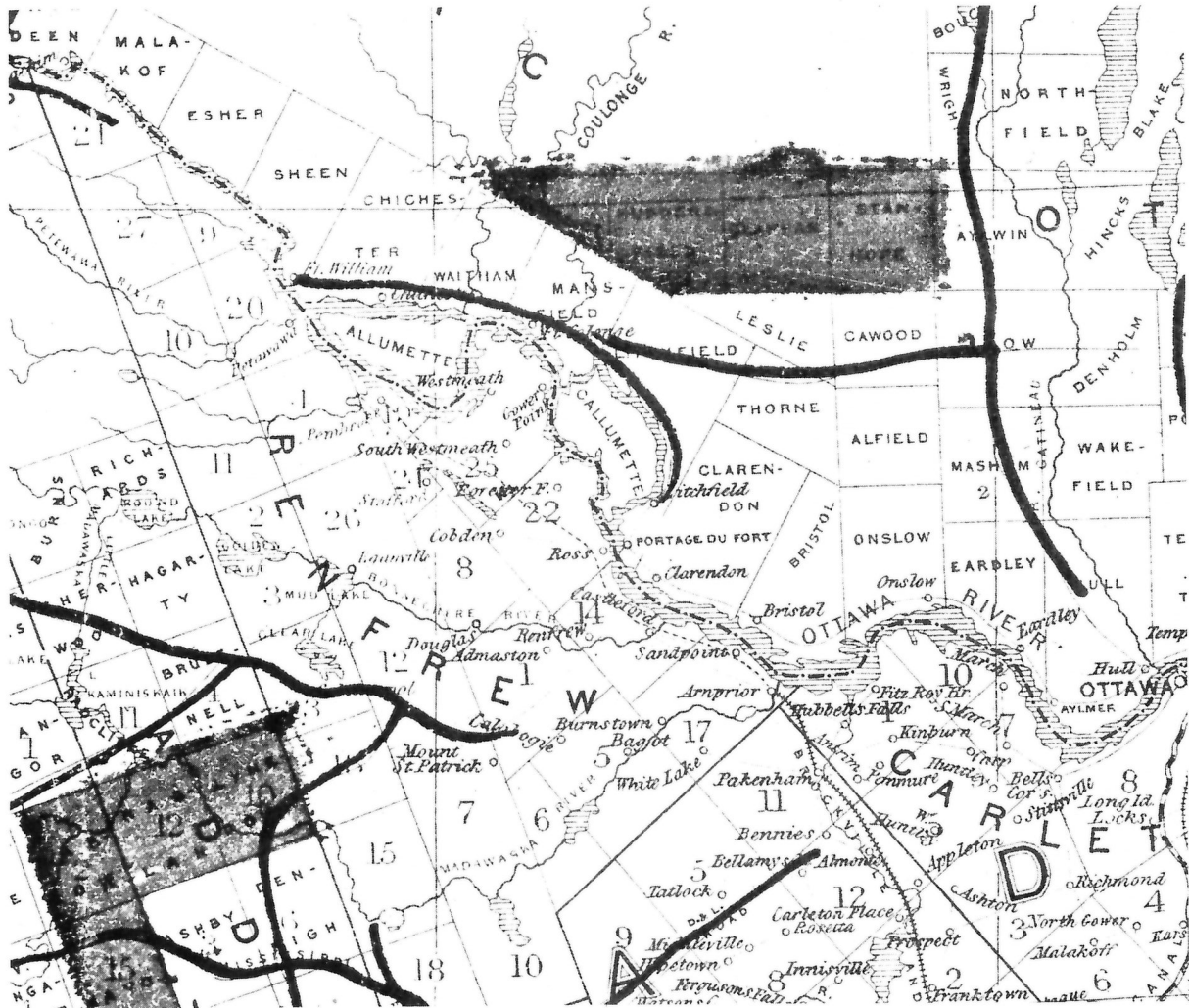

FIGURE 6. Section from Thomas Devine's *Government Map of Canada*, published 1861. The latest results of township surveys were incorporated into this map, but several cartographic generalizations and toponymic errors may be noted.

In 1846, the excellent *Map of British Dominions in North America* by Joseph Bouchette appeared with several previously unrecorded names provided by W. E. Logan's survey a year earlier. In 1863, H. W. Walling prepared the *Map of the Counties of Lanark and Renfrew*, and indicated on it such minute details as the holders of each property as well as many geographical names. During the

following century Walling's map became a prime source for nomenclature and orthography. Much of his work found its way into the atlases of Tackabury (1875) and Miles (1879).

Geological mapping in the Renfrew County area accounted for much of the relatively minor nomenclature being recorded on maps. A reconnaissance by Alexander Murray in 1853 in the valleys of the Petawawa, Bonnechere and upper Madawaska was the first scientific examination of the geology and physiography of the Renfrew area. In 1874 and 1875 a map was made of Lanark and the south-eastern part of Renfrew illustrating geological studies undertaken by H.G. Vennor.

TWENTIETH CENTURY

From 1904 to 1907 the Geological Survey of Canada produced maps at the scale of 1:253,440 entitled Perth, Haliburton and Pembroke that covered most of Renfrew County. These maps depicted many of the names currently shown on national topographical sheets. In 1914 the Department of the Interior produced a map entitled Ottawa at the scale of 1:250,000, and followed it with one entitled Pembroke at the same scale in 1919. These maps, each reprinted twice between 1929 and 1942, served as the principal names references for the subsequent mapping at 1:63,360 scale . Provincial maps such as 20A at the scale of 1:2,217,600, 1910, and 19A at 1:250,000, 1914, also provided the Geographic Board of Canada with nomenclature references. The first large scale map in the county was of the area occupied by the Canadian Forces Base, Petawawa, and was produced in 1914 at 1:63,360. Except for the panhandle beyond Petawawa the rest of the county was mapped at the same scale between 1929 and 1948. These maps were subsequently reproduced at the scale of 1:50,000 with little or no change in the nomenclature.

ORIGIN OF THE NAMES *

George R. Stewart grouped geographical names into nine convenient categories: descriptive, possessive, incident, commemorative, euphemistic, manufactured, shift, folk etymological and mistake (1954, pp. 1-13). The last two categories were not recognized in Renfrew, but examples of the others were noted in varying numbers.

*Names in italics, when origins are given, indicate that they have been approved by the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names.

DESCRIPTIVE NAMES

Directly Descriptive

Descriptive names are very common in Renfrew County. The shape of features frequently suggested names to the explorers and settlers. Several lakes are called Long Lake, and in Fraser there are *Upper Long, Middle Long* and *Lower Long* lakes. "Long" also identifies a point projecting into Golden Lake, and, at one time described rapids in both the Ottawa and Madawaska rivers. *Round Lake* in Richards Township is one of the prominent features in Renfrew County. In Rolph there is *Tee Lake,* and *McSourley Lake* in adjoining Head has also been called Tee Lake. In Maria there are *Oval Lake* and *Horseshoe Lake* (the latter has also been called Kidney Lake because of its shape). In Fraser there are *Teapot Lake* and *Goose Egg Mountain.*

Relatively Descriptive

The relative size, position or location of features have frequently provided names. In Rolph there are *Little Bass* and *Big Bass* lakes, in Richards, *Little Cranberry* and *Big Cranberry* lakes and creeks, in Buchanan, *Little Rat* and *Big Rat* lakes, in Burns, *Little Round Lake,* and in Lyndoch, *Little Eneas* and *Big Eneas* lakes and *Eneas* and *Little Eneas* creeks. In Rolph there are *Lower* and *Upper Pergeon* lakes, in Richards and Master (the latter in Nipissing District) *Upper* and *Lower Pine* lakes, in Brougham, *Upper* and *Lower Twin* lakes; there are also *Lower Dacre* in Brougham and *Lower Stafford* in Stafford. Numbers are commonly used by official agencies to identify cultural phenomena (Highway 17, R.R. no. 2), and occasionally they are also used locally to designate natural features. There are *Three Mountains* (a massive feature with three distinctive summits) in Griffith and *Twinbear Lakes* in Matawatchan. *Halfway* is a community on an old portage road, halfway between Combermere and the Opeongo Road. In Rolph there are *First, Second* and *Third James* lakes; in Wylie, *First, Second* and *Third Egan* lakes; and in Lyndoch, *First* and *Second Kargus* lake. The hamlet of *Killaloe* is frequently called Old Killaloe to distinguish it from *Killaloe Station,* an incorporated

village often called simply Killaloe. A hill in Fraser is called *Old Shed Hill*
to distinguish it from the newer *Shed Hill* ("shed" refers to the long-gone
retaining walls and ceilings constructed on the logging routes to prevent
avalanches.)

Colour Names

There are several names that have been given because of the colour
or shade of the features. *Lake Clear* is the most prominent feature with this
kind of name, and there are two *Clear* lakes, one in Wylie, the other in Fraser.
Green is perhaps the most ubiquitous toponym in Renfrew County. It frequently
occurs as the name of a water feature because marl beneath the water reflects
a decided green appearance; similar marl occurrences may have also suggested
*Chalk River** and *Buttermilk Creek,* the latter flowing from Astrolabe Lake to
Muskrat Lake. As the name of a lake "Green" occurs officially approved in
Brougham, Radcliffe, Lyndoch and Wilberforce, and the settlement surrounding
the last cited is also called *Green Lake.* In the Champlain Trail Lakes there
are two lakes known to many people as "Green". The most southerly is officially
called *Coldingham,* which appeared as such on Walling, 1863 (Coldingham was
applied to the third in the string, now locally called *Garden Lake* by
Bouchette in 1831); the other, now designated *Astrolabe Lake,* is between
Jeffreys and Muskrat lakes where an astrolabe, believed to be that of Champlain,
was unearthed in 1867. *Green Lake,* in Lyndoch, for many years shown on maps as
McHale Lake, is the site of the Deparmment of Lands and Forests Green Lake
Development Area. Other lakes that were formerly designated Green Lake are
Godin Lake in Griffith, *Acorn Lake* in Richards and *Gwatkin Lake* in Buchanan.
Kulas Lake in Jones has been called Green Lake and Greenan Lake. There is a
Green Island in Lake Clear. *Black* is the most common colour specific after
Green. *Black Bay* occurs in Calabogie Lake, and in an abandoned river valley
adjoining the Petawawa River. *Black Bay* is also the name of a community and
resort in the latter area. There are *Black* lakes in Bagot and Brougham,
Black Mountain in Matawatchan, *Black Point* in Golden Lake and *Black* creeks
in Maria and Wilberforce. *White Lake* is a prominent feature extending into
Lanark County; it was once called Wabalac, a name compounded from the Algon-

---

*Price and Kennedy (1961, p.96) mentioned two other possible origins:
1) twigs were charred to "chalk" square timber; 2) chalk may have been used
there for the first time to mark square timber.

quin "waba" meaning white, and the French word for lake. The drainage of the lake is called *Waba Creek*. *White Lake* is also a village at the eastern end of the lake. In Raglan there is a prominent feature called *Raglan White Lake*, and in Burns, *White Mountain*.

Golden Lake may have been named about 1832 by Charles Thomas, the Hudsons Bay factor (Lake, 1966, p. 116) or the name may be associated with Lake Doré, although Campbell (1943, p. 21) reported that John Golden was the original settler on its shores. There is no such evidence in the Crown Lands records prior to 1846 when the name was displayed on Bouchette's map. An unincorporated village and an Indian Reserve also bear this name. South of Golden Lake is the feature called *Silver Lake*, which is mentioned as early as the 1861 Crown Lands report by Devine. The rural community adjoining its northern shores is called *Silver Lake*. In Golden Lake is *Umber Island*. No other colour names are used, except where they form part of compound specifics, such as Black Donald and Redpine Lake.

Names Suggested by Adjacent Physiography

Adjacent physiographical features have suggested many names in Renfrew County. *Bluff Point* extends into Calabogie Lake, and *Bluff Lake* occurs in Maria. There are *Bluff Mountain* in Brougham, *Bluff Rock Mountain* in Fraser, and *Bluff Rock* in North Algona just east of Jonsons Lake (curiously, "bluff" occurs nowhere in Renfrew as a generic term). "Rock" occurs as the name of a lake in Maria, Brougham, Lyndoch, Fraser and Rolph. *Rock Hill* occurs in Sebastopol beside Highland Creek. There is *Stonedam Lake* in Brudenell, *Stoney Lake* in Maria and Radcliffe, and *Stoney Point* in Rolph. There is *Marble Lake* near Black Donald.

Sand Bay is located where the Bonnechere drains Round Lake, *Sand Hill* occurs at Germanicus in Wilberforce, and *Sand* lakes occur in Fraser, McKay and Head. *Sand Point* is a community five miles west of Arnprior that had more glorious days a century ago when it was the end-of-rail. Arnprior has two suburbs on its western side called *Sandy Beach* and *Sandy Hook*. Adjoining Hennessys Bay in Westmeath is *Pointe aux Sables*, and adjacent to Bellows Bay in the same township is *Sand Point*, mentioned by de Troyes in his 1686 journal as "pointe de sable" (Caron, 1918, p. 35).

Just east of Pembroke an abandoned river course is locally called *River Bottom* and a natural divide in Brougham is called *Waterfall Mountain*. Two miles west of Arnprior on the Madawaska is *Flat Rapids* and this name also occurs in the Ottawa River adjoining the Chute du Rocher-Fendu near the foot of Calumet Island; both these names refer to relative shallowness. One mile south of Quadeville is a hill called simply *The Notch*. West of Arnprior are the two rural communities of *Clay Valley* and *Clay Bank*.

"Mud" is one of the most common descriptive names in Canada, and Renfrew is no exception. It is best known as the name of a large shallow lake and rural community between Eganville and Golden Lake. On the same map sheet (Golden Lake 31 F/11 East) *Mud Lake* occurs again as a large shallow expanse of the Muskrat River. *Mud Creek* is the name of a tributary of the Muskrat that flows into *Mud Lake*. The name also occurs for lakes in Fraser, Brougham and Maria. One of the islands in Lake Clear is called *Muddy Island*.

West of Pembroke between High View and Des Joachims is a 40-mile stretch of the Ottawa that was named by de Troyes "rivière creuse" in 1686 (Caron, 1918, pp. 36-37). This name was preserved on maps, and referred to by Henry during his eighteenth-century travels as "Deep-river" (1901, p. 25). Keefer reported in 1854 (p. 50) that 100 fathoms of chain did not touch bottom, and the story was thereafter circulated that this was the deepest river in the world. Recent surveys at Chalk River reveal it to be less than half that deep, which still amply supports the historic name. Recently *Deep River Reach* was recommended for use on maps. In 1944 a site five miles west of the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories was chosen for a town to house staff, and the name, *Deep River*, was chosen.

Just north of Renfrew is the anchor of the Bonnechere Ridge known locally as *The Pinnacle*, recorded by the township surveyor in 1825 as Landall's Pinnacle. In North Algona there is *Pinnacle Hill*.

Plant Names

The names of various flora are well represented in Renfrew. In Raglan there is *Hardwood Lake* with the adjoining community of the same name; in Brudenell there is *Lake Hardwood* (one informant noted the distinction between these two names, with the precedent generic in the latter; the latter feature has been called Beardwood Lake on maps). *Hardwood Lake* occurs in Grattan as well. There are *Hardwood* mountains in Fraser, in Raglan and in Alice.

The widespread occurrence of 'pine' in Renfrew's nomenclature attests to the prominence of the tree in the early economy of the county. *Pine River* is a major tributary of the Bonnechere and has, in its course, *Upper* and *Lower Pine* lakes. *Little Pine Lake* is in Brougham, *Pine Hill* is in Matawatchan, *Pine Ridge* is north of Lake Doré, *Pinetree Mountain* is in Fraser, *Pine Point* is at Deep River, and *Pine Valley* is a small rural community in Bromley. *Redpine Lake* and *Redpine Mountain* occur in Fraser and *Redpine Lake* is in Clara. *Norway* (suggesting the red pine) *Lake* is in Bagot west of Springtown, and *Norway Point* adjoins the village of White Lake.

Oak Hills and *Oakhill Lake* occur in Brougham, and *Oak Mountain* is found in both Griffith and Grattan. *Poplar Lake* is in Matawatchan and *Poplar Mountain* is in Brougham. *Sugarbush Mountain* and *Cherry Hill Mountain* are located in Fraser. *Cherry Island* is in Lake Clear.

Cranberry Lake is in Sherwood, and *Big* and *Little Cranberry* lakes and creeks are in Richards, and *Cranberry Lake* occurs in Maria. There are *Grassy* bays in Calabogie Lake and in Hagarty on the course of the Bonnechere. *Blueberry Point* projects into Barrys Bay in Kamaniskeg Lake. Many hills are also named for this fruit, such as "Blueberry Mountain" at Deacon, better known locally as *Thomas Mountain*.

Animal and Fish Names

The fauna of Renfrew are as well represented as the flora. *Muskrat River* and *Lake* are prominent features in the central part of the county, and *Muskrat Lake* also occurs in Griffith. "Beaver" is a common specific and occurs in the names of lakes in Maria, McKay and Matawatchan. There is *Beaverdam Lake* in Burns (a natural sandbar suggests a beaver dam) and *Beavertail Island* in Bark Lake. "Deer" occurs in Renfrew's nomenclature in *Deermeadow Lake* in Clara, and occurs also by gender: *Buck Hill* and *Doe Hill* in Fraser, *Buck Mountain* in both Matawatchan and Brudenell, and *Bucky Hill* and *Bucky Pond* in Grattan. *Blackcat Hill* is in Jones. Among other fauna designating features are bullfrog, duck, eagle, fox, hog, marten, moose, otter, partridge, mink, snake, turtle, loon and wolf. Fish are also well represented as the names of features: bass, whitefish, blackfish, sturgeon, maskinonge, perch, salmon and trout. As well there are *Upper Fish* and *Lower Fish* lakes south of Calabogie, *Fishery Lake* in Brougham and *Fishers Point* extending into White Lake.

Mining Names

Six names may be attributed to mining activities. *Trench Hill* at Jewellville was the site of a corundum mine. *Mining Mountain* in Lyndoch was investigated by Hewitt (1954, p. 2). *Mine Hill*, on Highway 41 between Griffith and Dacre, was the site of the Spain Mine that produced 60,000 pounds of molybdenum during the First World War. *Quarry Hill*, just west of Renfrew, is a source of gravel, as also are the railway locations Simpsons Pit (a post office between 1913 and 1925, now simply referred to as *Simpsons*) in Hagarty, and Horton Pit east of Renfrew.

Lumbering Names

Some names are reminders of the great lumbering era of the nineteenth century. At Arnprior are *Boomcamp Hill* and *Rafting Point*, and there is a *Rafting Bay* near the mouth of Chalk River where the cribs were "rafted" for the tumultuous journey to Quebec. In Fraser there are *Camboose Mountain* (after the lumbering-era cookhouse), *Smiths Shanty Hill*, *Trace Hill* (where logs were drawn up snugly and bound), *Topping Off Hill* (where the bound logs were rolled off for a considerable distance), *Shed Hill* and *Old Shed Hill*. In Maria is *Harveys Shanty Lake* and in adjoining Head, *Logslide Lake*. The occurrence of the French generic "chute" in many names, such as, *Fourth Chute* east of Eganville, *Loneys Chute* on the Little Mississippi, *Jacks Chute* on the Bonnechere in Richards, and *Camel Chute* on the Madawaska in Matawatchan, all suggest a relationship with lumbering. The term is also common in English to describe a passage or inclined trough through which things are passed, e.g., coal chute. *Bark Lake*, which covers much of Jones, is possibly so named because of the large amount of bark discarded in early square-timber days at one of the McLachlin depots. *Depot Point* is a feature extending into the lake.

POSSESSIVE NAMES

Possessive names are those named after persons or ethnic groups. Such names are usually the most dynamic of all, being easily susceptible to change as people die or move away, or new people move in. Nevertheless, many possessive names have been retained long after persons or groups have departed.

Personal Names

Renfrew County has many features that bear the personal names of people who once lived there or live there now. Only one township, *McNab*, is definitely named for a person who resided in the county. Archibald McNab was granted the township in 1824, and brought out improvident Scottish settlers. He administered the township as his own fief until 1843 when he was evicted. *Buchanan* may have been named for George Buchanan, an Arnprior industrialist.

Communities named for local people are:

Barrett Chute — likely named for William Barrett whom the Blithfield Township surveyor, Josias Richey, reported was intending to erect a mill in 1838 at foot of Little Falls below High Falls;

Barryvale — across Calabogie Lake from Calabogie, where Patrick Barry was the first postmaster in 1889;

Beachburg — settled by David Beach in 1835, and from 1860 the name of the post office, which had been designated South Westmeath in 1848;

Cormac — at the foot of Ryans Mountain, where Father James McCormac located the parish church in 1891, and asked that the post office be called McCormac. It was established in 1895, and altered to Cormac in 1896 to avoid confusion with two other offices called McCormick;

Craigmont — the corundum mining site of an abandoned village in Raglan established in 1902. The post office was named for the mine manager, B.A.C. Craig, and was in operation in the small farming community until 1948;

Eganville — the site of a farm for James Wadworth's lumbering operations in 1826, which was sold to the lumbering magnate John Egan in 1837, who surveyed the site into lots in 1853, a year after the post office was established;

Foymount — the site of a Catholic chapel from 1855 to 1891 and the location of John Foy's boisterous tavern in the heyday of settlement and lumbering operations on the Opeongo Road. Foy was the first postmaster in 1873;

Foresters Falls — a quiet mile-long village in Ross, was named for the first postmaster, Oliver Forester, in 1854;

Guiney
- (pronounced "gy-nee") a small rural community in Lyndoch and Raglan, where William Guiney was the first postmaster in 1914;

Haley Station
- a little village in Ross Township named for George Haley, an early settler who died about 1890. The post office, established on the C.P.R. in 1878, was designated Haley Station, while the station itself has been called Haleys since its establishment;

Mackey
- in Head, where Lawrence Mackey was a local lumberman;

Jewellville
- a small rural community in Raglan, is the site of an abandoned corundum mine developed by John H. Jewell, a Toronto financier, and was a post office from 1904 to 1960;

Micksburg
- a densely settled farming community in Stafford where George Mick was the first postmaster in 1875, and where several Micks still reside;

Palmer Rapids
- the site of a McLachlin supply base in 1847 called the Palmer Farm. The origin of the name is not known, but the name was also applied to the rapids at Jewellville and subsequently to a post office in 1872;

Perretton
- a rural community northwest of Beachburg in Westmeath where H.W. Perrett, a school teacher, was appointed postmaster in 1872;

Rochefort
- a rural community between Killaloe and Brudenell, where a member of a prominent local family, Thomas Roche, was appointed postmaster in 1887, choosing the suffix to duplicate a name in both France and Belgium;

Stewartville
- a rural community and hydro colony in McNab where Allan Stewart was named postmaster in 1872 (the post office itself had originally been established as Balmer's Island in 1865);

Wingle
- a small rural community in Raglan where John Wingle was postmaster from 1880 to 1926. He was succeeded by Margaret Windle, who operated the office until 1962, leading some people to believe that the original name was a spelling error;

Wolfe
- a rural community in Lyndoch where John Wolfe was postmaster from 1907 to 1938. The presumption of Campbell (1943, p. 19) that the name may have honoured General Wolfe or Wolf Tone, the prominent Irish freedom fighter, is an example of the kind of toponymic guesswork that has misled many a writer;

Zadow
- a small rural community in North Algona between the communities of Silver Lake and Golden Lake, named for Albert Zadow, a member of a prominent local family, who was selected postmaster in 1902;

Bromley Line — a road name in the rural community of Westmeath, was a post office from 1885 to 1922, with John Bromley as post-master. Several Bromleys still reside on the line;

Quadeville — derives its name from a long established family of German origin in Lyndoch who requested in 1908 that the name Strathtay be changed. Between that year and 1922 the post office was spelled Quadville, which more closely approximates the common pronunciation of the place name. The Quade family has recently pronounced their name "kwayd", possibly to avoid the incarcerating connotation of "quod";

Bulgers Corners — on the District Line between Wilberforce and Bromley, was named for Dan Bulger, a pioneer, and his son, Michael Bulger, who operated the Bulger post office from 1889 to 1915. The family still has a store at Bulgers Corners;

Barry's Bay — an incorporated village on Barrys Bay, a five-mile arm of Kamaniskeg Lake, was called Barry's Camp on the Bay in the early days (Dwyer, p. 142). A post office was established there in 1877, and it was incorporated in 1933 with the apostrophe, which is used in almost all references except the post office, which dropped it about 1940;

Camel Chute — the name of a rapids and a community in Matawatchan, is believed to be named for a man called Campbell who camped there in the mid-nineteenth century. The surname Campbell is frequently pronounced "kam-el" in eastern Ontario and possibly accounts for the misspelling;

Davis Mills — a rural community in Alice, was the site of a post office set up under the direction of Richard E. Davis in 1887;

Perrault — a French settlement in Grattan, was established by Joseph Perrault, a prominent lumber driver of the last century. It is referred to as early as 1856 by some Irish Catholics of Eganville in a letter to Bishop Guigues asking that Perrault's Settlement be attached to another parish (Alexis, 1897, I, p. 388). A post office was opened in 1891 with Thomas Power, a descendant of the founder (his name becoming more Irish than French) as the first postmaster;

Schutt — in Raglan was established as a post office in 1904, with Christie F. Schutt as postmaster. The Schutt family still operates a store;

Rankin and Deacon — possibly honour the county's first warden, John Rankin, and first judge, John Deacon, when it was separated from Lanark in 1866;

Woermke — in Sebastopol was named for the first postmaster, Mrs. Gottlieb Woermke.

There are numerous natural features throughout the county that bear the surname of early surveyors and settlers and more recent residents. Only a few examples will be noted here:

Bells Bay
— an arm of Bark Lake is named for Robert Bell, who surveyed a line from Bark Lake to Bracebridge in 1847;

Bellows Bay
— on Lower Allumette Lake, is named for Caleb Bellowes, the postmaster of Westmeath in 1853;

Berlanguet Creek
— a tributary of the Bonnechere, which rises near McDougall in a small French settlement, may be named for the family of John Berlanguet who was a settler in Renfrew before 1840;

Brennans Creek
— which rises in Brudenell and empties into Golden Lake near Killaloe Station, is named for John Brennan, the first lumberman to take out square timber on the creek about 1840 (White-Roche, Dec. 13, 1906);

Constant Lake
and
Constant Creek
— (pronounced Kawn-sta) are named for an Indian, Simon Constant, who lived in that area, dying January 9, 1899 (personal interview with Rev. T.J. Brady, Mount St. Patrick). *Constant Creek* is also a community name on the west side of the lake.

Farrells Bay
and
Farrells Point
— features on the Ottawa River at Castleford, may be named for Edward Farrell who settled there in 1837 and operated a hotel in the heyday of the Opeongo Road;

Frenchs Island
— in Lake Clear is named for T.P. French, the Crown Lands colonization agent on the Opeongo Road at Clontarf in the 1850's and 1860's. He was warden of the Provisional County of Renfrew from 1861 to 1863 and subsequently a postal inspector;

Hallidays Creek
— which rises near Shamrock and flows easterly to empty into Madawaska at Springtown, is named for John Halliday who had settled at Springtown by at least 1857 (Lovell, p. 659). The name has been variously spelled Holiday, Holidays, Halladay, Holliday, Hollidays, Halliday and Hallidays on maps and in other records;

Lafleurs Point
— which extends into the Bonnechere River between Turpins Bay and Smiths Bay, was named for Charles Lafleur who took out a patent there in 1872;

Mask Island
— in Barrys Bay is named for Paul Bronas Mask (1865-1964) who settled on Island Farm in 1918. The island was called Welshmans Island on a patents plan of 1861, but was officially changed to Mask Island in 1947;

McConnell Creek	– in Rolph was named as early as 1861 (Devine, 1861, p. 1) and commemorates a pioneer, Benjamin McConnell;
McLarens Creek	– in Ross is named after John McLaren, who resided on the Kerr Line as early as 1849;
McLaughlins Hill	– a steep grade on Secondary Highway 500 in the community of Ruby Mine, is named for John McLaughlin;
McSourley Lake	– in Head is a T-shaped Lake and known to many as Tee Lake. Ed. and William McSourley were patentees in 1874;
Plaunts Mountain	– the best known of the Opeongo Mountains, was the site where Xavier Plaunt established an inn about 1857. Plaunt was one of the founders and benefactors of the town of Renfrew;
Rhoddys Bay	– (pronounced ro-deez) an indentation of the Ottawa River between Sand Point and Castleford, was named for Michael Roddy, a patentee in 1834;
Strains Lake	– which adjoins Highway 41 at Balvenie, was named after Eugene Strain and his son, Jack;
Thomas Point and *Thomas Mountain*	– a prominent feature on the north side of Golden Lake and the latter a 500-foot elevation at Deacon, commemorate Charles Thomas, the Hudson's Bay Company factor at Golden Lake in 1832;
Turners Island	– in Lake Clear was the site of Robert Turner's attempt to develop phosphates. Turner was the first permanent settler at Eganville in 1828;
Turpins Bay	– (locally pronounced chur-paz) an expanse of the Bonnechere at Tramore, honours Basil Turpin who settled in the area about 1872.

Several features in Renfrew have been identified by the nick-names or Christian names of various persons. The following examples are cited:

Black Donald Creek	– named for Black Donald McDonald, the first timber cruiser to put logs in the creek. This is true also for the community of *Black Donald*. It is believed that Black Donald Mines was also named for Black Donald Kennelly, the former property owner at the mine site (Hunt, 1958, p. 90);
Archies Lake	– in Grattan is named for Archie Garvin;
Billys Lake	– in Maria honours a local resident, William McIsaac;
Freds Lake	– in Rolph is called after Fred Gougeon, an early settler;

Dans Mountain	in Matawatchan is named for Dan MacPherson;
Dicks Lake	which adjoins Strains Lake on Highway 41, is named for Richard Munhall;
Rorys Bay and *Rorys Lake*	the former in Burns, and the latter in Richards, honour Blind Rory McDonald, remembered as a great fiddler in the shanties.

Ethnic Names

Ethnic names refer to the national origin of a group of people in most instances. Frequently the ethnic groups are distinctive elements within another larger ethnic group. Sometimes one group dominates in a large area. Examples of the cultural-island community are *French Settlement* in Stafford, *German Settlement* in Hagarty and *Scotch Bush* in Grattan. *Polish Settlement* is the designation frequently used to describe the Polish community in Hagarty, Richards, Sherwood, Jones, Burns and Radcliffe.

INCIDENT NAMES

Few names were found in Renfrew that could be associated with particular incidents. *Pointe au Baptême* is a point near the foot of Deep River Reach. Chevalier de Troyes noted in 1686 that: "Nos françois ont coustume de baptiser en cet endroit ceux qui n'y ont point encore passé" (Caron, 1918, p. 37). Alexander Henry found the rite still being used a century later (1901, pp. 25, 26) and the name has survived to the present time in its French form. *La Passe*, a hamlet and rural community in Westmeath, is said to be named for a passing of wild geese (Price and Kennedy, 1961, p. 111). *Greenwood*, southeast of Pembroke, is said to be named for the fact that the local church was constructed of wood not sufficiently

dried (Mrs. Carl Price, personal interview, June 12, 1964). *Wolfe Rapids* in Matawatchan was believed at the turn of the century to be named because wolves gruesomely exhumed the carcasses of buried river drivers, "and from that day not one spear of grass has grown on that spot" (White-Hicks, 14 Apr., 1906).

COMMEMORATIVE NAMES

Although many of the names of Indian and French origin could be discussed in other categories, they are considered commemorative because they have been preserved in a milieu dominated by English-speaking people for two centuries. Also discussed in this section are the names honouring distinguished personalities, great events and foreign places.

Indian Names

Names of Indian origin can be considered commemorative in the sense that the explorers and missionaries adopted them into their own languages, frequently in corrupt forms. Four townships bear names of Indian origin: *North Algona, South Algona, Matawatchan* and *Petawawa*. "Algona" may be from Algonquin, which in Micmac, means "the place of spearing fish and eels from the bow of a canoe" (*Handbook of Indians of Canada*, 1913, p. 38). *Matawatchan* is related to the name of the river, Madawaska, which was derived from the name of the tribe at the mouth of the river in the early part of the seventeenth century. There is also a dispersed hamlet called *Matawatchan*. *Petawawa* was named for the river, which was identified by Hawkins in 1839 as Pittoiwais (p. 111), a name used eight years earlier by Sherriff (1831, p. 245) for a tributary of the Nesswabic River. Bouchette in 1846 identified the main branch as Petawawauwe. The name has been spelled many different ways, but the township

was officially called Petawawa in 1857. The name, pronounced by many local people, pee-ta-waw-wee, but by most outsiders who associate the name with the army camp, pe-ta-waw-waw, is presumed to mean "a noise is heard far away". This is also the meaning of the name of Chief Petawachuan, with whom Coutlee (1910, p. 31) conferred about the turn of the century . It has been said that an Indian woman called Petewawa died in 1873 at the age of 115 years (Gardiner, 1889, p. 89). *Petawawa* is the name of an incorporated village, and *Petawawa Point* is a point and a hamlet.

The Ottawa River was first called "la grand rivière" by Sagard (1866, v. 3, pp. 699-700), and this designation lingered on to the beginning of the twentieth century (Joshua Fraser, 1880, p. 339; Sulte, 1898, p. 107). The Indians called it Kitchisipi meaning "great river", but it is possible that they merely translated the French name into their own language. During the seventeenth century a nation of Indians, residing north of Georgian Bay called Andatahouats by the Hurons (Sagard, 1865, v. 1, p. 53), were widely known as traders and their name was used by the French to identify that nation and other Indians who used the river to transport their furs to Quebec (Jesuit Relations v. 51, 1667, p. 21). "Rivière des Outaouais ou des Hurons ou des prairies" appeared on the map of Bernou, 1680. The separation of an English form from a French one was evident as early as 1775 on Mitchell's map "Riv. of the Outaouais or Utawas". The original of the name is not definitely known. Some say the Hurons called them "the traders" (*Handbook of Indians of Canada*, 1913, p. 374; Wintemberg, 1938, p. 100), others that the name meant "men of the woods" (Sagard, 1866, v. 1, p. 190; Sulte, 1898, p. 107), and still others that it referred to the human ear (Bedore, 1960, p. 4; *Lumber Trade*, 1872, pp. 3-4). Father Guinard (1958, p. 134) stated that the name referred to "ottew", meaning "boiling".

Kamaniskeg Lake, a large lake in the western part of the county, was first recorded by Murray in 1853 as Lake Kamaniskiak (p. 60). The name means "lake of many islands" in Algonquin according to Father Gravelle, a noted Valley genealogist (personal interview, June 20, 1964), and an examination of an Algonquin dictionary confirms this (Lemoine, 1909). Where York River joins the Madawaska is *Negeek Lake*, which is Ojibway for "otter". The feature is believed to be named for two people by the name of Fransway who were nick-named Negeek for their prowess as swimmers (personal correspondence, Stevenson, Combermere, July 30, 1964).

Paugh Lake in Burns is a name of Indian origin, and first appeared on McNaughton's survey plan of 1848 as Paquiac Sagagan, which possibly means "shallow lake" (*see* Lemoine, 1909, under "plat", the Algonquin translation being "pâkwa"). The Permanent Committee records give "pipe" as the meaning, but the Algonquin for that word is "opwâgan" (Lemoine, 1909, under "pipe"). It is also said to be named for an Indian who moved from the area many years ago (personal correspondence, Garvey, Killaloe Station, Jan. 4, 1966). *Wendigo Lake*, in Clara, is derived from a name for a mythical tribe of cannibals believed by Indians to inhabit an island in Hudson Bay (*Handbook of Indians of Canada*, 1913, p. 511). *White Lake* and *Waba Creek* are mentioned under colour names. *Osceola*, a hamlet northwest of Cobden on the Snake River, may be named for Chief Osceola (1803(?)-1838) who led the Seminoles in war against the United States in 1835, and after whom fourteen United States towns and three counties are named. A Mrs. Fitzpatrick of Bromley is reported to have known an aged Indian (d. 1943) by the name of Osceola (Price and Kennedy, 1961, p. 108), but this cannot be authenticated. Osceola is mentioned in a quotation from a letter by Bishop Guigues in 1852 in Alexis (1897, vol. I, pp. 386-387). *Pointe a l'Achigan* (pronounced "poynt-she-gaw" by one person interviewed) in

Westmeath is a French-Canadian word adopted from the Algonquin word for "small-mouthed black bass". The name may have been transferred from the Rivière l'Achigan area north of Montreal, for both there and this area of the Ottawa River were settled by Acadian French.

In Renfrew there are, as well, *Indian River*, a tributary of the Muskrat, *Indian Island* in Calabogie Lake, Indian Road in Westmeath, *Indian Point* in Lake Clear, another *Indian Point* near Petawawa, *Squaw Point* in Kamaniskeg Lake, and *Squaw Point* in Calabogie Lake.

French Names

As noted earlier, most of the seventeenth century nomenclature applied by French explorers and missionaries has been retained in the French form or translated, although the county is dominated by English-speaking people. Many people speak of Chats (pronounced "shawz") Lake (Whitton, 1942, p. 28; Bond, 1966, p. 5) and some references even have Shaws Lake (e.g., Bouchette, 1832, p. 82). The editor of the Arnprior Chronicle (personal interview, 25 June, 1964) stated that he always wrote *Lac des Chats*. This associative name refers either to the former raccoon's teeth appearance of Chats Falls or to the abundance of raccoons (chats sauvages) in the area (Alexis, 1897, v. 1, p. 122; Ottawa Times, 1871, pp. 10, 11). *Rocher Fendu* is the name of a rural community in Westmeath that adjoins *Chenal du Rocher-Fendu*, meaning "split rock channel". Some references spell it Roche Fendu (e.g., Price, 1957, p. 93), probably from its local pronunciation, "rush-fon-ja", and some even have Roche Fendue (e.g., Franquelin, 1699, and Bouchette, 1831). The meaning of *Bonnechere* has puzzled investigators. Possibly some time during the seventeenth century a party of explorers or missionaries sat

down to a most satisfying meal, and recorded the event for posterity in the
name of the river. In his *Histoire du Canada* Brother Sagard, who was on the
Ottawa River in 1623 and 1625, used the expression "bonne chere" four times
to describe meals that completely satisfied the appetites (1866, I. p. 172,
p. 186, p. 220, IV, p. 847). The remarkable thing about the name is that it
has rarely appeared misspelled. Other meanings frequently given for the name
are "sweet maid", "entertainment", "gentle river" (in contrast with the tumultuous
Madawaska), and "happiness". Des Joachims (locally pronounced "da-swi-sha") first
appeared on Franquelin's 1688 map as Portage de Joachim de l'Estan, and suc-
ceeding references had varying forms of this until Henry (1901, p. 26) noted
the name as Portages des Deux Joachims. Virtually all succeeding eighteenth
and nineteenth century references used that form, but the name has survived as
Rapides-des-Joachims in Quebec and as Des Joachims Dam. A pamphlet put out by
the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario in 1949 referred to two Joachim
brothers who owned great tracts of land in the district, but land ownership in
the seventeenth century seems doubtful and in none of 36 other references con-
sulted, where the name occurred, was an origin suggested. At the head of Lac
des Chats are *Rapides des Chenaux* and *Chenaux Island,* which are mentioned in
many references as "The Snows" (for example, Keefer, 1854, p. 48; Shanly, 1858,
p. 31). The name refers to four channels of the Ottawa River. A community
has been established near the Chenaux power station in Ontario adjacent to
Portage-du-Fort, Quebec, called *Chenaux.* At Bissett Creek is *Rocher Capitaine
Island,* which is named after the rapids where there was once a 45-foot fall
before the power dam was built at Des Joachims. The name first appeared on
Franquelin's 1688 map as Roche Capitaine, and means "chief's rock". *Lost Channel,*
between Becket and Cotnam islands at the Allumette Rapids, is locally called
Lost Snye, and refers to an obscured channel of the Ottawa. *Maraboo Lake*

east of Bissett Creek is a name shifted from the former Mirabeau Rapids identi-
fied by de Troyes in 1686 (Caron, 1918, p. 39) as marabout, possibly referring
to a rock formation resembling a humped-back man or to a conical-shaped cave.
Lake Clear and *Round Lake* are both names of French origin. *Lake Doré* is also
French, and could mean either pickerel or gold-tinged; if the latter, there
may have been a confusion in names during the French period between Lake Doré
and Golden Lake, but no references have been found where Golden Lake had a
French name.

Names Honouring Distinguished British People

Horton Township
- was named in 1826 after Sir Robert John Wilmot Horton
(1784-1841) then Under-secretary for War and Colonies, and
with whom considerable correspondence regarding provincial
union was exchanged during the period.

Ross Township
- established in 1830, is possibly named for Sir John Ross
(1777-1856), the Arctic explorer. The name may also be
derived from the county of Ross and Cromarty, Scotland.

Bagot Township
- established in 1843, honours Sir Charles Bagot (1781-1843)
who was the first governor of United Canada, 1841-43.

Blithfield Township
- was named after Bagot's home, Blithfield Hall, which is
near the communities of Abbots Bromley, Bagots Bromley,
and Admaston in England. All these places are in Stafford-
shire, and were the origins of the names *Admaston*, *Bromley*
and *Stafford* townships.

Pembroke Township
- and subsequently, the town of *Pembroke*, are possibly
named for George Augustus Herbert, 11th Earl of Pembroke
(1759-1827) with whom Robert Gourlay corresponded in 1823
(Gardiner, 1899, p. 83). Although not separated from
Westmeath until 1843, the township was named as early as
1835 (Postal Guide, 1835).

Brougham Township
- (1851) was named for Henry, Lord Brougham and Vaux (1778-
1868), Lord Chancellor of England.

Lyndoch Township
- (1862) honours Thomas Graham, Baron Lynedoch (1750-1843)
the leader of the forces that seized Malta in 1800. The
name was correctly spelled for a hamlet in Norfolk County
and an island in the Thousand Islands. Frequently the
township is incorrectly spelled Lyndock.

Grattan Township — (1851) was named for Henry Grattan (1746 -1820), who, with Brougham, supported Catholic emancipation and opposed the slave trade.

Wilberforce Township — (1851) honoured William Wilberforce (1759-1833), a prominent anti-slavery crusader and supporter of emigration.

Alice Township — (1859) is believed to be named for Alice Maud Mary (1843-78), the second daughter of Queen Victoria (Price and Kennedy, 1961, p. 98).

Head Township — (1859) was named after Sir Edmund Walker Head, Governor General of Canada from 1854 to 1861.

Maria Township — the neighbouring township, also established in 1859, was named for Head's wife, Anna Maria Yorke.

Clara — the last township in Renfrew's panhandle, bears a name that has eluded investigators.

Combermere — a small village in Radcliffe, may have been named in honour of Sir Stapleton Cotton, Viscount Combermere (1773-1865) who commanded cavalry in the Peninsular War, was commander-in-chief in India, 1825-30, and was a field marshal in 1855. His seat was Combermere Abbey in Cheshire, Combermere was for many years called Dennisons before the post office was established in 1865.

Burnstown — on the Madawaska at the Second Line of McNab may be named for the Scottish bard, Robbie Burns, but some think that a small burn (creek) entering the Madawaska may have been the origin.

Cobden — is named for Richard Cobden (1804-65), a noted British statesman who was admired by Jason Gould, the founder of the village.

Esmonde — the post office opened in Currys Settlement on the Opeongo Road in 1888, was named by T.P. French, the postal inspector, after Sir Thomas Esmonde of Ireland (White-Curry, 1905).

Vanbrugh — in Sebastopol was named by the Post Office Department (White-Kosmack, 23 Oct. 1905), and may be named for Sir John Vanbrugh (1664-1726), a distinguished dramatist, and designer of the famous Marlborough seat, Blenheim Palace.

English Names

The dominance of other ethnic groups over the English becomes apparent when one realizes how small is the number of names derived from England.

Castleford   — the county's oldest post office (established before 1835), is possibly named for Castleford in Yorkshire.

Dacre   — a hamlet in Admaston and Grattan, may be named for either Dacre Lodge in Middlesex, Dacre Station in Yorkshire or the village of Dacre in Cumberland.

Rosebank   — is derived from the name of the ship in which the settlers of this area of Renfrew sailed across the Atlantic.

Rockingham   — once a busy crossroads centre, but now a largely abandoned community in Brudenell was named for Rockingham Castle in Northamptonshire (or Northants) by the first postmaster, John Watson (White-Watson, 21 Oct., 1905).

Scottish Names

Although the Scots are not much more numerous than the English, their earlier arrival and their proclivity to rural pursuits brought a greater imprint of Scottish names on the map. First among these is the county name, *Renfrew,* which was probably suggested as a logical partner to *Lanark.* It was from these two counties in Scotland that many of the immigrants in Lanark originated. The town of *Renfrew* was at first simply called Second Chute. Just before the post office was established in 1848 it was called Renfrewville. Archibald McNab built Kinnell Lodge at the present site of *Arnprior* about 1825, but the name was not selected until 1831 when George and Andrew Buchanan set up a lumber mill at the mouth of the Madawaska. The name was the ancestral bailiwick of the Buchanans, to whom McNab was related on his mother's side. *Dochart Creek* and *Dochart,* a suburb of Arnprior, take their names from a river

in Perthshire, Scotland that empties into Loch Tay at the McNab seat of Kinnell.
Also entering Loch Tay at that point is River Lochay, and there is a *Locha
Creek* that rises at Fraser Lake and empties into the Ottawa at Castleford
Station; this name was recorded by Bouchette in 1831 as "Lochy", but was changed
to Lockhart on a C.P.R. plan of 1877, Lockart on the Georgian Bay Ship Canal
Plan of 1908, and Lochiel on recent topographic maps. Several persons inter-
viewed pronounced it "law-k-aw".

Halfway between Arnprior and Renfrew is the hamlet of *Glasgow Station,*
surrounded by the rural community of *Glasgow.* To the northeast is the rural
community of *Lochwinnoch,* named after Lochwinnoch in Renfrewshire, Scotland.
From 1875 to 1913 the post office was spelled as two words, and the name has
consistently appeared thus on National Topographic maps although the one word
form has persisted locally. Two miles west of Arnprior is *Braeside,* (meaning
"hill side"), a village laid out by Alexander McDonell in 1822 which has been
the site of the Gillies Brothers mill since 1873. On McGees Creek near Reid
Lake in Admaston Township, Ephraim Reid established a woollen mill during the
last century and named the mill Ferguslie after his home in Scotland, west of
Paisley. In 1892, when Robert Reid applied to the Post Office Department to
change the name Harty's Station to that of the mill, the department misspelled
the name *Ferguslea* (White-Reid, 1905) and it survives as such. South of High-
way 41, between Dacre and Griffith, is the largely abandoned rural area of
Balvenie, which may have been named after Balvenie Castle, Banffshire, Scotland.
A Scottish name is a curiosity here for the area has been inhabited by Irish
and French, and was called Kerry Settlement before the post office was estab-
lished in 1891. *Douglas,* a village on the Bonnechere River between Renfrew and
Eganville, was named by Judge John G. Malloch for Douglas in Lanarkshire, Scot-
land (White-Ross, Apr. 10, 1906).

Irish Names

The Irish were the first to occupy many of the rural areas of Renfrew and the frequent occurrence of Irish nomenclature is indicative of this fact. Between 1896 and 1900 a post office on the Naughton* Road in Bagot was called Ireland. The name is no longer used there, but in 1908 an Irish settlement in the southwest part of Raglan had a second post office established in the county called *Ireland*. *Westmeath Township* is named for an east-central Irish county. The name is also applied to a small village. Where the C.P.R. crosses the Muskrat River are *Meath, Meath Hill* and *Meath Lake*. Meath in Ireland is, naturally, east of Westmeath; but in name transference, curious things can happen, and, in Renfrew, the community of Meath is west of the community of Westmeath. West of Eganville toward Lake Clear is the Irish settlement, *Donegal,* which was founded about 1840. The name has never appeared on maps, and when a post office was established in 1905, the postmaster, James Howard, provided his surname to avoid duplication of Donegal used by three other offices in Canada at the time. Howard is still shown on the national topographic maps but field investigation indicated that when the office was closed in 1913 the name ceased to be used. "It is a shame", admonished one person interviewed, "The Howards were Clare Catholics and not Donegal Catholics at all".

In 1861, T.P. French altered to *Clontarf* the name of his post office on the Opeongo Road, which had orignally been opened in 1858 as Sebastopol. Clontarf commemorates the Dublin suburb where Brian Boru defeated the Danes in 1014. The community extends for seven miles from Esmonde on the east to Plaunts Mountain on the west. *Killaloe* was founded by the lumberman and legislator, James Bonfield, in 1850, at a mill site on Brennans Creek and was named for his

*Pronounced "nor-tun" locally and sometimes spelled Norton, personal communication with Michael Naughton Sr., Mar. 30, 1965. His name is spelled "Norton" in the telephone directory.

Irish home in County Clare. In 1894 the Canada Atlantic Railway was built one

and a half times to the north at Fort McDonell, named after the first settler,

William McDonell, and the name was changed to *Killaloe Station*. At present,

Killaloe is rather derelict and spoken of by outsiders as Old Killaloe,

while Killaloe Station, an incorporated village, is more commonly called

Killaloe. The Post Office Department, which closed the Killaloe post office

in 1961, has anticipated an eventual change in official usage by eliminating

"station" from the name over the entrance of the new federal building in

Killaloe Station. *Letterkenny* is a rural community in Brudenell, and is named

after an urban district in County Donegal. *Liffey Creek* is a small tributary of

Locha Creek north of Glasgow Station and is named for the river flowing into Dublin

Bay. This Irish name in the midst of a former all-Scots community emphasizes the

sequent occupance by different cultural groups in McNab Township.

Tramore, a rural community in Hagarty and Richards was named by

the first schoolteacher, Mr. Fallon, after Tramore in County Waterford, his

home in Ireland (White-Brewer, 24 Oct., 1905). *Calabogie* and *Calabogie Lake*

may be derived from "calladh bogaidh", which is Gaelic for "marshy shore"

(personal correspondence, Day, 9 June, 1965). Since no such name occurs in

Ireland according to the best gazetteers, the origin of Calabogie had been

sought elsewhere. In Spanish "cala boga" refers to a water body where rowing

is necessary, and one informant claimed that it was Indian for "sturgeon"

(personal correspondence, Clarke, 9 April, 1965), although no such meaning

occurs in any of the Indian dictionaries. A beverage in the early days of

Newfoundland was "callibogus", concocted from spruce beer and rum (Story,

1965, p. 130). *Springtown* may be named for Springtown, County Fermanagh

(White-Halliday, 1905). It is also said to be named Springtown because it

was common during the nineteenth century for shantymen to congregate here

during spring drives (Duncan Wallace, personal interview, June 26, 1964, and Lovell, 1857, p. 659). Finally, *Mount St. Patrick* and *Shamrock* both denote Irish origins though neither occur in Ireland as place-names.

Names of Other National Origins

Names of German origin are *Augsburg* in Grattan, and *Rosenthal* in Raglan, Radcliffe and Brudenell. *Wilno*, in Hagarty and Sherwood, and *Kaszuby* in Sherwood are derived from Poland. Both the Germans and the Poles have contributed far fewer names than their relative numbers would indicate because the areas where they settled had been largely surveyed and logged-over when they arrived, because there is a considerable time lag in name changes on maps to correspond with local usage, and because the language of the educational system and commerce is English or French.

Castile, a rural community in South Algona, is possibly named for Castile in Spain. A post office at Foymount, four miles to the south of Castile was called Madrid from 1864 to 1873, but the name is not known locally. *Khartum*, on Highway 41 between Dacre and Griffith and just west of Balvenie, was named by the postmaster, Austin Legree, in 1909 to honour Gordon who was killed at Khartoum in 1885 and to commemorate the fact that the first Canadian contingent in the Nile Expedition was drawn from Ottawa Valley lumber camps.

Names Honouring Distinguished Ontario People

Eleven of the townships in Renfrew are believed to be named for prominent provincial figures:

Fraser Township — (1855), is likely named for Alexander Fraser (1785?-1853), who was appointed to the Legislative Council of Canada in 1841.

Buchanan Township — (1857), is possibly named for Isaac Buchanan (1810-1883), a member of the Legislative Assembly of Canada after 1841. It is noted in the *Notes on the History of Renfrew* (1961, p. 105) that the authors believe that it was more likely named for George Buchanan, the Arnprior industrialist drowned in Lac des Chats in 1837. Gardiner, (1899, p. 90) reported that Isaac's son, Peter, said that it was named for George, but the coincidence of surrounding townships bearing the names of Canadian legislators can hardly be ignored.

Wylie Township — (1857)* was named for James Wylie an Almonte merchant and member of the Legislative Council before Confederation.

Rolph Township — (1855) was named for John Rolph (1793-1870), a Member of Parliament, supporter of William Lyon Mackenzie and founder of the Toronto School of Medicine.

Rolphton — established in 1947 as a housing colony for workers at the Des Joachims power development, was a name derived from the township.

Hagarty Township — (1862) was an honour to Sir John Hawkins Hagarty (1816-1900), who was a puisne judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1862, and later Chief Justice of Ontario.

Richards Township — (1862) was named for Sir William Buell Richards (1815-89) who was also a puisne judge in 1862, and later Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Sherwood Township — (1862) may be named after Henry Sherwood (1807-55) a judge and Solicitor General of Canada, 1844-46, and later Attorney General; or after George Sherwood (1811-83), Receiver General of Canada, 1858-62, and for a short period, Commissioner of Crown Lands; or after Levius Sherwood (1777-1850), the father of Henry and George, a member of the Legislative Council in 1842 and brother-in-law of Jonas Jones, after whom the neighbouring township was named.

Jones Township — (1863) was named after Jonas Jones (1791-1848), Speaker of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada in 1839, and later a judge.

Burns Township — (1862) was an honour to Robert Easton Burns (1805-63), who was a puisne judge at the time the township was named.

---

*Gardiner (p. 98) set the date as 1864, but the name appeared on a map of the Ottawa and Huron Territory published by the Crown Lands Dept. in 1857.

Radcliffe Township	– (1859) was named for Thomas Radcliffe (1794-1841), who served under Wellington in the Peninsular War, and was a member of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada in 1839.
McKay Township	– (1855) was named for Thomas McKay (1792-1855), a member of the Legislative Council after 1841, and builder of Rideau Hall in Ottawa.
Latchford Bridge	– a rural community in Raglan, formerly called Ryans Settlement, became a post office in 1905 when Francis Robert Latchford was a member of the Ontario Legislative for South Renfrew.

Names from the Crimean War

The events of the Crimean War had a considerable impact on the toponymy of Canada. Renfrew designated its main street, Raglan Street, after the illustrious Lord Fitzroy James Henry Somerset, 1st Baron Raglan (1788-1855) who commanded forces in the Crimean War. In 1857 his name was also selected to designate *Raglan Township*, in the southern part of the county. Named at the same time were: *Brudenell Township*, after James Thomas Brudenell, 7th Earl of Cardigan (1797-1868), the distinguished leader of the light cavalry brigade in the historic charge of 1854; *Sebastopol Township*, after the famous seige of 1855; *Griffith Township*, possibly after Colonel Thomas Griffith who commanded the Greys at Balaclava; and *Balaclava*, a small centre in Grattan Township, which was mentioned as early as 1859 by T.P. French in his report to the Crown Lands Department (p.66).

Biblical, Religious and Literary Names

Many places in America have been named after places mentioned in the Bible. Southeast of Haley Station in Ross is the small community of *Garden of Eden*. Although this name has not appeared on maps since Walling, 1863, it is still used locally. Located in a section of deeper soils north of Calabogie is

the rural community of *Ashdad*, frequently referred to in the Bible as a God-forsaken place. In Biblical texts (I Sam. 5) it is spelled Ashdod, the form used by the C.P.R. for its former station. One anecdote traced the derivation from a local incident when a father asked his son to identify a tree, and was advised: "It's ash dad".

In the early days of McNab Township three communities were called the Land of Canaan, the Land of Goshen and the Land of Dan (*see* Gen. 47:1, 49:16). Canaan and Goshen were designated by James McLaren who, in the early days of settlement, walked from the area of the former, where he was offered no nourishment, to the area of the latter, the traditional land of milk and honey, where he was given food (White-Stewart, 28 Oct., 1905). *Goshen* has survived as the name of a rural community northwest of Glasgow although its postal name between 1877 and 1914 was Carswell. Canaan (pronounced "ke-nan" not "kay-nin") is less well known. It lies between Burnstown and Renfrew and was the site of one of the first churches in the county, a distinction commemorated by a plaque in 1964, which probably accounted for a revival of the name. Dan was located between White Lake and Madawaska River, and is no longer used locally. Between Cobden and Beachburg is the rural community of *Zion Line*, named for the City of David (II Sam.5:7). *Devils Lake* in Richards, *Devils Hole*, a small lake beside White Lake, and *Deils Lake* and *Deils Creek* in Horton south of the Bonnechere, are the only examples of religious nomenclature, albeit they refer to the antithesis of good. The only predilection to "Saint" names are *Mount St. Patrick* and *St. Pierre Lake* in Blithfield.

In 1947 the Algonquin Park superintendent proposed the names *Eeyore, Pooh, Tigger* and *Piglet* for lakes in Maria Township. These names were taken from A.A. Milne's classic "Winnie-the-Pooh". In 1965 the names of the other characters in the book, *Christopher Robin, Rabbit, Owl, Kanga* and *Roo* were applied to adjoining lakes in Maria. *Locksley* may be from Tennyson's poem *Locksley Hall*.

EUPHEMISTIC NAMES

Stewart wrote: "These are names, comparatively few in number, given with reference to the future, rather than with reference to the past or present. They picture the place by means of an idealization, and are therefore to be distinguished from descriptives, which picture places, in essence, realistically" (1954, p. 7). That only two names, *Garden of Eden* and *Pleasant Valley* could be called euphemistic to any degree is clear evidence that the settlers of Irish, Scottish, German and Polish origin did not name their geographical guide-posts with any sense of imagination or idealism. *Pleasant Valley* identifies a community and a creek in Westmeath; Garden of Eden was named by Joseph C. Jackson in 1891 (Price, 1957, p. 89).

MANUFACTURED NAMES

There are a few place-names that have been assembled in Renfrew County. Chats (pronounced "shawz") Haven is a residential area on the east side of the Madawaska in Arnprior. This name was selected several years ago by means of a contest, and its winning point was the pleasant admixture of French and English (personal interview, Editor, Arnprior Chronicle, 25 June, 1964). In Alice is *Forest Lea* and in Stratford and Alice is *Stonebrook,* both community names that once identified local cheese factories and thus, are, in a way, associative names. *Shady Nook* is a community and railway name on Highway 41 just south of Pembroke that was derived from a local pine grove. And closer to Pembroke is the suburban residential development of *Fairview.* *Germanicus* is a rural community of people of German origin west of Lake Doré. On the Opeongo Road in Radcliffe is the largely abandoned community of *Hopefield.* A little over a mile southeast of McDougall is the hamlet of *Oakgrove,*

which, although it had a post office from 1900 to 1906, has never appeared on maps. Another community that has not appeared on maps is *Pinegrove*, a rural community in McNab just west of Arnprior. In Admaston is the small community called *Balsam Hill*, which was named in 1887, although the community had neither a hill nor a balsam tree. In Bagot on the east side of the Madawaska is the dispersed rural community of *Spruce Hedge*. *Tatty Hill* near Barryvale is a name taken from the local term for a potato.

ASSOCIATIVE NAMES

This category, identified by Stewart as shift names (1954, p. 9), describes the great number of names that have been derived by uniting specific terms to generics of other geographical features. Ottawa Valley would be the first to come to mind. Bonnechere has been applied to a lake in Haliburton County and to a bay in Aylen Lake. Nipissing District, to the valley, a post office in Richards, a ridge northwest of Renfrew as well as a special name in the community of Germanicus by the adherents of St. Johns Lutheran Church, as the name of caves east of Eganville, and as the names of various streets, roads and commerical establishments. Opeongo is another example of a specific that has freely shifted. It was first applied to lakes in the area of Algonquin Park. Sherriff (1831, p. 296) referred to them (Peonga, Abeunga) in 1831 as principal reservoirs of the Madawaska. In 1852 the Ottawa and Opeongo Road was surveyed from Castleford to Bark Lake, with the prospect of the survey being carried on to Opeongo Lake later. When settlers arrived the route was called simply Opeongo Road (*see* French, 1857, p. 17). As often occurs in Eastern Canada surveyed routes are frequently designated "lines", and the Opeongo has

through the years been called Opeongo Line as much as Opeongo Road by the people who have lived and travelled on it. The use of the proper generic term raised considerable controversy in 1964 and 1965, and on the 1965 tourist map of the area it has been designated Opeongo Way. From the road the name shifted to the range of mountains in Brudenell and Sebastopol and to a C.P.R. station (now closed) at Ferguslea. There is also a C.N.R. station called *Opeongo* in Dickens Township, Nipissing District, which had a post office from 1908 to 1915.

There is another kind of associative naming where both generic and specific are transferred to adjoining features. Frequently the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names finds it necessary to alter such names to reduce the number of words so that they can be easily applied on maps. An example of this procedure has been the alteration of Mink Lake Branch of the Snake River to *Mink Creek*. The procedure is not inflexible and, while Silver Lake Creek has been approved as *Silver Creek, Grants Creek Bay* and *Marsh Lake Point* in Head have been accepted as used locally.

SOME PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE RENFREW NOMENCLATURE

Much of the large scale mapping took place in the area of Renfrew County in a relatively short period of time from the 1920's to the early 1940's, mostly in the late 1930's. Without field teams qualified to undertake toponymical investigations, the then Geographic Board had to rely principally on official maps produced by the Ontario and federal governments, on century-old township plans, on various commercial maps and atlases and on incidental details picked up by surveying teams. As well as failing to anticipate the dynamism of toponymic change, such reliance tended to perpetuate names long forgotton locally.

From its inception in 1898, the Geographic Board and its successors followed a procedure of arbitrarily changing common and often duplicated names to more distinctive ones, a policy that always met with local hostility. Since the people were often unaware of the changes, they continued to use the common names until embarrassed, and likely irritated, by someone looking for the feature under the Board-approved name. The present policy of the Committee is to avoid duplication within a township; where greater duplication occurs the Committee seeks the advice of local people on suitable alternatives, publicizing the changes in the local press.

Until recently the Committee gave precedence to names that were ascertained when the township surveys were carried out, often ignoring alternative names with long standing. Frequently postal designations were retained as place names long after the office was closed, though the original community names were still in local usage. Sometimes names were applied to features when those features already had acceptable local names. Many features well known in the study area have never had their names considered for use on large scale maps. Conversely some features had names on maps for which no names were used locally. Finally some names have been inaccurately applied on the maps.

CHANGES IN NOMENCLATURE

A rule of thumb that would permit knowing which alterations would be accepted and which would not, would not be too easy to establish. Several name changes instituted in Renfrew have been accepted locally. Some changes have been recognized with local names also mentioned or written in brackets in newspaper accounts. However, most changes have been rejected locally.

Changes Accepted

Between Douglas and Eganville is the community of *Hyndford,* a postal name instituted in 1891 (possibly after an estate in Lanark, Scotland) to serve the community of Caldwell and which identified two post offices in Canada. Although Caldwell is used as recently as the 1961 census*, the local usage is definitely Hyndford. The South Branch of the Petawawa River was altered in 1914 to *Barron River* on the Petawawa 1:63,360 map. This river was originally called Petawawa (Pittowais) while the present Petawawa was called Nesswabic (Sherriff, 1831, p. 245), but Petawawa was applied to the outlet at the Ottawa by Hawkins (1839, p. 111), Bouchette (1846), Murray (1853) and Keefer (1854, p. 50), and the two main branches became known as North Branch and South Branch. A Geographic Board policy was the elimination of the terms "branch" and "fork" and the substitution of either new names or generic terms only, for all but the main branch of a river. Although many people spoke of the South Branch of the Petawawa in 1964, everyone interviewed in the area knew it officially as *Barron River* after the township where it rises, which was named in 1890 for John Augustus Barron, then a member of the House of Commons.

Another name that has gained general acceptance is *Black Donald Lake,* which many know as Whitefish Lake. The new Mountain Chute power development will create a lake several times larger than the present one, and will

---

*An enumerator in Renfrew County stated that lists of place names shown in the previous Census would be mailed to the enumerator and if he did not indicate local name changes, the errors would be continued.

preserve the storied lumbering and mining name of Black Donald (*Ottawa Journal*, 13 Mar., 1965). In 1919 Rockliffe (without a "c") was changed to *Stonecliffe* to avoid confusion with Rockcliffe at Ottawa, and the change has been accepted.

Changes not Accepted

There have been a far greater number of names not accepted into local usage. Many names that were proposed to eliminate common names as, for example, Arabis Lake for *Murphys Lake*, Achillea Lake for *Island Lake*, Salvia Lake for *Duck Lake*, and Lupine Lake for *Brule Lake*, all in Burns, Combermere Lake for *Canoe Lake* in Radcliffe, Discus Lake for *Round Lake*, Jacktar Lake for *Jacks Lake* and Blackbird Lake for *Black Lake*, all in Brougham, have been rejected by the local people. Contrary to popular belief, more opposition is registered about arbitrary name changes in areas of little or no settlement, probably because geographical features are well known guide-posts for hunters, trappers and fishermen.

NAMES AT VARIANCE WITH LOCAL USAGE

There are several examples of names having been applied to features that have had other names in local usage unknown to the Committee. In Lyndoch Township, *Big Eneas* and *Little Eneas* lakes were labelled collectively Lyndoch Lake; *Cameron Lake* was named Eneas Lake; *Little Eneas Creek* was shown as Kargus Creek; *Kauffeldt Lake* was identified as Kargus Lake. *First Kargus Lake* and *Second Kargus Lake* were shown as Kauffeldt and MacDonald lakes, *Joyces Lake* was labelled Stoughton Lake, and *Kennelly Lake* was shown as Ryan Lake. In Admaston, Whelan Lake was shown on maps for the feature known for many years as Mangans Lake although Whelan Lake was only a post office name. It has become known in recent years as *Samally Lake*. The present name is an acronym formed

from the names of Sam and Alice Lurges, the developers of a local summer resort. In Bagot, *Dempseys Lake* was shown as Virgin Lake. In Sherwood, *Cybulski Lake*, a name long established locally, was identified on maps in 1942 as Woodsher Lake, a displeasing syllabic transposition of the township name. In Richards, *Rorys Lake* was shown as Speckled Lake - an imposition that considerably irritated the local nomenclature authority, John Joe Turner, who had to deny to indignant fishermen any duplicity in putting speckled on the map where no speckled trout were to be found.

PRESERVATION OF NAMES NO LONGER USED

In many areas the preservation of historic names and the revival of distinguished nomenclature have merit, and, with local concurrence, should be encouraged. There are, however, many features in Renfrew that have names unknown locally. These names may have been retained even when more modern names were known, often because the latter may have been too common. On the whole, such names were obtained from century-old plans and maps because field information was unavailable.... and there was neither staff nor time delegated to investigate local usage.

As the result of the 1964 field study the following italicized names have been approved to replace nomenclature unknown locally.

Fergusons Lake — on Constant Creek in Blithfield had been identified on the topographic maps as Constos Lake since 1937. The township plan of 1842 had Constos, and Bouchette, 1846, used Constance - a misspelling and a misapplication of the name Constant Lake, which lies 10 miles to the northwest. From about 1860 to about 1916 this feature was locally called Hunts Lake after a prominent local family.* *Fergusons Lake* is the only name used locally

Hunts Lake is another lake nearby, known to some as Long Lake.

Fergusons Lake	- now, and is derived from John Ferguson, a lumberman and member of the House of Commons from 1887 to 1900.
Yukes Lake	- in Brudenell, was shown as Anderson Lake on the modern topographical maps because that was the name shown in the field notes of 1857.
Colton Lake	- in Rolph, was shown as Dow Lake, and, by association *Marsh Lake*, was called West Dow Lake, while six miles to the south in Algonquin Park *Kellys Lake* was shown as Colton Lake.
McCrearys Point	- at Castleford, was shown as Bulless Point.
Farrells Point	- was shown as Bissett Point.
Toweys Bay	- was shown as Conroy Bay.

In the Champlain Trail Lakes, in Ross and Horton, the lakes names Coldingham, Catharine and Town are not known locally. *Coldingham Lake* and *Catharine Lake* will be retained, because there are numerous local variants for each, but everyone interviewed knew Town Lake as *Garden Lake*, after the local community, Garden of Eden. In Brudenell, *Musclows Lake* was called Philips Lake, *Bolands Lake* was identified as Kelly Lake, and *Kellys Lake* was shown as Vanbrugh Lake. *Kitts Lake* in Brudenell was called Printy Lake on the first township plan and this name has been retained on modern maps although, even at the turn of the century, it was called Kitts Lake after a local settler, William Kitts (White-Roche, Dec. 13, 1906). For many years *Trout Lake* near Barry's Bay has been shown as Stubbs Lake. *Gariepy Creek*, a tributary of Indian River and believed to be named for a nineteenth century lumberman (personal correspondence, Garvey, 1966), has been shown on maps as Gardez Pieds Creek.

DISCARDED POSTAL NAMES

Prior to the First World War the Post Office Department provided offices at nearly every cross-road, farming community and hamlet. Admaston,

which now has two offices, had no less than eleven named offices in 1904.
Many of these have been retained as acceptable names for use on maps, although
several are unknown to all but the oldest of citizens. In Wilberforce, *Letts
Corners* is a name widely known, but the post office name, Griersford (1895-1912),
has persisted on maps although only two local people out of nine interviewed
in the area ever heard of Griersford. (This is similar to the case of *Donegal*
in Grattan which was discussed earlier in the section on Irish commemorative
names.) In Grattan and Sebastopol is the well known local name of *Newfoundout**
that has never been shown on maps. Instead Donohue, a former post office
(1914-1948), was the approved name although it is never used locally. Also
in Grattan is the widely known community of *Scotch Bush,* which is identified
on maps as Grattan, its postal name from 1880 to 1945. *O'Grady Settlement* is
the common local name in Hagarty for the community shown on maps as Emmet.
The latter was named by T.P. French in 1876 after Robert Emmett, the Irish
patriot; John O'Grady was, however, the postmaster (White-O'Grady, Oct. 27,
1905). In Bromley on the Barr Line the name Dunmore, which was a post office
between 1887 and 1914, has never been heard of by a lady who has lived there
for 38 years. Curiously enough a post office operated from 1900 to 1910 on
the Barr Line two miles farther south was called *Bromley,* and the name is still
used for that rural community.

UNRECORDED WELL KNOWN PLACE NAMES

Some names have gone unrecorded in the Committee's records and on
national topographic maps because the communities never had a railway station or
a post office named for them.

---

*The population decreased from 6 to 2 during 1964, but the area is
popular for cottagers and hunters.

Connaught
- (pronounced "caw-nik" locally) is the farming community between Osceola and Micksburg and is frequently mentioned in the local press.

Dewars
- lies between Lochwinnoch and Sand Point.

Grants Settlement
- is a community east of Foresters Falls.

Harriets Corners
- is a well known location one and half miles east of Rockingham.

Kellys Corner
- between Cobden and Eganville, is the widely known proposed site for a new composite high school.

Lost Nation
- northeast of Letterkenny in Brudenell is largely an abandoned settlement.

In Stafford the locality name of Stafford is not known although shown on the maps, but *Lower Stafford* is known.

Lundys Corners
- one mile west of Glasgow Station was named for Daniel McLinden, the first postmaster there in 1890: the office was originally called Harvey and was changed to Glasgow Station in 1902.

Mansfield, Dochart and *Sandy Beach*
- are previously unrecorded names on the western outskirts of Arnprior.

In Bromley on the Cobden-Eganville Road the name *Wolftown* has gone unrecorded, and the name *Pine Valley*, which is the next community to the west, is shown on the maps in the area of Wolftown. The formerly unrecorded names *Oakgrove*, *Pinegrove* and *Rosebank* have already been discussed.

SPECIAL TOPONYMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RENFREW NOMENCLATURE

INTRODUCING NEW NOMENCLATURE

For the purpose of fire fighting, air search and rescue, and fish-stocking, it is not only necessary to have geographical features properly named, but it is also most useful to provide names for unnamed features that

can be easily identified on maps and are prominent landmarks in the field. In choosing these names the assistance of local people should be obtained. Many persons interviewed in Renfrew said that the names of pioneers should be the prime source of new names. "It is a pity", said Mrs. Andrew Carswell of Glasgow, "that Daniel McLachlin, one of the Valley's great benefactors, was never honoured with a major feature".

In Head, Maria and Clara, the writer worked with Frank Mitchell, a Lands and Forests Chief Ranger at Stonecliffe, in selecting the names of early pioneers from township minute books. For example, First, Second and Third Mackey lakes in Head were changed to the surnames of James *Dunlop*, James *McKenna* and Benjamin *Sweezy*, all early patentees. Three others in the area were also consulted before these names were proposed to the Committee.

The new names *Astrolabe Lake* and *Champlain Trail Lakes*, proposed in 1964 for lakes in Ross Township, won immediate acceptance from many people. In March, 1965, the name *Ryan Creek* was proposed for a small tributary of Dochart Creek near Glasgow Station where the late Frank Ryan, a noted broadcaster and agriculturalist, was born. Many people in McNab Township readily accepted, and several people throughout the Ottawa Valley quickly commended this honour.

FEATURES WITH MORE THAN ONE LOCAL NAME

Several features in Renfrew County were found to have more than one name in local use. Sometimes people on one side of a feature use a different name than people on the other. As an example, *Jeffreys Lake* in Ross Township is known to some as Logans Lake at the north end, and to others as Olmsted (or Olmstead) Lake at the south end although Jeffreys Lake is the more

widely known name for the feature identified on maps as Olmsted Lake, which is a nineteenth century name. In Horton, *Kasaboski Creek* and McNab Creek identify the same feature, a confusion which led the Department of Lands and Forests in 1960 to stock the creek twice with brook trout.

West of Pembroke is *Lemke Lake*, known to many as Carson Lake. Two persons interviewed knew both names and thought they identified two different lakes! A small lake on Constant Creek east of Dacre is called *Garskeys Lake*; it is also known locally as Coltermans Lake, Bobs Lake, and some people even know the previous name, Dais Lake.

Moores Creek drains Colton Lake in Admaston and joins *Pettigrews Creek* near Samally Lake. Pettigrews Creek was called Moores Creek a century ago when Alexander Moore had a mill at its mouth, but he was no relation to the Moores now living in *Moores Lake*.

McIntomneys (pronounced "mek-kin-tumz) Creek rises near the hamlet of Brudenell, and flows north past *McIntomneys Mountain*. After it plunges about 400 feet down the scarp face, it takes on another local name, *Devines Creek*, the name which appears in fish-stocking lists.

Colton Lake in Admaston is a name that has survived since the days of first settlement, but it has also been known as Fergusons Lake, after a man who drowned there about 100 years ago, as French Lake, for the local French settlement, as Freamos Lake and Cruises Lake after local settlers, and as Moores Lake - a name misinterpreted widely for the lake, but in reality the name used by Margaret Moore for her news column in the Renfrew newspapers. Miss Moore said that when she required an identification for her column about

20 years ago, an editor said he knew the community as "the lake at the Moores". Three different Moores say the name they use for the lake itself is Colton, but the name *Moores Lake* has become firmly established for the community.

Many people presume that there is a physical feature called Mount St. Patrick. Although a large area of the immediate rugged upland is known as the *Mount St. Patrick Mountains*, and the area is colloquially known far and wide as "The Mountain", the only named single features are *Kennellys Mountain* and *Maloneys Mountain*. *Kenellys Mountain* is known to some as Front Mountain, to others as Near Mountain, and *Maloneys Mountain* is called by some Back Mountain, by others Rear Mountain, and by still others as Far Mountain.

Just west of the village of Golden Lake there is a large bay that is known to some as *Mundts Bay* and to others as Kilbys Bay with the former being known to more people interviewed. In Brudenell the name *Lorwall Lake* has survived for a century, although some people also know it as Holly Lake or Hartneys Lake. In Matawatchan there is a feature called *Wilson Lake*, known to some people as Bourguignons (spelling?) Lake, to others as Belangers Lake. It has also been shown on some maps as Snake Lake.

Frequently if a feature has more than one name it may be because a younger generation has adopted a new one, while the older people have retained another. An excellent example is *Huckabones Corners* on Highway 41 between Rankin and Micksburg. This name is common among the older people, but some younger ones call it Woitos (pronounced "way-toz") Corners after a family that settled there more recently. Woito and Waito are very common surnames in Alice,

Wilberforce, Stafford, Pembroke and Petawawa, and *Woito* is a community name in Alice and Wilberforce. Another example is *Ledgerwoods Corner,* one-half mile southeast of Beachburg, which was once called Clippas Corner, and has been recently known as Israils Corner, after Israil Chevalier, a local resident.

DIFFERENTIATION AMONG GENERIC TERMS

Streams in Renfrew have only two widely used generic terms, "river" and "creek", as well as "branch", which is used for tributaries only. "Brook" was recorded only once - for a small stream, Brandy Brook, in Bagot beside the Lanark boundary. "Brook" does occur elsewhere in Eastern Ontario, but 1965 field work reveals the extent of its application and usage to be very limited. "Branch" is used very rarely in Renfrew, in contrast to other parts of southern Ontario, and its two occurrences have been changed: South Branch of the Petawawa to *Barron River,* Mink Lake Branch of Snake River to *Mink Creek.* "River" occurs only thirteen times: *Ottawa, Chalk, Petawawa, Barron, Muskrat, Indian, Snake, Bonnechere, Pine, Sherwood, Madawaska, York* and *Little Mississippi.* Otherwise all the streams in Renfrew are identified by the generic term "creek", which in original English usage and, in present Nova Scotian practice, refers only to tide-water inlets. Its application to inland streams is a North American innovation (e.g., *see* Zelinsky, 1955, p. 325).

As a generic term "lake" occurs for water bodies from an acre or so in extent to many square miles in area. The only alternative to "lake" in Renfrew is "pond" and this frequently refers to small intermittent water bodies created behind beaver dams or to small, shallow pools. "Pond" was recorded only six times.

The attempts to discern the difference between the generic term "mountain" and "hill" has been an interesting challenge. It may be hypothetically concluded that they are terms developed in the days of the horse and buggy; a "hill" could be surmounted by a horse and buggy or by team and wagon with perhaps slight difficulty, while a "mountain" had to be bypassed. The Opeongo Mountains are an exception. The Opeongo Road was surveyed over the summits of these mountains to avoid installing bridges, and connecting roads had to be developed on the steep scarp face. It is rare to find a feature identified as a hill in Renfrew where a road or trail does not pass over it. At one time the Committee's predecessor attempted to devise a rule that would require 1000 feet of local relief before the designation "mountain" would be used. There are no features of this height in the county, although some, like *McDonalds Mountain* in Sebastopol and *Kennellys Mountain* in Brougham, approach 800 feet. The *Bonnechere Ridge* in the area of Bromley and Ross is locally called by some people Harris Mountain, but by most *Harris Hill;* the local relief is only about 200 feet. Only once was the generic term "mount" ascertained; this was the feature called *Mount Edna* in the Gariepy Mountains. Otherwise "mountain" was always used, and it always followed the specific term, (for example, *Jamiesons Mountain,* formerly approved as Mount Jamieson).

CONCLUSION

The principal conclusion provided by the study undertaken in Renfrew County is that the toponymic records of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names are quite incomplete, and that in consequence, the maps and documents published by the federal and provincial governments seldom fully express the true geographical nomenclature accepted and used by

local residents. The results of the study may be summarized as follows:

Previously unrecorded local names 770
Unrecorded local names differing
  from formerly approved names 89
Names still used and reinstated for
  which substitutes had been
  formerly approved 37
Spelling errors 28
Names misapplied on maps 19
Features with approved names unknown
  locally, and without alternatives............. 12

The results of the survey show that direct field investigation far
exceeds the correspondence method in toponymic studies. At best, correspond-
ence is useful to clarify obscure points ascertained during field work, and
should only be used in areas of easy access when the investigator is assured
that the informant is not only familiar with the area in question, but is also
familiar with a topographic map of the area. Many people in Renfrew illustrated
points with sketches on plain paper because they could not read the map shown to
them; yet these people invariably have a deep appreciation for the geography
around them. The conversation permitted by interview allows the necessary
transliteration by the field man from the informant's description to the repre-
sentation of the local geography on a topographical map. Whereas correspond-
ence cannot fully assess the reliability of respondents, field investigation
can permit such necessary judgments as the extent of each informant's knowledge
of names and his actual familiarity with his surroundings. Interviewing also
leads an investigator to recognize local authorities on geographical names
quickly. In addition, failing eyesight and difficulty in expressing oneself
on paper may be legitimate reasons for not answering correspondence.

Considerable study is needed throughout Canada to determine the use and application of names for physical and cultural phenomena. The constituent elements of a geographic name need to be specifically established: if *Ottawa River* is a geographical name, is Ottawa Valley also one? If *Bells Corners*, a suburb of Ottawa, is a geographical feature, what about McEachens Corners near Douglas, which has no resident population at the corners? If *Finchley*, a station between Beachburg and Pembroke, can be listed as an approved name, why should Barr Line and Opeongo Road, both far better known, not also be listed? Although it may be argued that many legitimate names are being ignored, caution may have to be exerted to avoid extremes, such as recording Jim Smiths Back Lane, Aunt Mollys Blueberry Patch and Empire Building. The arbitrary rules of thumb that may be used to assess the concept of a geographical name are: expected permanency beyond one generation; ease of identification, both in location and in extent, on the best maps available; knowledge of the name by two or more unrelated informants; and local acceptance as part of the public domain.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

REFERENCES

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, ARTICLES

Alexis, P., de Barbezieux
1897: Histoire de la province écclé-
siastique d'Ottawa et de la
colonisation dans la vallée
de l'Ottawa. Ottawa, la cie
d'Imprimerie d'Ottawa, 2 vols.

Bedore, B.V.
1960: The broad valley of the Ottawa.
Arnprior, Ottawa Valley
Publishers.

Biggar, H.P. (gen. ed.)
1925: The works of Samuel de
Champlain, v. 2. Toronto,
Champlain Society.

1936: The works of Samuel de
Champlain, v. 6. Toronto,
Champlain Society.

Bond, C.C.J.
1966: *The Hudson's Bay Company
in the Ottawa Valley*, the
Beaver, Spring, 1966, Outfit
296, pp. 4-21.

Bouchette, Joseph
1832: The British Dominions in
North America, v. 1. London,
Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown,
Green and Longman.

Boyd, W.H.
1934: Place names in Canada. Ottawa,
radio address, March 2 (copy on
Branch file 5003).

Brasch, V.K. (ed.)
1948: Eganville and district old
home week, historical souvenir.
Old Home Week Committee,
Eganville.

Campbell, Norman
1943: Place names of Renfrew County.
Ontario Archives.

Canada, Geographic Board
1913: Handbook of Indians of Canada.
Ottawa.

Canada, Post Office Department
Postal guide, for 1835, 1848, and
from 1853 to 1965.

Canada, Public Works Department
1908: Report, Georgian Bay ship canal,
Ottawa.

Caron, Ivanhoe (ed.)
1918: Journal de l'expédition du
Chevalier de Troyes à la baie
d'Hudson en 1686. Beauceville,
La compagnie de *L'Eclaireur*.

Coutlee, C.R.
1910: The story of the Ottawa Valley.
Ottawa, Public Works Dept.

Devine, Thomas
1862: *Remarks on Upper Canada surveys
and extracts from the surveyors
reports, Huron and Ottawa
Territory*, Report of the
Commissioner of Crown Lands for
1861, Quebec, App. 26.

Dwyer, William C.
1964: *Highways of Destiny*, a history
of the diocese of Pembroke,
Ottawa Valley, Canada. Madawa-
ska, Ontario.

Fraser, I.S.
1953: The Renfrew region in the Middle
Ottawa Valley. Worcester, Clark
Univ., unpub. M.A. thesis.

Fraser, Joshua
1883: Shanty, forest and river life in
the backwoods of Canada. Montreal,
John Lovell and Son.

French, T.P.
1857: Information for intending set-
tlers on the Ottawa and Opeongo
Road, and its vicinity. Ottawa,
Crown Lands Dept.

French, T.P. (Cont'd)
   1860: *Report,* Crown Lands Dept.,
         Annual Report, 1859, Quebec,
         Thompson and Co.

Gardiner, H.F.
   1899: Nothing but names. Toronto,
         G.N. Morang.

Greening, William E.
   1961: The Ottawa. Toronto,
         McClelland and Stewart.

Guinard, Joseph E.
   1958: Les noms indiens de mon pays.
         Montréal, Rayonnement.

Hawkins, William
   1839: *Report,* Report of the Commis-
         sioners on the survey of the
         Ottawa River. Toronto.

Henry, Alexander
   1901: Travels and adventures in
         Canada and the Indian Terri-
         tories between the years 1760
         and 1776. Toronto, G. N.
         Morang.

Hewitt, D.F.
   1954: *Geology of the Brudenell-
         Raglan Area,* 62nd Ann. Rept.,
         Ontario Dept. Mines, Toronto.
         v. 62, pt. 5, 1953.

Hunt, T.J.
   1938: The story of the *Mountain.*
         Toronto, Catholic Register.

   1954: The story of Cormac. Toronto,
         Mission Press.

   1958: The story of Douglas. Douglas.

Kay, G. Marshall
   1942: *Ottawa-Bonnechere graben and
         Lake Ontario homocline,* Geol.
         Soc. Am. Bull., v. 53, pp.
         585-646.

Keefer, Thos. C.
   1854: Montreal and the Ottawa. Two
         lectures delivered before the
         Mechanics Institute of Montreal
         Jan. 1853 and Jan. 1854. Montreal,
         John Lovell.

Lemoine, Geo. (ed.)
   1909: Dictionnaire Français-
         Algonquin. Chicoutimi,
         G. Delisle (paginated from
         A to *E* only.)

Logan, (Sir) W.E.
   1847: *On the topography and geology
         of the Ottawa River and some
         of its tributaries with notes
         on economic minerals.* Geol.
         Surv. Can., report of progress
         1845-46.

Lovell, John (comp.)
   1857: The Canada directory for
         1857-58 containing the names
         of professional and business
         men and those principal in-
         habitants of the cities,
         towns and villages throughout
         the province. Montreal,
         John Lovell.

Mackenzie, Alexander
   1801: Voyages from Montreal on the
         river St. Lawrence through
         the continent of North Amer-
         ica, to the Frozen and Paci-
         fic Oceans. London, R. Noble.

McCready, A.L. (ed.)
   1936: Pioneer days in and around
         Cobden. Cobden, Cobden Sun.

Murray, Alexander
   1857: Report for the year 1853,
         Geol. Surv. Can., report of
         progress, 1853-57. Toronto,
         John Lovell.

Ontario Hydro-electric Power Commission
   1949: Des Joachims Generating
         Station, Ottawa River.

Ottawa Times
   1871: The lumber trade of the
         Ottawa Valley.

Price, Mrs. Carl and Kennedy, Clyde C.
   1961: Notes on the history of Ren-
         frew County. Pembroke, Ren-
         frew County Council.

Price, Mrs. Carl (ed.)
   1957: North Renfrew Agricultural
         Society centennial 1857-1957.
         Beachburg, Ontario.

Richards, J. Howard
 1954: Land use and settlement on the fringe of the shield in southern Ontario. Toronto, Univ. Toronto, unpub. Ph.D. thesis, 2 vols.

Richey, Josias
 1841: *Report of the tract or block of land in the Bathurst District... 24th December, 1838,* Report of field work, surveyors' letters. Toronto, Crown Lands Dept.

Sagard, Gabriel
 1865: Le grand voyage du pays des Hurons. 2 parts (originally published in 1632) Paris, Librairie Tross.

 1866: Histoire du Canada et voyages. 4 parts (originally published at Paris: Claude Sonnuis, 1636). Arras, H. Schoutheer.

Satterly, J.
 1944: *Mineral occurrences in the Renfrew area,* 53rd Ann. Rept. Ontario Dept. Mines, v. 53, pt. 3.

Shanly, Walter
 1858: Report on the Ottawa and French River navigation project. Ottawa, Paynter and Abbott.

Sherriff, Alexander
 1831: *Topographical notices on the country lying between the mouth of the Rideau and Penetanguishine (sic), on Lake Huron.* Trans. of Lit. and Hist. Soc. Que., May, pp. 243-309.

Smallfield, W.E. and Campbell, Robert
 1919: The story of Renfrew, from the coming of the first settlers about 1820. Renfrew, Smallfield and Son.

Smallfield, Albert
 1881: Land and resources of Renfrew County. Renfrew, Mercury.

Stewart, George R.
 1954: *A classification of place names,* Names, v. II, no. 1, March, pp. 1-13.

Story, G.M.
 1965: *Newfoundland dialect, an historical view.* Can. Geog. J., v. LXX, April, 127-131.

Sulte, Benjamin
 1898: *The valley of the Grand River,* Can. Roy. Soc. Proc., 2nd ser., v. IV, sec. 2, pp. 107-135.

Thwaites, Reuben Gold (ed.)
 1901: The Jesuit relations and allied documents, travels and explorations of the Jesuit missionaries in New France, 1610-1791. Cleveland, Burrows Brothers.

Walker, Harry J.
 1953: Renfrew and its fair, through 100 years. Renfrew, South Renfrew Agricultural Society.

Whitton, Charlotte
 1942: A hundred years a-fellin. Ottawa, Runge Press.

Wintemberg, W.J.
 1938: *Early names of the Ottawa River,* Trans. Roy. Soc. Can., v. XXXIII, 3rd ser. sec. 11, pp. 97-106.

Zelinsky, Wilbur
 1955: Some problems in the distribution of generic terms in the place names of the northeastern United States. Annals Am. Assoc. Geogr., v. XLV, pp. 319-349.

JAMES WHITE LETTERS

The following letters pertaining to some Renfrew County names were received by James White, Geographer, Office of the Geographer, Department of the Interior, in 1905 and 1906.

Brewer, Mrs.
1905: Assistant postmaster, Tramore. October 24.

Curry, Patrick
1905: Postmaster, Esmonde, n.d.

Halliday, James
1905: Postmaster, Springtown. December 30.

Hicks, G.A.
1906: Postmaster, Camel Chute. April 14.

O'Grady, Mrs. Mary J.
1905: Postmaster, Emmett. October 27.

Reid, Robert
1905: Postmaster, Ferguslea, n.d.

Roche, Thomas
1906: Postmaster, Rochefort. December 13.

Ross, Charles
1906: Postmaster, Douglas. April 10.

Stewart, Andrew
1905: Postmaster, Carswell. October 28.

Watson, John S.
1905: Postmaster, Rockingham. October 21.

MAPS

Bellin, N.
1755: Partie orientale de la Nouvelle-France ou du Canada.

Bernou, Claude
1680: Carte d'une grande partie du Canada.

Bouchette, Joseph
1831: District of Montreal.

1846: British Dominions in North America, 1844. New York, Sherman and Smith.

Canada, Crown Lands Department
1857: Map of the Ottawa and Huron Territory.

Canada, Geol. Sur.
1874-75: Map of Lanark County and parts of Renfrew and Leeds; to illustrate report of Henry G. Vennor.

Cary, John
1807: A new map of Upper and Lower Canada.

Champlain, Samuel de
1613: Carte géographique de la Nouvelle-France.

1632: La Nouvelle-France

Decouagne, Jean Baptiste
1711: Carte du Canada.

de l'Isle, Guillaume
1703: Carte du Canada ou de la Nouvelle-France et des découvertes qui ont été faites dressée sur plusieurs observations.

Devine, Thomas
1861: Government map of Canada. Toronto, Crown Lands Dept.

Franquelin, J.B.L.
1688: Carte de l'Amérique septentrionnalle...contenent les pays de Canada.

1699: Partie de l'Amérique septentrionnalle ou est compris la Nouvelle-France, Nouvelle-Angleterre.

Henderson, William
1831: Map of the territory between the Ottawa River and Lake Huron

Henderson, William (Cont'd)
        illustrative of the paper on
        the topography of that country
        by Alexr. Shirreff (sic) esq.
        Trans. of Lit. and Hist. Soc.
        Que., v. 2, Map, 1831.

Kensett
   1812: Map of Upper and Lower Canada.

Léry, Gaspard Chaussegros de
   1725: An untitled map of the Great
         Lakes area.

Lahontan, Baron
   1703: A general map of New France
         com call'd Canada.

Miles and Co.
   1879: The new topographical atlas of
         the province of Ontario.

Popple, Henry
   1733: Nouvelle carte particulière de
         l'Amérique...

Walling, H.F.
   1863: Map of the counties of Lanark and
         Renfrew, Canada West. Prescott,
         D.P. Putman.

INDEX

70

GEOGRAPHICAL PAPER NO. 40

Geographical Names of Renfrew County

A. Rayburn

ERRATA

p.6, 1.6   For "Nicholas de Vigau" read "Nicolas de Vignau."

p.31, 1.27   For *"Pointe a l'Achigan"* read *"Pointe à l'Achigan"*

p.35   For "Clara" read "Clara Township"

p.39, 1.2   For "times" read "miles"

p.44, 1.8   For *"Pleasant Valley* identifies a community and a creek in Westmeath; Garden of Eden was named by Joseph C. Jackson in 1891" read *"Pleasant Valley,* a community in Westmeath Township, was named by Joseph C. Jackson in 1891 (Price, 1957, p. 89); adjoining it is *Pleasant Valley Creek.*"

p.44, 1.16   For "Stratford" read "Stafford."

p.61, 1.5   For "Martha Garvey" read "Martin Garvey."

p.63   Add reference

Lake, E.L.
  1966: Pioneer reminiscences of the upper Ottawa Valley commemorating triple centennial years of St. John the Evangelist Church. Eganville.
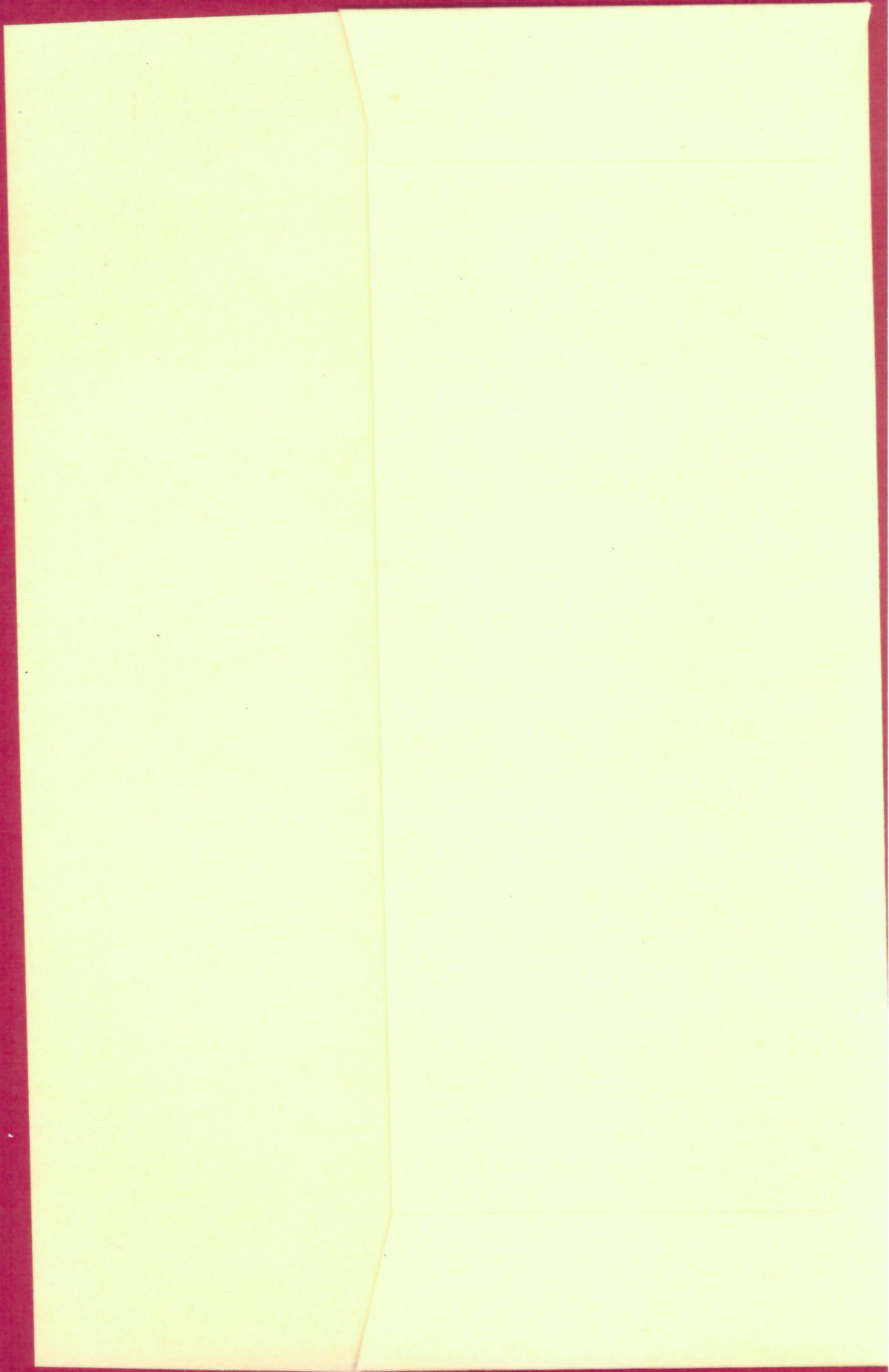
GEOGRAPHICAL PAPERS
(Études géographiques)