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Survey of BARRHEAD

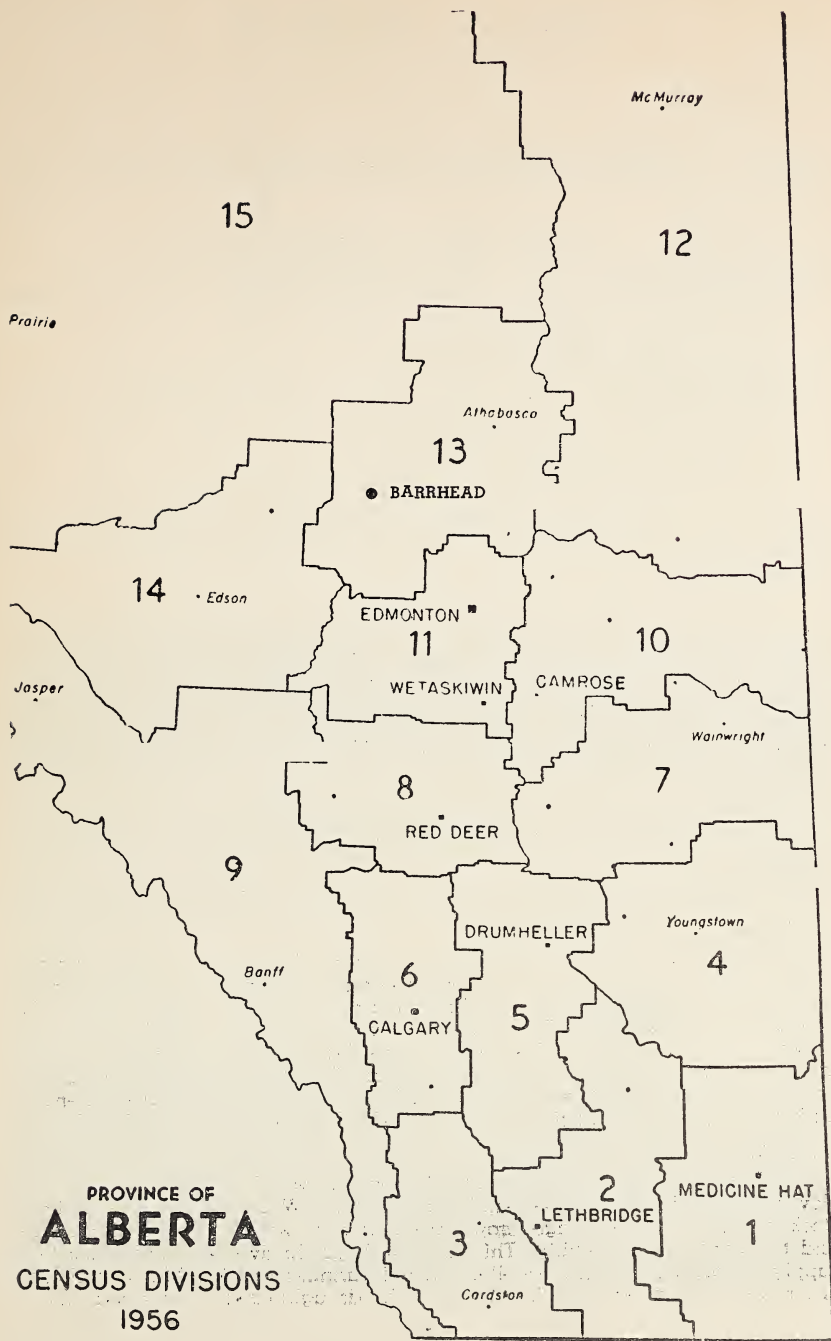


Prepared By

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH / 3

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY & DEVELOPMENT / 2

Government of the Province of Alberta /



Town of Barrhead

(Revised May 1964)

1. LOCATION

Section 20-59-3-W5 in Census Division No. 13. This location is 77 miles northwest of Edmonton on highway No. 18 and is the western terminal of the Busby-Barrhead branch of the Northern Alberta Railway.

2. ALTITUDE

2,113 feet

Latitude 54/08

Longitude 114/25

3. TEMPERATURE

Mean Summer - 60.1 degrees F.

Mean Winter - 10.16 degrees F.

Mean Yearly - 36.8 degrees F.

4. PRECIPITATION

Average annual rainfall - 11.34 inches.

Average annual snowfall - 52.9 inches

Average annual precipitation - 17.63 inches.

Note: Sections No. 3 and No. 4 taken from the weather station at Edmonton.

5. GEOLOGY

The rocks underlying the glacial deposits in this area are sandstone and sandy shales that were deposited in the large fresh water lakes that covered the region in the Age which is term Upper Cretacious by the geological time scale. Those sediments which are named the Edmonton formation are coal bearing. They are the source of coal in such centres as Edmonton and Drumheller. Further interest in these beds has been taken because they are one of the horizons of Alberta in which fossils remains of Dincsaurs are found.

6. SOILS

Soil type varies in the Barrhead area from black to grey wooded.

Vegetation

Parkland with light to heavy tree growth and open meadowland.

Soil Profile

Generally variable, ranging from nearly black to grey. The surface horizon consists of a thin layer of semi-decomposed leaf litter, which may be absent in burned over areas, underlain by a mineral horizon that can usually be divided into two parts. The upper part may be black, grey-black or dark brown. The lower part is frequently somewhat leached of organic matter and considerably greyer than the upper part. The total depth of the surface horizon averages about ten to twelve inches. The sub-horizons are generally dark brown in color and lime is found at depths of about 30 to 50 inches.

Land Use

Coarse grains are the principal crops grown, but some acreages of clover are produced for seed and soil building. With the increase in live-stock numbers, more forage crops are being grown for hay and pasture and to maintain soil fertility. This area with productive soil and consistent supply of moisture is an excellent mixed farming district. Many carloads of forage are shipped from the district to the drought areas in dry seasons.

7. HISTORY

The history of the town, named after Barrhead, a town in Scotland, dates back to May and June of 1906, when the area was first surveyed for homesteads. At that time a large area of the district was covered with a dense growth of poplar and spruce trees.

The first settlers arrived to take up homesteads in 1907. First residents had to drive oxen or horses or walk ten miles to Belvedere to get supplies and mail.

The original hamlet was located two miles north and one mile east of the present townsite and was founded in 1912. The hamlet had a post office, two general stores and several residences. The majority of the buildings were moved to the present townsite.

The first train of the Northern Alberta Railway reached Barrhead in October 1927. Barrhead became a village November 14, 1927 and incorporated as a town on November 26, 1946.

The Barrhead News was first published in 1926.

8. LIVING CONDITIONS

Barrhead is the shopping centre of a large mixed farming district. Main street is wide and paved, with modern store buildings lining both sides of the street. The residential areas all are gravelled, with tree lined boulevards. The majority of the home owners take pride in their vegetable and flower gardens.



Fine recreational facilities, including a sporty golf course, are available to all residents.

Hunting and fishing are available within easy reach of the town. Big game hunting is carried on north of town for deer and moose, while upland game birds and ducks are available within a few minutes drive of the town. Fishing is excellent in the nearby streams and lakes for trout, perch, pike and pickerel.

Rent for the average four or five room home averages about \$65.00 per month.

9. ADMINISTRATION

The town is governed by a mayor elected for a two-year term and six councillors, two elected each year for a three-year term. The secretary-treasurer administers the affairs of the town in accordance with the policies set by council.

10. LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The town hires its own police force which consists of a Chief Constable and two constables. The police force also provides law enforcement for the County of Barrhead. The town provides a police car equipped with a two-way short wave radio communication between the police office and car. Resident Police Magistrate, Justice of the Peace, Court House.

Regulations

The N.H.A. building code is used for building standards. A zoning by-law prepared by the Provincial Planning Board is followed. Construction of all new buildings, repairs to buildings or removal of buildings must be approved by council, after which a permit is issued.

Electrical installations must conform with the Alberta Protection Act.

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

Gas installations must conform with the requirements of the Gas Protection Act.

11. FIRE PROTECTION

The fire brigade consists of a Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, 2 captains and 15 firemen.

Equipment

1 - 1950 500 G.P.M. pumper with 300 gallon tank; 1 - 1290 gallon tank truck; 1,000 feet of 2½ inch hose, 400 feet of 2 inch hose, 600 feet of 1½ inch hose, 200 feet of 1 inch hose, 8 nozzles, ladders, axes, crowbars, smoke masks, resuscitator, full protective clothing for 12 men.

Water Supply

Water is obtained from the Paddle River and pumped into a 50 million gallon earthen reservoir. There are 29 fire hydrants conveniently located throughout the town.

12. TAX STRUCTURE

	1963 Net Assessment
Land 100% of Assessment	\$ 614,510
Improvements 60% of Assessed Value	2,672,140
Business	412,470
Power	35,960
Gas Lines	15,920
Total Assessment	<u>\$3,751,000</u>

Mill Rate

Municipal	School	Hospital	Total
29.9	17.9	4.2	52 mills

13. AREAS

Area of the town - 445 acres
 Streets, roads and lanes - 55 acres
 Parks and playgrounds - 29 acres

Miles of Streets, Roads and Lanes

	Asphalt	Gravel	Improved Earth	Total
Streets and roads	.5	11.5	.5	12.5
Lanes		10	.5	10.5
Total Miles				23 Miles

There are approximately six miles of concrete sidewalks.

14. SEWER AND WATER MAIN MILEAGE

Storm Sewers - .5 miles
 Sanitary Sewers - 10.5 miles
 Water Mains - 10.5 miles

15. POWER

Three phase 60 cycle is supplied to the town under a franchise by the Calgary Power Ltd.

RATES:**Domestic**

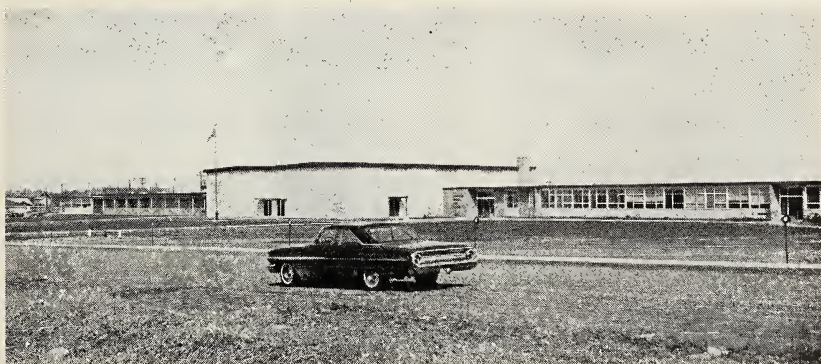
Available only for lighting, cooking, domestic power and other ordinary uses in private homes and individual apartments used exclusively for residential purposes.

First 20 k.w.h. or less used per month - \$2.60 gross minimum subject to discount of 30c, making \$2.30 net minimum.

All excess k.w.h. used per month - 1.5c per k.w.h.

Discount - The discount for prompt payment is the difference between the gross and net minimum charge.

The energy rates are net.



The Junior High School is typical of all schools in Barrhead.

Commercial

Available where other rates listed do not apply.

Demand charge: \$1.00 per month per k.v.a. or fraction thereof, of demand.

Energy Charge:

First 80 k.w.h. used per month per k.v.a. of demand - 5c per k.w.h.

All excess k.w.h. used per month per k.v.a. of demand - 1½c per k.w.h.

"Demand" is the maximum 30 minute rate of power delivery, expressed in kilovolt-amperes during the previous 12 months, and not less than 1 k.v.a. Alternatively, the demand may at the company's option, be measured and billed in kilowatts, or may be estimated by testing or from the consumer's connected load.

Minimum charge, is the demand charge but not less than the domestic service minimum for the community.

The above are net rates applicable to accounts paid within 10 days of the date rendered. Net bills are increased by 5% and not less than 30c, after discount date.

Power

Available in commercial establishments for three phase motors, X-ray apparatus and welding transformers, of aggregate rated capacity 3 H.P. or k.v.a. or over.

Demand charge - \$1.00 per month per k.v.a.

Energy Charge

First 50 k.w.h. used per month per k.v.a. of installation - 5c per k.w.h.

Next 50 k.w.h. used per month per k.v.a. of installation - 3 1/3c per k.w.h.

All Excess k.w.h. used per month per k.v.a. of installation - 1 2/3c per k.w.h.

Minimum charge - \$3.00 net of the demand charge if greater.

Discount 10% - 10 days, based on the dollars only.

"K.V.A. of installation", One motor H.P. is taken as one k.v.a. The Company may, at its option, estimate the demand or may install a thermal demand meter. When a demand meter is installed the billing demand is the maximum 30 minute k.v.a. demand in the preceding 12 months.

Large institutions and industrial plant rates are available from the Company on request.

16. WATER

Water is obtained from the Paddle River and is pumped into a 50 million gallon, two-cell earthen reservoir. From the reservoir the water is pumped into a fully modern treatment plant, where it is chemically treated and filtered and then pumped into the town water distribution system. The treatment plant has a maximum capacity of 350 I.G.M. Water storage after treatment is 90,000 gallons.

Rates

Domestic: minimum 3,000 I.G. at \$2.75 per month, \$1.00 per 1,000 I.G. above minimum. Sewer Charges: \$1.50 per month.

Commercial: minimum \$3,000 I.G. at \$2.75 per month, \$1.00 per 1,000 I.G. above minimum. Sewer Charges: varies according to number of fixtures.

17. GAS

Natural gas is supplied to the town under a franchise by the Plains-Western Gas and Electric Co. Ltd.

Rates:

First 2 m.c.f. or less used per month - \$3.00
Next 30 m.c.f. used per month - 47c per m.c.f. per month.
Next 30 m.c.f. used per month - 44c per m.c.f. per month
Next 58 m.c.f. used per month - 39c per m.c.f. per month.
Next 58 m.c.f. used per month - 39c per m.c.f. per month.
All over 200 m.c.f. used per month - 34c per m.c.f. per month.
Minimum monthly charge - \$3.00.

Large users of Natural Gas may apply at the Company for industrial rates.

18. L.P. GAS

Heat Value - 2,521 b.t.u. per cu. ft. at 60 degrees F.
100 lb. cylinders - \$5.50
Bulk - 14c per gallon.
Storage Facilities - 10,000 gallons.

19. DIESEL FUEL

Heat Value - 135,000 to 140,000 b.t.u. per gallon at 60 degrees F.
Winter grade - 18c per gallon
Summer grade - 17c per gallon
Storage capacity - 25,000 gallons.

20. COAL

Very little coal is used by the town residents. Those using coal secure it from the Morinville field at \$6.50 per ton for mine run F.O.B. mine.



The modern, attractive hospital serves residents of town and a wide district.

21. LOCAL RESOURCES

Cereals; coarse grains; dairy products; poultry products; horses; cattle; sheep; hogs; sand and gravel; gas and oil; lumber.

22. GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND SERVICES

Federal

Post Office; Department Veterans Affairs; Farm Credit Corporation.

Provincial

Alberta Government Telephones; Alberta Liquor Vendor; Provincial Treasury Branch; Department of Agriculture and Home Economist; Fish and Wildlife; Provincial Driver Examiners; Magistrate's Office; Court-room; Department of Public Welfare; Superintendent of Schools; Health Unit; Senior Citizens' Home.

Municipal

Town Hall housing secretary-treasurer, council chambers, police department, works foreman, firehall, County of Barrhead No. 11, library.

23. HEALTH SERVICES

A fully modern and well equipped hospital is operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph. The hospital was built in 1955 and has a capacity of 60 beds and 14 bassinets. Liaison between the Order and the community is provided by a local Hospital Board.

The hospital is operated by an administrator; 13 graduate nurses; and 16 nursing aides. There is a total staff including administrative, maintenance, and other services of 70. Plans are under study at present to almost double the hospital capacity.

The Sturgeon Health Unit calls monthly providing the following services: examination of all school and pre-school children; examination of all persons residing in the Health Unit district; pre-natal and post-natal care; inspection of water and food supplies as well as sanitary inspection.

Other Services

Two medical clinics are operated by a group of doctors who also maintain offices at Swan Hills and Sangudo.

6 doctors; 1 dentist; 1 chiropractor; 1 optometrist; 2 drug stores; funeral parlor; ambulance; Veterinary clinic.

24. PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED PERSONAL SERVICES

(Excluding Health Services)

Type of Service	No. of Establishments
Accountants	2
Barber shops	5
Barristers	3
Beauty Parlors	5
Photographer	1
Watch Repairs	2

25. TRANSPORTATION

Northern Alberta Railway, freight service between Barrhead and Edmonton.

Northland Arrow Bus Line, 2 buses each way Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. One bus each way on Wednesday and Sunday.

Taxi stand, one cab.

Airstrip near town, turf runway 2680 feet long, 150 feet wide, daylight landing only.

Daily truck service to Edmonton.

26. NEWSPAPERS

Barrhead Leader - weekly.

27. COMMUNICATION

Alberta Government Telephone; Northern Alberta Telegraph; Post



The Barrhead District Seed Cleaning plant is a busy unit in the town's economy.

Office; Nearest radio stations Edmonton, CBX, CICA, CFRN, CHED, CKUA, CHFA. Nearest television stations - Edmonton, CFRN-TV, CBX-TV.

28. FINANCIAL FACILITIES

Toronto Dominion Bank; Bank of Nova Scotia; Provincial Treasury Branch.

29. HOTELS

	No. of Rooms	Rates	Licensed
Lotus	22	\$3.50 up	yes
Dallas	24	\$3.00 up	yes

30. MOTELS

	No. of Units	Grade	Rate
Flamingo	11	4 star	\$5.00 up

Trailer Court

Barrhead Trailer Court with water, sewer, and laundry facilities.

31. CHURCHES

Anglican; Canadian Reformed; Christian Reformed; Alliance Revival Centre; Roman Catholic; Lutheran; United; Pentecostal; Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; Russian Greek Orthodox; Urainian Orthodox; Jehovah Witness.

32. LODGES AND SERVICE CLUBS

Masonic; Elks; Royal Purple; Eastern Star; Kinsmen; Kinettes; Rotary; Chamber of Commerce; Canadian Legion; Ladies Hospital Guild; C.W. League.

33. SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Red Cross Society; Home and School Association; Agriculture Association; Curling Association; Auroras (car club); Gymkhana Association.

34. EDUCATION

Barrhead schools are operated by the County of Barrhead No. 11. Grades 1 to 12 are taught along with the following optional subjects: typing, bookkeeping, art, music, drama, agriculture, unit shops and home economics.

The school population is made up as follows:

	Grade	No. of Teachers	No. of Pupils
Elementary	1 - 6	28	775
Junior High	7 - 9	14	409
High	10 - 12	17	369

35. THEATRES AND HALLS

	Capacity	Stage	Piano
Roxy	400	yes	no
Drive in Theatre	170 cars	no	no
Arena	1,500	no	no
Auditorium	1,500	yes	yes
Legion	150	yes	yes
United Church Hall	200	yes	yes
Catholic Church Hall	250	yes	yes
Junior High School Auditorium	Recreational Activities		
High School Auditorium	Recreational Activities		
Elementary School Auditorium	Recreational Activities		

36. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The Barrhead Regional Library was formed in 1951 and is sponsored by the County, Town, Provincial Government under the Libraries Act, and membership fees.

The library, containing 15,929 volumes, is open daily except Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The library has been moved into larger quarters where twice the volume of books can be handled.

The Barrhead Art Club is very active and a successful Art Exhibit is held each spring.

The Gavel Club (Barrhead High School) hold meetings every other week at noon hour. This club is affiliated with the Toastmaster International.

Other Activities

25 piece brass band, sponsored by the Elks Club; Square dance club; Friendship club; two music teachers; drama and art taught at the schools.

37. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Boys: Scouts; Air Cadets; Sigma C; Junior Golf Club; Junior Calf Club; 4-H Clubs.

Girls: C.G.I.T.; Junior and Senior Sodality; Explorers; Calvinettes; 4-H Calf Club; Tyros.

38. SPORTS

All sport activities come under the Recreation Commission and full-time recreation director. Baseball, senior and junior; hockey; senior and junior; curling; golfing; bowling; softball; badminton; skiing; basketball; tennis; football.

Sports Facilities

28 acres sports grounds (including natural ice arena; outdoor skating rink; three baseball diamonds; football field; two paved tennis courts; large playground area and stampede grounds). 9-hole golf course, sand greens; curling rink, 4 sheets artificial ice; ski club, two slopes and tow rope; toboggan slide; wading pool; playgrounds in the centre of town; school auditoriums for basketball and badminton.

39. FAIRS

Annual Stock Show, 2 day event sponsored by the Agriculture Society; Annual Seed Fair, 1 day event sponsored by the Agricultural Society; Annual stampede, 2 day event sponsored by the Kinsmen Club; Seed Fair.

40. HISTORIC SITES

Fort Assiniboine, though no longer standing is marked by a cairn which was erected on the old fort grounds. The old "Klondike Trail" leading to the old fort is still visible.

41. CO-OPERATIVES

Northern Alberta Dairy Pool; Co-op General Store; Alberta Seed Growers Co-Op; Livestock Feeders Co-Op; Alberta Wheat Pool; United Grain Growers; Barrhead Credit Union; Barrhead District Seed Cleaning Co-Op Ltd.; Barrhead Artificial Breeding Co-Op Association Ltd.

42. INDUSTRIES AND BUSINESS

Type of Industry or Business	Number of Establishments	Producer or Manufacturer	Wholesale	Retail
Accountants	2	—	—	—
Ambulance	1	—	—	—
Auctioneer	1	—	—	—
Auction Mart	1	—	—	—
Artificial Insemination ..	1	—	—	—
Auto Wreckers	1	—	—	1
Banks	3	—	—	—
Bakery	1	1	1	1
Barristers	3	—	—	—
Barbers	5	—	—	—
Beauty Parlors	5	—	—	—
Bicycle Repairs	1	1	—	1
Blacksmiths	3	3	—	3
Body Shops	3	3	—	3
Bowling Alley	1	—	—	—
Building Contractor	3	—	—	—
Butchers	1	—	—	1
Cartage Delivery	2	—	—	—
Cement (transit mix)	1	1	1	1
Chiropractor	1	—	—	—
Clothing (men)	1	—	—	1
Clothing (women and children)	2	—	—	2
Coal Dealers	2	—	1	1
Confectionery	2	—	—	2
Creameries	1	1	1	1
Credit Union	1	—	—	—
Dentist	1	—	—	—
Department Stores	4	—	—	3
Doctors	6	—	—	—
Drug Stores	2	—	—	2
Dry Cleaner	1	1	—	1
Egg Grading Station	2	—	2	—
Electrical Appliance	1	—	—	1
Electrical Contractors	2	—	—	—
Feed Mill	1	1	—	1
Finance Company	1	—	—	—
Flour Distributor	1	—	1	—
Flower and Gift Shop	1	—	—	1
Funeral Parlor	1	—	—	—
Garage and Service Stations	13	—	—	13
Grain Elevators	5	(total cap. 715,500 bus.)		
Hardware	5	—	—	5
Hatcheries	1	1	1	—
Hotels	2	—	—	—

Type of Industry or Business	Number of Establishments	Producer or Manufacturer	Wholesale	Retail
Implements (farm)	7	—	—	7
Insurance and Real Estate	4	—	—	—
Janitor Service	1	—	—	—
Jewellers	2	—	—	2
Laundromats	2	—	—	—
Liquor Vendor	1	—	—	—
Livestock Buyers	9	—	—	—
Livestock Buying Stations ..	3	—	—	—
Lumber Yards	3	—	3	3
Milk Distributors	1	—	1	1
Mobile Feed Services	1	—	—	—
Motel	1	—	—	—
Oil Distributor	5	—	5	—
Optometrist	1	—	—	—
Painters & Decorators ..	1	—	—	—
Photographer	1	1	1	—
Planing Mills	2	2	2	2
Plumbers	2	—	—	—
Pool Room	1	—	—	—
Printers	2	2	2	2
Propane Gas Distributors	4	—	4	4
Radio & T.V. Repairs	3	3	—	3
Restaurants	4	—	—	—
Refrigeration, Commercial	2	—	2	2
Seed Cleaning Plant	1	1	1	—
Shoe Stores	2	—	—	2
Shoe Repairs	2	2	—	2
Sign Writers	1	1	—	1
Supermarkets	4	4	—	4
Tailors	2	2	—	2
Taxi	1	—	—	—
Theatre	1	—	—	—
Theatre, Drive-in	1	—	—	—
Tire Repairs and Vulcanizing	1	1	—	1
Trailer Courts	1	—	—	—
Travel Agencies	1	—	—	—
Truckers	24	—	—	—
Variety Store	3	—	—	3
Veterinary	1	—	—	—
Welding and Machine Shops	1	1	—	1
Woodworking	1	1	—	1

43. SITES

Barrhead has several excellent industrial sites, one is located along the Paddle River, another is located on the north end of the town adjacent to highway and trackage. All these sites can be serviced by all utilities and can be purchased at reasonable prices.

44. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The transformation of the Barrhead district from a virgin area into one of the best mixed farming communities in the province in a period of a little over 50 years is a remarkable feat. Barrhead is not a boom town, but has a steady and consistent growth both in business and population.

Farm organization and practices vary in the district. In the area north and west of the town, a considerable portion of the farmer's income is obtained through the sale of forest products and income from grain is nearly as important as that from livestock. In the area south and east of the town 65% of farm cash income comes from cattle, hogs and dairy products. Grain receipts account for about 20%.

The average size farm in the County of Barrhead consists of 365 acres, of which over 280 acres are owned. 72 per cent of all farm operators own all the land occupied, 7 per cent are tenants and 21 per cent owner tenants. 58 per cent of the land in occupied farms is improved. Farms in the district are classified by size as follows: up to 239 acres, 33 per cent; 240 to 759 acres, 58 per cent; 760 to 1,599 acres, 9 per cent; 1,600 acres and over, 2 per cent. The area cropped per farm totalled 160 acres of which 20 acres are in wheat, 100 acres in coarse grains, 16 acres in tame hay and seed crops, 31 acres in summer fallow and 20 acres in improved pasture. The number of livestock on farms are as follows: cattle 28; sheep 4.5; hogs 34. On the average there are 135 poultry per farm. The degree of farm mechanization is indicated by the fact that there are 1.5 tractors, .8 trucks, .4 combines per farm. 72 per cent of all farms are serviced by electricity.

45. TRADING AREA

North 60 miles; West 35 miles; South 30 miles; East 12 miles.

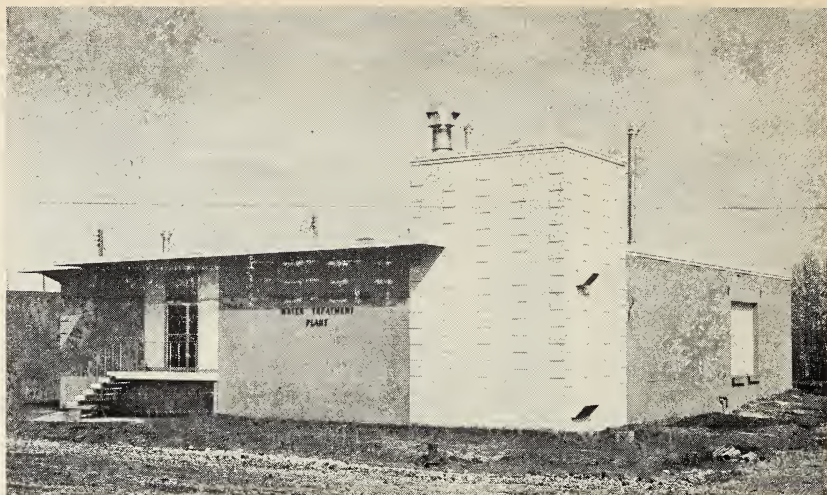
46. POPULATION

Trading area population 1961 Dominion Census - 14,748

Town population 1963 Census - 2,660.



District offices of many provincial government departments are located in the modern provincial building.



The town's water treatment plant is attractive and efficient.

1971

