

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
Seven Hundred and Eighty-fifth Meeting
Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room
August 11, 2016 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Laurie Campbell	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey) (by teleconference)
Brenda-Anne C. Forrest	Government Publishing Office
Tony Gilbert	Government Publishing Office (by teleconference)
Bruce Johnson	Library of Congress
Elizabeth Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service) (Chair) (not voting)
Jacque Nolan	Library of Congress
Ron Salz	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)
Mike Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Michael Tischler	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) (by teleconference)
Tara Wallace	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)

Ex-Officio

Leo Dillon, Vice Chair, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Foreign Names Committee
Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee

Staff

Matthew O'Donnell, U.S. Geological Survey
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Mark Endries, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Susan Lyon, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Brooke Marston, Department of State
Deb Nordeen, National Park Service
Quiandra Taylor, National Park Service
Gita Urban-Mathieux, U.S. Geological Survey
Juliana Wilhoit, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Scott Zillmer, National Geographic

1. Opening

Chair Kanalley opened the meeting at 9:33 a.m. and asked the members and guests to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the 784th Meeting

The minutes of the 784th DNC meeting, held July 14th, were approved as submitted.

3. Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman (Gilbert)

Gilbert had no report and deferred to Dillon. Dillon had no report.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

Gilbert has sent an invitation to the United Kingdom's Permanent Committee on Geographical Names to meet with the BGN this fall in Washington, D.C.

Letters of reappointment for BGN members and deputy members for the 2015-2017 term have been signed by the Secretary of the Interior and distributed to the various departments for response. The Department of the Interior member and deputy members have received their (re)appointment letters.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is exploring an Inter-Agency Agreement with the National Science Foundation (NSF) whereby NSF would provide funding to USGS to assist with the enhancement of geographic coordinates for features in Antarctica. This involves expanding the current geographic coordinates from degrees and minutes to degrees, minutes, and seconds.

3.3 Special Committee on Communication (Holeva)

In Holeva's absence, there was no report.

3.4 Executive Secretary (Yost)

The Grant County (Oregon) Court sent a letter to the Secretary of the Interior (SOI) stating that it believes the DNC did not follow its *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* (PPP) document when processing the "Squaw" replacement name proposals. The PPP states that the names considered by the DNC would be published and distributed in a Docket; this old language refers to what is now called the Review List and which is released quarterly. The SOI forwarded the letter to the USGS Director for response.

Just prior to this meeting, Yost received a letter from the Malheur County (Oregon) Court, which contained similar wording to that found in previous Grant County letters regarding the requested changes to "Squaw" names in that county.

Following the last DNC meeting, Forrest asked members for input on the recent proposals from Grant County, to change the names of features for which the DNC had recently approved new names. The names Squaw Creek and Squaw Meadow were changed at the April DNC meeting to Wíwaanaytt Creek and Wíwaanaytt Meadow; the new proposals ask that the names be changed to Sullens Creek and Sullens Meadow.

Yost provided some background from the DNC's past discussions of this issue. In 1983, the BGN's Subcommittee to Investigate and Define Local Usage (SIDLU) prepared a report, which reads in part:

Changing Board Decisions

It is recognized that the principal objective of Board activities is to provide name standardization throughout the Federal Government. This implies not only that all agencies are to use Board-approved names but that the decisions of the Board will contribute to long-term stable name usage (established usage). The Board should discourage name change proposals and should strive to determine and eliminate name conflicts prior to a decision being reached. Board decisions should not be changed except in those situations where it is demonstrated incontrovertibly that the earlier decision was in error. The Board through its reversals of name decisions not only does a disservice to all users of geographic names, but damages its own reputation as the “keeper” of the Nation’s toponymy.

A motion was made and seconded to draft a response to Grant County stating that the new proposals were discussed and are under advisement.

Vote: 12 in favor
 0 against
 1 abstention

3.5 Staff (Runyon)

The DNC has received a number of new proposals, which are being processed by the staff. The next Review List will be released sometime in September.

As announced at the last meeting, Runyon was invited to participate by phone in the quarterly meeting of the North Carolina Statewide Mapping Advisory Council held on July 20th. A number of active BGN proposals were discussed. Runyon provided a brief overview of the DNC review process and offered suggestions to the SMAC as they revise their policies and procedures document.

As noted previously, the review and updates to the DNC Diary are ongoing. Caldwell continues to work on the section covering 2006 to present, while Runyon is working on 1990 to 2005. Those who volunteered to help edit the latter document met at the end of July for a round of edits. Thanks were extended to Bill Logan for his efforts in compiling the information included in the Diary.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost for McCormick)

McCormick was able to make updates to the links and member pages on the BGN website, but is still working on replacing the logo with the new version approved last year.

New GNIS download files were posted on August 10th.

The landforms polygon collection tool is still experiencing issues. To determine if these are related to the network, McCormick has enacted monitoring on the servers.

Prior to this meeting, the DNC members received a draft copy of the list of fields to be included in the eventual GNIS geodatabase download.

4. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. For new names approved at this meeting, the newly assigned GNIS Feature ID (FID) has been noted following the name.

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties - none

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change application of **Liebre Twins** (FID 244786), California (Review List 419)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this application change, citing longstanding use of the name at its current location and a lack of State support.

Vote: 10 in favor
 1 against
 2 abstentions

The negative vote (in favor of the application change) was made in the belief that name was misapplied and should be corrected.

Homeview Peak, Colorado (Roosevelt National Forest) (Review List 422)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this new name, citing lack of State and U.S. Forest Service support.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Bearon Pond, New Hampshire (Review List 424)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this new name, citing a lack of State support.

Vote: 12 in favor
 2 against
 0 abstentions

The negative votes (in favor of the new name) were cast in the belief that the State Names Authority's objections were not sufficient.

Shadows Pond, New York (Review List 424) (FID 2784946)

Following a discussion of the DNC's pending policy on commemorative pet names, and the issue of naming small features on private property, a motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 10 in favor

2 against
1 abstention

The negative votes cited the lack of State support for the name.

III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Morse Creek, Georgia (Review List 424) (FID 2784947)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Ivys Island, Montana (Fort Peck Indian Reservation) (Review List 421) (FID 2784949)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Change **Negro Mountain** (FID 1021613) to **Revels Mountain**, and change **Negro Prong** (FID 1013897) to **Revels Prong**, North Carolina (Pisgah National Forest) (Review List 422)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

A motion was made and seconded to consider and vote on proposals in Section IV after Section V.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

One member left the meeting.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Jeto Creek, Indiana (Review List 424) (FID 2784950)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 12 in favor
 0 against

0 abstentions

One member rejoined the meeting.

Topsham Ponds, Maine (Review List 424) (FID 2784951)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 11 in favor
 0 against
 2 abstentions

Fonteyn Kill, New York (Review List 424) (FID 2784952)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Middle Creek Falls, Tennessee (Review List 423) (FID 2784953)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

After a brief recess, the meeting was called to order.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change **Harney Peak** (BGN 1906) (FID 1261770) to **Black Elk Peak** or **Thunder Peak**, South Dakota (Black Hills National Forest / Black Elk Wilderness) (Review Lists 419, 422)

Following a brief review of details presented at the April DNC meeting, staff presented new information received since then.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name **Black Elk Peak**. One member stated that the current name was “painful and distressing” to native peoples and therefore changing a longstanding name was warranted. Members also discussed the sacredness of the summit to the Lakota peoples and the efforts to obtain a consensus about the preferred name from Lakota Tribes. It was noted that while there was opposition from the county government and the State Names Authority, there was also considerable support for the change, with most favoring **Black Elk Peak**. The U.S. Forest Service, while remaining neutral about a replacement name, affirmed its belief that the name should be changed and that the DNC should honor the wishes of Tribes associated with the summit.

Vote: 12 in favor
 0 against
 1 abstention

5. Other Business

Nolan announced that she had received copies of old bulletins from the American Name Society and offered to donate them to any interested parties. Some members and staff expressed an interest in taking them.

The DNC's revised *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* document is still in the DOI Solicitor's Office for review. Members expressed concern over the delay in approval and asked if a request could be made for quicker consideration by the Secretary of the Interior.

Next year's annual meeting of the Council of Geographic Name Authorities will be held in Richmond, Virginia, during the second week of May.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held September 8th, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. at the Geography and Map Division in the Madison Building of the Library of Congress.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED
(signed) Betsy Kanalley

Betsy Kanalley, Chair
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
August 2016**

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties - none

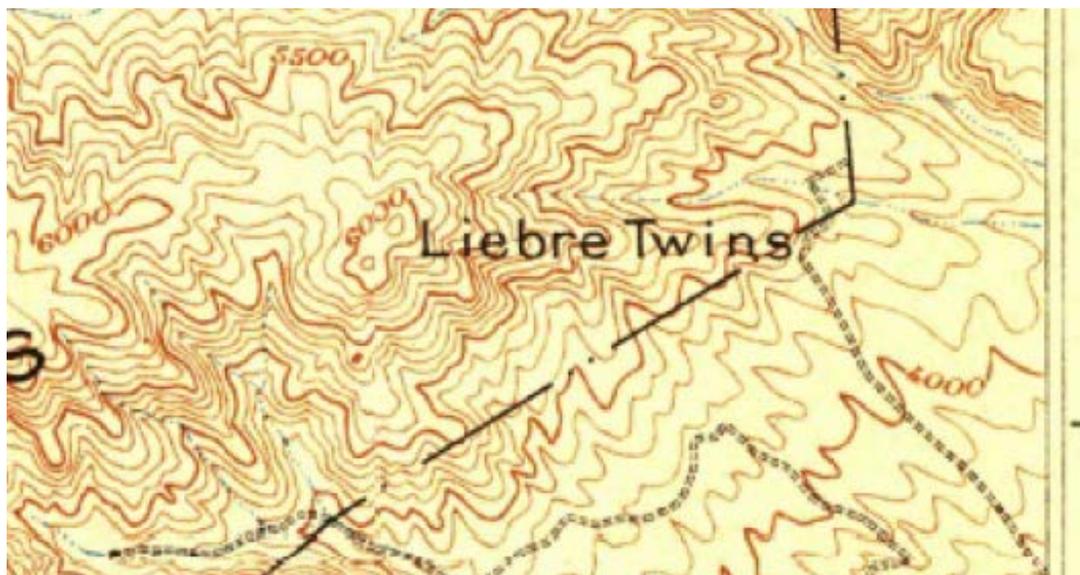
II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change application of **Liebre Twins** (FID 244786), California
(Review List 419)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=34.96068&p_longi=-118.54907

This proposal is to change the application of the name Liebre Twins for a summit in Kern County. The name is applied currently to a 6,413-foot peak in Section 15, whereas the proponent believes the correct location is a twin-peaked, 6,173-foot summit 1.4 miles to the east-northeast in Section 14.

Research has confirmed that the name Liebre Twins was applied to the proposed location on the first USGS topographic map of the area, published in 1903. However, on the next map, dated 1943, the name was transferred to its current position. No reason is given in the field notes, although it may have been due to the placement in 1932 of a U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey benchmark named “LIEBRE” on the single-top peak. (The benchmark description states that the summit is named “Liebre Mountain” rather than Liebre Twins. There is another peak named Liebre Mountain in Los Angeles County, just 17 miles to the south of the one in question.) Other USGS maps published between 1959 and 1975 are at too small a scale to determine which summit the name applied to.



USGS 1903 (1:125,000)



USGS / Army Map Service 1943 (1:62,500)



“The real Liebre Twins?” (courtesy of the proponent)

Edwin Gudde, in his 1960 volume *California Place Names: The Origin and Etymology of Current Geographical Names*, states, “By mistake the name Liebre Twins was transferred on the [USGS] atlas sheet to a single-top higher peak to the west.” A number of online hiking reports describe climbs to the peak of Liebre Twins but do not note any discrepancy regarding the application of the name; they typically include a photograph of the LIEBRE benchmark.

A Sierra Club website states the following about the feature: “Named after the 48,800-acre Mexican land grant Rancho La Liebre (1846), and the double summit of this peak. The term liebre means ‘hare’ in Spanish.”

The Kern County Supervisors were asked to comment, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN) does not support the proposed change citing longstanding usage of the name at its existing location. The proponent was advised of the CACGN’s recommendation and inquired about its appeal process. At its next meeting, the CACGN reaffirmed its position of non-support.

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada, a federally recognized Tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

Homeview Peak, Colorado
(Roosevelt National Forest)
(Review List 422)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.513974&p_longi=-105.446549

This 10,720-foot summit in Roosevelt National Forest is proposed to be named officially Homeview Peak, because according to the proponent, “one may view many home sites from the top.” She claims that local hikers have been using the name “for more than 25 years” and she believes the name is appropriate. An online search found one hiking Web site that refers to the name.

The Larimer County Commissioners did not respond to a request for comments, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The Colorado Board on Geographic Names does not recommend approval, stating “We believe the proponent hasn’t made a strong case for naming the feature. [She] writes that it ‘seems a decent enough name to me,’ which doesn’t provide much of a reason to name a feature. Depending on where you go in this state, you can make the claim that many peaks should be named Homeview Peak.” The U.S. Forest Service also does not support the proposal, citing “[a] lack of tie to local history, usage, folklore or distinctive phenomena.”

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, all of which are federally recognized Tribes. The Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation responded that it is in support of the name. There were no responses from the other two Tribes, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. According to GNIS, there are no other features in Colorado with the word “Homeview” in their names.

Bearon Pond, New Hampshire
(Review List 424)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.249931&p_longi=-71.782757

The new name Bearon Pond is proposed for an unnamed 11-acre lake in the Town of Warner in Merrimack County. The name was chosen by the proponent, who lives on property adjacent to the pond, after a suggestion from an elderly neighbor; “Bearon” is a portmanteau of words that refer to nearby locations: Ballard Brook, into which water from the lake flows; Bear Pond, 1.5 miles to the southwest; and the numerous heron rookeries in a swampy area next to the lake. According to the proponent, “One of the ironies of the pond’s nomenclature is the pronunciation: ‘Bearon’ would be pronounced in a similar

sounding way to barren, which the body of water is anything but. Inhabited by both flora and fauna, the healthy lake is practically overflowing with life. There are copious amounts of frogs (from peepers to bull frogs), there are fish (from trout to pickerel), [and] there are painted turtles, otters, leeches, and water snakes.”

The Town of Warner Board of Selectmen recommends approval of the proposed name. The government of Merrimack County was asked to comment but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The New Hampshire State Names Authority does not support the proposal, citing the existence of the nearby Bear Pond and possible confusion in emergency situations. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized Tribes that have an interest in Merrimack County.

GNIS does not list any other features with “Bearon” in their names. The nearby, similarly-named, Bear Pond is noted above, and there are fourteen additional features in Merrimack County with “Bear” in their names.

Shadows Pond, New York
(Review List 424)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=42.3677778&p_longi=-77.9197222

This spring-fed 0.3-acre reservoir is proposed to be named Shadows Pond for the proponent’s family dog, who died more than 12 years ago. According to the proponent, “this man-made feature is on private land and very few people outside the owners and their friends/family have any knowledge of it.” He reports that the proposed name has been used locally for approximately 10 years and that there is a sign with the name on the edge of the pond.

The Birdsall Town Supervisors recommend approval of the name, while the government of Allegheny County did not respond, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

The New York State Names Committee does not support the proposal, stating, “We see no value in official government action to recognize this name, or any other name, for the feature.”

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Seneca Nation of Indians and the Tonawanda Band of Seneca, both of which are federally recognized Tribes. No replies were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Morse Creek, Georgia
(Review List 424)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=33.790486&p_longi=-84.300864

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=33.785203&p_longi=-84.302583

The new name Morse Creek is proposed for an unnamed stream that flows through Woodlands Garden, a seven-acre preserve in the City of Decatur. According to the Woodlands Garden website, “When Dr. Chester Morse [1915-2005] of Massachusetts and Eugenia Slack Morse [1920-2010] of Decatur first moved to this wooded land in 1946, Scott Boulevard was a dirt road and their property, an old farm site, was a honeysuckle jungle. Chet and Gene added to their original small parcel to create the 7-acre tract that is now

Woodlands Garden. In 2002, Chet and Gene Morse arranged to have their Decatur home and its surrounding seven acres permanently preserved from development, so future generations could experience and enjoy their wooded estate. They understood the importance of tempering Decatur's rapid urbanization (projected 29 percent growth in 20 years) and turned down large offers from developers." As a non-profit organization, the proponent believes the proposed name will "honor the Morse Family vision to open the garden to the community.... The property serves as a unique showcase for plants and trees native to the north Georgia Piedmont."

The City of Decatur and the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners recommend approval of the proposal. The Georgia State Names Authority has no objection to the proposal. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized Tribes that have an interest in DeKalb County. According to GNIS, there are no other features in Georgia that contain "Morse" in their names.

Ivys Island, Montana
(Fort Peck Indian Reservation)
(Review List 421)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=48.070624&p_longi=-105.01771

This approximately 129-acre island, proposed to be named Ivys Island, is located along the Missouri River and within the boundaries of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. The name is intended to honor Ivy Marie Leinen (2000-2010), who lived most of her life on the bank of the river and was fascinated with the island and its inhabitants of deer, muskrat, geese, ducks, and wild turkeys. After wandering toward the island with her family's four dogs in March 2010, she fell through the ice and is believed to have drowned in the river just north of the island. Her body has never been found. The proponent, the mother of Ivy, states that although her daughter was autistic, she inspired others with her kindnesses and her desire to overcome her challenges. She loved art, music, and the outdoors. She left a powerful impression on her teachers and administrators, and her classmates. Ivy's mother reports that between 2010 and 2011, "There were signs placed on the island in Ivy's name and a small memorial is situated there for her."

The Montana Geographic Names Advisor distributed a press release seeking public comment on the proposal. No responses were received. However, emails of support were received from a representative of the City of Miles City Community Services and Planning; a senior ecologist with the Montana Natural Heritage Program; a hydrologist with the Montana Department of Natural Resources Conservation; and a local GIS specialist. The ecologist stated "this would be an appropriate way to capture a small bit of Montana history." The governments of Richland County and Roosevelt County also submitted emails in favor of the name. The Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation recommend approval of the name, noting "[We] feel it's appropriate to name it after little Ivy Marie Leinen."

The Montana Geographic Names Advisor recommends approval of the proposal, noting that although "it may appear that this proposal goes against the Board's policy discouraging commemorative names of places for individuals who died there, I believe the policy targets cases where an individual perished at a place they were visiting rather than at a place where they lived. Ivy's association with this place was brief but, for her, it was lifelong." He also cited the counties' and Tribe's support for the name.

GNIS includes two dams and a valley in Montana with the word "Ivy" in their names. These features are located in Musselshell County and Valley County.

Change Negro Mountain (FID 1021613) to Revels Mountain,

and change **Negro Prong** (FID 1013897) to **Revels Prong**, North Carolina
(Pisgah National Forest)
(Review List 422)

Summit: http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=35.2151103&p_longi=-82.8101288&fid=1021613

Stream: http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=35.221222&p_longi=-82.799017&fid=1013897

The names Revels Mountain and Revels Prong are proposed as new names to replace Negro Mountain and Negro Prong, which apply to a summit and a stream in Pisgah National Forest in Transylvania County. The summit has an elevation of 3,373 feet, while the stream is 2.2 miles long. The stream flows around the north side of the summit and into Catheys Creek approximately 3.5 miles west of Brevard.

The origin of the existing names, which have been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1935 and 1945, respectively, has not been determined. Negro Prong has also been listed in EPA Water Quality Assessments conducted in 2012 and 2014; in *The North Carolina Gazetteer* (1968 and 2010 editions); and was referenced in 2001 by the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

The new names would honor Hiram Rhoades Revels (1827?-1901), the first African-American elected to the United States Congress. Revels was born to free parents in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in the 1820s. After working in his youth as a barber in Lincolnton, he attended seminaries in Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana, and was ordained a minister in a Baltimore African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church. He preached throughout the upper Midwest, organized African-American troops during the Civil War in Maryland and Missouri, and eventually became a pastor of a church in Natchez, Mississippi.

Revels ran for several local offices, was elected as alderman in Natchez, and represented Adams County in the Mississippi State Senate. In 1870, Revels was elected to serve out the term of one of Mississippi's vacant seats in the U.S. Senate. As a senator, he argued for reconciliation and amnesty for former Confederates and worked to restore their citizenship and rights. He advocated for integration of schools in the District of Columbia. After his term ended, Revels continued serving as pastor, became the first president of Alcorn University, taught at several historically black colleges, and edited the AME newspaper.

According to the proponent, the names “honor the black history of the area,” and “the first black member of Congress.” Even though Revels did not live in Transylvania County, “he was an important North Carolinian and senator.”

The Transylvania County Board of Commissioners has no objection to the proposed changes, noting, “Although he was not born in Transylvania County, he was a native North Carolinian and fought valiantly for the civil rights of African-Americans.” The North Carolina Board on Geographic Names and the U.S. Forest Service recommend approval of the changes. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, a federally recognized Tribe. No reply was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

According to GNIS, there are no features in North Carolina that contain “Revels” in their names. The Revels United Methodist Church in Washington County, Mississippi was founded in 1889 and named in commemoration of Hiram Revels.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change **Harney Peak** (BGN 1906) (FID 1261770) to **Black Elk Peak** or **Thunder Peak**, South Dakota
(Black Hills National Forest / Black Elk Wilderness)

(Review Lists 419, 422)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.866&p_longi=-103.53132&fid=1261770

Two proposals have been submitted to change the name of Harney Peak, located in the Black Elk Wilderness of Black Hills National Forest in Pennington County in southwestern South Dakota. Harney Peak is the highest point not only in the State, but also east of the Rocky Mountains in North America. The summit has been labeled Harney Peak on Federal maps since 1896. The name was reportedly first applied to the summit in 1864 or 1865.

A proposal to change the name of the summit to Black Elk Peak was submitted in October 2014 by Basil Brave Heart, an Oglala Lakota elder. Black Elk or Nicholas Black Elk (1863-1950) was a revered Oglala Lakota holy man. His life's story became widely known after the publication of *Black Elk Speaks* by John G. Neihardt. This book contains Neihardt's English translations of Black Elk's autobiographical stories. In this book, Black Elk says that when he was nine years old, he was sick for twelve days, during which time he had a great vision. Part of this vision included travelling to the top of this summit which he described as the center of the world and about which he said: "round about beneath me was the whole hoop of the world. And while I stood there I saw more than I can tell and I understood more than I saw." Later in life, he hiked to the top of the mountain with Neihardt. Black Elk also described many Lakota rituals to Joseph Epes Brown, who published these teachings and descriptions in *The Sacred Pipe*. According to essays in *The Black Elk Reader*, edited by Clyde Holler, Black Elk's teachings on sacred rituals, as recorded by Neihardt and Brown, have inspired many Lakota and non-Lakota to take up traditional ceremonies and study Native spirituality. Black Elk revived the Sun Dance rituals and his version is now celebrated by Lakota traditionalists, often at Devils Tower National Monument at the feature known to them as "Bear Lodge." Black Elk became a Catholic and stressed the concordance between the Lakota and Christian religions.

The summit is one of the most holy sites of the Lakota. Early each spring at the summit, the Lakota hold ceremonies known as Yate Iwakicipi, or "welcoming back the thunders," in which they pray for rain, help, and strength.

The proponent of the name change believes the summit is desecrated by the name of General William S. Harney, who fought American Indians early in his military career. Particular objection is raised about his role in the Battle of Ash Hollow in September 1855. A year earlier, a small contingent of soldiers led by Lieutenant John Lawrence Grattan was killed by a group of Lakota after an escalated negotiation over a slaughtered cow. Harney's attack was sent in retaliation for this so-called "Grattan Massacre." Harney and his men were reportedly brutal in their attack, killing women and children. The Lakota later called him "Squaw Killer," "Woman Killer," or "The Butcher."

In a review of George Rollie Adams's 2001 biography of Harney titled *General William S. Harney: Prince of Dragoons*, the historian William P. MacKinnon describes him as "the veritable Forrest Gump of the mid-century frontier." Harney was involved in many frontier conflicts between 1818 and 1863, including wars with the Black Hawk, the Sauk, the Seminoles, the Lakota Sioux, and Tribes in Texas. He served with distinction in the Mexican War in battles at Veracruz, Cerro Gordo, and Mexico City. While in command of the Army's Department of Oregon, he sent forces led by Captain (later General) George Pickett to San Juan Island after an American settler killed a British settler's pig. The resulting standoff with British warships was quickly de-escalated and Harney was recalled to Missouri. There he was soon embroiled in

the violence of “Bleeding Kansas” as well as secessionist militia activities in Missouri after the start of the American Civil War. For not dealing with the rebels harshly enough, President Lincoln recalled Harney to Washington, where he served as an administrator after being captured in Virginia enroute and being offered a command by Robert E. Lee. After the Civil War, Harney worked as a peace negotiator with Plains American Indian Tribes, many of whom were the same ones he fought against in the Sioux Wars. He urged the U.S. Government to improve the treatment of native Tribes and to honor past treaties. He retired to Florida and died in Orlando. After his death, the Lakota conferred on him the name “Man-who-always-kept-his-word.”

A BGN decision in 1906 approved the singular form Harney Peak. In 1970, a proposal was submitted to the BGN by two residents of California to change the name to Black Elk Peak. The proponents stated, “The American Indian culture, displaced by the Anglo-American, needs reassertion for the health and depth of American culture as a whole. New impulses of ethnic self-awareness are quickening our American consciousness. Re-naming of Harney Peak for Black Elk would be an act both of restitution and of creative imagination, for the future.” The Acting Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs submitted a letter in support of the change, stating, “[Black Elk’s] story sweeps the whole gamut of human experience, from humor to pathos, from wit to profound mystic insight, from lonely everyday living to high heroism and tragedy. In his youth Black Elk hunted bison, rounded up wild horses, and wandered over half a continent. Later he traveled all over Europe with Buffalo Bill and met Queen Victoria. Always he watched the Wasichu (white man) taking over the land that belonged to his fathers.” However, the BGN decided to take no action, stating, “Since Harney Peak is a name of historical significance and is a former Board decision, the Committee expressed the need for compelling reasons to warrant consideration of the proposal. No formal action was taken.” The proponent was advised that there would likely be more support if an unnamed feature was selected instead to honor Black Elk.

A second proposal to change the name was submitted in 1973 by a different proponent; again, the BGN declined to take any action, citing a reluctance to change a “well-established name” and a belief that there would not be local or State support for the change.

An online search for references to Harney Peak shows that in 2011 the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe passed a resolution requesting the name Harney Peak “revert to its Lakota name, Hinhan Kaga Paha, or such other name acceptable to the affected communities in the Black Hills region.” This resolution was never forwarded to the BGN.

A few independent petitions have been set up to request a name change. A 2010 causes.org petition requested the name be changed to Hinhan Kaga Paha. A September 2014 change.org petition, submitted by the Lakota Way Healing Center to President Obama, asks that the name be formally changed to Hinhan Kaga or Hinhan Kaga Paha, which is translated as “Great Owls Nest.” In addition, in 2009, a group known as Defenders of the Black Hills endorsed the formation of the “Okawita Paha National Monument” from a large part of Black Hills National Forest; in the press release, the group referred to the summit as both “Okawita Paha” and “Opahata I.”

In addition to Black Elk Wilderness, GNIS includes records for several other features with “Black Elk” in their names. Black Elk - Neihardt Park in Nebraska is named for Black Elk and John Neihardt. Black Elk Elementary School in Douglas, Nebraska is also named for Black Elk. It is unclear if Black Elk Creek, on the Rosebud Indian Reservation east of Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, is named for Black Elk.

Many features in GNIS have names that contain “Harney.” A number are named for General Harney or associated with Harney Peak, including Harney, a small community in the Black Hills. (The nearby Harney Ranger Station appears to no longer exist.) Verendrye Hill near Pierre was initially named Harney Hill after the peak (*South Dakota Geographic Names*; Sneve, 1973). Several features in areas where Harney served in the U.S. Army have names honoring him. These include features in Florida such as Harney Point (in Fort Myers, the site of an attack on Harney and his men) (*Florida Place Names*; Morris, 1995), Harney Lake (near Orlando) (seminolewateratlas.usf.edu, undated), and Harney River and North Harney River (in the Everglades) (Morris, *ibid.*); Harney County, Oregon, which contains Harney Lake and many other associated features (the name origins of Harney Holes and Harney Well, outside Harney County, are unknown); and Harney Channel, in Washington’s San Juan Islands (*Origin of Washington Geographic Names*; Meany, 1923). Others include Harney, Maryland (*The Placenames of Maryland*; Kenny, 1984); and Harney Creek in Albany County, Wyoming (*Wyoming Place Names*; Urbanek, 1998).

The unofficial name “Harney Range” has been used to refer to the mountainous area around Harney Peak. The name is found on an 1891 photograph of the area; in a Department of Agriculture publication from 1896; in a 1919 State law adding “Harney Range and Harney Peak” to Custer State Park; in a 1973 U.S. Forest Service publication; in a 2010 U.S. Forest Service newsletter; on a 2013 Custer State Park trail map; and in several online hiking sources. The name is not listed in the Geographic Names Information System.

Upon receipt of the proposal for Black Elk Peak, the South Dakota Board on Geographic Names (SDBGN) was asked for a recommendation. The SDBGN conducted a series of public hearings and received input from many interested parties, including the Pennington County Commissioners, which recommended that the name Harney Peak be retained. The SDBGN also contacted Custer County and the City of Custer, locations from which most visitors to Harney Peak begin their trips (the main trail to the summit begins in Custer County). Both the county and city governments also recommended that the name Harney Peak be retained. The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks and the South Dakota Department of Tourism are opposed to the name change. During the public hearings, a number of other names were suggested, including Harmony Peak, Ponderosa Peak, Hinhan Kaga, and Thunder Peak, but none were formally proposed to the SDBGN or U.S. BGN.

Copies of the proposals were sent by the SDBGN to the following federally recognized Tribes: the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation, the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation, the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, the Santee Sioux Nation, and the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota.

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe passed a resolution in support of Black Elk Peak. The Land Office Director of the Oglala Sioux Tribe supports any appropriate name change. The Rosebud Sioux Tribe initially passed a resolution in support of Black Elk Peak to “change of the name of this place of significance to an appropriate title reflecting its pre-contact era name,” but later amended this to support the name Hinhan Kaga Paha. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota supports any appropriate name change and “all efforts to re-name ‘Harney Peak’ to something more appropriate reflecting the positive and original history of the Black Hills area.” The Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation responded that it would prefer the Arapahoe name of “White Ferret Mountains” but did not make a formal proposal, while the Tribal Education Director of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation replied in support of Black Elk Peak.

In June 2015, the SDBGN voted to retain the name Harney Peak. It wrote, “After reviewing the entire record, the SDBGN determined that weight of public sentiment favors retaining the current name for this feature of Harney Peak. There is undeniably, a very strong desire among almost all Native American commenters as well as some non-Natives that the name of this peak should be changed - that due to Harney’s very troubling record of involvement with Native peoples and shared comments stated that it is inappropriate that the highest peak in the Black Hills (sacred to Native American people) bear his name. However, the SDBGN found no public consensus as to any single replacement name. In particular, our decision was informed by a communication from [the BGN staff] on June 26, 2015, directing our attention to the issue of the specific name, ‘Black Elk Peak,’ as submitted to your office by Mr. Braveheart. While that proposal had some support, other testimony from Native people at our public input meetings indicated that such an individual commemoration was really not consistent with Native American traditions. Therefore, while there was some support for Black Elk Peak as a replacement name, this proposal was ultimately rejected by the SDBGN.”

A counter-proposal to change the name of Harney Peak to Thunder Peak was submitted to the BGN in August 2015 by a resident of Rapid City. She describes her co-proponent as “a full blood Oglala Lakota who is also known as a spiritual advisor.” The name Thunder Peak is derived from the annual spring equinox ceremony held by Lakota spiritual leaders at the summit; the ceremony is called the “Welcome Back the Wakiya Oyate (Thunders) Ceremony” or “Welcome Back the Thunder Beings.” According to the proponent, “A medicine man leads a procession of the people to the top...to welcome back the Thunder Beings.... ‘Harney Peak’ has had an ongoing, traditional use by the medicine people to welcome back the Thunder Beings for years.” According to online sources, the ceremony was revived about 30 years ago by several Lakota spiritual leaders. Many schoolchildren now attend the ceremony, which celebrates “the rejuvenation of Unci Maka (Grandmother Earth).” Prayers are made to the Wakinyan Oyate (Thunder Beings) as bringers of life for good rain and weather.

The proponent believes that the name Thunder Peak “could be a good choice to all who disagreed with previously suggested names. Many Lakota know what these ceremonies signify and the importance of them.” The proponent also believes “even non-Natives would not be averse to such a title as this because it is simple, yet appropriate.”

GNIS contains records for two other natural features in the Black Hills that contain the word “Thunder” in their names: Thunderhead Mountain, 5 miles west-southwest of Harney Peak, and Thunderhead Falls, 14.5 miles northeast.

Other than Black Elk Peak, the only other name officially proposed to the BGN is Thunder Peak. When asked to comment on the counter-proposal, the SDBGN responded that it would not revisit the case.

Letters of support for the name Black Elk Peak were received from a great-great grandson of Black Elk, and from a first cousin seven times removed of General Harney. Both individuals made presentations to the BGN requesting that the name Harney Peak be changed.

Letters supporting the name Black Elk Peak were received from the Director and Executive Director of the John G. Neihardt Historic Site, the South Dakota Democratic Party State Central Committee, and the Pennington County Democratic Party. Other letters and emails supporting Black Elk Peak were also received from approximately 150 individuals; a number were from Tribal members, while many others were from non-South Dakota residents. A petition signed by 101 individuals from around the world was sent to the BGN. A petition from 65 Lincoln, Nebraska residents was also received.

Emails from three individuals opposed to the name change were sent to the BGN. Eight emails were received that supported a name change but did not identify any specific name. Twenty emails were received in support of the name Hinhan Kaga but the name was never formally submitted.

The Office of Native Ministries of the Diocese of Rapid City, speaking for Bishop Robert Gruss, stated that they would “support this cause and name change [but] it is outside [the bishop’s] purview to become the spokesperson in dealing with this issue. Ultimately it is our government officials, who have the authority to implement this type of change.”

Shawn Bordeaux, South Dakota State Representative for District 26A (located 120 miles to the southeast of Harney Peak) and an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, sent a letter to the BGN supporting the name Hehan Kaga [sic]. He was advised that this name had not been proposed, that the SDBGN had voted to support retaining the name Harney Peak, and of the Thunder Peak counter-proposal. Jeff Partridge, South Dakota State Representative for District 34 (located 18 miles to the northeast), supports retaining Harney Peak for consistency and “lack of confusion for tourists.” Galen Niederwerder, a Commissioner of Meade County (adjacent to Pennington County to the north), also supports retaining Harney Peak, but “would support Harmony Peak if a change were necessary.” He states that the latter name would “promote true reconciliation; changing it to Hinhan Kaga or some other name that honors only one group of people will only cause more division and feelings of resentment.... Harney Peak belongs to all the people.”

The Great Plains Regional Office of the BIA wrote in support of the name Hinhan Kaga, stating that “the bulk of comments on the proposed name change [to the SDBGN] were positive and in support of the Lakota name.”

The Friends of the Norbeck, a collection of groups and individuals who work to protect the Norbeck Wildlife Preserve, wrote a letter stating that they would prefer the name Opahata’I, with a second choice of Hehaka Sapa (“Black Elk” in Lakota), and a third choice of Black Elk Peak. The Norbeck Wildlife Preserve was created by congressional action and Presidential proclamation in 1920. Today it encompasses parts of the Black Hills National Forest (including the Black Elk Wilderness), Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Custer State Park, and private lands. The Prairie Hills Audubon Society (in western South Dakota) sent a letter nearly identical to the Friends of the Norbeck letter.

The U.S. Forest Service is in favor of changing the name Harney Peak. The agency also recognizes that any replacement name should come from a federally recognized Tribe with an interest in the feature. The FS stated, “We defer to the Area Tribal Council on the final selection of one Native American Name for this peak, and will therefore take a neutral stance on the proposals and counter-proposals brought before the BGN individually.”

After the BGN received the second proposal, for Thunder Peak, the BGN staff re-contacted a number of interested parties. The Pennington County Commissioners affirmed their opinion that the name Harney Peak should be retained. The great-great grandson of Black Elk and the Harney family member affirmed their support for Black Elk Peak. The Forest Service has affirmed its support for a name change but has no preference regarding a replacement name.

The BGN staff also contacted the following federally recognized Tribes that are listed in the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database as having an interest in Pennington County: the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River

Reservation, the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation, the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, the Santee Sioux Nation, and the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota. No replies were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

The proponent for Thunder Peak added that in her opinion, “If the descendant of General Harney doesn’t want his grandfather’s name [sic] used anymore to designate a geographical feature, it shouldn’t matter what the Pennington County Commissioners or the SD BGN wishes - he has revoked his permission to use his family’s name. [Furthermore], a name is like a trademark.” With regard to Black Elk Peak, she notes, “There is already the ‘Black Elk Wilderness’ that has been named after Black Elk. Black Elk was a spiritual man. Truly spiritual Lakota do not seek to have their names label great creations of God, (or as the Lakota say, ‘Wakan Tanka’), because they know that they are only human, and are not above sacred beings such as the Thunder-Beings whose spirits who inhabit the present-day Harney Peak. If Black Elk were present today, it is our belief that he would not have wanted this.”

A moveon.org petition started by the proponent of Black Elk Peak had 452 signatures as of April 11, 2016. The petition asks the BGN to change the name of Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak. Seventeen of the respondents were from Pennington County. Other locations with ten or more respondents were Omaha, Nebraska; Coatesville, Indiana; and locations outside the U.S. An online poll started by the first cousin seven times removed of General Harney had 1,026 votes for Thunder Peak, 213 for Black Elk Peak, and five for Harney Peak. Most votes came from Internet addresses located in the Twin Cities, Minnesota area; north-central Colorado; and southern California.

Thirty-one freshmen from the Little Wound High School on the Pine Ridge Reservation wrote to the BGN in support of changing the name of Harney Peak. Some of these letters suggested that Black Elk Peak would be a more fitting name.

At its April 2016 meeting, the DNC voted to defer a decision on the issue, citing a need for further discussion of various aspects of the case. After learning of the deferral, one of the individuals involved with the Black Elk Peak proposal (the first cousin seven times removed of General Harney) asked for an extension until the August 2016 meeting. He indicated that he wished to convene “a local group of dedicated community members [who would] approach the Tribal Councils and Leaders... to further explain the Board process and personally ask them to definitively choose a currently proposed name (Black Elk Peak, Thunder Peak or retain Harney [Peak]) that they will support at this late hour.” He noted also that “Pine Ridge Elder Basil Brave Heart is again attempting to secure such a written document from the Oglala Tribal Council this week, in support of the name Black Elk Peak.”

Of the additional material submitted prior to this meeting, the following represents support for the name Black Elk Peak: a resolution signed May 16, 2016 by the Oglala Lakota Tribal Council (the council had previously expressed support for a name change but did not specify a replacement name); a letter from Arvol Looking Horse, who refers to himself as “the 19th Generation Keeper of the Sacred White Buffalo Calf Pipe”; letters from three members of the Little Thunder family, one of whom attended the September 2015 DNC meeting to express her support for a name change; and a letter from a descendant of Chief Red Cloud.

In addition, copies of two Tribal resolutions by the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe and the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota, supporting the change to Black Elk Peak were provided; these were submitted to the DNC previously and are noted above.

The new material also included a link to an audio clip from a March 2016 South Dakota Public Radio report, quoting Rosebud Sioux Tribal elder Russell Eagle Bear, in which he says “We’re still going to continue calling this [summit] Hinhan Kaga but we can certainly live with Black Elk Peak also.” A second link is to a YouTube video, in which Basil Brave Heart, Oglala Lakota elder and the original proponent of Black Elk Peak, asks the DNC to approve the name change to Black Elk Peak. A letter from State Senator Bernie Hunhoff supporting the change to Black Elk Peak was also forwarded to the BGN.

A letter from the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Historic Preservation Officer states that the preferred name is Hinhan Kaga Paha, but if the only two names the DNC is considering are Thunder Peak and Black Elk Peak, the former would be his first choice and the latter his second.

Finally, a note from the Fort Peck Tribe THPO addressed to the individual seeking input states, “Please understand that this change name process does not concern me. It's still a control mechanism of the Black Hills. I do not wish to delegate any power to anyone. The Black Hills is the land of my people.... and my people alone.”

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Jeto Creek, Indiana (Review List 424)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.78756&p_longi=-86.4187

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.80081&p_longi=-86.44632

This two-mile-long perennial stream is proposed to be named Jeto Creek in association with Jeto Lake, the reservoir through which the stream flows. The reservoir is located in the JeTo Lake Conservancy District, an organization which “primarily operates in the water supply business/industry within the electric, gas, and sanitary services sector.” According to the proponent, the stream is created primarily of runoff from farm fields. The proponent believes that naming the stream “will solidify the identity of the community whose residents take pride in the reservoir and everything affiliated with it.” He suggested originally that the name might be of Native American origin, but subsequent research determined that in the early 1950s an individual named W. J. Topmiller owned the land and when he dammed the stream he chose the name for his wife (Je- from Jean, and To- from her surname). He confirms that local usage varies between “Jeto,” “Je-To,” and “JeTo.” A local road is named Jeto Lake Road. The National Inventory of Dams includes a listing for the dam, noting that it was constructed in 1945 and is named Je-To Lake Dam.

The Je-To Lake Conservancy District, a local water supply business, supports the proposal. The governments of Hendricks Township and Washington County were asked to comment but no responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The Indiana State Names Authority supports the proposal.

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma and the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, both of which are federally recognized Tribes. No replies were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

Topsham Ponds, Maine (Review List 424)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.935008&p_longi=-69.919866

The new name Topsham Ponds is proposed by the government of the Town of Topsham to be made official as a collective name for two small reservoirs located with the town's Fishing Recreation Area. The two bodies of water are connected by a short, narrow neck of water, with a collective size of approximately 9.7 acres. The ponds were likely created between 1980 and 1996; the area around the larger one was shown on the 1980 USGS topographic map as being cleared of vegetation but no water was shown; earlier maps show only a forested area.

The ponds are referenced in the town's annual fishing derby as simply "The Ponds," and so the town selectmen believe that having an official name would make it easier to enforce rules and regulations during the event.

When the selectmen voted in August 2015 to approve the name Topsham Ponds, they also referred to the two individual ponds as "Big Eddie" and "Little Eddie." However, there is no indication in the meeting minutes as to the origin of these names. The proponent was asked if he wished to also propose those names, but no reply was received. Google Maps labels the ponds "Big Eddy Pond" and "Little Eddy Pond."

The Sagadahoc County Board of Commissioners responded that it had no opinion on the proposal, as did the Maine Geographic Names Authority. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized Tribes that have an interest in Sagadahoc County.

GNIS lists 19 features in Maine with names that include the word "Topsham," with all but two related to the Town of Topsham. None are hydrographic features.

Fonteyn Kill, New York

(Review List 424)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.68308&p_longi=-73.89329

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.68898&p_longi=-73.90618

The name Fonteyn Kill is proposed to be made official for a 0.9-mile-long stream which flows through the campus of Vassar College. The proponent reports that the name, or a similar variant, has been in local use since at least the 1920s. The name means "Spring Brook" in Dutch. In the volume *Poughkeepsie: The Origin and Meaning of the Word*, published in 1924, the source of the stream is given as a spring ("fonteyn" in Dutch) in the community of Arlington.

The stream has been known by several names, including in the late 1800s, Mill Cove Brook. Other names are derived from Dutch, including Fonteyn Kil and Fonteynkill in addition to the similar-sounding English name Fountain Kill. Both Fonteyn Kill and Fonteynkill are used by the Vassar community; official publications and online articles by the college tend to use the former, whereas student research projects prefer the latter. (The nearby stream Casper Creek is also known variously as Casperkill or Casperkill Creek in these sources.) The name was originally proposed as Fonteynkill but was subsequently amended by the proponent to the two-word form.

The generic term "Kill" comes from a Dutch word for a channel or riverbed and is common in many stream names in areas of Dutch settlement. Most are in southeastern New York while a few are found in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and West Virginia. Fifteen of these are BGN decisions made official between 1890 and 1972. Two BGN decisions include the generic "River" (Broadkill River, Delaware and Walkkill River, New York).

Both Vassar College and the Town of Poughkeepsie support the proposal. The Dutchess County government did not respond to a request for an opinion, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized Tribes that have an interest in Dutchess County.

GNIS does not list any other features in New York with “Fonteyn” in their names, nor are there any nearby features with the word “Fountain.”

Middle Creek Falls, Tennessee

(Review List 423)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.1201061&p_longi=-85.3735367

This approximately ten-foot-tall waterfall, proposed to be named officially Middle Creek Falls, is located along Middle Creek, 0.3 miles upstream of its confluence with the Tennessee River. The proponent reports that the name has been in local use for approximately ten years and that it is a popular site for visitors to the area. An online search for the name indicates that real estate listings refer to Middle Creek Falls as “a family-friendly hike.” A photograph on the Flickr website also refers to Middle Creek Falls.

The Town of Signal Hill supports the proposed name. The Hamilton County Commissioners did not respond to requests for an opinion, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Tennessee Geographic Names Committee recommends approval of the name.

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, a federally recognized Tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

A query of GNIS for found eleven streams in Tennessee named Middle Creek, but no falls with that name.