

CA2 ALID 15
1959H36

ALBERTA LEGISLATURE LIBRARY




3 3398 00400 3017

High River (Alta)

Survey of **HIGH RIVER**



Prepared By
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
Government of the Province of Alberta



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Legislative Assembly of Alberta - Alberta Legislature Library



PROVINCE OF
ALBERTA
 CENSUS DIVISIONS
 1956

Town of High River

(Revised October, 1959)

1. LOCATION

Section 6-19-28-W4 in Census Division No. 4. This location is at mile 40 on the Calgary-Macleod-Lethbridge line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and 35 miles south of Calgary on Highway No. 2 where it crosses the Highwood River.

2. ALTITUDE

3,400 feet

Latitude 50-35

Longitude 113-52W.

3. TEMPERATURE

Average summer 51.7 deg. F

Average winter 23.7 deg. F

Average annual 38 deg. F

4. RAINFALL

Average rainfall 11.42"

Average snowfall 72.5"

Average annual precipitation 18.67"

Note: the foregoing averages cover a period of 26 years.

5. GEOLOGY

The underlying rocks in the High River district are shales and sandstone which were deposited by streams in lakes and deltas. They are thus fresh water in origin and are several hundred feet thick in this area. The rocks are grouped together by geologists who call them the Paskapoo formation and give them an early Tertiary Age which began some fifty million years ago. Since these rocks were deposited, the North American continent has been uplifted. Consequently, the rocks have been eroded and only a fraction of their original thickness remains. During the Ice Age glaciers moved over this area depositing on the surface boulder clay and similar glacial deposits. Many of the hills and smaller elevations in this area consist of glacial deposits. The Turner Valley oilfield lies 18 miles northwest of High River.

6. SOIL

High River lies in a Shallow Black soil zone which is described as follows:

Profile — The normal profile has an A horizon than averages about 10 inches in depth and which in its upper 3 to 6 inches is black in color the remainder is usually dark brown. The B horizon is usually brown to dark brown and the lime horizon (Bca) is found at depths of 24 to 30 inches below the surface. Generally the depth to the lime layer is considered as indicative of the efficiency of rain penetration.

Fertility — Soils in this zone are usually fairly well supplied with nitrogen and organic matter. In any zone exhaustive cropping depletes the soil's native food supply and fibre. A permanent system of cropping provides for the adequate replacement of depleted plant foods and the maintenance of organic matter.

Vegetation — Grassland in which bluffs of trees are found in places where moisture conditions are more favourable.

Land Use — A greater number of soil types can be considered arable than in the brown zones. Wheat is the principal crop grown, but considerably more diversification is possible and should be practised to maintain soil fertility. The non-arable land is generally very good pasture.

7. HISTORY

The town of High River derives its name from the Highwood River which flows east through the town; and the Highwood River derives its name from a translation of the Indian name "Spitzie", so named by the Indians because the river is almost on a level with the surrounding prairie, which makes the trees along its banks appear higher than they would appear if the river was in a valley.

The first survey of the High River country was conducted in 1800 by the noted surveyor-trader, David Thompson.

Those trail blazers of Southern Alberta, the free traders of 1860-70, were the first white men to build on the Highwood River, where three of their posts were established. In those days Camp Spitzie was a favorite rendezvous for the Blackfoot tribe, especially when the Saskatoon berries were ripe; many of their lodges could be seen along the river banks. There was no permanent settlement prior to 1882 when French and Smith established a stopping place for adventurous landseekers, and who later established a trading post half a mile west of the townsite in the winter of 1878-79. During 1879, Emerson and Lynch built a log cabin six miles up the river.



Tree lined streets are a characteristic of residential districts.

In those days the means of transportation were Red River ox carts. The houses were built of logs, with sod roofs. There was a monthly mail when the weather was good and any old time after winter set in. Mail was dumped in a soapbox under a bunk in the French and Smith roadhouse; everyone helped themselves. A weekly mail stage ran from Fort Macleod to Calgary. The nearest official post office was three hundred miles south at Fort Benton, Montana, in the United States.

In 1881 the Dominion Government established regulations which permitted the leasing of areas up to 100,000 acres each to ranchers at a yearly rental of one cent per acre. In 1882, shortly after these regulations came into effect, the Bar-U ranch began operations. George Lane was foreman of this ranch in 1884, and subsequently became the owner of this great property.

In the same year (1882) Phil Weinard settled on the original townsite; John Sexsmith and John Ware settled across the river; Porter and Pettigrew located further down the river; Andrew Bell and Bill Bliss settled along the Little Bow River. The land was surveyed for homesteads in 1883 by C.E. Wolff.

Cattle were not the first domestic stock to graze on the rich prairie grass around High River; horses appeared on the scene in 1730 as a result of trading between the various tribes of Indians. The horses originated in the Spanish colony in California, and arrived in Alberta after much trading.

Prior to 1882 Camp Spitzie (High River) was known as a good trading camp by the whiskey traders, and a good hunting ground by the Indians.

There were stirring times in the vicinity of Camp Spitzie in the early days. The police and whiskey traders had to keep careful guard over their night camps to prevent being attacked by wandering tribes of Indians.

The first building on the present townsite was the old High River hotel; it was built in 1884 by "Buck" Smith and taken over in 1888 by George Lane. This hotel functioned as a church, a school, a clubroom and a dance hall. It was in this hotel that a Methodist minister, the Rev. Angus Robertson, held the first church service in 1886. It was a common sight to see a dozen cowboys, all armed, loitering around the hotel.

A blacksmith shop was started in 1887 by "Big Jim" McDonagh. In 1884 a small store was opened by Gibb and W. E. G. Holmes of Calgary. Two years later, Mr. Holmes came to live in High River, when he took charge of the store after dissolving partnership with Gibb, and entering into a partnership with Sam Kirkpatrick. It was at this time that Mr. Holmes was appointed postmaster. He was the father of the former postmaster, W. E. M. Holmes.

High River was on the maps of Indian traders and Mounted Police many years before cattle ranches were established. It was shown as the place where the Highwood River was forded on the trail which led from Fort Macleod to Fort Calgary. A ferry was placed in operation in 1886 and replaced by a bridge the following year.

The first log schoolhouse was built in 1886; it was destroyed by fire in 1898, and replaced by a stone building. Presbyterians built the first church in 1891. In the following year the Calgary and Edmonton railway arrived. The completion of the railway brought a heavy influx of new settlers from Eastern Canada and the British Isles. Prior to 1886 school classes were held in the hotel.

The hamlet was erected as a village on December 5, 1901, and that same year witnessed a marked surge of growth and progress. The next two years brought further progress. Bob Edwards published the first local newspaper, the "Chinook", later the "Eye Opener" on March 4, 1902. He transferred his activities to Calgary in 1904 and changed the name of his publication to the "Calgary Eye Opener". The High River Times was first published as a local weekly on December 5, 1905 by Charles Clark; he took an active part in its publication until he died at the age of eighty on January 14, 1949, when his son, Charles A. Clark, continued its publication.

There were seven dry years from 1889 to 1896 when Mosquito Creek, the Little Bow River and Big Lake went dry, and caused a big outward trek to the north in covered wagons; to be followed in the wet seasons of 1897-8 by a return rush of settlers which resulted in every available homestead being occupied in 1908.

It was in the eighties that so many of the early settlers got a start on the road to success, with a homestead and a few head of cattle. Outstanding among them was George Lane who rose from foreman of the Bar-U ranch in 1884 to become the owner of this great property.

Other outstanding citizens of the early period were: D. E. Riley, first mayor of the town after incorporation on February 12, 1906, and later a member of the Senate, Alex Fleming, J. L. Sexsmith, Dr. Stanley, M.P., George Young, A.W. Kelly, Phil Weinard, W. Livingston, J.W. Short, R.A. Wallace, Joseph Limoges, Thomas Henry, Sam Heslip and J. Sullivan. The early settlers were mostly Anglo-Saxon stock from the United States, Eastern Canada and the British Isles.

R. A. Wallace represented this district for many years in the North West Territories Assembly.

By degrees, the large "company" ranches were divided into smaller holdings and homesteads; in due course the growing of grain was tried, and wheat was produced by John Shaw in 1890.

The first marriage took place in the hotel in 1886, the contracting parties were Duncan Fraser and Jessie Spaulding.

The internationally famous High River polo club was organized in 1906 and operated until 1912.

A two story brick town hall was built in 1907. The same year a municipal steam-electric plant was installed which served the town with electric light and power until it was sold to Calgary Power Ltd. in 1926, when they were granted a franchise. In 1927 the Canadian Western Natural Gas Company supplied the town with natural gas.

The early settlers found good water at depths that varied from 15 to 25 feet. In 1912 the town installed a central water and sewerage system.

A 33 bed municipal hospital was built in 1921.

The High River Board of Trade was organized in 1927. The Times Building with its modern printing plant was built by Charles Clark that same year.

8. LIVING CONDITIONS

High River is located on the banks of a clear mountain stream — the Highwood River, where it crosses Highway No. 2, thirty-eight miles south of Calgary. It is the home of many retired ranchers and farmers; it is also the

social and service centre for a rich farm and ranching area; and the administrative centre for the Foothills Health Unit, the Municipal District of Foothills No. 31, and the Foothills School Division No. 38. It lies in a beautiful setting along the tree-fringed banks of the river where there is a large natural park within the town limits, encircled by a lagoon. This park was dedicated in 1951 to the memory of a highly respected old time rancher and was named the "George Lane Memorial Park". In this park are cooking facilities for picnics, a well equipped children's playground and a softball diamond. Across the street from the entrance to this park is the Highwood Memorial Centre. This modern structure is the pride of the town. It was built at a cost of \$120,000 and houses a large auditorium with stage and dressing rooms, adjoining banquet hall and kitchen, lounge room, public rest rooms; library, Canadian Legion Lounge, youth room, rifle range and town offices.

There is a glorious view looking west across thirty miles of slightly rolling farm land that ends at the foothills which are backed by the towering, magnificent snow-capped peaks of the Rockies.

The E.P. Ranch lies 28 miles west of town. This ranch is the Canadian home of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and is visited by many tourists.

Nights are cool after the hottest days. On the upper reaches of the Highwood River there are many beauty spots and camping sites, where the angler can load his creel with several species of trout and grayling.

In the fall there are ducks, geese and upland game birds, and many kinds of big game animals native to Western Canada.



Modern Schools well serve the community.

Ample provision exists for other sports besides hunting. There is a nine hole golf course within the town limits, two tennis courts, covered curling rink with four sheets of artificial ice, covered skating and hockey rink that will accommodate 1,700, polo grounds, rodeo grounds (70 acres) for baseball and horse racing, indoor rifle range and a bowling alley.

There is transportation by rail, bus and truck. Communication facilities include post office, telephone and telegraph.

Twelve churches serve the spiritual needs of the community. Two banks, one credit union and one Treasury office provide financial facilities.

Utilities consist of three phase 60 cycle electric power, natural gas, and a central water and sewerage system.

Natural gas is the chief fuel used for heating purposes. There are ample supplies of liquid fuels such as gasoline, propane and diesel oil. Coal is available but very little is used in the town.

Health services include a 64 bed hospital, a rural health unit, two doctor group practice health clinic, two other doctors, two dentists, one optometrist and two drug stores. Four additional doctors are attached to hospital staff, one of which is a High River resident, two live at Okotoks and one at Nanton.

Excellent public schools teach grades 1 - 12. There is one private kindergarten school.

There is a progressive weekly newspaper with a circulation of 2650 and a well used library with around 4,500 volumes.

Two hotels and four tourist camps provide accommodation for the traveller.

Several fraternal organizations, service clubs and many associations provide an outlet for public service and spare time activities.

The town and fringe population is around 2,250; more than 95% of whom have an Anglo-Saxon background, with English cultural and ethnic standards. Stability and steady growth express the town's atmosphere. Many fine homes have been built during recent years. A five-room bungalow rents for around \$70.00 per month.

9. ADMINISTRATION

The town is governed by a mayor who is elected for a two year term, and six councillors, two of which are elected each year for a three year term. The town's affairs are administered by the secretary-treasurer in accordance with the policy set by the council.

10. LAW ENFORCEMENT

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Detachment of one Sergeant and 4 Constables. Three R C M P constables serve the town under contract. One Police Magistrate.

Building Regulations

There is a building by-law. Plans for all new buildings and major alterations must be approved by the council before any building is commenced.

Electrical installations must comply with the requirements of the Alberta Electrical Protection Act.

Sanitary installations must comply with the requirements of the Provincial Health Regulations.

Gas installations must comply with the town by-law.

11. FIRE PROTECTION

There is a 21 man volunteer fire brigade. The fire department is housed in a new (3 bay) Fire Hall with Police Office, Police Court and Cells adjoining.

Equipment

One 3 ton Ford V8 truck, equipped with a 350 gallon booster tank and a 500 g.p.m. two stage centrifugal pump. This unit carries 1200 ft. of 2½" hose, 1 - 24' aluminum extension ladder, 1 - 12' roof ladder, 1 - 35' extension ladder, 1 - 2½" spray operated from rear booster reel. In addition this unit carries various adaptors, etc.

There is also a Studebaker hose wagon with 600 ft. 2½" hose, 2 - 12' ladders, 2 - 2½ gallon soda-acid extinguishers, shut-off nozzles, play-pipes, gas masks, etc.

There is a 5 h.p. Federal electric siren, with a switch in the telephone exchange and another switch in the army headquarters.

There are 65 hydrants distributed throughout the town. The average static water pressure is 50 lbs. p.s.i.

12. TAX STRUCTURE

	1958 Assessment
Land, 100% of value	\$ 411,885
Improvements, 100% of fair value	2,117,125
Business	57,230
	<hr/>
Total assessment	\$ 2,586,240

Mill Rate

Municipal	School	Hospital	Total
22.5	23.5	4	50 mills
with a 10% discount on payment by Aug. 31, annually			

13. AREAS

Total area of town	680 acres
Streets and roads	65 acres
Parks and playgrounds	14.50 acres

Miles of roads, streets and lanes

	Bituminus	Gravel	Improved Earth	Total
Provincial Main	1.5			1.5
Streets & Roads	4.3	10.3	.9	15.5
Lanes & Alleys		4.2	1.8	6
				<hr/>
			Total miles	23

There are approximately 5 miles of concrete sidewalk.

14. SEWER AND WATER MAIN MILEAGE

Storm sewers	nil
Sanitary sewers	6.61 miles
Water mains	8.76 miles

15. POWER

Three phase 60 cycle electric power is supplied by Calgary Power Ltd. at the following rates:

Domestic Service

Available only for lighting, heating, cooking, domestic power and ordinary uses in private houses and apartments used exclusively for residential purposes.

First 20 KWH (or less) per month — \$2.60 gross minimum.

Subject to 30c prompt payment discount, making \$2.30 net minimum.

All over 20 KWH used per month — 1½c net per KWH.

Note: Discount of 30c applies on all monthly bills paid within 10 days of date rendered.

Connection charge for new customers — \$1.00.

Reconnection charge — \$4.60.

Commercial Service

Available where other rates listed do not apply.

Service Charge—First ½ KW of connected load—30c per month.

Each additional ¼ KW of connected load—10c per month.

Energy Charge—First 50 KWH used per month per KW of installation—10c per KWH.

Next 150 KWH per month per KW of installation — 5c per KWH.

All over 200 KWH per month per KW of installation — 2½c per KWH.

Discount—10%, 10 days—based on the even dollars only of total bill, with a minimum discount of 30c.

Minimum charge—\$1.80 gross; \$1.50 net per month.

Minimum deposit—\$3.60.

Reconnection charge—\$3.00.

Power Service

(A.C.)—available for motors, rectifiers, commercial heating apparatus, etc., in commercial establishments.

Service Charge—\$1.00 per month per kilovolt-ampere (KVA) of installation (One motor horsepower or one kilowatt in heating apparatus to be considered equivalent to 1 KVA).

Energy Charge—First 50 KWH per month per KVA of installation—5c per KWH.

Next 50 KWH per month per KVA of installation — 3 1/3c per KWH.

Over 100 KWH per month per KVA of installation — 1 2/3c per KWH.

Discount—10%, 10 days—based on the even dollars only of total bill, with a minimum discount of 30c.

Minimum charge—\$3.30 gross; \$3.00 net or the amount of the service charge, whichever is greater or, at the company's option.

Minimum deposit—\$2.00 per KVA of installation with a minimum of \$6.00.

Reconnection charge—\$6.00.

16. WATER

Water is obtained from wells near the river. There is an underground stream flowing at the bottom of this well which provides a good supply of clear water. The water is pumped into the mains and a 156,000 gallon standpipe

by two electric pumps; one is held in reserve. Their capacities are 750 and 300 g.p.m. There is also a 750 g.p.m. diesel driven pump that will supply water should the electric power be shut off. Calgary Power Ltd. pump the water and the town operates the distribution system. A pressure of 40 to 50 lbs. is maintained in the mains. When a fire occurs the pressure is increased to 125 lbs.

Water rates are charged on a fixture basis, which averages around \$31 per annum for a five room house, including the use of outside taps.

The larger commercial buildings are metered at the following rates:

First 100,000 gallons ----- 35c per M gallons
 All over 100,000 gallons ----- 15c per M gallons

Water Analysis

	Parts per Million
Total Solids	268
Ignition Loss	100
Hardness	250
Sulphates	30
Chlorides	2
Alkalinity	300
Nature of Alkalinity — Bicarbonate of Lime and Magnesium.	
Nitrites	—
Nitrates5
Free Ammonia	—
Albuminoid Ammonia	—
Remarks: Iron — .2 parts per million	

This water contains 17.5 grains per gallon.

Bacteriological — B. coli — Negative. There is no evidence of unfavorable contamination.

17. GAS

Natural gas is supplied to the town under a franchise by the Canadian Western Natural Gas Company Ltd.

Rate No. 1

Available to all customers, domestic, commercial and industrial.

First 2 MCF or less used per month — \$2.50.

All additional MCF used per month — 26c per MCF.

Minimum monthly charge — \$2.50.

General Conditions—When accounts are not paid on or before the due date, the charge per MCF other than the first two MCF shall be increased by four cents and the gross rate so arrived at shall apply.

Optional Rate No. 2

This schedule is available to all customers using the in excess of 9,906 MCF per year.

A) Customers whose annual consumption is greater than 9,906 MCF per year and less than 34,000 per year.

Fixed charge — \$35.00 per month.

plus

Commodity charge — 22c per MCF.

Minimum monthly bill — \$35.00.

B) Customers whose annual consumption is greater than 34,000

MCF per year—

Fixed charge — \$120.00 per month

plus

Commodity charge — \$.19 per MCF.

Minimum monthly charge — \$120.00.

General Conditions —

- 1) This schedule is available only on annual contract which shall continue from year to year thereafter until either party shall give to the other party, at least thirty days prior to the expiration of any such year, a written notice of desire to terminate same, whereupon at the expiration of such year, it shall cease and determine.
- 2) When accounts are not paid on or before the due date the charges per MCF shall be increased as follows: Rate (A) 3c, Rate (B) 2c. The gross rate so arrived at shall then apply.
- 3) When a customer has been billed under one subsection A or B of this rate and at the end of the year it is found that he should have been billed under another subsection, his account for that year shall be adjusted and the necessary refund made by the company.

High Load Factor No. 3

Availability — to customers on annual contract whose annual consumption of gas is not less than 12,000 MCF and whose total consumption during the six meter reading periods ending in May, June, July, August, September and October, is not less than 40% of their total consumption for the year.

Net Rate:

Fixed charge — \$20.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month per 1,000 cu. ft. of maximum 12 hour demand
plus



The community centre is located in this modern building.

Commodity charge — First 2,000 MCF per month — 19c per MCF
 Next 2,000 MCF per month — 16c per MCF
 Next 150,000 MCF per month — 14c per MCF
 All additional MCF per month — 13.5c per MCF.

Minimum monthly charge — Fixed charge.

Determination of Demand —

The maximum twelve hour demand shall be the greatest amount of gas in cubic feet delivered in any twelve consecutive hours during the current billing period or the preceding eleven billing periods, as determined by the company by measurement. The maximum twelve hour demand of a new consumer of gas shall be estimated by the company.

Provided that the company may with the approval of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, take into consideration in determining the fixed charge the effect of the consumer's demand for gas upon the company's peak load.

General Conditions —

This schedule is available only on annual contract which shall continue from year to year thereafter until either shall give to the other party at least thirty days prior to the expiration of any such year a written notice of desire to terminate same whereupon at the expiration of such year it shall cease and determine.

18. L. P. GAS

Heat value — 2,521 b.t.u. per gallon at 60°F
 100 lb. cylinder — \$6.50.
 Bulk — 17c per gallon.
 Storage capacity — 26,000 gallons.

19. DIESEL FUEL

Heat value — 135,000 to 140,000 b.t.u. per gallon at 60°F.
 Winter grade — 18.2c per gallon.
 Summer grade — 17.2c per gallon.
 Storage capacity — 23,000 gallons.

20. COAL

Coal is secured from the Lethbridge field. Heat value 11,190 b.t.u. per lb. at 60°F.

Price per Ton

Lump	Egg	Stoker
\$15.50	\$14.50	\$13.50

Very little coal is used in the town.

21. RESOURCES

Wheat and coarse grains, straw, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs (including much purebred stock) coal — semin anthracite, 18 miles west, Gas — natural gas 6 miles north and 6 miles west, dairy products, poultry products, sand, common, gravel, water.

22. GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND SERVICES

Federal

Post Office; Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment; 153 Company R.C.A.S.C. Reserve.

Provincial

Alberta Government Telephone; Liquor Store; Foothills Health Unit; Foothills School Division No. 38; Foothills School Division Superintendent; District Agriculture (Charles E. Yauch).

Municipal

Town Offices and Court Room housed in Community Centre; Secretary-Treasurer; Engineer Foreman and Foreman of Works; Garbage collected twice weekly; Police Department, Fire Department; Cemetary; Library; Municipal District of Foothills, No. 31 headquarters.

23. HEALTH SERVICES

The High River Municipal Hospital No. 11 has 64 beds and 14 bassinets. The hospital is staffed by a matron, assistant matron, 19 graduate nurses and 4 nurses aids.

Rates

Canadian residents — \$1.60 per day.

Non-residents — \$11.50 per day.

Other Health Services

4 doctors (plus four doctors attached to hospital staff); 2 dentists; 1 chiropractor; 1 optometrist; 2 veterinarians; 2 drug stores; 1 funeral parlor.

The Foothills Public Health Unit maintains offices in the town. The Health unit is staffed by 1 doctor, 4 public health nurses, 1 secretary technician, 1 laboratory technician, 1 sanitary inspector.

24. PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED PERSONAL SERVICES

(Excluding Health Services)

Type of Service	No. of Establishments
Accountant	1
Barristers	2
Barbers	4
Beauty Parlors	4
Watch Repairs	3

25. TRANSPORTATION

Calgary-Macleod-Lethbridge line of the Canadian Pacific Railway — one train each way daily .

Greyhound Bus Lines — Nine buses each way daily between Calgary and Macleod via High River.

1 Taxi Stand — 1 cab.

Daily trucking service with 4 trucks — between Calgary and High River.

26. NEWSPAPERS

High River Times — weekly.

27. COMMUNICATIONS

Alberta Government Telephones

Canadian Pacific Railway Telegraphs

Post Office

Nearest Radio Station, Calgary — CFAC, CFCN, CKXL

Nearest TV Station, Calgary — CHCT-TV

Radio and television programs from Lethbridge are well received in High River.

28. FINANCIAL FACILITIES

Royal Bank of Canada

Canadian Bank of Commerce

Treasury Branch

Credit Union

29. HOTELS

	No. of Rooms	Single Rates	Beer Licence
St. George	36	\$2.00 up	yes
Gateway	34	\$2.50 up	yes

30. TOURIST CAMPS

	No. of Units	Rating	Rates
Colwell Auto Courts	3	2 star	
	9	1 star	\$4.00 up
Rainbow Cabins	6	3 star	
	1	2 star	\$3.00 up
	2	1 star	
Riverside Motel	8	3 star	
	6	0 star	\$6.00 up

Trailer Parks

Popular Grove Court
Riverside Motel

33. CHURCHES

Anglican; Baptist; Roman Catholic; United; Salvation Army; Nazarene; Apostolic; Church of Christ; Christian Reform; Church of Latter Day Saints; Jehovah Witness.

32. FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Masons; Oddfellows; Eastern Star; Rebekahs; I.O.D.E.

33. SERVICE CLUBS

Chamber of Commerce; Rotary; Active Club; Canadian Legion; Women's Auxiliary Canadian Legion.



New modern homes and well tended streets are common in the town

34. SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Old Timers Association; Fish and Game Association; Athletic Association; Horse Breeders Association; Sketch Club; Handicraft Guild; Home and School Association; Junior Dramatic Club; Curling Association; Golf Association; High River Rodeo Association; Badminton Club; High River Riding Club.

35. EDUCATION

The town schools are part of the High River School District No. 38. Grades 1 to 12 are taught along with the following optional subjects: Typing, Bookkeeping, Drama, Art, Music, Home Economics, Shop. The school population is made up as follows:

	Grades	Teachers	No. of Pupils
Elementary	1 - 6	12	352
Junior High	7 - 9	4	149
High	10 - 12	3	96

36. THEATRES AND HALLS

	Capacity	Stage	Piano
Wales Theatre	400	yes	no
I.O.O.F. Hall	200	platform	yes
Credit Union Hall	40	no	no
Scout Hall	50	no	no
Highwood Memorial Centre			
Main Assembly Hall	1200	yes	yes
Teen town in basement	200	yes	yes
Skating Rink	1700		

37. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The High River municipal library is sponsored by the town, provincial government grant and membership fees. The library is open every Tuesday and Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. There are over 5,040 books in the library.

Other Activities

Dale Carnegie Club	Dramatic Club
Handicraft Guild	Brass Band, 26 pieces
Sketch Club	Music Makers Choral Society, over 40 members.
Book Club	

38. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Boys	Girls
Scouts with log cabin headquarters	Guides
Air Cadets	Brownies
Teen Town	C.Y.O.
C.Y.O.	Teen Town
Trail Rangers	4-H Club
Cubs	
4-H Club	

39. SPORTS

Hockey, baseball, softball, swimming, curling, golf, tennis, bowling, indoor rifle range, trap shooting, fishing, hunting (upland birds and big game).

Facilities

Covered curling rink, 4 sheets artificial ice
Covered arena, skating and hockey.
Swimming pool and paddling pool in park.
Nine-hole golf course, sand green.
Softball diamond and kiddies playground in park (30 acres).
Rodeo Grounds, baseball, flat and harness horse racing (70 acres).

40. FAIRS

Annual rodeo — two day event
Junior grain and feed show — one day event.
Calf show.

41. HISTORIC SITES

Site of the Highwood River crossing on the old Macleod Trail.

42. CO-OPERATIVES

Alberta Wheat Pool
United Grain Growers
Credit Union



A bustling business section serves an extensive district

43. INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS

Type of Industry or Business	Number of Establishments	Producer or Manufacturer	Wholesale	Retail	Type of Industry or Business	Number of Establishments	Producer or Manufacturer	Wholesale	Retail
Auctioneer	1	—	—	—	Implement (Farm)	5	—	—	5
Auction Mart	1	—	—	—	Insurance & Real Est.	2	—	—	—
Accountant	1	—	—	—	Jewellers	2	—	—	2
Apartment Blocks	2	—	—	—	Laundry	2	2	—	2
Auto Body Repairs	2	—	—	2	Leather Goods (Manufacturer)	2	2	2	2
Bakeries	1	1	1	1	Lumber Yards	3	—	—	3
Banks	3	—	—	—	Machine Shops	2	2	2	—
Barbers	4	—	—	—	Motels	3	—	—	—
Barristers	2	—	—	—	Oil Distributor	4	—	4	—
Beauty Parlors	4	—	—	—	Optometrist	1	—	—	—
Books & Stationery	see	Drug Store	—	—	Painters & Decorators	3	—	—	—
Bowling Alley	1	—	—	—	Photographer	2	2	—	2
Butchers	2	—	—	2	Plumbers & Gas Fitters	2	—	—	—
Building Contractor	5	—	—	—	Printers	1	1	1	1
Bus Line Office	1	—	—	—	Pool Room	1	—	—	—
Cartage	1	—	—	—	Propane Dealers	1	—	—	1
Chiropractor	1	—	—	—	Radio Repairs	3	—	—	—
Clothing (men's)	2	—	—	2	Restaurants	5	—	—	—
Clothing (women's)	2	—	—	2	Shoe Repairs	2	—	—	2
Coal Dealers	2	—	—	2	Sign Writer	1	1	—	1
Cold Storage Locker	1	—	1	1	Sporting Goods	1	—	—	1
Creamery	1	1	1	1	Tailor & Repairs	2	—	—	2
Dentists	2	—	—	—	Theatre	1	—	—	—
Doctors	8	—	—	—	Theatre (Drive-in)	1	—	—	—
Drug Stores	2	—	—	2	Tire Repairs	1	1	—	1
Dry Cleaners	1	1	—	1	Taxi	1	—	—	—
Electrical Appliances	2	—	—	2	Trailer Parks	2	—	—	—
Electrical Contractors	2	—	—	—	Transports	1	—	—	—
Feed Mill	2	2	2	—	Upholsterer	1	1	—	1
Florists	1	1	—	1	Used Car Sales	2	plus new car sales room	—	—
Funeral Parlors	1	—	—	—	Variety Stores	1	—	—	1
Furniture Stores	1	—	—	1	Veterinary	1	—	—	—
Garage & Ser. Station	10	—	—	10	Welding	see machine shops and garages	—	—	—
General Stores	3	—	—	3					
Grain Elevators	7	Total capacity 725,000 bushels	—	—					
Groceries	6	plus general stores	6	6					
Hardware	4	—	—	4					
Hotels	2	—	—	—					

44. SITES

Residential sites and industrial sites adjacent to trackage are available. These sites can be served with all utilities.

45. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Large scale operations characterize farming in the High River district. Specialized wheat production predominates in the area east of the town. In 1950, three-quarters of the farm cash income came from grain receipts, 16 percent from cattle, very little from hogs and none from dairying. Immediately west of High River farm income from cattle and grain receipts are about equal. Extending into the foothills is an area served by the town that is devoted almost entirely to large scale cattle ranching.

46. TRADING AREA

North — 6 miles
West — 40 miles
South — 12 miles
East — 24 miles

47. POPULATION

Trading area population, 1956 census — 7,018.
Town population, 1956 census — 2,102
Town population, May, 1959 — 2,250 estimate.

N.L.C. - B.N.C.

9 0200 10006033 9

