



NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

The residential area now called Beverley Heights was first plotted on an 1882 map of the Edmonton Settlement, and shown as River Lots 36, 38 and 40. The area began to develop in 1910, when the rich coal seams that lay beneath the soil were discovered and coal mining began. In 1913, the area was incorporated as the Village of Beverly, taking its name from a town in Yorkshire, England. In 1914 Beverly was incorporated as a town. The boundary line between Edmonton and Beverly was 50th Street. The northern portion contained the neighbourhoods of Beacon Heights and Bergman, while the southern portion is now known as Beverly Heights.

The fortunes of Beverly were tied to the local coal industry and the Town grew and shrank accordingly. In 1952, the last coal mine closed, but one year later the Beverly Bridge opened, which linked the town's main street (118th Avenue) with the new petro-chemical and industrial development to the east. Beverly then began to grow as a residential suburb, housing workers from the new industries. The town grew quickly until 1961, when Beverly was amalgamated with the City of Edmonton. As the Beverley Heights neighbourhood developed independently from the Highlands neighbourhood to the west, the housing orientation along the streets and avenues differs, and is a physical reminder of their separate history and development.

Most single-detached homes in Beverly Heights were built in the decade leading up to amalgamation. Low rise apartments, located near commercial areas and traffic routes, were built between 1960 and 1980. Construction of infill housing has continued in the area since the 1980s. The focus of community activity in Beverly Heights is Floden Park, the site of the Beverly Heights Community league facilities. The North Saskatchewan River Valley frames the southwest boarder of Beverly Heights, and there are several access points to river valley trails from the community.