

U.S. Board on Geographic Names
Domestic Names Committee

Six Hundred Fifty-Ninth Meeting
Department of the Interior, Room 3004
August 12, 2004, 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Chick Fagan (Chair)	Department of the Interior (National Park Service) – not voting
Lee Fleming	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Mike Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office
Ronald Grim	Library of Congress
Ed Harne, via telecon	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Betsy Kanalley, via telecon	Department of Agriculture (Forest Service)

Ex Officio

Roger L. Payne	Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names
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Staff

Lesley Levi	BGN Administrative Assistant
Lou Yost	
Jennifer Runyon	

1. Opening

The Chairman called the 659th meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The Chairman informed the Board that he will vote only to break a tie. It was noted that Harne and Kanalley will be joining the meeting at 10:00 a.m. by conference call from the ESRI Conference in San Diego.

2. Minutes of the 658th Meeting

The minutes were approved as submitted, with a minor correction on Page 2, #3.5, which should read, “June 10,” not “February 12.” Also, there was a minor change to the June 10 minutes; 5.1, second paragraph, which should begin, “It was announced that due to...”. The June and July minutes have been corrected.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman’s Report (Loy)

No report.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary’s Report (Payne)

The Executive Committee met on August 4, with several items on the agenda. The Foreign Names Committee staff reported that its business model and its procedures for processing foreign geographic names are being revised to be more efficient and responsive.

Payne noted that there was a discussion regarding the Board's website, and a new design will be tested. There will likely be an introduction with possibly five options from which to select: Domestic Names, Foreign Names, Undersea Feature Names, Antarctic Names, and Extra Terrestrial Feature Names. This concept was generally accepted, and it was agreed that USGS would develop a prototype page.

It was noted that the Advisory Committee for Undersea Features (ACUF) and the Domestic Names Committee (DNC) have somewhat different policies and procedures when applied to approving names of features that exist in both areas of purview. These issues need to be resolved. Specifically, differences between feature classification and commemorative naming are at issue.

It was noted that there was discussion as to how many Full Board meetings should take place each year. It was decided that the Board will continue to meet four meetings a year, with the understanding that by necessity an occasional meeting may need to be cancelled.

3.3 Report of the Publicity Committee (Payne for Wood)

The DNC continues to receive Lake Powell/Glen Canyon Reservoir correspondence. This proposal will be on the agenda for a vote at the DNC's October 20 meeting, and all interested parties have been given until October 1 to comment.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Payne)

No report.

3.5 BGN Staff Report (Yost)

The following is a statistical report of the BGN/DNC staff activities since the July 8 meeting:

0	cases written
114	inquiries received and answered
162	letters written (answered and initiated)
86	e-mail messages

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

The standard gazetteer files for GNIS and FIPS 55 have recently been updated and are now available for downloading at the GNIS website.

A partnership agreement for GNIS maintenance, similar to that already in place with West Virginia, has been established with North Carolina.

4. Docket Review List

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change Jordon Creek to Hamilton Creek and Hamilton Creek to Jordan Creek, Oregon (Docket 386)

These proposals would correct the application of the names Hamilton Creek and Jordon Creek, and to change the spelling of the latter name to “Jordan”. They were submitted by the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB), on behalf of a local resident who reports that the names have always been reversed on Federal maps (see Attachment A, #1, #2). A motion was made and seconded to approve the changes.

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Sunset Valley Creek, California (Docket 374)

This proposal, to name an unnamed stream in San Diego County Sunset Valley Creek, was submitted by a resident of Oceanside (see Attachment B, #1). A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the proposal, citing lack of evidence of local support and the negative recommendation of the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names.

Vote: 5 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

Mount Kiamia, Colorado (Docket 384) (Uncompahgre National Forest)

This proposal is to change officially the name of Sheep Mountain, located along the boundary between Dolores County and San Miguel County, and within the Uncompahgre National Forest, to Mount Kiamia (see Attachment B, #2). A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the proposal, citing a reluctance to change a long-standing, locally-used name, and the negative recommendations of several area residents, the government of San Miguel County, the Colorado State Board on Geographic Names, and the USDA Forest Service.

Vote: 5 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

A motion was made and seconded to reaffirm the name Sheep Mountain.

Vote: 5 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

Bartletts Harbor, Maine (Docket 384)

This proposal was submitted by four residents of Mount Desert to make official a name reported to be in local use for a harbor in the Town of Mount Desert (see Attachment B, #3). A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the name Bartletts Harbor, citing the negative recommendation of the Town of Mount Desert.

Vote: 5 in favor
1 against
0 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in the belief that there was sufficient local use of the name to warrant approval. It was suggested that the Board's staff should investigate whether there would be any interest in making official the singular form of the name.

Change Bartlett Island to Bartletts Island (Docket 382) and Bartlett Narrows to Bartletts Narrows (Docket 383), Maine

These proposals were also submitted by four residents of Mount Desert Island, to change officially the names of an island and a channel from "Bartlett" to "Bartletts" to recognize the form of the name that is reported to be in local use (see Attachment B, #4, #5). A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the changes, citing the objection of the Town of Mount Desert and the current owners of the island.

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Apache Peak, Texas (Docket 382)

This proposal was submitted by a resident of Fort Worth to name an unnamed summit in honor of the Mescalero Apache Indian tribe. The area surrounding the summit was reportedly considered sacred by the tribe (see Attachment B, #6). A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the proposal, citing a lack of local support and the negative recommendations of the Jeff Davis County government and the Texas Board on Geographic Names.

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Mescalero Peak, Texas (Docket 382)

The proposal for Mescalero Peak was also submitted by a resident of Fort Worth and would also honor the Mescalero Apache Indian tribe, which reportedly considered the summits to be sacred (see Attachment B, #7). A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the proposal, citing a lack of local support and the negative recommendations of the Jeff Davis County government and the Texas Board on Geographic Names.

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

III. New Commemorative Names and Name Changes agreed to by all interested parties – none.

IV. Revised Decisions – none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Great Sulphur Spring, Michigan (Docket 384)

This proposal is to make official the name Great Sulphur Spring for a sinkhole spring located in Monroe County, approximately 16 km (9 mi) northeast of Toledo, Ohio. The proponent, a professor emeritus at the University of Michigan, describes the feature as “a water-filled sinkhole about 70 meters in diameter, from which “sulphurous” water overflows continually” (see Attachment D, #1). A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal.

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

5. Location and Time of Next Meeting

The September meeting will be held at the regularly scheduled time on Thursday, September 9, at 9:30 a.m., at the Department of the Interior, Room 3004. The October meeting will take place on Thursday, October 7 (one week earlier than normally scheduled) in Room 3004 of the Main Interior Building. The DNC meeting in November will be cancelled because the DNC will have met on October 20 at the Annual COGNA Conference, and also because the meeting date coincides with the Veteran’s Day holiday.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

(signed) *Roger L. Payne*

Roger L. Payne, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) *Chick Fagan*

Chick Fagan, Chairman Domestic Names Committee

ATTACHMENT A

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
 DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET REVIEW LIST
August 2004

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties

#1,#2 Change Jordon Creek to Hamilton Creek and Hamilton Creek to Jordan Creek, Oregon (Docket 386)

Hamilton Creek:

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=10&n=4656207.16370143%20&e=399796.34949025&u=6&datum=nad83>

Jordan Creek:

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=10&n=4656734&e=399801&s=50&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

These proposals would correct the application of the names Hamilton Creek and Jordon Creek, and to change the spelling of the latter name to “Jordan”. They were submitted by the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB), on behalf of a local resident who reports that the names have always been reversed on Federal maps. Both streams are tributaries of Jack Creek, which is in turn a tributary of the Chetco River in southwestern Curry County. The current names have appeared on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps since 1954, and were also shown as such on the 1970 Curry County highway map, although the county map labeled Jordon Creek as Jordan Creek. *Oregon Geographic Names* (McArthur, 2003) confirms the existence of two tributaries of Jack Creek named Hamilton Creek and Jordan Creek, and suggests one was named for Robert Jordan (1847-1906), an 1870’s homesteader, but does not describe the specific locations of these streams.

The Curry County Commissioners have indicated they support the proposed name and application changes. The USDA Forest Service reports that because only a small section of the stream proposed to be named Jordan Creek lies within the Siskiyou National Forest, it does not have an official recommendation on the issue. The Oregon Board forwarded a copy of the proposals to the State’s Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn contacted the Cow Band of Umpqua Indians and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw, both of which are Federally-recognized. No response was received from either Tribe, indicating a lack of an opinion on the issue. The OGNB recommends approval of the proposed changes.

ATTACHMENT B

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

#1 **Sunset Valley Creek**, California (Docket 374)

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=11&n=3667799.00008138&e=472472&u=2>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=33.18361111111111&lon=-117.2327777777778&u=2>

This proposal, to name an unnamed stream in San Diego County Sunset Valley Creek, was submitted by a resident of Oceanside. The 8.9 km (5.5 mi) long stream heads 1.6 km (1 mi) south of the community of Buena Vista, just west of State Route 78. It then flows west through Calavera Lake, before continuing south to enter Agua Hedionda Creek. According to the proponent, the valley through which the stream flows is sometimes referred to locally as “Sunset Valley”, although he has indicated that he does not wish to submit a proposal for that name because “the terrain alongside the creek is quite variable and is not particularly unique or scenic.”

The government of San Diego County was asked on three occasions to comment on the proposal, and although it indicated by telephone that there was no evidence of local usage of the name and therefore it was not particularly supportive of the name, no formal recommendation was issued. The City of Carlsbad was also asked to offer an opinion on the name, but also indicated it did not see a need to submit a comment. Citing a lack of local support “and the fact that the proponent has not made a case for need or of any local usage”, the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names did not approve the name. Letters seeking input were sent to the following Federally-recognized tribes: the Barona Band of Mission Indians, the Inaja-Cosmit Band of Mission Indians, the Jamul Indian Village, the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, the Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians, the Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians, the Pauma/Yuima Band of Mission Indians, the Rincon Band of Mission Indians, the San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Indians, the Santa Ysabel Band of Mission Indians, the Sycuan Band of Mission Indians, and the Viejas Band of Mission Indians, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

#2 **Mount Kiamia**, Colorado (Docket 384)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=37.7853&lon=-107.8856>

This proposal is to change officially the name of Sheep Mountain, located along the boundary between Dolores County and San Miguel County, and within the Uncompahgre National Forest, to Mount Kiamia. The proponent, a resident of Aztec, New Mexico, reports that he is a retired Air Force master-sergeant, who upon learning of the recent efforts to name a summit in Colorado for the Space Shuttle Columbia, decided that a summit should also be named for the “killed-in-action” (“KIA”) and “missing-in-action” (“MIA”) of America’s wars. Many of his own family members have been lost in these conflicts. The proposed name is a combination of the two acronyms. He also suggests the name is appropriate because the word “kia” is Hawaiian for “spike-high point-nail (or) prominent place” [sic] and “mia” is Spanish for “mine”, thus rendering the proposed name a loose translation of “my high place”. He believes that naming a summit in Colorado for the war heroes would provide “a place [for others] to go and think about

those they have lost”, and that it would be “more convenient” than the memorial in Hawaii or the various veterans’ cemeteries located overseas.

The summit in question, which has an elevation of 4,020 m (13,188 ft), is named currently Sheep Mountain and has appeared as such on Federal maps since 1897. There are 38 summits in the State named “Sheep”, so the proponent suggests this name change would eliminate a duplicative name. None of these summits are in Dolores County or San Miguel County.

When asked to comment, the Commissioners of Dolores County responded that they were in support of the change to Mount Kiamia. However, the Commissioners of San Miguel County do not, stating “While we admire Mr. Salisbury’s motive to rename this mountain, the Board feels that the name Sheep Mountain is very important to the history of the area and should be retained. As an alternative to the renaming of Sheep Mountain, might we suggest that Mr. Salisbury look at the many un-named peaks in Colorado?” A letter of support for the proposal was submitted by the Alaska State Commander of an organization entitled Veterans of Underage Military Service (the proponent reports that at the age of 15 in 1945, he falsified his age and signed up for the draft). The Aztec, New Mexico Chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars passed a resolution in support of the name, and seven individuals have submitted e-mail messages in support of the proposal. Four other area residents do not support the proposal, however, all citing evidence of longtime usage of the existing name.

The USDA Forest Service has recommended disapproval of the proposal, because “the current name has important historical significance in the area and is well known and used locally. An old sheep corral is still located at the base of Sheep Mountain.” The Colorado Board on Geographic Names also did not endorse the proposal, “because one county opposed it and there was not any substantial local support”. Letters seeking input were sent to the Navajo Nation and the Ute Indian Tribe, both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

#3 **Bartletts Harbor**, Maine (Docket 384)
<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=19&n=4909936&e=546470&s=50&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

#4 Change **Bartlett Island** to **Bartletts Island**, Maine (Docket 382)
<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=44.35028&lon=-68.4375>

#5 Change **Bartlett Narrows** to **Bartletts Narrows** (Docket 383), Maine
<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=19&n=4910580.97975065%20&e=546338.032869122&u=6&datum=nad83>

These proposals were submitted by four residents of Mount Desert Island in Hancock County, to change officially the names of an island and a channel from “Bartlett” to “Bartletts”, and to make official the name Bartletts Harbor for an unnamed feature. The proponents report that the plural form of the name has been used locally ever since the island was first settled by the Bartlett family in the mid-eighteenth century. They cite a volume entitled *A History of Bartlett’s Island, Mount Desert, Maine*, published in 1981 by Binnewies and Davisson. A search of the Internet

yielded references to both the singular and plural form of the name, with most of the latter sites including the possessive apostrophe. One Bartlett family genealogy found on the web referred to the island as Bartletts Island.

The name Bartlett Island has appeared on U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps since 1904, and is also used by the Office of Coast Survey, the Maine Department of Natural Resources, and *The Maine Coast Guide*. The singular form also appeared on a County and Township Map of Maine published in 1887; in Attwood's 1946 volume *The Length and Breadth of Maine*; and in Rutherford's *Dictionary of Maine Place Names* (1970), which reported that the island was settled by Christopher Bartlett in 1760.

The plural form of the name appeared in recent Maine State Legislation relating to the conservation of wildlife management areas, as well as at a website of the American Farmland Trust, and in two family genealogies dating back to the late eighteenth century. The island was mentioned in *A Gazetteer of Maine* (Varney, 1886), which reported that in 1838, it had been set off with several other islands to form the new town of Seaville, but that this act of incorporation was repealed in 1859 and "Bartlett's Island [sic] was returned to Mount Desert". *The Century Atlas of Maine* (1897) labeled the island Bartletts Island, and the volume *Maine Place Names* (Chadbourne, 1955) listed it as Bartlett's Island. The 1974 Hancock County highway map applies the name Bartlet Island [sic].

The channel that separates Bartlett Island from Mount Desert Island is named Bartlett Narrows; that name has appeared on USGS maps since 1904 and is also on current Office of Coast Survey nautical charts, although several U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey navigational charts dating from 1883 to 1917 labeled the feature Bartlett's Narrows.

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Mount Desert consulted with several area residents and determined that there was not widespread support to make the change. Citing this lack of support and "the level of effort required to change charts and maps", the Town does not support the change. However, the Town suggested that the Rockefeller family, present-day owners of the island, should also be consulted. Telephone calls were made to the Green Rock Foundation and to a local resident, both of whom are responsible for managing Bartlett Island Farm on behalf of the Rockefellers. The farm manager consulted with Mr. Rockefeller, who conceded that while both forms of the name have been used locally, he does not recommend approval of the change because the singular form is published throughout documents related to the island's cattle registration and its conservation easements. The Hancock County Board of Commissioners and the Maine State Board on Geographic Names both declined to issue a formal statement, with both deferring to the local municipality for a position. A letter seeking input was sent to the Penobscot Indian Tribe, which is Federally-recognized, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

The proponent of the change from "Bartlett" to "Bartletts" for the island and the channel also requested that Bartlett Harbor be renamed (q.v.). The harbor lies on the western shore of Mount Desert Island, directly opposite Bartlett Island. The proposed name does not appear on any Federal maps or documents, but the proponent has asked that this locally-used name be made official for Federal use. The only reference to a name for the harbor was found at a website

describing one family's travels throughout Mount Desert Island, Bar Harbor, and Acadia National Park. The website included a photograph of "Bartlett's Landing at low tide", and recommended that fellow visitors "follow the signs to Bartlett's Harbor Landing". A case brief has not been prepared for the fourth name, Bartletts Landing, because that feature is considered administrative. Both the Town and the Farm Manager confirmed the existence of a harbor named "Bartlett", but once again, suggested the singular form of the name was more widespread.

#6

Apache Peak, Texas (Docket 382)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=13&n=3389815&e=577790&size=s&u=2&layer=DRG25>

This proposal is the first of two submitted by a resident of Fort Worth to name two unnamed summits in honor of the Mescalero Apache Indian tribe. Evidence suggests that in the past, the area surrounding both summits was considered sacred by the tribe. The summit proposed to be named Apache Peak lies within the Davis Mountains Preserve which is managed by The Nature Conservancy of Texas. The name Apache Peak is listed as a variant name for nearby Mount Livermore (BGN 1948), and is also the name of another summit located approximately 113 km (70 mi) to the northwest, in neighboring Hudspeth County. No other features in Jeff Davis County are named "Apache". The Nature Conservancy is in support of the proposal, stating "the names are appropriate and fitting" and "it was nice whomever suggested these names chose some native american names". However, both the County Judge of Jeff Davis County and the Jeff Davis County Historical Commission do not support the proposals, because the features are already known as "The Nuns". The latter name is not considered official for Federal use, so the County has been asked whether it wishes to submit a proposal (with the caveat that a collective name for the two features should not preclude the two summits being named individually). The County has not yet responded with a proposal. The Texas State Geographic Names Board concurs with the recommendation of the County and citing its lack of support, does not recommend approval of the names. Letters seeking input were sent to the Mescalero Apache Tribe and to The People of LaJunta (Jumano/Mescalero), both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

#7

Mescalero Peak, Texas (Docket 382)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=13&n=3389663&e=578181&size=s&u=2&layer=DRG25>

The proposal for Mescalero Peak was submitted by a resident of Fort Worth to honor the Mescalero Apache Indian tribe, who according to the proponent considered the summits in this area to be sacred. The 2,457 m (8,060 ft) high summit lies within the Davis Mountains Preserve, which is managed by The Nature Conservancy of Texas. Although The Nature Conservancy is in support of the proposal, the Jeff Davis County Judge and the Jeff Davis County Historical Commission are not in support, because the features are already known collectively as "The Nuns". No other geographic features in Jeff Davis County are known to be named "Mescalero". Letters seeking input were sent to the Mescalero Apache Tribe and to The People of LaJunta (Jumano/Mescalero), both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

ATTACHMENT D

III. New Commemorative Names agreed to by all interested parties - none.

IV. Revised Decisions – none.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

#1 **Great Sulphur Spring**, Michigan (Docket 384)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=17&n=4626721&e=295835&s=50&size=l&u=2&layer=D>
[RG25](#)

This proposal is to make official the name Great Sulphur Spring for a sinkhole spring located in Erie Township in southeastern Monroe County, approximately 16 km (9 mi) northeast of Toledo, Ohio. The proponent, professor emeritus at the University of Michigan, describes the feature as “a water-filled sinkhole about 70 meters in diameter, from which “sulphurous” water overflows continually. Water is near saturation with gypsum and contains hydrogen sulfide”. The feature was described in the *Geological Report of Monroe County, Michigan* (Scherzer, 1900) as a “great sulphur spring”. At the time of the proposal, the name had not been published as a proper name, although the proponent reports it has since appeared in a 2004 USGS Water Resources Investigation Report.

Because of the significance of the feature in geologic reports, the proponent suggests the feature needs a formal name. He acknowledges there is some local use of the names “Widgeon Hole” or “Widgeon Spring” because of the widgeons (a species of waterfowl) that prefer that part of the marsh, but those names have not been published in any known sources nor are they widely used. According to a land steward at the Michigan Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, “the spring was always called the sulphur Spring [sic]. Sometime in the 50’s/60’s the name Widgeon Hole came into favor due to the large number of widgeons seen there.” The governments of Erie Township and Monroe County both recommend approval of the name Great Sulphur Spring, as does the Regional Operations Service Center of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan Board on Geographic Names. Letters seeking input were sent to the Huron Potawatomi Tribe and to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.