



CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WAINFLEET

19M43 Highway No. 3  
P.O. Box 40  
Wainfleet, Ontario  
L0S 1V0

TELEPHONE: 1-905-899-3463

FAX: 1-905-899-2340

FAX

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A. GUILER

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE 14

NOTES:

THE ATTACHED PAGES GIVE A HISTORY OF EDWARD LEE  
THE MAN WHO BUILT THE HOUSE TOGETHER WITH SOME  
INFORMATION ON THE HOUSE. I COULD NOT GET THE  
PICTURES THAT ARE MENTIONED IN THE WRITUP.

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## The Edward Lee Home

At the young age of seventeen, Edward Lee through his sincerity and honesty was able to establish himself as a prominent citizen in Marshville. Lee became active in both the political and cultural aspects of Wainfleet, and through his efforts helped in the development of Wainfleet.

The Lee homestead is a monument of his social standing, and through this home we may learn why Edward Lee was and still is fondly called, "The Father of Wainfleet."

## Historical Biography

### Edward Lee

Edward Lee was born in Ireland in the year 1812, and in 1827, at the age of fifteen, emigrated to Canada. In the year 1827, the original Welland Canal was being dug, and young Lee came straight to the canal, in the neighbourhood of the "deep-cut" - between Port Robinson and Allanburg. Lee acquired employment with Duncan McFarlane, a store keeper. Due to Lee's honesty and uprightness of character, he was allowed to collect and keep all the unsettled accounts when the store closed. In the year 1832, Lee became acquainted with John Graybiel; together they established a general store at Marshville under the name Lee and Graybiel. Lee later became the proprietor of the property on both sides of the Feeder Canal, which he continued to hold till the time of his death.

Lee was also very active in politics. He was elected reeve of Wainfleet, and held the position for twenty-five years. During that time he was five times Warden of the County. Lee also held the honoured position of Post Master for forty-five years, and for lengthy periods was Clerk of the Division Court and Treasurer of the Township. Along with Lee's many local accomplishments, he was also elected a Conservative representative in the Provincial Legislature.

## The Edward Lee Home

Edward Lee's life was indeed an active one, and he was continuously doing something for the good, or to enhance the happiness of those around him. Lee was remarkable for his candor, truthfulness, and uprightness, and his death was "deeply regretted by a large circle of friends."<sup>2</sup>

Lee's outstanding position in the Township of Wainfleet , and the surrounding communities is reflected through the monumental home, which he had constructed in 1858, centred in the Village of Wainfleet.

The Lee home is presently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. James Anderson and their family. The building has been well maintained, with some interior renovations being made during the last fifteen years.

The home is 125 years old this year, according to the official registry records, and is an outstanding example of mid-19th Century middle-class architecture. The home, then, served as a monument of merchant class social standing.

The Lee home, and homes like these, indicate that Ontario was indeed a land of opportunities.

### Exterior

#### Architecture

The Lee home is an example of Georgian architecture, a building style used in England and the English American colonies during the 1700's and early 1800's. The style takes its name from the Kings-George I, II, III, IV-who reigned

during this period.<sup>3</sup>

Georgian architecture is distinguished by symmetry of balance of design, and restrained by bold ornament based on classic forms. (see picture 1) It makes extensive use of brick and stone. Georgian architects often decorated the rooms with large panels, and large, richly ornamented imposing doors. Ornamental cornices appear around the edges of the roofs, with a balanced number of chimneys on each side.<sup>4</sup> (see picture 2)

Picture 1 - Obvious is the balance of the house. The large central door has an equal number of windows on each side. The home is relatively square accentuating the classic form.