



# SARASOTA ALLIANCE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

## SAHP ANNOUNCES THE 2022 SARASOTA'S SIX TO SAVE

Started by the History and Preservation Coalition of Sarasota County, the program is now collaborative, with the Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation spearheading.

By recognizing the 2022 Six To Save, SAHP intends to increase the public's awareness of the urgent need to save Sarasota County's historic resources. Inclusion on the list is a starting point for advocacy and education, and we invite residents and community leaders throughout the County to be part of a collaborative effort to identify solutions for each property.



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### SPOTLIGHTING THE MOST THREATENED HISTORIC PROPERTIES, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES IN SARASOTA COUNTY!

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LINDH BUILDING

Designed by structural engineer William Lyndh and architect Cyril Tucker as their office, the 1959 mid-century building features a unique folding plate roof. The unusual fiberglass front facade is offset by darkly painted repeating vertical timbers which call to mind a Japanese shoji screen. Significant not only for its architecture and material selection, Lindh and Tucker are also the engineer/architect behind the famous hyperbolic paraboloid of the 1964 Venice Beach Pavilion. The Lindh building is suffering from demolition by neglect and the City of Venice currently offers no protection to its mid-century resources.



THE CUNEO ESTATE

A wide parcel of bay front land, situated in the Indian Beach Subdivision, and home to 4 historic properties with multiple historic buildings, many of which are locally and nationally designated, is currently on the market for \$22mil. Assembled as the estate of John Cuneo Jr., on land that was originally owned in 1890 by Dr. Frederick K. Williams of Bristol, CT, and later parceled out with a group of investors as the ideal location for a winter home during Boom Time development. Located just north of the Ringling Museum and the Ca D'Zan, this pristine parcel is threatened by potential development and demolition.



### SNOOK HAVEN

The Snook Haven house dates back to c. 1920 when the property was used as a fish camp called the Myakka Lodge. Owned by a Dan Evans in 1938, the property was noted in the paper as having an abundant variety of fish and tropical beauty. In 1952 the fish camp finally donned the moniker Snook Haven. Currently owned by Sarasota County Parks Department, with one structure leased to a popular restaurant, a master plan was drawn up which failed to include the house structure, putting it in severe risk of demolition. The fish camp currently holds no historical designation or protections.



### DR. ALBEE'S POINT OF PALMS

Built in 1923 by Dr. Fred Albee and his wife Louella as their home on Dona Bay in Nokomis, this Mediterranean Revival beauty retains its multiple arched openings and a porte-cochere. Dr. Albee is best known for having purchased and established both Nokomis and Venice following a brief visit in 1917. He hired fellow Harvard graduate John Nolen to create the enchanting plan for the City of Venice and then brought in the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers to build it. The list of significant contributions of the Albee family is long and varied. The home is privately owned and is suffering from neglect. Given the desirable waterfront location and lack of designation, this puts it at high risk of demolition.



### THE MEL-O-DEE

This iconic legacy diner was opened in 1955 and run by owners Daniel and Betty Fischer until their retirement in 1973, the restaurant closed in 2003, and the building has sat secured but vacant for the last 19 years. The Mel-O-Dee retains its midcentury modern details with a Polynesian influence. The interior has been gutted and the original neon sign adjacent to 41 was destroyed by a vehicle in 2021. The current owner has the property listed on the market for \$1mil. and has sold the adjacent vacant lots to developers. The high price tag has presented an as yet insurmountable obstacle to its preservation.



### VAN WEZEL PERFORMING ARTS HALL

Built in 1968 with funds from a city bond referendum and a bequest from philanthropists Lewis and Eugenia Van Wezel, the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall opened its doors in 1970. The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation (in association with Taliesan Associated Architects) design actually came from two seashells from the Sea of Japan which are permanently on display in the Hall. The lavender and purple color scheme, selected by Frank Lloyd Wright's widow, Olgivanna Lloyd Wright, has helped make the iconic structure memorable and in fact is featured in the Macy's Sarasota Snow Globe. Though currently still in use, planned obsolescence of building as part of The Bay's master plan for the new bay front park create a clear danger of demolition.