



NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

McKernan and the City of Strathcona became part of Edmonton through amalgamation in 1912. However, development of the area was delayed until the 1940s when McKernan Lake, located between 110 and 114 Streets and 72 and 76 Avenues, was drained. Between 1913 and 1947 the McKernan Lake Streetcar, known as the Toonerville Trolley, operated along 76th Avenue from Calgary Trail to 116th Street; the trolley was replaced with the streetcar in 1948.

The area is bounded on the east and west by 109 Street and 114 Street, and bounded on the north and south by University Avenue and 72 Avenue. The northern portion of McKernan was subdivided in the traditional grid street pattern, but part of the southern portion was subdivided with a curvilinear street pattern. Low density residential development in the area was mostly completed between 1947 and 1953. The first walk-up apartment buildings were added to the neighbourhood in the 1950s, and additional apartments were added in the 1960s and 1970s. The major housing type is single-detached homes. A small commercial centre is located in the centre of McKernan along 76th Avenue. An LRT stop is located at 76th Avenue and 114th Street.

This neighbourhood was named after James McKernan, a prominent businessman and citizen of Edmonton's early rival, the City of Strathcona. The land on which the McKernan neighbourhood now sits was part of the original land holding of James McKernan. The original farmhouse of the McKernan family, demolished in 1940, was located where the McKernan Elementary-Junior High School now sits. The McKernan Community League was established in 1932.