Petition 1

Proposed Name: Paige Brook

Current Name: Unnamed Brook

Location: Bakersfield, Vermont  
Mouth Latitude: 44.781327  
Mouth Longitude: -72.858282  
Source Latitude: 44.805258  
Source Longitude: -72.802385

Main Petitioner:

Tucker Malone  
Representing the Bakersfield Conservation Commission

Email: [redacted]  
Address: [redacted]  
Phone: [redacted]

All petition requirements met:

All petition requirements met. Received 29 signatures, maps, reason for proposal.

Brief Reason for the Proposed Name:

To maintain consistency with town historical records.

Description of the Region:

The stream in question has potential headwaters for the main stem starting north of the end of Hydes Hill Road and emptying into the Black Creek, South of Whiteland Drive, Fairfield, VT. The Mouth of the stream is located at Latitude 44.781327, Longitude -72.858282, and the source of the stream is located at Latitude 44.80528, Longitude -72.802385.

Notices:


Areas of Concern:

Meets commemorative naming policies if using Foster Paige as a point of reference (records date to 1797).
Section of the branch discussed during the October 2019 hearing different then the section in the petition presented. Board tabled request and requested the Commission review and decide how they would like to proceed.

Commission responded in September that they would like the petition to move forward as is, and that the name Paige Brook be applied to the section initially presented. They will be submitting two more petitions to name different tributaries.

**Historical Research Prepared by April Shaw:**

Foster Paige was the first schoolteacher in Bakersfield in the first school that was built within the town lines. This was on or about 1797. There is no further mention of him in the history of Bakersfield in *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, however he is later listed as a pensioner living in Franklin County in 1818.

Additionally, the book *Bakersfield Vermont: the way it was, the way it is* lists him as teaching in the first school in “a log cabin near the Edward Rice place.” This source also listed old maps and populations of Bakersfield, and there is an F. Paige and several S. Paige’s listed as living along the brook in question.

I checked the historical topographic maps database and noted that the brook in question has never been named. The maps I located dated back to 1920 (the Franklin map), and I checked through 2018 (the Bakersfield map), and there is no name listed for this location. I have attached both maps.

There is currently a Page Brook in Caledonia county, but with the distance between the two and the different spellings, I don’t think there would be any confusion. In fact, there are currently no geographic features in Vermont with the spelling of “Paige.”

**Sources Consulted:**

USGS National Geological Map Database – Historical Topographic Map Collection.
https://ngmdb.usgs.gov

Wells, Elsie C. (1976). *Bakersfield Vermont: the way it was, the way it is*. Phoenix Publishing.


**Historical Research provided by Steve Jackson, member of the Bakersfield Conservation Commission:**

My only documentation exists online as a tax plot map for Fairfield at [https://www.axisgis.com/FairfieldVT/](https://www.axisgis.com/FairfieldVT/). Zooming in to the area where the brook is it becomes apparent that according to the map the name is (at least unofficially) Paige Brook. I found no reference to that name in Bakersfield and the cursory research I did in Fairfield Town records indicate property owners along the brook named both Paige and Page. The Beers atlas shows property owned by S. Page along the brook. I assumed it was a misspelling. A publication entitled *Bakersfield Vermont, the way it was, the way it is* by Elsie C. Wells (ISBN 13:9781985241626) incorrectly (I believe) names the brook Black Creek. (pg. 117). I did come across a Foster Paige in Bakersfield as first schoolteacher (1797) in the above-mentioned book. I have no idea if there is any connection to the stream in question.
Formal Statement from Primary Petitioner, Tucker Malone:

Historical Records show this stream being referred to as Paige Brook. Records also show a historical farm owned by the Paige family along the stream.

Supplemental Statement from Primary Petitioner:

USGS requested a point of reference for a Paige family member in order to meet the commemorative naming policies (namely the 5-year waiting period). After discussion via email, the petitioner requested that Foster Paige be used as a point of reference for the petition. Foster Paige became the first schoolteacher in Bakersfield, dating 1797, when the first schoolhouse was built. This should satisfy BOL and USGS/USBGN commemorative naming policies.

Additional Documentation Attached Separately:

- Scanned PDF copy of the original petition
- Current Map of the region, taken from the USGS National Geological Map Database – The National Map
- Historical Maps of the region, taken from USGS National Geological Map Database – Historical Topographic Map Collection
- Map with the brook highlighted
Vermont Board of Libraries

GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION

The attached petition is to formally request that the Vermont Board of Libraries give consideration to the geographic naming proposal as described below.

Date Petition Submitted to the State Librarian: 8/19/2019

The undersigned are in agreement that the Board of Libraries approve

Paige Brook (proposed name) as the name for

Stream with potential headwaters for the main stem starting north of the end of Hydes Hill Road and emptying into the black creek south of Whiteland Drive

(brief description of geographic location/feature).

This feature is located in the Town of Bakersfield, in the County of Franklin, at the location described here:

Stream with potential headwaters for the main stem starting north of the end of Hydes Hill Road and emptying into the black creek south of Whiteland Drive. See attached Map of the unnamed stream and its watershed. Historical records show that this stream was referred to as Paige Brook.

Please provide a brief description of the reason for proposing this name:

Historical Records show this stream being referred to as Paige Brook. Records also show a historical farm owned by the Paige family along the stream.

Please provide a brief description of the history of the feature and/or name:

Historical Records show this stream being referred to as Paige Brook. Records also show a historical farm owned by the Paige family along the stream.
Main Petitioner's Contact Information (Please print):

Name: Tucker Malone

Mailing Address: [Address redacted]

Phone: [Phone number redacted] Secondary Phone: [Phone number redacted]

Email: [Email redacted]

Do you represent a group/organization? X Yes* No

*If Yes, please provide the name of the group/organization:

Bakersfield Conservation Commission

Main Petitioner's Signature: 8/19/2019

Tucker Malone

Please attach the following documentation to support this naming proposal:
- Available map(s) of the feature
- Letters of support
- Additional documentation concerning the history of feature and/or name
- Additional documentation concerning the reason for proposing this name
- Minimum of 25 signatures in support of the petition

Mail the original to:

State Librarian
Vermont Department of Libraries
60 Washington Street, Suite 2
Barre, VT 05401-4209

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS SECTION – FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Petition received: 

Documentation: Signed Petition Form 25 Signatures Maps History Proposal Reason Letters of Support
VERMONT BOARD OF LIBRARIES

GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION

Subject of Petition: This petition is to formally request that the Board of Libraries:

The feature to be named is located in the Town of __Bakersfield__. In the County of __Franklin__, at this location (please include detailed location information):

Stream with potential headwaters for the main stem starting north of the end of Hydes Hill Road and emptying into the black creek south of Whiteland Drive. See attached Map of the unnamed stream and its watershed. Historical records show that this stream was referred to as Paige Brook.

Petition Contact: Name __Town of Bakersfield Conservation Commission__________

Mailing Address:

Phone: ___________________________ email: ___________________________

(Must contain a minimum of 25 signatures, must be at least 18 years old)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Print Name</th>
<th>Mailing Address, Town</th>
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<tr>
<td>Larry Kryger</td>
<td>Tucker Malone</td>
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<td>Ali Gubarey</td>
<td>Alice Foote</td>
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<td>Mary Lumber</td>
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<td>Kim Neta</td>
<td>Carrie L. Nelson</td>
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<td>Lee Halloran</td>
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<td>Cheryl DeRou</td>
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<td>Mark Doremus</td>
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<td>William Irwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Daane</td>
<td>Adam Daane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolyn Brazz</td>
<td>Carolyn Brazz</td>
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Petition 2

Proposed Name: School Brook

Current Name: Unnamed Brook

Location: Bakersfield, Vermont

Mouth Latitude: 44.78947N  Mouth Longitude: 72.80631W

Source Latitude: 44.78771N  Source Longitude: 72.83112W

Main Petitioner:

Patrick Evans  
Representing the Bakersfield Conservation Commission

Email: [redacted]  
Address: [redacted]  
Phone: [redacted]

All petition requirements met:

All petition requirements met. Received 27 signatures, maps, reason for proposal.

Petitioner connected with local Native groups and there was no objection raised for the naming.

Brief Reason for the Proposed Name:

It has concerned some local citizens that thought the stream flows throughout the year, it has no recorded or remembered name.

Description of the Region:

At some point in the not too distant past, the stream was tapped as a water source, possibly by the Brigham Academy in a gorge known locally as “the gulf.” Otherwise there has been no other use made of the water or waterway that we know of.

Areas of Concern:

While there is no note that the group has connected with the selectboard, they did so for a prior petition (Paige Brook). No concern about local support as nearly all of the signatories list Bakersfield addresses.

Historical Research Prepared by April Shaw:

Not conducted yet.
Vermont Board of Libraries

GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION

The attached petition is to formally request that the Vermont Board of Libraries give consideration to the geographic naming proposal as described below.

Date Petition Submitted to the State Librarian: 11/29/20

The undersigned are in agreement that the Board of Libraries approve

[Proposed Name] (proposed name) as the name for

[Description of Geographic Location/Feature] Originating north of the Egypt Road, flowing behind the Bakersfield E. J. Middle School to join Page Brook and hence to Black Creek in E. Fairfield.

This feature is located in the Town of [Town Name], in the County of [County Name], at the location described here:

[Location Description]

Please provide a brief description of the reason for proposing this name:

It has concerned some local citizens that, though the stream flows throughout the year, it has no recorded or remembered name.

Please provide a brief description of the history of the feature and/or name:

At some point in the not too distant past, the stream was tapped as a water source, possibly by the Brigham Academy in a gorge known locally as "the gulf." Otherwise, there has been no other use made of the water, or waterway that we know of.
Main Petitioner's Contact Information (Please print):

Name: Patrick Evans

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Secondary Phone: __________

Email: ____________________________

Do you represent a group/organization?    ☑ Yes*   ☐ No

*If Yes, please provide the name of the group/organization:

Bakerfield Conservation Commission

Main Petitioner's Signature: ____________________________ Date: 11/29/20

Patrick H. Evans, Chairman

Please attach the following documentation to support this naming proposal:

- Available map(s) of the feature
- Letters of support
- Additional documentation concerning the history of feature and/or name
- Additional documentation concerning the reason for proposing this name
- Minimum of 25 signatures in support of the petition

Mail the original to:

State Librarian
Vermont Department of Libraries
60 Washington Street, Suite 2
Barre, VT 05641-4209

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS SECTION – FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Petition received: ____________________________

Documentation: ☐ Signed Petition Form ☐ 25 Signatures ☐ Maps ☐ History ☐ Proposal Reason ☐ Letters of Support
Petition

For School Brook

The Bakersfield Conservation Commission proposes to name this brook which originates behind the Elementary School. It feeds into another brook (which will be named Paige Brook) emptying into Black Creek, then into the Missisquoi. A minimum of 25 signatures are needed. Then the petition goes to the State Board of Libraries for approval and inclusion on the USDA map.
Vermont Board of Libraries

GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION—SIGNATURES

Must include a minimum of 25 signatures of interested persons. Signers must be at least 18 years old.

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<tr>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. “SE Evans”</td>
<td>Sharon H. Evans</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. “Patrick Evans”</td>
<td>Patrick H. Evans</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>“Maia Home”</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>“Kyle M. Kramer”</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>“Kathleen O’Ree”</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>“STEVE JACKSON”</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>“Carolyn Brong”</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>“Larry Kepple”</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>“ALICE FOOTE”</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>“MARY CLUMBA”</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>“Abbey Miller”</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>“Katherine Weston”</td>
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**Vermont Board of Libraries**

**GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION – SIGNATURES**

*Must include a minimum of 25 signatures of interested persons. Signers must be at least 18 years old.*

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Harya Foote</td>
<td>GARY A FOOTE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Susan Sonski</td>
<td>Susan Sonski</td>
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<td>3. Tamra Brennan</td>
<td>Tamra Brennan</td>
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<td>4. Matt Haberman</td>
<td>Matt Haberman</td>
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<td>5. Mark Doremus</td>
<td>Mark Doremus</td>
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<td>6. Linda McCull</td>
<td>Linda McCull</td>
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<td>7. Shaun Montague</td>
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<td>8. Deanna Allen</td>
<td>Deanna Allen</td>
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<td>9. Rodney Allen</td>
<td>Rodney Allen</td>
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<td>10. Judy Bugbee</td>
<td>Judy Bugbee</td>
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<td>11. Richard Bugbee</td>
<td>Richard Bugbee</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Cynthia Coley</td>
<td>Cynthia Coley</td>
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Vermont Board of Libraries

GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION – SIGNATURES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Terry J. Brennan</td>
<td>Terry J. Brennan</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Amber Foote</td>
<td>Amber Foote</td>
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State of Vermont
Department of Libraries
60 Washington Street, Suite 2
Barre, VT 05641-4209

(802) 636-0040

Agency of Administration
Petition 3

Proposed Name: Heron Brook

Current Name: Unnamed Brook

Location: Bakersfield, Vermont  
Mouth Latitude: 44.8N Mouth Longitude: 72.83413W
Source Latitude: 44.79001N  
Source Longitude: 72.8318W

Main Petitioner:

Patrick Evans
Representing the Bakersfield Conservation Commission
Email: [redacted]
Address: [redacted]
Phone: [redacted]

All petition requirements met:

All petition requirements met. Received 27 signatures, map, reason for proposal. Petitioner connected with local Native groups and there was no objection raised for the naming.

Brief Reason for the Proposed Name:

The stream has no recorded or remembered name, though it flows, we believe, year round.

Description of the Region:

The stream in an outflow of a Heron Rookery in the western part of Bakersfield, near the Fairfield town line. It flows south from the North side of the Lawyer Road where it converges with Paige Brook, which continues to East Fairfield.

No known history exists. We could conjecture that it might have once been used as a source of water for farm or home. There appear to be no remains of damming.

Areas of Concern:

While there is no note that the group has connected with the selectboard, they did so for a prior petition (Paige Brook). No concern about local support as nearly all of the signatories list Bakersfield addresses.

Historical Research Prepared by April Shaw:
Not conducted yet.
Vermont Board of Libraries

GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION

The attached petition is to formally request that the Vermont Board of Libraries give consideration to the geographic naming proposal as described below.

Date Petition Submitted to the State Librarian: 11/29/20

The undersigned are in agreement that the Board of Libraries approve

Heron Brook (proposed name) as the name for

A stream originating north of the Lawyer Rd flowing south to join Paige Brook at the junction of Lawyer Rd. and the Cross Rd.

(brief description of geographic location/feature).

This feature is located in the Town of Bakersfield, in the County of Franklin, at the location described here:

The stream is an outflow of a Heron Roostery in the western part of Bakersfield near the Fairfield town line. It flows south from the North side of the Lawyer Rd where it converges with Paige Brook which continues to East Fairfield.

Please provide a brief description of the reason for proposing this name:

This stream has no recorded or remembered name, though it flows we believe, year round.

Please provide a brief description of the history of the feature and/or name:

No known history exists, we could conjecture that it might have once been used as a source of water for farms or homes. There appear to be no remains of damming.
Main Petitioner's Contact Information (Please print):

Name: Patrick Evans

Mailing Address:

Phone: ___________ Secondary Phone: 

Email: 

Do you represent a group/organization? ✓ Yes* ☐ No

*If Yes, please provide the name of the group/organization:

Bakerfield Conservation Commission

Main Petitioner's Signature:

Patrick H. Evans, chairman

Date: 11/29/20

Please attach the following documentation to support this naming proposal:

- Available map(s) of the feature
- Letters of support
- Additional documentation concerning the history of feature and/or name
- Additional documentation concerning the reason for proposing this name
- Minimum of 25 signatures in support of the petition

Mail the original to:

State Librarian
Vermont Department of Libraries
60 Washington Street, Suite 2
Barre, VT 05641-4209

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS SECTION – FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Petition received: 

Documentation: ☐ Signed Petition Form ☐ 25 Signatures ☐ Maps ☐ History ☐ Proposal Reason ☐ Letters of Support
Petition

For Heron Brook

The Bakersfield Conservation Commission proposes to name this brook which originates in back of Lawyer Road near the heron rookery. It feeds into another brook (which will be named Paige Brook) emptying into Black Creek, then into the Missisquoi. A minimum of 25 signatures are needed. Then the petition goes to the State Board of Libraries for approval and inclusion on the USDA map.
Vermont Board of Libraries
GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION—SIGNATURES

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<td>2.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Maura Horne</td>
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Vermont Board of Libraries

**GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PETITION—SIGNATURES**

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<td>Susan Sosnski</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Tamera Brennan</td>
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<td>Gary A Foote</td>
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<td>Marvin</td>
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Vermont Board of Libraries

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Bakersfield in 1857

Population 1475 plus or minus 30
Bakersfield in 1857
Population 1475 plus or minus

Looking south on Main Street with Beal's Hotel on the right and the old Town Hall middle left.

West School in District #8 was the oldest in town when torn down in 1940.

King's Hill School.

South School in 1954 just before the building was moved to the village.

The North Academy, built in 1844 and from a photograph taken in the late 1880s.

The South Academy, built by subscription in 1840 and now the Roman Catholic Church, is under consideration as a Historic Site. It appeared on an 1899 souvenir remembrance card for the Common School.
and is still standing, just south of the Cropper home (1974). Solomon Davis was the pioneer on the Fred or Leonard Boyat place . . . . Page 243 of our first Town Journal listed twenty-two polls, ten horses, fourteen oxen, thirty-five cows, thirteen two- or three-year-old cattle, one burying cloth, twenty-one acres improved land, twenty-eight yearlings. Listers were Jonas Brigham and Stephen Maynard; town clerk was Stephen Maynard.

1797: First school taught by Foster Paige in a log cabin near the Edward Rice place (Ray Barnes, James Westcom).

1798: Knight's Gore, a tract of land on the north, was annexed. (Later, in order to straighten the line, a portion on the northwest was joined to Enosburg by purchase. . . . The first funeral sermon in town was preached at the burial of eleven-year-old Elsie Pratt. His mother cried because he was buried in the woods. (This grave is near the north corner of the Common. Joseph Baker owned the site, now in Maple Grove Cemetery.)

1799: John Maynard, a cousin of Stephen, married Betsey Knowles, the first recorded marriage. They were the parents of J. K. Maynard, who left us our Worthy Poor Fund . . . . A portion of Coit's Gore tract, toward Kings Hill, lying southeast of Knowlton's Gore was annexed to the town. (The R. R. Maynard or D. Carr farm was in Coit's Gore, which extended beyond the present Waterville line.) . . . The Gideon Kings, shipbuilders and business men of Burlington, Vermont, owned timberland on Coit's Mountain. This is now Kings Hill Mountain.

1800: Colonel Silas Hazeltine came from Templeton, Massachusetts. (He is buried under the table gravestone near the Common with this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Col. Silas Hazeltine who died June 12, 1811, By a constant train of benevolent attentions he studied to alleviate the burden of common man. Faithful as a friend, cheerful as a companion, most affectionate as a husband and parent.")

1801: At town meeting it was voted not to raise money for schooling. Meeting held in log schoolhouse built near pioneer Edward Rice's home where Ray Barnes lived for years, now (1874) occupied by James Westcom. (We have a tradition from Harry Scott, a grandson, that the Rice family operated a red sandstone quarry on the stream in front of their home.)

1802: First militia company organized under Captain Wilkinson . . . . The district, which became No. 4, built a schoolhouse at the cross road from the Branch to Enosburg Center Road. It was not a durable building and in 1823 was replaced by a schoolhouse at the east end of the cross road on the Center Road.

1803: Voted to invite the Reverend Samuel Sumner to settle here. Minister's Lot was No. 1 north of Common; this has been lost . . . . About this time the East Cemetery land was given, presumably by Ephraim or John Adams, or Thomas Childs.

1804: A pioneer home in District No. 5, "over east," owned by the Adams family—who were frustrated by the mountains on the east (Cold Hollow Range)—was sold to William Cildings, Sr. (This is where Dr. Judah's summer home has been) . . . . On April 5 the town accepted from Joseph Baker his gift of a deed for five acres for a burying ground, town common, and other public uses. (Previously, the town had let out the Common to Joshua Barnes for three years to clear off, seed, and fence.

1804-1805: An early family was that of Robert Scott, whose first dwelling was located in the hollow near the Doane homestead. (For many years the large house on the hill beyond was known as the Hamlet Scott place.)
Foster Paige was the first schoolteacher in Bakersfield in the first school that was built within the town lines. This was on or about 1797. There is no further mention of him in the history of Bakersfield in *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, however he is later listed as a pensioner living in Franklin County in 1818.

Additionally, the book *Bakersfield Vermont: the way it was, the way it is* lists him as teaching in the first school in “a log cabin near the Edward Rice place.” This source also listed old maps and populations of Bakersfield, and there is an F. Paige and several S. Paige’s listed as living along the brook in question.

I checked the historical topographic maps database and noted that the brook in question has never been named. The maps I located dated back to 1920 (the Franklin map), and I checked through 2021 (the Bakersfield map), and there is no name listed for this location. The lack of name was confirmed after consulting the F.W. Beers maps from 1871 which show that there was no name for the brooks dating back to 1871.

The F.W. Beers maps of Franklin County also includes maps of Bakersfield which show the districts that the town was divided into in 1871 and marks the location of the District 8 school. This school is located along the brook which is being petitioned to be named School Brook. The building itself burned down in 1940 according to the history book *Bakersfield Vermont: the way it was, the way it is*. An image of the building is included with this report.

There is currently a Page Brook in Caledonia county, but with the distance between the two and the different spellings, I don’t think there would be any confusion. In fact, there are currently no geographic features in Vermont with the spelling of “Paige.”

There are no listings for School Brook or Heron Brook in Vermont in the USBGS Domestic Names database for geographic features. The only time Heron Brook shows as a name in Vermont is for an alternative medicine practitioner in Pawlet, VT.

*Sources Consulted:*


Wells, Elsie C. (1976). *Bakersfield Vermont: the way it was, the way it is*. Phoenix Publishing.