

PLACE NAMES OF THE FOOTHILLS



The Priddis Temperance Hotel, ca. 1908.

Priddis

Priddis was named for Charles Priddis, who homesteaded along Fish Creek in 1886 at NE22-22-3-W5.

Before there was a designated post office anyone returning from Calgary would leave all mail for the homesteaders to pick up in his shack. The mail was left on his table and each one sorted out his own. When a regular post office and mail service was established in 1894, the authorities used the name Priddis as the mail was going to the Priddis' shack.

Charles Priddis donated land for the first schoolhouse in the area and allowed his cabin to be used as a school until the schoolhouse was built in 1892.

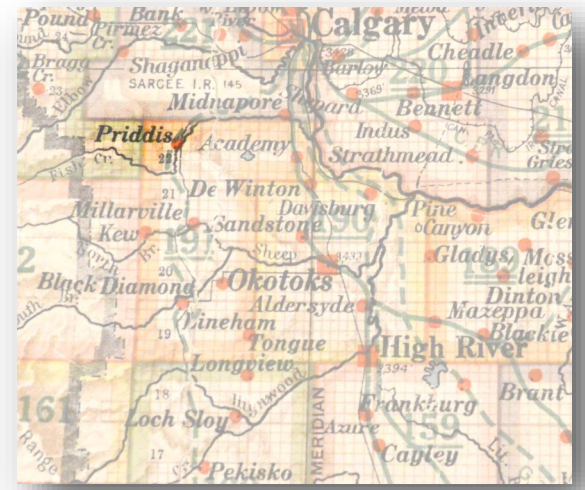
Priddis again donated one acre of land for the construction of a community hall which was opened in January of 1900. This hall has been renovated and expanded numerous times, but still remains a social centre for the community and is among the oldest, active halls in Alberta.

Charles Priddis also donated land for the construction of a church in 1904. The wardens of the new church wished it to be called St. Charles Church to honour

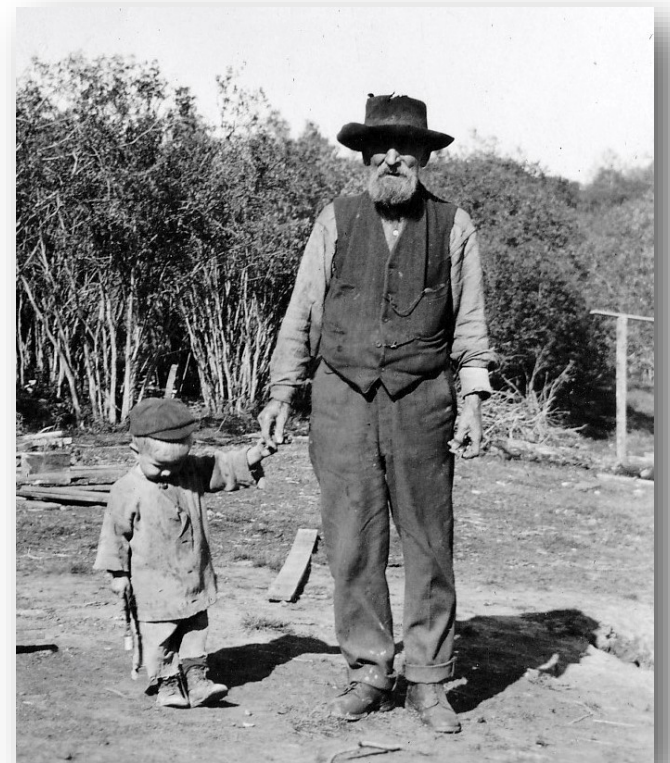
Charles Priddis, however, when they were registering the name in Calgary they learned that 'St. Charles' was not recognized by the Church of England. They selected St. James instead. It still holds services each Sunday.



Priddis Community Hall.



Hamlet of Priddis, early 1900s.



Charles Priddis.



St. James Church, Priddis.