

Nevada/Lidgerwood









At the time this profile was prepared, Nevada/Lidgerwood was in the process of dividing into two neighborhoods. The proposed dividing line was Francis Avenue. As this division was not finalized at the time of publication this profile applies to both parts of the Neighborhood.

Nevada/Lidgerwood - Days of Yore

The Nevada/Lidgerwood neighborhood's development spans over a century. South of Wellesley, the age of structures includes every decade since 1900, but most development occurred between 1910 and 1950. The south half of the neighborhood (Dalton to Francis) was annexed to the City between 1891 and 1907, while the northern portion was annexed between 1967 and 1994.

The original Lidgerwood Park development covered a full section of land, which was subdivided in 1889 by John and Harriet Lidgerwood, Patrick and Ida Byrne and Chester and Beatrice Glass. Dr. Byrne sacrificed a large and very lucrative practice in Yonkers, New York to concentrate all his attention and time to his real estate interests in Spokane Falls. John Lidgerwood was also from New York, and he, Byrne, and Chester Glass were determined to make the Lidgerwood Park property the "choicest and healthiest residence section of this city."

Mr. Glass was one of the initial owners of the City Park Transit Company (CPT). The company had plans calling for a line through the Lidgerwood Park real estate development, then back to the city center by a different route. On October 23, 1890, the CPT opened its line to serve Lidgerwood Park. Because the CPT built its line to serve that development, it was often called the Lidgerwood Line. One hundred and fifty lots in Lidgerwood Park were auctioned off as part of the opening celebration.

In 1892, the Lidgerwood Electric Railway Company placed an advertisement in the Daily Chronicle proclaiming that its "Pavilion in the Woods" on the line of the railway, was now open to the public, complete with refreshment rooms and dance floor. In the same article, the company advertised the availability of a large block of land, suitable for a quarter mile race course in the woods, close to the Pavilion. It is believed that this block later became the site for the NorthTown Mall.

The neighborhood's first school, Longfellow Elementary, was completed in 1893 on Rochelle Street (later renamed Cincinnati Street). As the population grew in the Lidgerwood Park area, Longfellow underwent a series of building additions and was ultimately rebuilt in 1980.



The Nevada/Lidgerwood Neighborhood Council meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at the Neva-Wood COPS Shop at 4705 N. Addison Street.

nevadalidgerwood.spokaneneighborhoods.org



Hamilton Elementary is the second oldest neighborhood school. It was originally built in 1903 as the Kenwood School with four classrooms. In 1909 a new building was constructed of brick with eight rooms and a playroom at a cost of \$33,900. In the early days of Hamilton School it was not unusual to find Native American tepees pitched on the west side of the school. The Native Americans came to the school to fetch water from a well. In 1972, the building became the annex to Continuation High School, later named Joseph Jantsch High School, and remained so through the 1980- 1981 school term. In 1981, Jantsch High School took over Havermale Junior High School and became a single-campus school. Hamilton School was left without students for the first time in 78 years. It was sold as surplus property to the Zion Faith Association in 1982.

The initial stages of the NorthTown Shopping Center at Wellesley and Division occurred in the early 1950's with a new 30,000 square foot Albertson's Supermarket. Between Wellesley and Francis, development occurred primarily in the 1950s and 1960s. The last major developments in this area occurred along Division, evidenced most noticeably by the Franklin Park Mall in the mid-1970s and a multi-block commercial project at Francis in the 1980s. North of Francis, urban growth was precipitated with the development of "Continental City" in the early 1960s. This area continues to develop with various housing densities, offices, and general commercial uses, including the Northgate shopping complex at Francis and Division.

Life in Nevada/Lidgerwood - Today

The neighborhood has a casual and inviting atmosphere. Nevada/ Lidgerwood is an established neighborhood with many residents enjoying the grid street patterns that allow for easy navigation and quick access to downtown and other parts of the city. The low cost of living has attracted many residents to the neighborhood while offering a peaceful place to call home. A diverse group of residents call Nevada/ Lidgerwood home, including families, retirees, and professionals. Residents enjoy shopping in the neighborhood, going to the parks, biking, running, and getting together for yard sales and neighborhood barbeques.

Nevada/Lidgerwood - Treasures

- Parks
- Schools

Nevada/Lidgerwood - Natural & Built Identity

- Grid Street Pattern
- Flat Terrain
- Parks





