

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAR 15 1985

date entered APR 11 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Philler Cottage

and/or common Dark Harbor House Inn

2. Location

street & number Main Road, Dark Harbor not for publication

city, town Islesboro, vicinity of

state Maine code 23 county Waldo code 027

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Islesboro Realty Trust, Trustee: Thomas A. Kane

street & number 398 Marlborough Street

city, town Boston, vicinity of state Massachusetts 02115

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Waldo County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Belfast, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maine Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maine Historic Preservation Commission

city, town Augusta, state Maine

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Philler Cottage is two-and-one-half stories high with a hipped roof and clapboard siding. The main section is rectangular with a two story servants' wing extending from the west side. Three dormers on each long elevation and a roof deck flanked by two chimnies suggest a formal symmetry which is absent in the fenestration. Double-hung sash with small paned lights over a single pane are employed in combinations of one, two and three windows.

The house is an elaborately ornamented example of the Georgian Revival style. Fluted corner pilasters, a cornice with dentils and pedimented dormers are characteristic of the style. The most distinctive architectural features, however, are the three porches supported on Tuscan columns. The two smaller porches over the north and south entrances have roof balustrades with classical urns. On the east side a large two story portico shelters paired second story balconies supported on large paired brackets.

The interior of the house is largely unaltered. The north entrance opens directly into the hall and below the double staircase. An arched entryway then leads into the large double parlor and is on axis with the north entrance facing the lawn. Both the parlor and the adjoining dining room contain wood mantelpieces in the Georgian Revival style.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1894–96 **Builder/Architect** Fred Savage

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Very possibly the finest Georgian Revival summer "cottage" in Maine, the Philler Cottage in Islesboro stands as a representative of the wealthy exclusivity of this summer resort as it developed in the last years of the 19th century. Its first owner, George Philler was one of the early organizers of this development.

Philler joined a number of Philadelphia gentlemen to form the Philadelphia and Islesboro Land Company in 1890. Like so many resort development groups of the period, its first step was to build a hotel in order to attract people to the area, in this case, the Islesboro Inn, now gone. Philler, President of the First National Bank of Philadelphia, came first to the Inn for a few years and then built his cottage almost directly across the street. As architect he retained the services of Fred Savage of Bar Harbor who, by this time, had achieved a significant reputation as a designer of large summer homes in contemporary styles.

The Philler cottage in its size and opulence is an excellent example of the tone and style of this fashionable resort.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Daniels, Caroline T., Facts and Fancies and Repetitions About Dark Harbor. Privately printed, 1935.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1/2

Quadrangle name Islesboro

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	19	5	0	16	9	19	10	4	19	0	10	3	17	10
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 11, Lot 28

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian / Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1984

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Eileen S. [Signature]*

title S.H.P.O. date 2/8/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register

[Signature] date 4-11-85
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration