

**BY-LAW NO. 2953  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE NO. 1**

A by-law of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, in the Province of Alberta, for the purpose of designating the site known as the Gouchey Residence as a Municipal Historic Resource.

**WHEREAS** Section 26 of the Historical Resources Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter H-, as amended, permits Council to designate any Historic Resource within the County of Grande Prairie, whose preservation Council considers to be in the public interest, together with any land on which it is located as a Historical Resource upon giving 60 days notice to the owner of the Resource in accordance with the Act; and

**WHEREAS** the preservation of the Gouchey Residence in the County of Grande Prairie is deemed to be in the public interest; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the County of Grande Prairie, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

**BUILDING AND LANDS DESIGNATED AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE**

The 1918 Gouchey Residence is located on land legally described as:

Part of the Southeast Section of 18, Township 74, Range 4, West of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meridian.


The lands and building shall not be destroyed, disturbed, altered, restored, removed or repaired other than with the written approval of Council or a person appointed by Council.

The Director of Planning is hereby appointed and has absolute discretion to refuse to grant an approval or make the approval subject to any conditions the Director considers appropriate.

Maintenance or repairs to the facility, if applicable, with an estimated value of \$1,000.00 or less, do not require the approval of the Director of Planning.

**READ A FIRST TIME THIS** 3rd **DAY OF** December

**,A.D. 2012.**

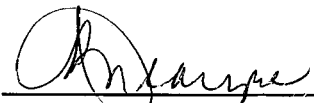
  
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**REEVE**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

BYLAW 2953  
GOUCHEY RESIDENCE  
HISTORICAL RESOURCE

READ A SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS

3rd DAY OF December A.D.  
2012.

  
REEVE

  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

## Gouchey Residence

SE-18-74-4-W6M



### Description of the Historic Place

The Gouchey Residence is a one and one-half storey residence of log construction with side-facing hipped gable roof and wooden shingles in the gable ends. It is located in the North Kleskun District of the County of Grande Prairie near the intersection of Range Road 45 and Township Road 470, roughly thirty kilometres northeast of the City of Grande Prairie.

### Heritage Value

The Gouchey Residence is significant because of its association with Hans Gouchey, as well as for its status as a local landmark.

The Gouchey Residence is significant because of its association with its namesake, Hans Gouchey. Born in Basel, Switzerland, in 1884, Gouchey arrived in Canada in 1906. After lumbering in British Columbia he came to Alberta to work on the railway. In 1915, Gouchey, his wife Louise, and their two daughters settled on a quarter section of land in the heavily wooded North Kleskun district in northern Alberta. Gouchey built this home in 1918 with the assistance of a local architect named Evans. In the 1920s grain prices dipped and cheap land became available in the area. Gouchey took advantage of this economic trend and bought the other three quarters of his section, upon which he started a lumber mill and small ranch that would eventually include over one hundred head of cattle. His ranch provided employment to a number of local residents. Improvements to the land included stables, a barn, a chicken coop, and a large wood-framed complex with blacksmith and harness shops and a bunkhouse for ranch hands. Aside from being a regional employer, Gouchey was very involved in the community, and in 1951 was one of those responsible for lobbying for Grande Prairie to be established as Alberta's first county.

The Gouchey Residence is significant for its status as a community landmark. Gouchey's ranch was an important employer in the area, and soon became a regional social centre as well. The Gouchey Residence was the venue for many public meetings, dances and other social events. After the establishment of the ranch, Gouchey built a dam on a nearby

creek to create a small lake. This lake provided water for his cattle, and was also a popular picnic location for locals. Today the Gouchey Residence is still a widely recognized feature in the region, and serves as a landmark for the local community.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The character defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the 1918 one and one-half storey Gouchey Residence, include:

- The log construction with dovetail notches
- The side-facing hipped gable roof
- The wooden shingles in the gable ends
- The brick chimney
- The shed roof dormers on the front and rear façades
- The veranda on the south side of the home, that extends halfway onto the front and rear façades
- The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows