

Statement of Significance Miller Residence

**53073 RNG RD 213
NW 3-53-21-W4**



Description of the Historic Place

The Miller residence, built 1948, is a one storey field stone ranch style bungalow featuring a prominent low pitched side facing roof. The historic place is bounded by the footprint of the Miller stone house. The Miller residence is located off Range Road 213 in Strathcona County.

Heritage Value

The 1948 Miller stone house is valued for its unique and relatively rare method of construction for residential buildings in Strathcona County.

The Miller residence is important for its random pattern coloured field stone construction. Stone is not a typical construction material for houses in Alberta and this stone residence is remarkable for Strathcona County. Additional elements of architectural value on this house are the leaded coloured glass sidelight windows around the central entrance and in the gable end that give the house an enhanced aesthetic quality.

Joe and Jean Miller bought their Brookville farm in 1940 and began building their new home in 1948. The residence was designed by Joe Miller himself as a one storey ranch style bungalow. A local stone mason was contracted to construct the house using

coloured field stone as the main structural material for the walls. Elements of the ranch style design also include a side facing gable roof and a prominent central entrance and wide exterior entrance steps. The exterior walls are 18 inch stone structural walls and flat stone arches over the windows form the window openings. Construction of the Miller residence took three years, from 1948 to 1951. At the time of completion, the Millers used gas lanterns and coal oil lamps until electricity and telephones were added in the 1960s. A frame addition with field stone cladding to match the original structure was added on the right side of the stone house in the early 1980s.

Character Defining Elements

The character defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the 1948 one storey bungalow style stone house include:

- The intersecting gable/hip roof with prominent forward facing gable and wood shingles
- The 18 inch field stone walls of the original construction and the matching field stone cladding walls of the 1980s construction
- The wide staircase to the main entrance
- The leaded coloured glass windows flanking the main entrance
- The flat stone arches over the window and door openings.
- The pattern, style and construction of all authentic window and door openings