



362.1 DBP3B

## Miller House

Joseph Pernette Miller, M.P.P., was the son of Garret Miller – a member of provincial parliament himself - and grandson of Colonel Joseph Pernette – the person to receive the grant for land which was to become Bridgewater. According to Judge Mather Byles DesBrisay in his *History of the County of Lunenburg*, J. P. Miller had built the first house in Bridgewater which was still standing as of the time of its writing. The home has, however, been attributed to Garret Miller, in which case it may date back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century; he moved here with his family as a teenager in the 1780s following the American Revolution.

Though a simple, wooden, Cape Cod style house, the building – if still existent today – would have been remarkable for its age and authenticity. The five-bay façade on the front can be considered large for a Cape Cod house, with two more windows than most like homes. The six-over-six panes of glass in the window are surely the real deal, not nostalgic re-creations. Also note the main door, recessed in its frame, and the very rare transom light over the doorway, with its many small panes of glass. This was surely a decorative touch.

The home, as of 1908, was abandoned and deteriorating, and it likely was removed shortly thereafter, as J. P.'s descendants owned the property and they are recorded as having built other homes for themselves around this time. At this point, no one thought to preserve what would now be an icon.

From the *Miller family* Biography file