



MEDIA RELEASE
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Contact: Tracy Baetz
207-985-4802
info@brickstoremuseum.org

**HISTORIC SUMMER STREET HOME SHOWCASED FOR
BRICK STORE MUSEUM'S 6th ANNUAL HOLIDAY TEA**

KENNEBUNK, MAINE – To conclude the season's Christmas Prelude activities in the Kennebunks, The Brick Store Museum is offering its sixth annual Holiday Tea on Sunday, December 13, from 3 to 5PM. Mary Jo and Erik van der Kaay are graciously opening their 1842 Greek Revival home for the afternoon to benefit the Museum. This is the first time the house, a true jewel on historic Summer Street, has been featured for the Museum's tea. This year's event is made possible by H. M. Payson & Co. and the Virginia Hodgkins Somers Foundation.

Grandparents, parents, and children are invited to enjoy a sumptuous holiday tea while learning a bit about tea, etiquette customs, and the history of this well-appointed, stately home that once belonged to Captain Nathaniel Lord Thompson (1811-1889), one of Kennebunk's most prominent and successful ship builders. Advance reservations for the tea are required by December 5. To register, call the museum at 207-985-4802 or download the registration form from www.brickstoremuseum.org. Costs are \$20/adult (\$15/adult for museum members) and \$7.50/child age 14 and under. Children under 4 are admitted free. Participants will receive a confirmation card and directions to the home upon registration.

This multigenerational event provides a rare look inside a Summer Street residence and features hot tea, assorted tea sandwiches, and delectable sweets presented by Kitchen Chicks Catering. Enjoyable for all ages, attendees will particularly delight in how the current homeowners' meticulous renovation of the property in 2003 retained all the original finishes and architectural details. The artwork, maritime collections and Chinese export porcelains seamlessly complement the home's seafaring heritage, making the home a hallmark of comfortable elegance and historic preservation.

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The Brick Store Museum is located at 117 Main Street in Kennebunk's historic district. For more than 70 years, the Museum has been dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the region's rich cultural and artistic heritage. Its galleries and research archives are open to the public year-round: Tuesdays – Fridays, 10 – 4:30 and Saturdays, 10 – 1. Admission is by donation, suggested \$5 per person. Visit www.brickstoremuseum.org or call 207-985-4802 for further information.

117 Main Street ♦ Kennebunk, Maine 04043
207.985.4802 ♦ 207.985.6887 Fax
www.brickstoremuseum.org