

# Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation

## Historical Markers Application

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### Florida Historical Marker Application

Application Number: **HM-1361**

### You are not done yet!

We have received your application electronically however you are **NOT** done yet! We still need a few more things from you.

- [Print Signature Page](#)

Attach signature page to:

ATTN: Historic Marker Program  
Division of Historical Resources  
Bureau of Historic Preservation  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 422  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

### Part 1: Resource Information

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#### Name and Location

What is the Historic Name of the Resource?

Elvis Presley and Tom Petty Memorial

Address

corner of East Silver Springs Boulevard and NE Osceola Avenue

City

Ocala

Zip Code

34470

#### Details

What type of resource will you be marking?

Site (e.g., archaeological, historic, cemetery, battlefield)

**If other, please explain:**

Historic

Is the resource listed in the National Register of Historic Places?  
No

Description and Significance

Please describe the resource

Tom Petty was 10 years old when he met Elvis Presley on a movie set in Ocala. The brief encounter with the rock and roll sensation on that hot July day in 1961 ended up being a transformative moment for Petty and his love for music.

Provide a statement explaining the significance of the resource

The King of Rock and Roll inspired a 10 year old boy who never had an interest in music to later become a legendary rock and roll icon. The movie Elvis was filming in Ocala, FL in 1961 was "Follow That Dream" and 10 year old Tom Petty whose uncle was involved in the production had Tom's aunt bring him from his hometown of Gainesville 40 miles North to see the filming and meet Elvis. It was there on that day that 10 year old Tom Petty who had no former interest in music would be forever fascinated - and hooked - on rock 'n' roll. In his own words I quote " That's what kicked off my love of music. And I'd never thought much about rock 'n' roll until that moment."

Part 2: Marker Information

Marker Details & Location

Will this be a new or replacement marker?  
New Marker  
Will this be a single or double-sided marker?  
Single-sided marker (identical text on both sides)  
Will the marker be located at the resource?  
Yes

If no, please explain:

In which county will the marker be located?  
Marion County

What are the **geographic coordinates** of the proposed marker location?

Please use decimal fractions. (Example: 30.438659 or -84.284451). See [How to Determine Marker Coordinates](#) for instructions.

Longitude  
29° 11' 13.9092" N  
Latitude  
82° 8' 6.936" W

What days and times will the marker accessible to the public?

Accessible 24/7

Marker Text

What is your proposed Marker Title  
Elvis in Ocala, Tom Petty Inspired

Please provide your proposed **Marker Text**

The marker text may not exceed 1,235 characters per side. This character limit includes punctuation and spaces. See [Tips for Writing Marker Text](#) for additional instruction.

### Side One

On a summer morning in 1961, Elvis Presley arrived in Ocala, FL, to film a scene for a movie at the Commercial Bank and Trust Company on East Silver Springs Boulevard, just east of the railroad tracks. The city paused as the "King of Rock and Roll" brought Hollywood glamour to this quiet stretch of downtown. That same day, a 10-year-old boy named Tom Petty made the 30-mile trip from Gainesville with his Aunt Evelyn and cousins Sadie and Norma. Their uncle, Earl Jernigan, was working on the film set, giving them rare access to witness the magic of moviemaking and to meet Elvis himself. Petty's cousin Sadie Darnell later recalls, "He was completely, completely enthralled." Inspired and wide-eyed, young Tom told his family that day that he was going to be a rock star. Decades later, he would become just that - an American music legend in his own right. Fittingly, the film Elvis was shooting that day carried the title Follow That Dream.

### Side Two (double-sided markers only)

**What organization(s) and or individual(s) are sponsoring the marker?**

Ocala Sunset Rotary

Close

Close

## Part 3: Contact Information

### Resource Owner

If the resource is owned by an organization, provide the name and information of a contact person in that organization.

What is the name of the resource owner or organization contact?

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| First name | Paul       |
| Last name  | Stentiford |

Organization name (if owned by an organization)

Ocala Sunset Rotary

What is the address of the resource owner?

|          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| Address  | 1501 SE 14TH AVE |
| City     | OCALA            |
| State    | Florida          |
| Zip Code | 34471            |

Phone number of owner

352-266-8994

Email address of owner

PAUL@STENTIFORDFL.COM

Will the resource owner also be responsible for installation and maintenance of the marker?

Yes

Is the resource owner also the person that prepared this application?  
Yes

Marker Caretaker

Please provide the contact information for the person responsible for installing and maintaining the marker if different from the resource owner. If this will be an organization, provide the name and information of a contact person in that organization.

What is the name of the of the marker caretaker?

First name  
Paul  
Last name  
Stentiford

Organization name (If an organization will be the marker caretaker)

What is the address of the marker caretaker?

Street Address  
1501 SE 14TH AVE  
City  
OCALA  
State  
Florida  
Zip Code  
34471

Phone number of caretaker  
352-266-8994  
Email address of caretaker  
PAUL@STENTIFORDFL.COM

Person That Prepared the Application

Please provide the contact information for the person that prepared the content of this application (if different from resource owner).

What is the name of the of the person that prepared the application?

First name  
Paul  
Last name  
Stentiford

What is the address of the of the person that prepared the application?

Street Address  
1501 SE 14TH AVE  
City  
OCALA  
State  
Florida  
Zip Code  
34471

Phone number of preparer  
352-266-8994  
Email address of preparer  
PAUL@STENTIFORDFL.COM  
If you need assistance, please email flheritage@dos.myflorida.com or call 850.245.6333.