

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MUSEUM HOSTS OPEN HOUSE AT  
MARINE HOSPITAL/ST. PIERRE SCHOOL**

Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Noon to 3pm

Edgartown, MA – November 10, 2011 – The Martha’s Vineyard Museum is hosting an Open House at the Marine Hospital/St. Pierre School property, 151 Lagoon Pond Rd, Tisbury. The general public is welcome on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from noon to 3pm for tours of select rooms in the building, conversation, and a community photograph, which will take place at 1pm.

The Mansion House will provide refreshments. Parking is available at the end of the driveway at the top of the hill. We apologize that at this time, the building is not yet handicap-accessible. Children are welcome to attend.

In August 2010, the Museum undertook a formal feasibility study to confirm that the Vineyard Haven property can meet the future needs of the organization. By early 2011, the Board confirmed that the property allowed for the preservation and adaptive re-use of the 1895 wood-frame building as well as the addition of a new collections, exhibitions, and programming facility. By late spring, generous donors provided sufficient funds both to secure the purchase of the property and to continue the next steps of developing a detailed architectural program and design. On September 7, 2011, the Museum Board of Directors purchased the property.

“This is a great opportunity for the community to see the ‘before’ stage of the property,” says Museum Board Chairman Sheldon Hackney. “With support from both old and new friends of the Museum, we will be able to get going on the ‘after’ stage.”

In the past year, the Museum has taken significant steps in an on-going process to meet its mission for preserving and presenting the history and culture of Martha’s Vineyard. For more than a decade, Museum leadership has sought to upgrade facilities to meet its stewardship responsibility to care for the extensive archival and object collections. It also seeks to fulfill the increasing demand from residents and visitors to see Museum exhibitions and to participate in its variety of programs for adults, students, and families.

*Visit [www.mvmuseum.org](http://www.mvmuseum.org) for more information about upcoming programming and exhibits. The Martha's Vineyard Museum is dedicated to furthering an interest in, experience of, and appreciation for the history and culture of the Island and its environs. The Museum is open year round, 10am to 4pm Monday through Saturday. Admission is free to Members; admission for non-Members is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children 6 to 15 and free for children under the age of 6.*