



NEIGHBOURHOOD DESCRIPTION

The residential area now called Bergman began to develop in 1910, when the rich coal seams that lay beneath the soil were discovered and coal mining began. In 1913, the area was incorporated as the Village of Beverly, taking its name from the Town of Beverly in Yorkshire, England. By 1914 the population in the area reached 1,000 and Beverly was incorporated as a town. The boundary line between Edmonton and Beverly was 50th Street.

The fortunes of Beverly were tied to the local coal industry and the Town grew and shrank accordingly. In 1952, when the last mine closed, the population was 2,000. One year later the Beverly Bridge opened, linking the town's main street (118th Avenue) with the main highway to the east (Highway 16). Beverly then began to grow as a residential suburb, housing workers from the new petro-chemical plants and other nearby industries. The town grew quickly until 1961, when Beverly, with a population of 9,000, was amalgamated with the City of Edmonton. The northeast portion of the former town included the neighbourhood of Bergman.

In the decade leading up to amalgamation, the southern part of Bergman shared in the residential construction boom experienced by the Town of Beverly. Much of south Bergman was developed but municipal services were not extended to the northern part of the neighbourhood until a major subdivision re-plot was initiated in 1974. As a result of re-subdivision and the construction of municipal service lines, significant new residential construction took place during the 1980s. Almost half of the homes in Bergman were built during this period.

Bergman was named in honour of Gustave C. Bergman, who was the first Mayor of the Town of Beverly.