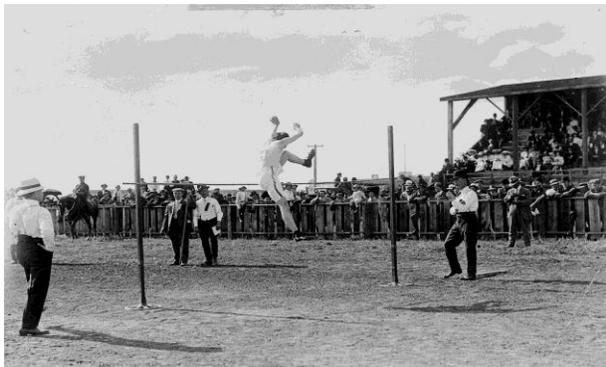


GYRO PARK - VICTORIA PARK

HISTORY

The Gyro Park was established in 1891 as the Queen Victoria Park. The Town of Lethbridge bought 40 acres from the Alberta Railway & Irrigation Company for the use by the Agricultural Society. The agricultural fair and exhibition grounds were located there from 1896-1910. The grounds were complete with a horse racing track with grandstand. Horse events, livestock showings, farm product displays, handicrafts, Chautauqua shows from 1897-1910. In 1904 the rodeo became part of the exhibition days. In 1912 the city was to host the Dryland Farming Congress however the grounds were too small for the agricultural show so the grounds were relocated to east of town.



Sports Day

1909

19760235226

PHYSICAL LAYOUT

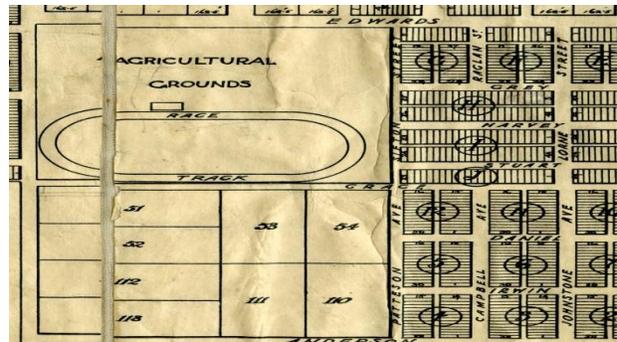
The 6.92 acres park is located between 10 A. & 11 Avenue, and 14th & 16 Streets and surrounded by residential area on all sides. After the Agricultural Society relocated to where the Exhibition Grounds are today, the former site was subdivided and auctioned off for residential lots.



Aerial view of Victoria Park

1950

19811056000



The grounds are bordered by 13th Street, 10 Avenue
16 Street and 14 Ave

1909

19730222022

BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES

For this central park on the south side of the city, there is a brick entrance at 10A Avenue leading into the park. The cover of the entranceway is made of wood and at the left side there is a flower box. The name "GRYO Park" is in black letters is seen under the overlapping roof. From there a cement walkway curses to the right and left. There is a plaque on the right side of the entrance which states that '*The area is dedicated to the citizens of Lethbridge from the Gyro Club, July 1st, 1960.*

To the right of the entrance as one is facing south, there is a small playground and circular pathways wind through the green. In the vicinity of the maintenance shed and washrooms, there are to metal tables with checker boards for a friendly game of checkers in the summertime. Along the pathways straight and arched there are benches for one to relax. The various sized trees and shrubs enhance the area.



The multifunctional building

1991

20031023000-053

ACTIVITIES

This is a family oriented park and children use the playground daily. Individuals enjoy the outdoors while walking, playing frisbee, catch, picnics and relaxing with a good book.

The Alberta Model Railway Club has their clubhouse in Gyro Park built in 1971. They share space in the large building at the centre of the men's and women's washrooms, storage room for equipment and supplies .It is a frame and part log structure with reinforced concrete foundations, with a wood roof and asphalt shingles. The Lethbridge Model Railway Club has their club meetings in Room # 5.