

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED NOV 15 1979  
DATE ENTERED JAN 15 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Egonos  
AND/OR COMMON East of Eden

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 145 Eden Street  
CITY, TOWN Bar Harbor  
STATE Maine CODE 23 COUNTY Hancock CODE 009  
VICINITY OF Hon. Olympia J. Snow 2nd District

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hallet  
(Managing Partner, East of Eden Company)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET FOR OTHER OWNERS

STREET & NUMBER 3485 Emigration Canyon Road  
CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City, Utah 84108 VICINITY OF STATE

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER Hancock County  
CITY, TOWN Ellsworth STATE Maine

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE NONE

DATE  
\_FEDERAL \_STATE \_COUNTY \_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE 8-15-79

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Egonos (present name, East of Eden) is one of the few remaining turn-of-the century Bar Harbor "cottages," most of which were destroyed by the great fire of 1947 or subsequently demolished. Located on the shore of Frenchman Bay, on the east side of Eden Street (State Route 3) about three miles north of Bar Harbor, the house is a large, formal two-storey structure designed in a Mediterranean Second Renaissance Revival Style, with Beaux-Arts overtones in plan configuration and details. The plan is organized in a generally rectangular arrangement, with projecting rooms on both the land and ocean-front facades lending an "H" shape to the plan. A projecting covered porch supported by paired Ionic columns completes the south-east end of the house, and a projecting kitchen the other. The house is thus divided into five vertical bays on both major elevations.

The ground floor, consisting of twelve rooms, the covered porch and a large, brick terrace, is symmetrically arranged around a marble-floored entry vestibule and central hall. The ceilings of this space and the adjacent living hall are vaulted, their ceilings supported on fluted columns of painted wood construction. Other ceilings are flat. The living hall and a grand stairway to the second floor are panelled in white painted cabinetwork; the dining hall is finished with limed oak trim. Other rooms on this floor have white-painted plaster walls and ceilings, with various decorative friezes and ceiling medallions. Five rooms on the ground floor have fireplaces, finished with marble, cast-iron, or wood trim and wood mantles. All are still in working, original condition.

The second floor consists of nine bedchambers, five of which are very large, seven bathrooms and attendant closets, linen storage and cleaning closets. All of the bedchambers possess working fireplaces with marble or painted wood trim and painted wood mantles, all in original condition. The third floor of the structure consists of eleven smaller bedchambers, formerly used by house staff, two original bathrooms, a linen closet, a trunkroom and accessible, unfinished attic space. (A small shower room was added, sometime in the Nineteen-sixties, in space carved out of this unfinished attic. Otherwise this floor, like the second floor, remains unaltered.)

The house has a partial basement, ventilated by semicircular, grated areaways, presently used for mechanical equipment, laundry, and storage. An original wine cellar is also located in the basement. A remaining original telephone wiring board suggests that provision for over fifty telephones was originally provided.

Basic construction consists of masonry walls finished on the outside in stucco, on the inside in plaster, surmounted by a hipped roof, finished in red terra-cotta roof tile. Major fenestration on the first and second floors consists of floor-to-ceiling French windows opening in. Other windows are double-hung. On the lower storey, the French windows are arched. Separately-operable inward-opening casements are provided in the arched portions of these windows. Floors are marble (entry hall), ceramic tile (bathrooms), hardwood (lower public rooms) or pine (servant's rooms).

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET FOR CONCLUSION.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) social-cultural
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES -1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Guy Lowell, FAIA (1870-1927)

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Eegonos as a notable example of architecture worthy of historic preservation derives from two sources: its distinction as a representative genre work of a distinguished American architect, and its importance as one of the very few unaltered remaining artifacts of the vanished social order and lifestyle which centered around the "cottages" of Mt. Desert Island in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries. Eegonos was built in 1910 by the noted Boston architect, Guy Lowell, for Mr. and Mrs. Walter G. Ladd, on five and one-half acres of land purchased from Mrs. Mary Ellen Haight, whose family owned land and stables here from c. 1881. (Mrs. Haight's family owned the St. Nicholas Hotel in New York.) Mrs. Haight built "Sonogee" on the site of Eegonos, but her house burned soon after construction. When Mr. Henry Lane Eno built his house two estates away in 1903, he named it "Sonogee." (There is no consensus as to the meaning or reason for the popularity of this name, although a local story suggests that a Hindu couple visiting "Sonogee" reported that in Hindi "Sonogee" means "music." At any rate, Mr. Ladd contented himself with naming his house "Eegonos," using the backward spelling of the name of the predecessor estate.)

Mrs. Ladd was a member of the Macy family of Upstate New York, whose money was made in the lumber business. The Ladds made their winter home in Far Hills, New Jersey. They were thus representative of the new-money people who spurred the Bar Harbor cottage-building boom of the turn of the century, competing in the architectural statements they made with each other and with the older aristocracy and intellectual set whose summer places tended to be located nearer Seal Harbor or Northeast Harbor. The social milieu of Bar Harbor, with its endless round of house parties, dinners, balls and visits back and forth, along with its penchant for tennis, canoeing and sailing on Frenchman Bay, hiking and riding, has been well documented elsewhere, notably in Cleveland Amory's The Last Resorts. Suffice it to say here that much can be inferred about this vanished social life by close observation of this elegant and gracious summer home. (It should also be noted that the local term "cottage" refers to a finished home of whatever size, used seasonally, and usually not heatable for winter use. "Camp" meant an unfinished summer place of the same genre, usually more rustic. The term "house" was reserved for year-round domiciles.)

Guy Lowell, FAIA (1870-1927) was a successful, well-connected Boston architect whose major works include the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Cumberland County Courthouse (Portland, Maine), the Boston Museum School of Art, and a score of buildings for Phillips Academy at Andover, Massachusetts. At Harvard he designed Emerson Hall, a lecture hall and the President's Residence. He executed several buildings at Brown University, the New Hampshire Historical Society Building in Concord, and a great many private estates and residences in New England and New York,

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET FOR CONCLUSION.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sassaman, Barbara, Unpublished manuscript on "Egonos" on file at Main Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta.

The American Architect vol XCVII No. 1789 April 6, 1910 "A House at Bar Harbor, Maine"; also Feb. 20, 1927, "Guy Lowell, FAIA" obit.

Architectural Record, April, 1927, "Guy Lowell, FAIA," obit.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3½

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	9	5	6	1	1	0	0	4	9	1	6	8	2	5
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

B 

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

FIRST LOT: A certain lot or parcel of land, together with the buildings thereon, located in the Town of Bar Harbor, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pipe driven into the ground, said iron pipe is located in the easterly side line of State Highway Route No. 3 and is also located on a course along said easterly side line of State Highway No. 3 twenty-five (25) feet distant from an iron pipe which marks the southwesterly corner SEE ENCLOSURE

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

John W. Hill, FAIA

August 14, 1979

ORGANIZATION

(Dean, School of Architecture  
University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

2301 Pennyroyal Terrace

TELEPHONE

(301) 454-5168

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

(301) 367-4263

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

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

*Carle S. [Signature]*

TITLE

*S.H.P.O.*

DATE

*11/9/79*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Sally G. [Signature]*  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE *1/15/80*

DATE *1/19/80*

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 5 1979
DATE ENTERED	15

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER	PAGE
OWNER OF PROPERTY	4	2

Other Owners:

1. Mr. and Mrs. Roger K. Lewis ✓  
5034 Dana Place  
Washington, DC
2. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Graham ✓  
3264 N. Street NW  
Washington, DC
3. Mr. and Mrs. John W. Hill ✓  
2301 Pennyroyal Terrace  
Baltimore, MD
4. Mr. and Mrs. Joel Selig ✓  
4437 Greenwich Parkway NW  
Washington, DC

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 15 1979
DATE ENTERED 15

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

DESCRIPTION

7

2

The land-facing facade of the house is richly decorated with cast-plaster medallions and sculptural ornament in the central bay. French windows on the second floor are provided with small and delicate wrought-iron balconies on the exterior, decorated with cast-plaster, ornamental brackets below. The roof overhang is supported with carved, double wood brackets appropriate to this architectural style. All exterior trim is of painted cypress; gutters and rainleaders are copper. All windows are provided with bronze insect screens. Chimneys are finished in stucco, decorated with Classical friezes and caps.

Except for one removed partition between the former scullery and butler's pantry, one added partition in the kitchen forming a small pantry, and the shower room added in the attic on the third floor, the house is in original, unaltered condition, and shows little sign of wear. Photographs of the interior published in 1910 suggest that original curtains still hang in major rooms and that all wall lighting fixtures and some of the painted wood finishes are also original.

The site consists of regraded land retained on the seaward side by a massive, stone seawall, down through which access is provided to the natural rocky beach by means of a stone postern gate and stair. Originally, the lawn was allowed to meet the foundation line of the house without decorative foundation planting; today, vestiges of a later, romantic planting impulse remain in the form of various foundation plantings and shrubbery of barberry, honeysuckle, spirea, arbor vitae, and rhododendron, together with smaller plants. The driveway from Eden Street (known as Corniche Drive until about the time Egonos was built) to the house was originally gravel; today, it is blacktop. A natural growth of native trees completely conceals the house from Eden Street.

The exterior finish of the house also includes a terra-cotta tiled floor in the covered porch, a granite base on the exterior wall, a granite entry stoop, granite porch steps, granite areaway curbing, and granite edging on the terrace, which is otherwise paved in brick. The stucco is sand-colored, and exterior trim painted white except for the decorative iron balconies, grilles over the downstairs windows flanking the entry, and a pair of iron carriage lamps, which are painted black. (A 1910 photograph shows that the grilles were originally painted white.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 15 1979
DATE ENTERED	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

15

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

SIGNIFICANCE

8

2

including homes for C.K.G. Billings and Harry Payne Whitney and for Richard Sears at Isleboro, Maine and B.F. Goodrich at York Harbor, Maine. Concurrently with his work on Egonos, Mr. Lowell, who was a cousin of President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard and of Harvard Professor Percival Lowell, and a second cousin of the poet James Russell Lowell, executed a design for Eden Hall, an auditorium building for the arts for Bar Harbor, in the Classical Revival Style.

Both Egonos and Eden Hall were published in the April 6, 1910 edition of the journal, The American Architect, the former as "A House at Bar Harbor, Maine," and the later as "A Building for Music, Bar Harbor, Maine." The published documentation for Egonos consisted of a rendered plan of the first floor, giving the architect's names for all rooms and two photographs of the land-facing facade, one from the right and one from the left; a close-up photograph of the central, entry bay; a view of the exterior from the East, and an interior photograph of the entry hall.

Also in possession of the owners are blueprints of three working drawing plans executed by the architect's office of the ground floor, the second floor and the attic.

(Eden Hall enjoyed a relatively brief prime as a center of the cultural life in Bar Harbor. Built at a cost of \$100,000, with a seating capacity of 400, it survived for forty years from its opening day July 13, 1907 until it was burned in the great fire of 1947. By 1937, however, its heyday was past; in June, 1941, it was sold for unpaid taxes for a little over \$300.)

Egonos remained in the Ladd family from the time of its construction until it was purchased in 1949 by George Strawbridge of Philadelphia. (Mr. Strawbridge was a partner in the retailing enterprise, Strawbridge and Clothier, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Strawbridge was Peggy Dorrance of the family which owned Campbell Soups.) Mr. Strawbridge left their home to his children, George Jr. and Diana, who in turn passed the property on to Dr. Richard Gott of Boston and Bar Harbor, in 1961. Dr. Gott, the director of a Bar Harbor summer French-language School for young men and women known as Ecole Arcadie from 1959 until 1975, used Egonos as a girl's dormitory, classroom and dining hall building for the School. In 1975, the School closed, and Dr. Gott sold the property to the present owners.

Besides the obvious social interest of the house, it is notable as an exemplary work of an architect who helped to establish and elaborate the second Renaissance Revival style in America. Having graduated from all three of the then centers of formal architectural education in the World: Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, Mr. Lowell went on to become an expert in garden design as well. He published one of the first books on American gardens, and lectured for some years in Landscape Architecture at M.I.T.

Egonos, which was built at a reputed cost of \$97,200 by 150 Italian workers, is a rare and nearly perfectly preserved, elegant and graceful symbol of a bygone social and architectural era.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 15 1979
DATE ENTERED	5

CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER	PAGE
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA; VERBAL BOUNDARY	10	2

of land now or formerly of John E. Pelletier; thence North sixty-six degrees thirty minutes East (N.  $66^{\circ} 30' E.$ ) eighty-five and one tenth (85.1) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence North eighty degrees eighteen minutes East (N.  $80^{\circ} 18' E.$ ) forty and two tenths (40.2) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence South seventy-seven degrees forty-one minutes East (S.  $77^{\circ} 41' E.$ ) sixty-four (64) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence South forty-four degrees twenty-four minutes East (S.  $44^{\circ} 24' E.$ ) thirty-three and five tenths South twenty-seven degrees twenty-eight minutes East (S.  $27^{\circ} 28' E.$ ) seventy-four and six tenths (74.6) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence South eighty-two degrees fifty minutes East (S.  $82^{\circ} 50' E.$ ) forty-four and nine tenths (44.9) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence North seventy-two degrees twenty-two minutes East (N.  $72^{\circ} 22' E.$ ) one hundred forty-one and five tenths (141.5) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence continuing on the same course (N.  $72^{\circ} 22' E.$ ) six (6) feet, more or less, to high water mark of Frenchman Bay; thence North eighty-eight degrees East (N.  $88^{\circ} E.$ ) to low water mark of Frenchman Bay; thence southerly but always following low water mark of Frenchman Bay to a point on a course of North eighty-nine degrees twenty-four minutes East (N.  $89^{\circ} 24' E.$ ) from an iron pipe driven into the ground which is located twenty (20) feet, more or less, above high water mark of Frenchman Bay and in the northerly side line of land now or formerly owned by George D. Hinkley; thence South eighty-nine degrees twenty-four minutes West (S.  $89^{\circ} 24' W.$ ) to high water mark of Frenchman Bay; thence continuing on the same course (S.  $89^{\circ} 24' W.$ ) but always following the said northerly side line of Hinkley twenty (20) feet, more or less, to said iron pipe driven into the ground; thence continuing on the same course (S.  $89^{\circ} 24' W.$ ) but always following said northerly side line of Hinkley three hundred sixty-six and four tenths (366.4) feet to a point located in said easterly side line of State Highway Route No. 3; thence northerly and northwesterly but always following said easterly side line of State Highway Route No. 3 four hundred fifty-one (451) feet, more or less, to the place of beginning. Containing 4.1166 acres, more or less, as shown on a Plan of Land entitled "Plan Showing Property of Ecole Arcadie at Bar Harbor, Maine July 1965" by Robert Raynes - Surveyor, as revised August 14, 1975 by Robert Raynes.

SECOND LOT: A Perpetual right, privilege and easement to cut and trim any and all natural vegetation for the purpose of maintaining a view upon the following described remaining land of Ecole Arcadie, to wit:

A certain parcel of land located in the Town of Bar Harbor, Hancock County, Maine, more particularly bounded and decribed as follows:

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 15 1979
DATE ENTERED	5

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

10

3

Beginning at an iron pipe located six (6) feet, more or less, above high water mark of Frenchman Bay, and in a northerly side line of land of the grantees which is above-described as conveyed; thence South seventy-two degrees twenty-two minutes West (S. 72° 22' W.) but always following the said northerly side line of the grantees herein one hundred forty-one and five tenths (141.5) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence North sixty-six degrees thirty-nine minutes East (N. 66° 39' E.) one hundred forty-two and five tenths (142.5) feet to an iron pipe driven into the ground; thence North eighty-eight degrees East (N. 88° E.) twenty-five (25) feet, more or less, at high water mark of Frenchman Bay; thence south-westerly but always following high water mark of Frenchman Bay twenty-seven (27) feet to the said northerly side line of the land of the grantees; thence South seventy-two degrees twenty-two minutes West (S. 72° 22' W.) but always following said northerly side line of the land of the grantess six (6) feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

It is further agreed that no structure of any kind shall be erected upon the Second Lot described and further that this shall be a permanent restriction whci is intended to run with the land and to be binding upon the successors and assigns of Ecole Arcadie.

That part of the above described premises which lies between the high water mark and low water mark of Frenchman Bay is hereby conveyed subject to the paramount rights of the public in and to the same.

Reference is hereby made to the deed from Ecole Arcadie to Stanley Hallett et als dated September 6, 1975 and recorded at the Hancock County, Maine, Registry of Deeds on September 10, 1975 in Book 1232, Page 234.