

Ellen Pierce

150 Carroll Street

I have spent the majority of my life on the gulf coast, growing up in Panama City, moving to St. Tammany Parish in 1983 and Old Mandeville in 1999. My family and I are passionate about gulf coast living.

In 2018, my mother and disabled twin sister needed a retirement community to continue living together. Fortunately, they did find one in Alabama but unfortunately it was 5 hours away from me. Had an option like Sucette Harbor been available at that time, circumstances would be better for our family.

The area where Sucette Harbor is proposing to build has been many things since the beginning of time. Humans were likely here since 10,000 BC, the Tchefuncte Indians, Iberville & Bienville, Choctaw Indian raids. But in the 1800's, Bernard de Marigny de Mandeville had a "modern" idea for our shore by creating a park so that all citizens could enjoy its beauty. In the early 1900s, the Sucette Harbor area was developed by the Poitevent and Favre Lumber Company into a sawmill, including a community for its workers complete with bars and a commissary. The skyline was very much different 100 years ago, but not so very different from the proposal for Sucette Harbor.

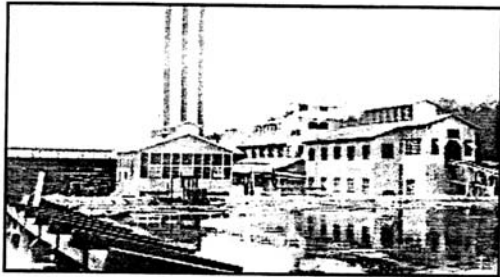


Figure 7. The Poitevent-Favre Mill boiler room, with three smoke stacks, is situated to the left of the mill



The buildings were amazingly quite similar and even had 3 smoke stacks. There were barges, railroads, and steamboats to support the industry and the entertainment. The lumber industry ran its course, and the shoreline became a lazier way of life than it was 100 years ago. Al Copeland had his own vision for the property. But, the point is that, it has been and will be many different things over time. We are a blip on the map of human history.

I live a block away from the big historic homes of Lakeshore Drive. Those homes are out of most people's price ranges since Bernard's day. Recently, even the house next door to me sold for over \$1 million. Old Mandeville has priced itself out of reach for most empty nesters and retirees. A lot alone would take up most people's retirement funds, not to mention the costs of demolition, construction, or adhering to historical commission requirements. Sucette Harbor provides the modern vision that Bernard had 200 years ago...for all walks of life to enjoy the lakefront in a park-like setting. Senior citizens can spend their golden years in a new home with a view of the Lake.

Sucette Harbor is not Port Marigny. The demands on traffic during rush hour and the demands on schools are much less than that high density proposal. The street lanes that are used to turn in and out of Mariners are not the same lanes that I drive on to get in and out of Old Mandeville. A small waterfront hotel is a benefit to our community and something our town had several of along the lakefront 100 years ago. The compatibility and precedence arguments baffle me when our town has already been all of these things and more on this actual parcel of land.

I live in R-1 across the street from B-3 which contains restaurants and bars, truck deliveries, event centers, and a soon to be boutique hotel. I don't feel like this has somehow ruined my life. It has instead enhanced it. It's the reason I love living where I do.

Do I love birds? I love birds and fish and raccoons and all the things that come with living in Old Mandeville. The recent purchase of green space by the City on the west side of the causeway will ensure that a habitat continues here. The abundance of land in the state park and national refuge to our east also ensures that this habitat is still vibrant and that we humans can co-exist with the animals.

Three minutes is not enough time for me to elaborate on my opinions on the scale and variances of the project, but I think that when you consider the history of the area and the needs of the community, you as a council should agree with the Planning and Zoning Commission to re-zone this land back to combined-use and the conditional uses requested, with your own amendments to those conditions.

Thank you.

Kristine Scherer

From: Jean Herbers <jmsunkissed@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:40 PM
To: Kristine Scherer
Subject: Sucette

Good evening,

There has definitely been a lot of hype (good and bad) about this project.

Seems that there is a lot of dissatisfaction and mistrust regarding the council.
Is transparency so difficult?

I am in favor of this development. Proceed with fervor.
Just don't lie.

Jean Herbers
736 Heavens Dr, Mandeville, LA 70471

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Kristine Scherer

From: Sam Smalley <outlook_C40CEFF2B19BB595@outlook.com> on behalf of Sam Smalley
<samsmalley@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 11:52 AM
To: Kristine Scherer
Cc: tckdanelson1@bellsouth.net, Clay Madden
Subject: Sucette Harbor

I am strongly against this project as I believe the mailer is misleading and not needed. The area could make a lovely park for all citizens to enjoy. I think with all the controversy that this project has our folks fighting that a vote should be offered and let the citizens decide. Not just a few that stand to profit from it.

Sam Smalley
985-264-0011
245 Sandra Lee Drive
Mandeville, La 70448

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