

PLACE NAMES OF THE FOOTHILLS

Blackie

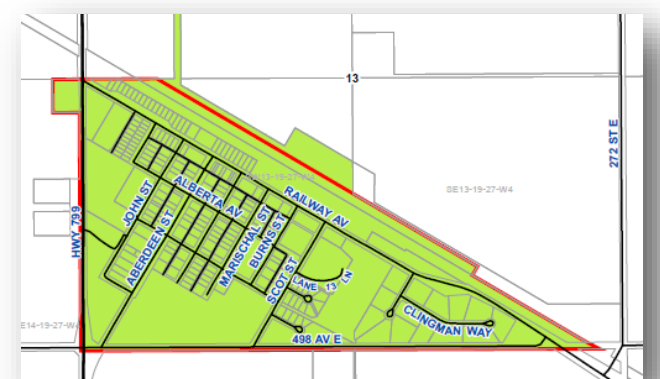


Blackie is a hamlet in the southeast corner of the County of Foothills.

The hamlet was founded in 1909 by one of the first residents, Thomas Hatcher who along with his brother Joseph Hatcher came to the area during the building of the CPR roadbed. The CPR started laying steel on the railroad in 1911 and a post office was established. At that time, the community was only known to the government by the legal land description for the railway which was the S $\frac{1}{2}$ 13-19-24 W4 and E $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 14-19-24 W4. Being of English and Scottish descent, Thomas Hatcher suggested it be named “Blackie” after the Scottish professor John Stuart Blackie (1809-1895).

Blackie incorporated as a village on Dec. 30, 1912 and a village council was elected in January 1913. It quickly developed into a vibrant centre for its residents as well as the neighbouring farming community. Blackie had its own newspaper, The Blackie Times, in the 1920s which was a testament to its prosperity. Blackie also became well-known for its Dominion Day celebrations which continue to be an annual tradition today.

In 1997, Blackie returned to hamlet status. A school, community hall, arena, and several businesses continue to serve its population of 314 residents (as of the 2016 census.)



Sources: www.blackie.ca, County of Foothills and Fencelines & Furrows history book.

Hamlet of Blackie today.