

793

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
MAY 14 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Soderholtz, Eric E., Cottage

other names/site number "Boreas" Lodge

2. Location

street & number Off West Side of Route 186, .5 miles South of route 1 N/A not for publication

city or town West Gouldsboro N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Hancock code 009 zip code 04607

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 5/11/92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the
National Register

Date of Action

[Signature]

6/18/92

Soderholtz, Eric E., Cottage
Name of Property

Hancock, Maine
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Camp

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Stone/Granite

Wood/Wood Shingle

roof Asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Art

Period of Significance

c. 1902-1942

Significant Dates

1902

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Soderholtz, Eric E.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Soderholtz, Eric E.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Soderholtz, Eric E., Cottage
Name of Property

Hancock, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 2.6

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	9
---	---

5	7	2	0	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	9	2	3	6	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

4

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

The nominated property occupies the Town of Gouldsboro tax map 60, lots 19 and 47.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohney, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1992

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333-0065

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSoderholtz, Eric E., CottageHancock, MaineSection number 7 Page 2

The Soderholtz Cottage is a rambling one-story stone and frame building covered by a hip roof. Its principal block is composed of a pair of abutting ells that form an offset Greek Cross. A breezeway links this to a two-room frame addition. The complex rests on a wooded knoll with a view westward to Frenchman Bay.

The front (west) elevation features a group of four diamond pane casements centered on the end wall of the forward ell, and a group of double-hung windows and a door in the deeply-recessed wall of the rear ell. There are no openings on the west side of the north wing. A broad concrete patio and sidewalk extend, respectively, around the west and south sides of the cottage, the latter of which is bordered by a concrete balustrade.

The building's south side features a centrally located door and flanking windows on the forward ell, and an exposed face exterior chimney framed by windows in the back ell. In a departure from the balance of the main dwelling, the upper wall surfaces of the south ell are sheathed in wood shingles as opposed to stone. There is a group of four windows on the east side of this ell and two more in the wing. Entry to the cottage is gained from the east ell through the wood frame, shingled breezeway. The breezeway links the main house with a two-room, hip-roofed frame addition that is believed to have been a studio. This section of the complex has a variety of window openings and a central chimney.

The interior of the cottage contains five principal rooms. A kitchen, family room and small boiler room are located in the back ell, whereas the front block is separated into a living room to the west, bedroom to the north and a third room at the rear. In the original configuration this latter room served as a kitchen with two smaller bedrooms located in the present one. Plaster over lath walls are used throughout with those in the bedroom and living room originally covered with burlap. Of particular note in the interior, whose ceiling is of dark exposed framing, is the fireplace in the living room. This large structure is faced with large green tiles believed to be from the Greuby Faience Company of Boston.

Standing at the northern side of the compound adjacent to the path leading to the cottage is a narrow gable-roofed building. Sheathed in wood shingles, this structure is thought to have originally served as a garage.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSoderholtz, Eric E., CottageHancock, MaineSection number 8 Page 2

Initially constructed about 1902 and enlarged at an indefinite time thereafter, the Soderholtz cottage is a rambling one-story masonry and frame building that overlooks Frenchman Bay. It was designed and occupied as a summer residence by Eric Ellis Soderholtz, a noted nineteenth century architectural photographer and twentieth century potter. In his later career, Soderholtz developed a line of concrete garden furniture which he produced in a pottery that stood some distance below the cottage at the edge of the Bay. The cottage is eligible for nomination under criterion B for its association with Soderholtz and criterion C as a modest, well preserved example of a Craftsman style building.

Eric Ellis Soderholtz (1867-1959) was born in Sweden, but emigrated to the United States with his family at age five. According to the limited biographical material available, Soderholtz initially followed in the footsteps of his father, a professional photographer. During this period he was given the assignment to photograph European architecture and gardens, particularly in Spain and Italy. His photographic work in this country included the illustrations for a series of monographs on Colonial architecture published by the Boston Architectural Club including: Examples of Domestic Colonial Architecture in New England (1891); Examples of Domestic Colonial Architecture in Maryland and Virginia (1892); and Examples of Colonial Architecture in South Carolina and Georgia (date unknown).

Despite his apparent talent as an architectural photographer, Soderholtz's most lasting achievements lay in his work in large scale garden pottery. As related in a 1958 Down East Magazine article, his interest and subsequent development of this art form came about during his photographic assignments. The classical models upon which Soderholtz developed his designs were set apart from other contemporary objects not only in their form, but also in the handling of the concrete material; the artist created his pieces by hand-turning rather than molding. The resultant texture and appearance was more like that of stone than raw concrete.

Soderholtz's pottery soon found a ready market, particularly with the residents of Maine's exclusive summer colonies such as those on nearby Mt. Desert Island. His small pottery, located due west of the cottage near the shore of the Bay, soon required the assistance of several employees to meet the demand. The distribution and recognition of his art, however, were not merely a local phenomenon. In fact, he is known to have filled one order for a Newport estate that weighed fifty-two tons and was shipped by schooner. Further evidence of his marketing attempts is evident in the publication (date uncertain) of at least two catalogues, one titled Bird Baths, the other Garden Pottery. The high regard in which his work was held is demonstrated

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSoderholtz, Eric E., CottageHancock, MaineSection number 8 Page 3

by his honorary membership in several architectural societies and his receipt of an award in 1913 for an exhibit of urns at the Chicago Art Institute. A number of his designs were illustrated in the January, 1915 edition of Craftsman Magazine, the captions of which described them as having a "classic purity of line," and commented upon the effectiveness of their "warm gray tones" when set among the "trees and vines."

In the same manner in which his pottery spoke to the ideals of the Craftsman movement, the cottage which Soderholtz designed and supervised construction of also evokes this spirit. This is particularly evident in the rough field stone walls that are covered by a hip roof whose flared eaves are supported by exposed rafter ends. The design aesthetic was carried to the interior where ceiling joists were left exposed and stained a silver gray whereas the rough plaster walls were finished with a covering of burlap. Most impressive of all, however, was the use of glazed green tile for the chimney breast and unglazed red tile for the hearth. It is believed that these tiles were the product of the Grueby Faience Company of Boston, a company which is closely associated with the Arts and Crafts Movement in American art. The architectural use of tiles as found in-situ at this building are the most impressive of their type known in Maine. Soderholtz's cottage (at least the original L-shaped block) was the subject of a lengthy article in the July, 1903 edition of Country Life in America. Titled "A Summer Home For \$1,500," the author found that "Its rugged character was in perfect harmony with its surroundings."

During Soderholtz's occupation of the house, which lasted until his death, he substantially enlarged the structure's footprint to the rear, always being careful to respect the original design. No subsequent changes of significance have been made, however. On the other hand, a number of ancillary features on the property which were developed during Soderholtz's lifetime have deteriorated. These include a large circular structure which appears to have been the base of a fountain, and a small octagonal wooden wellhouse located near the highway. This latter building has recently been moved closer to the house and restored by the present owner.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Soderholtz, Eric E., Cottage

Hancock, Maine

Section number 9 Page 2

"A Summer Home For \$1,500." Country Life in America. July, 1903.

Crane, Jonas. "Garden Potter." Down East Magazine. September, 1958.

Kaplan, Wendy. "The Art That is Life": The Arts and Crafts Movement in America, 1875-1920. Boston: Museum of Fine Arts. 1987.

Soderholtz, E. E. Bird Baths. Boston: The Sherrill Press. N.D.

_____. Garden Pottery. Boston: McGrath-Sherrill Press.
N. D.

Soderholtz, Eric E., Architect File. Maine Historic Preservation Commission,
Augusta, Maine.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Soderholtz, Eric E., Cottage

Hancock, Maine

Section number 10 Page 2

Boundary Justification:

The boundary embraces the two rural lots historically associated with the cottage.