

# Miller Manufacturing Building

**343 E. Santa Fe Avenue**

**1928**

**Brick Commercial**

**Status: Local Landmark**



Prominent local builder Philip Schmoker constructed this building for Otto Miller. Otto Miller and his son, Edwin, opened Miller Oil Supplies in 1923, to accommodate the booming oil production taking place in the Fullerton-Brea area in the 1920s. The business was so successful that the Millers decided to build this 7,000-sq.-ft. structure, designed to make parts and equipment solely for the oil industry. Not only did Miller Oil Supplies service the needs of Orange County petroleum companies, it also shipped to South America, Australia, the British East Indies, and other areas – a remarkable international business feat at the time.

This rectangular-shaped, one-story building is of brick and reinforced concrete construction that has a low-pitched roof and features a false front. The building's distinctive parapet, half-plastered brick walls, and simple design are typical of the commercial buildings constructed in Fullerton from 1910 to 1930. A series of double-hung windows are situated on three sides of the building. At some point prior to 1978, in an attempt to modernize the building, the front door was replaced and then surrounded by glass bricks. Despite the alterations, the building retains a high degree of historical integrity. The building was seismically retrofitted in 1996, without affecting its character defining features.

Since the mid-1990s the building has been the home of Lakeman Chassis, a metal fabrication and welding business.