



NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

The northern portion of the Queen Alexandra neighbourhood formed part of the original Town of Strathcona, which was incorporated in 1899. Subdivision soon followed, and the area became part of Edmonton in the 1912 amalgamation. The area experienced strong growth prior to World War I and much of the area north of University Avenue to Whyte Avenue was developed rapidly. Single-detached residences dominated, but commercial land uses in the area of Whyte Avenue and 104 Street were also established as Strathcona's commercial district began to develop. The bulk of development south of University Avenue occurred during the 1940s and later.

Queen Alexandra contains a variety of land uses and densities. The northern part of the neighbourhood contains most of the commercial land uses, and Whyte Avenue, which forms the neighbourhood's northern boundary, is a significant city-wide activity node, shopping and entertainment destination. Institutional land uses are prominent throughout Queen Alexandra, and the neighbourhood contains several schools, parks, sports facilities and religious assemblies. Residential redevelopment has been a significant component of land use change over the last decade, and many of the original single-detached homes have been replaced with higher density residential forms such as low rise apartments and condominiums. The neighbourhood is also located near the University of Alberta (U of A) and the U of A hospital.

The area was named for Queen Alexandra (1844-1925), the wife of King Edward VII of England. The date the neighbourhood received its name is not known definitively, but may have been named in 1901 at the time of King Edward's accession when Alexandra became the Queen. Alternatively, the neighbourhood may have been named to coincide with the renaming of the Duggan Street School in 1910.