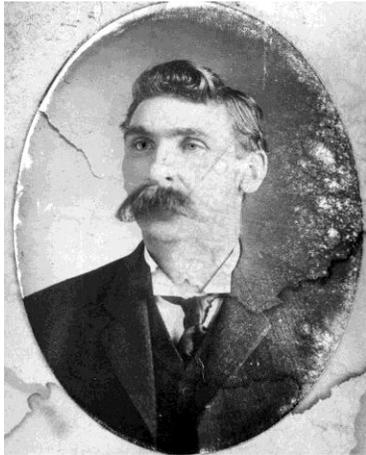


Adams Park



Elias Adams

1905

19871173000

Adams Park so named after Elias “Shorty” Adams a mayor of the city in 1910-11, lies on a 8.13 acre parcel of land at 13th Street and 9th Avenue North. The original 10 acres of land was purchased in 1909 from the Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company and a water main and irrigation ditch ran alongside it.

For many years it was an unimproved playing field and was viewed as an open park.

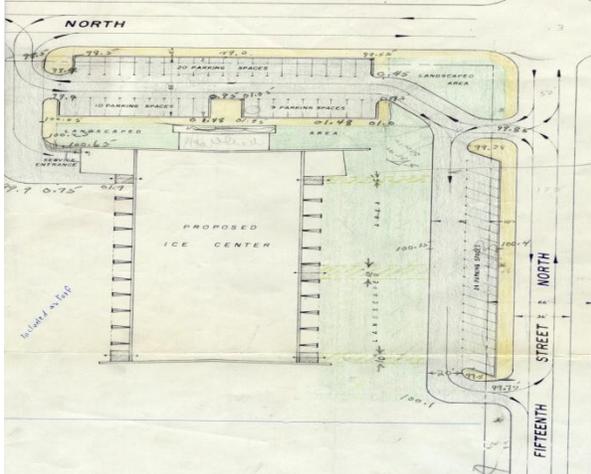
According to Garry Allison author of “My Side of Town” it was a favorite gathering place for sports fans. It had a baseball field at the corner and soccer field adjacent to the right field fence. Many team sports clubs such as cricket, softball and soccer use the area for their practices and games. For the cricket club there is a permanent shale pitch there. It was home to many team sports and the first little league teams played games there. The wooden bleachers were open and sun hot and there were no light for night games

There was also a bandstand erected there for a time and there Salvation Army Band would play there every Sunday night. City crews developed in 1923 by putting a fence around the baseball field and soccer field. Pathways began as cinder paths, were replaced by wooden walks and finally cement walkways.

The Adams ballpark was demolished in 1963 in order for a large green space to be landscaped and the construction of the Adams Ice Centre in 1962. The centre was built in the northeast corner of the land and contains curling sheets and skating ice..

There are several acres of green space with the Adams Ice Rink or the North Lethbridge Ice Centre complete with parking spaces in front, sided and at rear [121 parking spaces] takes up 3.2 acres in the corner of the land bordering 15th Street, 9th Avenue. The complex was built in 1961. There was a soil test done in November 1960. Two test holes one of 15th Street and one on 14th Street conclusions see info 1732 paper.

Development of park 1963 included sidewalks both interior and along the street, gutters, curbs, trees and shrubs, a children’s play area with sand and equipment, benches and a low rock wall at northwest corner of park.



Drawing of the Adams Ice Centre 1961
199910511731



Front view of the Ice Centre 1960s
199710804540

Today, the Boys and Girls Club of Lethbridge have their building behind the ice centre. There is a black granite monument commemorating the arrival of Polish settlers in south Alberta 1895 - 1995 placed on the southwest corner of the area.



Aerial of Adams Park at right centre

1962
Galt Archives 19753200106