

August 15, 2019

Keith Bring  
Project Manager  
Monroe County  
1100 Simonton Street, Suite 2-216  
Key West FL, 33040

**Re: Existing seagrape Tree at front of West Martello Fort**

Dear Keith:

We are working on historic masonry restoration at the historic West Martello Fort at 1100 Atlantic Blvd. in Key West. The West Martello is a Civil War era fort that was constructed in the 1860s. The structure is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The property is currently owned and maintained by Monroe County.

There is an existing sea grape tree that has grown to within inches of the front of the fort wall. This tree is endangering the historic masonry. The tree's roots have grown to within inches of the historic brick masonry walls, and the tree is only getting larger. It has already begun to damage the brick foundations. It is my professional opinion that the tree is detrimental to the historic masonry and should be removed.

I have attached photos of the tree for reference.

Sincerely,



David Salay,  
Architect, Bender & Associates Architects



Sea grape tree in close proximity to Fort wall, North side of West Martello.



Sea grape tree

Historic 1862 Fort wall