

BREWERY GARDENS

HISTORY



The Brewery and Gardens 1970
Galt Archives 20021072053

The name 'Brewery Gardens' dates back to the time when the Lethbridge Brewery was located at 1st Avenue the now Scenic Drive. The Sick's Lethbridge Brewery was opened in 1901 and closed in 1990. The building was later demolished in 1991. The gardens were established in 1950 primarily to stabilize the slope beside the brewery and to get rid of the eyesore and "beautify" the area due to the site's earlier use as a garbage dump. Spruce trees imported from Norway were also planted at that time. In 1958 some 500 Colorado intense-blue spruce from the brewery's nursery were planted. So when the tree-planting was done there were two varieties of trees, Spruce and a northwestern variety of poplar on the windswept hill. Flowers and shrubs added a colorful touch to the area. Brewery Hill greets visitors to the city as they drive up the Curved eastern approach to the city.



View of the Jubilee welcome in Brewery Gardens 1966
Galt Archives 19760219072



The eastern approach to Lethbridge past the Brewery Gardens 1980
Galt Archives 19891005005

PHYSICAL LAYOUT

The garden stretches out behind where the Brewery once stood. From the Tourist Hut the landscaping stretches westward along the slope. It has a vast array of colors from



the multitude of flowers that grace the hillside which has become transforming the coulee hillside into an internationally-known showpiece. There is a rock garden with waterfall stone steps. A backdrop sign between the evergreens that boarder the south. Many times visitors can see the Canadian Flag and welcome to Lethbridge signs done in flowers. All the flowers are reproduced and grown in three greenhouses on the back lot of the brewery.

The Rock Garden 1968 Seasonal displays such as Christmas, Halloween, Fall, Easter, and special occasions such as organization's anniversaries, Canada's Birthday, and major events give the gardeners a lot of subjects to work with as they "dress " the hill.
Galt Archives 199110764216

ACTIVITIES

Although this is not an area where a person can play a pickup game of catch etc, it is a place where they can come and enjoy the floral displays and the seasonal designs. From the viewpoint, they can view the river valley, the University, the High Level Bridge which was built in 1909 and is the highest trestle bridge in the world at 96 meters high and 1623 meters long and the remains of the Galt # 8 Mine buildings. The Wind Gauge was located by the Brewery Gardens with the dedication taking place in 1985. The wind gauge was removed from the area in 1992 and placed at the Chinook Visitor's Centre on Scenic Drive.

There is access to the river valley from the Brewery Gardens View point observation walk for those who like to wander.



The Wind Gauge and the Bridge 1987
Galt Archives 19871226004