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PRESS RELEASE

City to dedicate historical marker at Casa Feliz

WINTER PARK, FL, an internationally recognized, award winning city with multiple accredited agencies (August 31, 2022) As part of the [Florida Division of Historical Resources Historical Marker Program](#), the [City of Winter Park](#) and [Friends of Casa Feliz](#) will dedicate a historical marker to commemorate [Casa Feliz](#) as a historic site. The dedication of this Robert Bruce Barbour home located at 656 N. Park Ave., will take place **Wednesday, September 7, at 5:30 p.m.**

The Florida Historical Marker Program is one of the division's most popular and visible public history programs. It is designed to raise public awareness of Florida's rich cultural history and to enhance the enjoyment of our historic sites by citizens and tourists. Casa Feliz is one of more than 987 historical markers in the state.



Casa Feliz, or "Happy House" in Spanish, is the signature residential work of noted architect [James Gamble Rogers II](#). Initially known as the Barbour Estate, this Andalusian-style masonry farmhouse was built during the Great Depression for a cost of \$28,000. In 2000, the house was sold and community members raised \$1.2 million in private donations to save the house from demolition, have it moved, and ultimately restored.

On August 1, 2001, Casa Feliz began its three-week and four-day journey of almost 400 yards, taking 24 hours just to cross Interlachen Avenue alone. The structure was originally located at 656 Interlachen Ave., and in September 2001, settled at its new address 656 N. Park Ave. Restoration work began and the house opened to the public in the spring of 2005. Since then, over 175,000 guests have experienced Casa Feliz that has hosted hundreds of weddings, meetings and other community gatherings.

Casa Feliz has also been recognized with three awards from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation and was named one of the Top 25 Buildings in the State of Florida by the Florida Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The house was placed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#) in 2008.

Please access cityofwinterpark.org/historicpreservation to learn more about the city's historic preservation program and how property owners can preserve their historic properties.

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