

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Historic Luff House Still in Danger of Demolition

The Luff House, located at 390 Palmetto Park Road, is still in danger of demolition if a buyer and new site for the house are not found. The Boca Raton Historical Society has received several calls regarding the property due to recent news articles, however there has been no resolution as of yet. The Luff House property is privately owned, and the owners would like the house removed from the property. They have offered the house to the Historical Society, however, the Society currently has no funds for the cost of the relocation of the house, a new site for the house, the necessary foundation and infrastructure for the house, nor restoration funds. Although it would be eligible for grant funds like those provided in the past by the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation, these are limited and cannot be counted on. The Historical Society is seeking individuals interested in relocating the house for private use OR funds to relocate the house for community use. Interested parties may call us for contact information on the current owners.

Pioneer residents Theodore and Harriet Luff had the house at 390 E Palmetto Park Road constructed in the early 1920s. It is built in a Florida interpretation of the bungalow style, employing coral rock on the porches and chimneys. This type of bungalow, once fairly common, is now an exceedingly rare survivor in the state and is literally unique in Boca Raton today. As Palmetto Park Road grew more commercial, the structure was occupied by a number of retail businesses and was home to community agencies such as the Junior Service League and the Boca Raton Historical Society. It has been a vital part of downtown Boca Raton in historic and modern times, serving as a residence and successful retail establishment.

This house is one of the oldest surviving structures in Boca Raton; once gone, it will be gone forever. Please contact the Boca Raton Historical Society at (561) 395-6766 X 106 if you would like to support the effort to preserve this rare historic link with our community's past.

The Boca Raton Historical Society is a non-profit membership organization, founded in 1972. Since its inception, the Historical Society has taken on ambitious restoration projects, provided first-rate cultural programming, and followed its mission -- to collect, preserve and present information and artifacts relevant to the past and evolving history of Boca Raton and to maintain a visible role in education and advocacy of historic preservation in our community. Anyone interested in learning more about the Boca Raton Historical Society, or the history of Boca Raton, should go to the Society's website at www.bocahistory.org.

PHOTO CAPTION: *Luff House, ca. 1920s*

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