



MEMORANDUM

Date: August 20, 2020

To: Venice Mayor and City Council

FROM: Venice Heritage, Inc.

PRESIDENT

Ronnie Fernandez

VICE PRESIDENT

Richard Bergmann

SECRETARY

Gary Youngberg

TREASURER

Dorothy Korwek

BOARD MEMBERS

Karen Midlam

Nancy Pike

Jean Trammell

**Liaison Venice
Museum & Archives**

Harry Klinkhamer

Dear Venice Mayor and City Council:

Venice Heritage Inc. was recently made aware of a decision made by the Architectural Review Board (ARB) to approve the demolition of the historic structure at 233 Pensacola Road. We do not agree with ARB's decision.

This historic residence is a contributing 1920 era structure in the John Nolen Plan of Venice Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It is also listed on the Florida Master Site File of historic structures.

Pensacola Road was in one of the first neighborhoods built south of the commercial district.

A full row of houses has already been demolished on Ponce de Leon.

Two houses have been demolished on Pensacola Road already.

One house on the corner of Pensacola Road and Nassau Street has been relocated south of Milan Avenue on Nassau Street.

The 233 Pensacola Road is one of 5 remaining 1920 era structures remaining on the south side of this block.

Venice Heritage Inc. respectfully asks that City Council override the demolition permit for 233 Pensacola Road. It would be a loss to the entire City of Venice and the integrity of the John Nolen Plan for the city. The John Nolen Plan gives Venice its unique sense of place which needs to be protected. We implore the City Council to be a champion for Historic Preservation in the City of Venice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronnie Fernandez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ronnie Fernandez
President

CC: City Manager