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# CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ORANGEVILLE

BY-LAW NUMBER 6-99

## A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE GREEN/LIDDY HOUSE SITUATED AT 1 FIRST AVENUE, ORANGEVILLE, ONTARIO, AS BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

(Lot 1, Lot 2, South Part of Lot 3, Block 4, Plan 159)

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1990 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historic value or interest;

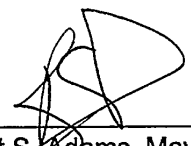
AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Orangeville has caused to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid real property and to The Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality;

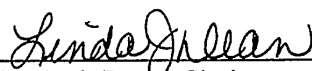
**BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town of Orangeville as follows:**

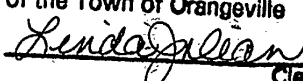
1. There is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest, the land and building located on the real property described as Lot 1, Lot 2, South Part of Lot 3, Block 4, Plan 159, known municipally as 1 First Avenue, Town of Orangeville.
2. The reasons for designation of the land and building located on the real property located at 1 First Avenue, Town of Orangeville, are more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described as Lot 1, Lot 2, South Part of Lot 3, Block 4, Plan 159 municipally known as 1 First Avenue in the Land Titles Division of Dufferin (No. 7).
4. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid real property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED IN OPEN COUNCIL

THIS 25th DAY OF January, 1999.

  
Robert S. Adams, Mayor

  
Linda J. Dean, Clerk

Certified a true copy of By-law  
No. 6-99 of The Corporation  
of the Town of Orangeville  
  
Clerk

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**Town of Orangeville**  
**Criteria for Designation**

*Green/Liddy House*

Lot 1, lot 2, south part lot 3, Block 4, Plan 159

#1 First Avenue, Orangeville

## Summary

Although the Green/Liddy home has experienced some inappropriate exterior alterations the main architectural features are intact. The connection of the building with Lester Bowles Pearson is significant. Perhaps most importantly, home is preserved in a context which includes a carriage house, vestiges of the original garden, the house which formerly sat on the same site, and the former Primitive Methodist Church. "Green's Hill" is a distinctive node of pre-1890 architecture which has already faced development pressure and is deserving of protection under the Ontario Heritage Act.

## Historical & Biographical note:

The history of this lot begins in 1857 when Jesse Ketchum III filed a plan of subdivision for the area north of Broadway. Ketchum's plan and Orange Lawrence's plan of subdivision to the south formed the basis for the town's first housing boom. Early development had centred around Mill Creek and it's numerous mills but in the 1860s commercial and business establishments began to take hold along Broadway.

John and Sarah Ann Green arrived in Orangeville in 1865. Green was employed by Kenneth Chisholm and Co. and ran their Orangeville branch store at the corner of First Street and Broadway.<sup>1</sup>

The Greens bought land from Jesse Ketchum when they arrived and in 1866 a small single storey house was built for them at the corner of First Avenue and First Street.<sup>2</sup>

In 1875 Green purchased lot 4 of block 4, immediately north of the lots he previously acquired.<sup>3</sup> According to oral history, the small house originally built for the Greens was moved north to this lot, and construction began on a larger home.<sup>4</sup> The 1875 Assessment roll shows the value of lots 1, 2 and 3 of \$1,700.00, indicating that the construction of a large residence had taken place.

The new home would have been necessary for Green's growing family, which by 1881 included Green, his wife, her mother, and five children ranging in ages from

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<sup>1</sup> Orangeville Banner, 9 June 1938

<sup>2</sup> Assessment Roll, north ward, 1867

<sup>3</sup> Abstract Index to Deeds, inst. # 1843, 4 Dec. 1875

<sup>4</sup> Steve Brown, Dufferin County Archivist

3 to 18. In total, by 1881 John Green owned 111 acres of land (including two houses on four town lots) 3 shops and 2 barns.<sup>5</sup>

In 1882 Green left the Chisholm Company and opened his own general store at the corner of Broadway and First Street in the brick commercial building known as the Ketchum Block. Green was a trustee of the Primitive Methodist Church and was instrumental in securing a site for the church at the northwest corner of Zina and First Street in 1866. Green also served on town council.

Green died in 1889 at the age of 55. His wife and family remained in the family home. Green's son, William Marshall Green, continued his father's business. He had married Martha Bowles, daughter of Thomas Bowles (first Sheriff of Dufferin County) in 1887 and they lived in Green family home.

Martha's nephew was Lester Bowles Pearson who spent time in Chinguacousy Township and Orangeville during his youth. Pearson was the fourteenth Prime Minister of Canada and in his memoirs, recalled *"In Orangeville I also got my first taste of the thrill and excitement of electoral success. An uncle owned a general store there and one year [1904] Uncle Marshall was elected Mayor. We were at his home when the town band, with many citizens, came to serenade him after the results were announced. This was true glory and I concluded then and there to become a politician, so I could be a mayor and have a band play outside my house."*<sup>6</sup>

William Marshall Green was as active in the community as had been his father. He served as a councilor, deputy-reeve, reeve and mayor. He was active in the movement that led to the building of the library and was president of the Dufferin Agricultural Society. During these years the rise on First Street coming south from Third Avenue was known as "Green's Hill".

The property stayed in the Green family until 1912 when Sarah Ann Green sold it to William Robert Liddy. The Liddy family owned it until 1968.

William Marshall Green died in 1938 shortly after leasing his store to the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company.<sup>7</sup>

## Architectural Evaluation

The building is currently used as a multiple-family dwelling but was constructed as a single family dwelling and is located on the original site. It is a single

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<sup>5</sup> Census of Canada, 1881

<sup>6</sup> Pearson, Lester B. *Memoirs 1897-1948 Through Diplomacy to Politics*

<sup>7</sup> Orangeville Banner, 9 June 1938

## Criteria for Designation - *Green/Liddy House*

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detached unit, built on a rectangular plan. The building is two and half storeys in height with a double gable facade.

The masonry is red brick, laid in a stretcher-bond pattern. Additional exterior wall materials are wood and poured concrete. Decorative brick quoins in buff-coloured brick adorn the building corners.

The two gables are asymmetrical in appearance. The westerly gable projects from the main entrance way by several feet. There is a one storey bay window in this gable which features three separate windows with square structural openings. The second floor windows above the bay are paired segmental arched windows. The windows have plain lugsills of unknown material. There are buff-coloured brick voussoirs over all window openings. The easterly gable is recessed from it's mate and features a two storey bay window. In this bay on both storeys are three separate segmental topped windows. The windows in this bay have continuous limestone sills and buff-coloured brick voussoirs over the window tops. The only similarities between the gables, aside from their massing, are the pointed or gothic windows in each peak which appear to be identical, with moulded trim, buff-coloured brick voussoirs and plain lugsills.

The dissimilarity between the gables suggests the original house was built on an L pattern and the additional gable added later or it may simply reflect the trend at the time of construction of introducing as many interesting architectural details as possible to a facade. If the second gable was an addition, it was built fairly soon after the original and well before the turn of the century.

The roof trim on the eaves consists of plain soffits; the verges or gable ends feature decorated fascia boards. The fretwork on the fascia boards is different in each gable.

All window units in the main facade appear to be replacements of varying types and vintages and as such are not covered by this designation in order that more appropriate replacements could be installed at a later date. The windows in the addition and on each end of the building appear to be older, and are double sash, double hung windows with four panes of glass and segmental tops. These windows are covered by the designation.

It appears the main entrance way was originally recessed and is now behind a closed in vestibule. This vestibule is centred between the two gables.

An open porch on the east side of the building is supported by 1/2 size ionic capitals (columns) and brick piers. The porch is enclosed with brick and has a low hip roof. This porch was constructed after 1907. An addition on the west side of the building was built before 1907 as the Goad's Fire Insurance Plan for Orangeville of that year shows only a west-facing addition in existence. The

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windows on the ground floor are double hung with 16 panes over a larger single pane. The second floor, perhaps originally an open verandah, is now an enclosed porch. Scalloped shingles are used as trim beneath the porch windows which feature 14 panes of glass over single panes. Small brackets are located under the eaves of the second storey porch which has a flat roof.

The overall appearance of the Green/Liddy house is of Victorian eclecticism. Use of period colours on the existing trim enhances this historically and architecturally significant home.







## Criteria for Designation - *Green/Liddy House*

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Upper: Green/Liddy house, main facade, 1998, showing dissimilar gables  
Lower: Green/Liddy House, main facade, east facing porch

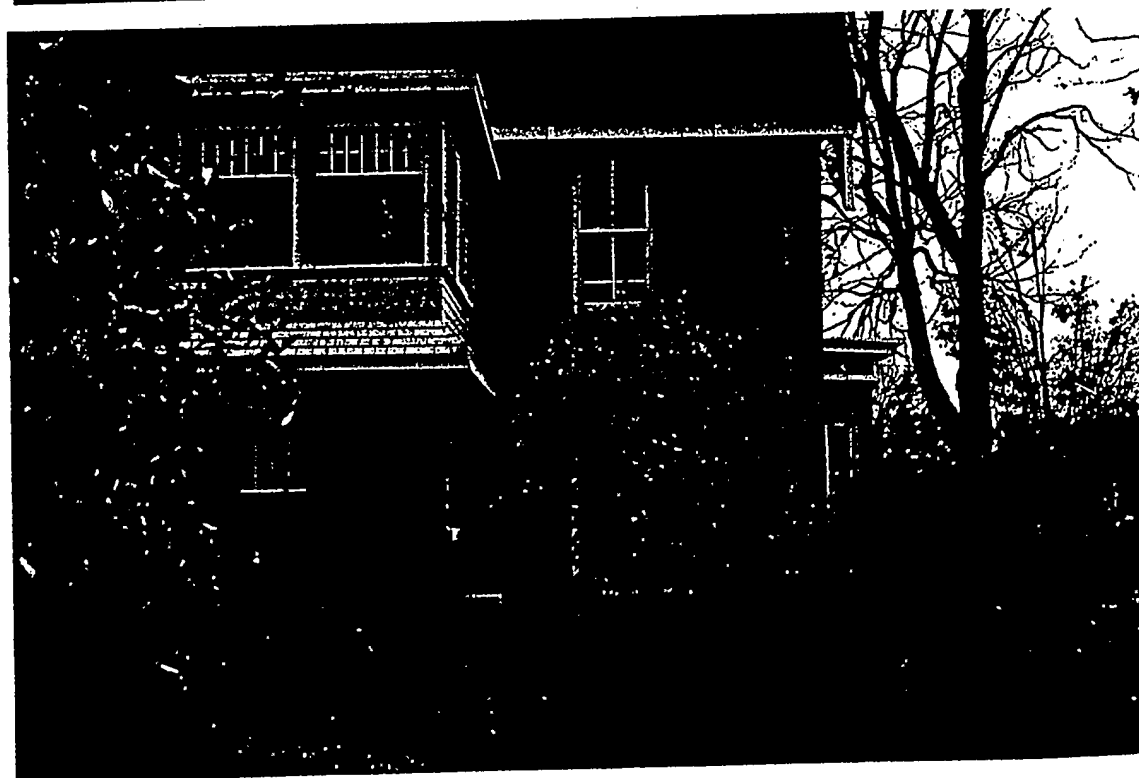


## Criteria for Designation - *Green/Liddy House*

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Upper: Green/Liddy house, main facade showing west-facing addition and enclosed sunroom, 1998.

Lower: Green/Liddy house, detail of windows on west side, 1998.



## Criteria for Designation - *Green/Liddy House*

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Upper: Green/Liddy house, rear elevation, dissimilar gable treatment, 1998.

Lower: Green/Liddy house, Green Cottage, former stable/carriage house "Green's Hill", 1996



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### Illustrations:

Detail from 1907 *Goad's Fire Insurance Plan for Orangeville*, Dufferin County Museum and Archives

Detail, map of Orangeville, *Walker and Miles Illustrated Historical Atlas of Peel County, 1877*, Region of Peel Archives

Photographs taken by Heritage Orangeville members, 1996-1998

We, [REDACTED], owners of the property located at 1 First Avenue, Town of Orangeville, described as Lot 1, Lot 2, South Part of Lot 3, Block 4, Plan 159, have received the "Criteria for Designation" report and authorize the Council of the Town of Orangeville to proceed with designation.

Dated at Orangeville, Ontario this 12 day of November, 1998.

