

165 Circuit Ave.

Joan Hughes <jhughes@hugheshomebuilders.com>

Mon 9/13/2021 9:56 AM

To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvccommission.org>;

Hi Alex -

I hope you had a good vacation, despite two mini-hurricanes.
I'm sending the follow-up information you requested, in several emails to make sure it all goes through.

To Start:

"-Name of original owner (we will also research the history) "

We don't have any more information on the original owner, just what the real estate agent passed on. Not sure what her source was.

My customer sent this on to me:

"Jen DaSilva told me the story about the woman who built the house around the start of the 20th Century. The woman who built the house as a summer cottage was a housekeeper. She was African American and worked as a maid for a white family in Boston. She saved up her money to be able to build a summer place for her family in Oak Bluffs. I will honor her by finding out more about her to publish her story (with her family's permission) and try to obtain photographs to display in my newly built home when I achieve the same dream that she did – like the pass of a baton from her to me. And I want to honor her memory by annually setting aside two different weeks each summer for the house to be rented (for free) to a hard-working Black family from Boston who could otherwise not afford to rent on Martha's Vineyard during the high season. I am going to choose families headed by front line and first responder workers (nurses, custodians, cashiers, delivery people, kitchen staff and hotel workers). In time, maybe I will form a second nonprofit through which other homeowners can donate one or two weeks each summer as well for families of first responders and frontline workers. So that these families can enjoy the beauty of the Vineyard and it does not become simply a playground for people of significant means. "

"Any further info on when the house was last occupied, and when it was taken by the town"

Link to Court Petition allowing sale of house:

<http://masscases.com/cases/land/2020/2020-20-000185-ORDER.html>

She sent me this series of MV Times articles on the previous occupants - mostly attesting to what took place in the house itself. Her main concern was not the character of the occupants, but the fact that their activity created a health hazard.

[March 30, 2010 \(oakbluffsma.gov\)](#) -

About former owner, Stanley Johnson, who was a convicted felon (robbery, breaking and entering, narcotics use and distribution), including using crack while living at 165 Circuit Avenue, creating an ongoing health hazard when those chemicals seep into the walls – it's poison:

[Two Oak Bluffs men arrested in \\$85,000 safe heist - The Martha's Vineyard Times \(mvtimes.com\)](#) (April 13, 2011)

[Martha's Vineyard District Court Report - The Martha's Vineyard Times \(mvtimes.com\)](#) (April 13, 2011) – notes Stanley Johnson in court for charges of crack cocaine possession

[Two arrested in Edgartown, charged with dealing marijuana - The Martha's Vineyard Times \(mvtimes.com\)](#) (October 26, 2011)

[Prison sentence reduced for convicted safe robber - The Martha's Vineyard Times \(mvtimes.com\)](#) (January 16, 2013)

[Jury convicts Oak Bluffs man of \\$85,000 safe heist - The Martha's Vineyard Times \(mvtimes.com\)](#) (October 16, 2012)

[Oak Bluffs man avoids prison in \\$85,000 safe heist - The Martha's Vineyard Times \(mvtimes.com\)](#) (October 24, 2012)

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