



**Sarasota County Historical Resources
6062 Porter Way
Sarasota, FL 34232
941.861.5000**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I have been asked to provide comments on the enclosed plans from my perspective as Manager of Sarasota County Historical Resources and principal staff support to the Sarasota County Historic Preservation Board.

As you know the Venice-Nokomis bank is a very prominent historic building both due to its highly visible location and association with prominent architect Thomas Reed Martin. As depicted in the plans, the addition of an ADA lift to the building would be visible from the Tamiami Trail and in my opinion, significantly detract from the appearance of the historic building. Asymmetry of design is a character defining element of the Mediterranean Revival style of architecture.

Because this proposed undertaking would take place on a locally designated historic resource it would need to be reviewed and approved by the Sarasota County Historic Preservation Board. The board uses the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historical Rehabilitation as the basis for their design guidelines and decision making.

Standard 9 states that new additions, exterior alterations or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

As depicted in the architect's drawing it is my opinion that the proposed undertaking does not adhere to Standard 9 in that it is incompatible with the original building massing.

Your consideration of this matter is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
Lorrie Muldowney, Manager
Sarasota County Historical Resources