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For Immediate Release
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**Dallas Arboretum Announces
the Everette DeGolyer Home
Interior Design Renovation by
Nationally Acclaimed Designer Emily Summers**

DALLAS – The Dallas Arboretum, 8525 Garland Road, announced today the completion of the interior design renovation of the 21,000-square-foot Everette DeGolyer estate. This completion has been a three year project. The nationally acclaimed designer, Emily Summers, has donated all of her personal time for this project as a tribute to Margaret McDermott, who had a pre-wedding party given for herself and husband in the DeGolyer Library the night before they left to be married in Santa Fe. Kristin Weeks of the Summers Firm served as Project Manager. The monies for the renovation have been raised through gifts of those in the city including the Eugene McDermott Foundation, the Vin and Caren Prothro Foundation, Deedie Rose and many others totaling over one million five hundred dollars. Mrs. Gloria McCall Snead served as Chairman of the Campaign for the renovation.

This one-story home was built for petroleum geologist Everette L. DeGolyer and his wife, Nell Goodrich DeGolyer in 1940 by California architects, Denman Scott and Burton Schutt. The estate is a former dairy farm. It consists of 13 rooms, 7 baths, an attached greenhouse, a four-car garage and two-bedroom servant quarters. The Estate includes a long arcaded terrace that is patterned after the mission at San Juan Capistrano, California and a charming inner courtyard reminiscent of Mexican structural design. Other architectural features include 7 distinct chimneys, a spacious foyer and generously sized living and dining rooms that reflect the grandeur of the estate home.

The original furnishings reflect Mrs. DeGolyer's preference for 17th and 18th century English styles. Special features include an intricately designed coffered-ceiling in the living room, an elaborately carved fireplace mantle, a shell-shaped alcove in the dining room and a pueblo-style Indian room. Mr. DeGolyer, who pioneered new methods of locating petroleum, acquired thousands of books in his lifetime. The heart of his home is still the magnificent library with shelf space for 15,000 volumes.

The work for the renovation began with a study of the entire home by Ann Abernathy at the Booziotis firm, and painstaking care was taken to fix all of the things in need of structural attention. The air-conditioning was the first installed in a private home in the city and perfect for a household but not the hundreds who attend parties or the tens of thousands who tour this home each year. It had to be completely removed and replaced, as the returns were in the attic and basement areas instead of outdoors. Every floor and wall surface was expertly treated and this was long before a single piece of furniture or rug was returned or replaced.

The Emily Summers Firm's goal was that the Arboretum offer to the city a historic home to be toured, just as Hillwood in Washington or Bayou Bend in Houston is to their cities. We can interpret the lifestyle of our citizens then, as evidenced by the DeGolyers who entertained leaders from around the world and in a style and elegance of the time that was uniquely Dallas. Research was done by Emily's firm at the DeGolyer Library at Southern Methodist University to study the original design for each room as well as visiting with family members. Then she used the grand fabrics and textures of today to transport all of the public rooms into a classic design reminiscent of the room layout of the period but in which any of us would want to live today.

From the breakfast room with an English pub feeling, to a grand dining room and a table set for ten; from a men's and ladies entry baths that are charming indeed to a living room that now has the warmth and light of the home's greeting space; from a completely renovated 1750 sq ft library to a bedroom, bath and dressing room worthy of a woman of Nell DeGolyer's stature, this was a major undertaking.

The DeGolyer Estate is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is both a Texas Landmark and a City of Dallas Landmark. After Mrs. DeGolyer's death in 1972, the Estate was gifted by the DeGolyer Foundation to Southern Methodist University. In 1976, the City of Dallas purchased the DeGolyer property whose management was eventually transferred to Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society. Today, the DeGolyer home is open year round for tours from 10am-4pm, Monday through Saturday and Sunday, 12-4pm. Admission to the home is complimentary with garden admission.

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden is located on the southeastern shore of White Rock Lake at 8525 Garland Road in Dallas, Texas. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors 65 and older, \$8 for children 3-12 and admission is free for Arboretum members and children 2 and under. On-site parking is \$7. The Arboretum is wheelchair accessible and the tram service sponsored by Stryker Orthopedics is available for the mobility impaired.

The Dallas Morning News is the Principal Partner of the Dallas Arboretum. The Arboretum is supported, in part, by funds from the Dallas Park and Recreation Department. WFAA-TV Channel 8 is the official Dallas Arboretum media sponsor.

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