

Pinellas County Historical Society  
Paul Aunspaugh, President  
11909 125<sup>th</sup> Street, Largo FL 33774

January 27, 2026

To the Honorable Members of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners,

I am writing in strong support of the local historic landmark designation of the Plant–Sumner House (1896) and the House of Seven Gables (1907), two of the earliest and most significant structures preserved at Heritage Village Museum & Park.

Dedicated in 1976 as the first historic buildings relocated to Heritage Village, these structures now meet the fifty-year threshold required for local historic landmark designation. Their preservation reflects not only their architectural and historical significance, but also the foresight of early preservation advocates who recognized the importance of safeguarding Pinellas County’s built heritage during a period of rapid growth and transformation.

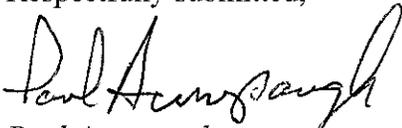
The Plant–Sumner House and the House of Seven Gables are representative examples of late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century residential architecture in Pinellas County. Beyond their physical form, they embody broader themes of settlement, community development, and daily life in the region’s formative years. As foundational elements of Heritage Village, these buildings have played a critical role in public education, interpretation, and the stewardship of local history for nearly five decades.

Designation as local historic landmarks formally acknowledges the County’s long-standing commitment to preservation excellence and professional stewardship. It also ensures that these structures will continue to be protected, maintained, and interpreted in accordance with established preservation standards for future generations.

For these reasons, I respectfully recommend approval of the local historic landmark designation for the Plant–Sumner House and the House of Seven Gables. Their designation is both a recognition of their individual significance and a meaningful affirmation of Pinellas County’s leadership in historic preservation.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of preserving Pinellas County’s irreplaceable historic resources.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Aunspaugh  
President  
Pinellas County Historical Society  
January 27, 2026

Pinellas County Historical Commission  
Sandy Bozeman  
Chairwoman, PCHC

January 27, 2026,

To the Honorable Members of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners,

The Pinellas County Historical Commission respectfully submits this letter in support of the local historic landmark designation of the Plant–Sumner House (1896) and the House of Seven Gables (1907), located at Heritage Village Museum & Park.

The Commission recognizes these structures as important tangible links to the county's late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century residential development, as well as foundational elements of Heritage Village's mission to preserve and share the diverse stories of Pinellas County's past. Designation will provide formal recognition of their historic value and ensure their ongoing protection in accordance with established preservation standards.

The Pinellas County Historical Commission unanimously recommends approval of the local historic landmark designation for the Plant–Sumner House and the House of Seven Gables. The Commission believes this action appropriately honors the significance of these resources and reinforces the County's leadership in historic preservation.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Pinellas County Historical Commission

Sandy Bozeman,



*Chair, Pinellas County Historical Commission*

*Date*