



# NYE RESIDENCE

11159 - 53 STREET NW

## CITY OF EDMONTON HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



### DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The 1914 Nye Residence is a Craftsman-influenced, one and a half storey house located on a double lot in the Highlands neighbourhood.

### HERITAGE VALUE

The Nye Residence is significant for its association with early residential development in The Highlands and for its Craftsman influenced design.

The Nye Residence is valued as one of the first homes built in the eastern part of Highlands, in an area that was once known as Mount Royal Park. Mount Royal Park was subdivided in 1912, near the end of the pre-First World War real estate boom in Edmonton. Mount Royal Park was largely undeveloped in 1912 and it would remain so until the 1940s when Edmonton's economy finally recovered from the downturn caused by the First World War and the Great Depression. The Nye Residence is a rare and well preserved example of early twentieth century residential development in the eastern part of the Highlands.

The Nye Residence is significant for its modest Craftsman influenced design. Despite its small scale and construction without running water or electricity, it features elements that are common to the much grander Craftsman style homes in Highlands, including wide bellcast eaves, a full-width front porch and central tripartite window on the ground floor. The residence has remained largely unchanged aside from a small addition that was built off the rear in the 1930s and the introduction of indoor plumbing and electricity.

Frank and Harriet Nye moved to Edmonton from Grand Rapids, Michigan in search of opportunity. They lived here

from 1914 until 1935 and raised two daughters, Barbara and Marjorie. After working for an office supply company, Frank founded his own business, F.A. Nye Co., running a bookstore and gift shop on Jasper Avenue. Frank partnered with W.F. Miller in 1922 to form the Nye-Miller Co. Ltd, an office supply distributor which grew throughout western Canada and still exists today as the Miller Office Group.

### CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

Key character defining elements of the Nye Residence include:

- + form, scale, massing;
- + front gable roof with wide Bellcast eaves;
- + unenclosed full-width porch with hipped roof and square columns;
- + the pattern, style and construction of all windows and doors;
- + cedar clapboard siding; and
- + brick chimney.

*Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 19581 in April 2021.*

