



FIELD LOG HOUSE

11305 - 68 STREET NW

CITY OF EDMONTON HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Edmonton

DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The 1934 Field Log House is a one-storey residence constructed with rounded logs, with a hip roof and intersecting front gable. It is located on a corner of a residential street in Edmonton's Bellevue neighbourhood. It is valued as a rare Edmonton example of a log-constructed residence and as an original building in Bellevue.

HERITAGE VALUE

The residence is significant due to its rare log construction and for its function as a community landmark. Built in 1934, this residence is one of only a handful of log structures in the greater Edmonton area.

Alfred and Marguerite Field met in Edmonton in 1922 and later married. On April 25, 1934, Marguerite obtained a building permit to construct a "log dwelling" at 11305 - 68 Street NW in what used to be known as "Bellevue Addition"

and is currently known as Bellevue. The house was built for approximately \$4,500 using logs that were sourced from the Pigeon Lake area. The Fields retained the services of contractor Stuart Olson, a Swedish immigrant who came to Canada in 1923 and went on to co-found Stuart Olson Construction in 1939. It grew to become one of the largest construction companies in Canada and is still operating today.

Built in the midst of the Great Depression when Edmonton was experiencing little growth, the choice of material may have reflected the availability of labour and the need for locally-available materials. The Fields also happened to have honeymooned in Jasper, and liked the log structures so much that they chose their family home to be reflective of what they saw in the mountains. Olson built the house in four months with a team of four, and the Field family lived there for the next 56 years. Marguerite passed away in 1989, and Alfred moved out of the house in 1990, at which time he passed the house down to their grandson. The log house remained with the Field family until 2002.





The Bellevue neighbourhood is a reference to the French term for "beautiful view," as the neighbourhood is located atop the banks of the North Saskatchewan River. Bellevue sits on what was once River Lot 28. The land was acquired by the City and subdivided in 1906 and remained sparsely populated for a few decades.

The horizontal logs of the house are joined by a system of slats and grooves that are supported by upright logs on the corners. The front gable features decorative timbering made with vertical and horizontal logs. The eaves feature exposed rafters and brackets with tongue and groove sheathing, and the medium-gable roof has a rolled shingle feature on the eaves of all four elevations.

The south side of the residence contains a large fieldstone chimney. A dining room on the south elevation and a kitchen extension on the east elevation were added to the residence in 1952. Both additions are clad in a brick exterior, with wood timbering in the gables and brackets under the eaves. They feature the same rolled shingle roof as the original house.



CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The character-defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the Field Log House include:

- + The rounded vertical log corners;
- + The intersecting medium pitched gable roof with wood shingles in both gable ends;
- + The rolled edges of the roof;
- + The vertical rounded logs in triangular pattern on both sides of the main gable at gable ends;
- + The large brackets under main eaves;
- + The ornamental fieldstone and concrete chimney;
- + The style, pattern, and construction of all wood windows, especially the original double-hung wood windows;
- + The dining room addition to the south side and the kitchen addition to the east side, both constructed in 1952;
- + Brick cladding in a Stretcher bond finish on both additions;
- + Brick slip sills in a soldier course format under the windows on both additions; and
- + Board and batten cladding in the gable ends with brackets on both additions.

*Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through
Bylaw 20802 in June 2024.*

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