



NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

Canon Ridge is one of three neighbourhoods within the Hermitage plan area. In 1875 Canon William Newton, an Anglican minister for whom Canon Ridge is named, arrived in the Edmonton settlement and built his first church, a home and a hospital in an area he called the Hermitage. The hermitage was located about ten kilometers from Fort Edmonton on the south side of a ravine overlooking the north Saskatchewan River Valley to the east. Reverend Newton's home remained there for more than 25 years.

For many years after settlement the Hermitage remained an agricultural area. During that time, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway line formalized the area's southern boundary along the railroad right-of-way. In 1960 the area's two cattle farms were sold to a land development firm, and one year later the hermitage was annexed to the City of Edmonton in 1961.

Land development was held up during the 1960s while government officials and developers addressed concerns about residential development too near the industrial plants in the vicinity. By 1970 these concerns were resolved and Canon Ridge was included within the Hermitage Outline Plan area. Canon Ridge was the last of the three Hermitage neighbourhoods to begin residential development.

Although the plan of subdivision was approved in 1977 and some building occurred prior to the end of the decade, most single-detached homes and all of the multi-family units were built after 1980. Development has been continuing in this neighbourhood since the 1980s, and small pockets of land remains.

Links to other Hermitage neighbourhoods are provided by collector roads and a system of bicycle and pedestrian pathways. Canon Ridge is split by Hermitage Road and Hooke Road which serve as collectors for curvilinear and cul-de-sac interior residential streets. Located at the centre of the neighbourhood is an area of public open recreation space. Victoria Trail, on the west boundary of Canon Ridge, was named after a pair of trails that ran parallel to the North Saskatchewan River from the earliest days of the Edmonton settlement. After 1864 the trail followed the river northeast to the Methodist mission at Victoria.