

CEMETERY/BURIAL GROUND LAND DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REQUEST FOR 1 1 305 WHITE BLUFF ROAD

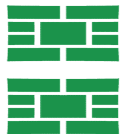
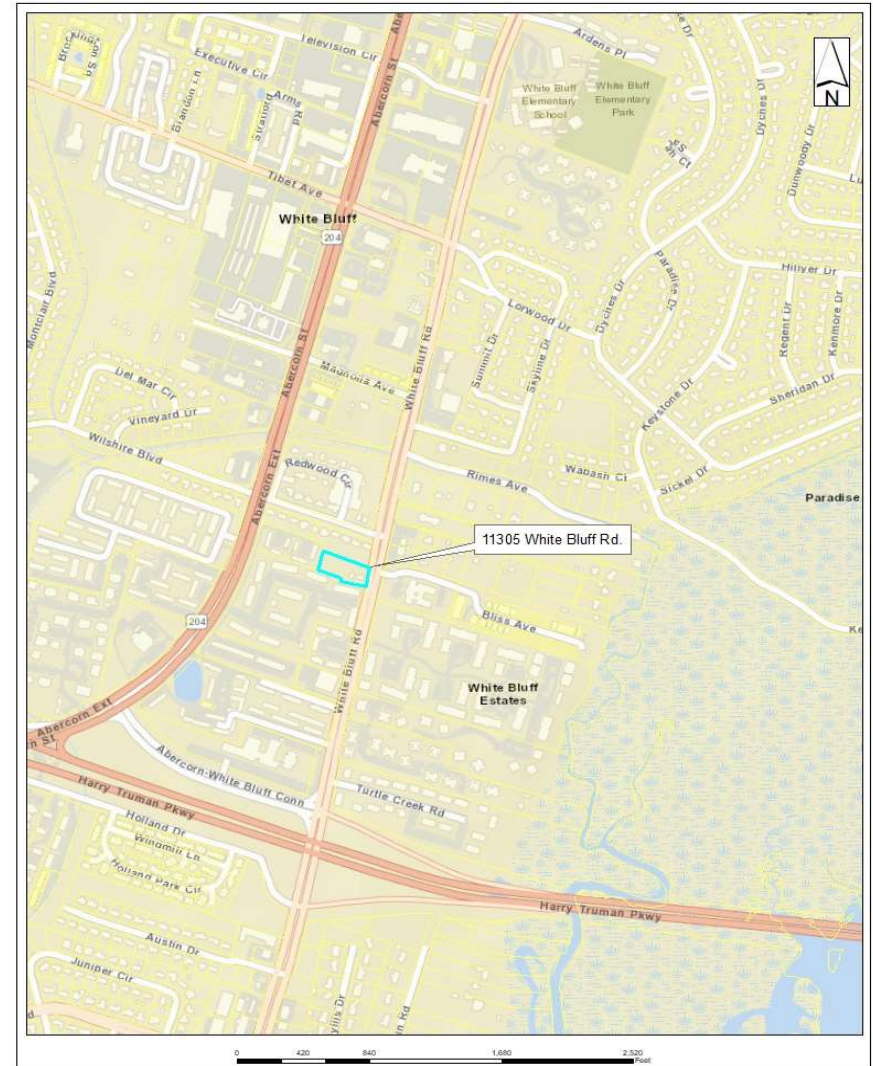
Council Workshop

June 6, 2019



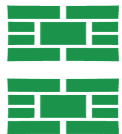
11305 WHITE BLUFF ROAD

- During clearing and construction activities, citizen notified City of possible cemetery on the property (Sept 2018)
- Cemeteries identified possible burial on the site
- Development Services issued Stop Work Order



GRAVE CONFIRMATION

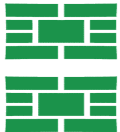
- Property owner hired New South Associates, Inc. who conducted archeological investigation on burial sites
- Identified 4 burials for Densler family (1780s)
- Grave markers relocated to Gravel Hill Cemetery several years ago



STATE CODE

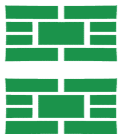
(36-72-1 THRU 36-21-44)

- Provides guidelines for the care of the remains of deceased persons
 - Reflects respect and regard for human dignity
 - Cultural, spiritual and religious values
- States human remains and burial objects are the finite, irreplaceable and nonrenewable cultural heritage of the people of Georgia that must be protected
- Outlines permit application process when developing on land where cemetery located
- Requires public hearing where Mayor and Aldermen approve/deny permit



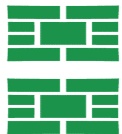
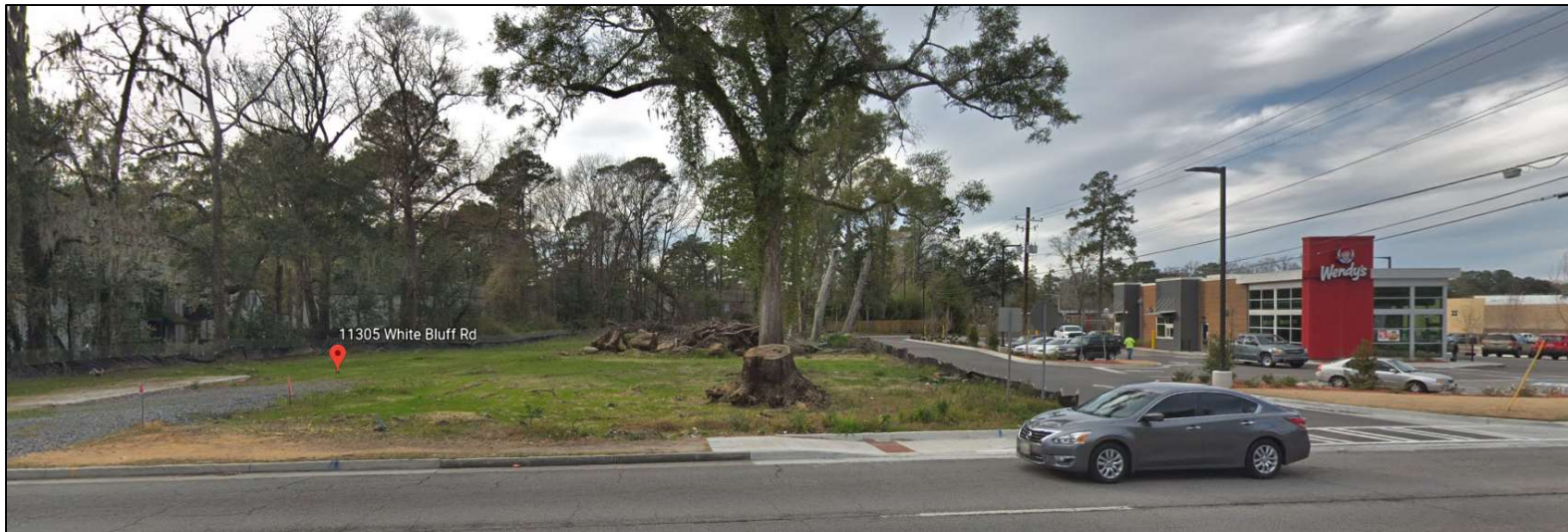
CEMETERY/BURIAL GROUND LAND DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

- Application requirements:
 - Proof of ownership;
 - Report from archeologist stating the number of graves believed to be at location;
 - Survey showing location and boundaries of the cemetery/burial ground based on archeologist report;
 - Plan prepared by a genealogist for identifying and notifying the descendants of those buried or believed to be buried at cemetery; and
 - Proposal for mitigation or avoidance of planned activity. If relocation of any human remains or burial objects:
 - Method of disinterment;
 - Location and method of disposition of the remains; and
 - Approximate cost of the process and approximate number of graves impacted must be provided



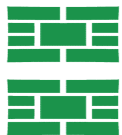
APPLICATION REVIEW

- Conducted by Cemeteries, Municipal Archives, Planning and Urban Design and consulting archeologist
- Report from archeologist on number of graves
- Survey showing cemetery
- Genealogist report of Michael Densler, Sr. and wife Ann and plan for notifying descendants



APPLICATION REVIEW

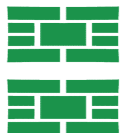
- Recovery Methodology
 - Location and number of interments
 - Method of disinterment
 - Handling and packaging of grave related materials
 - Location and method of deposition of human remains
 - Construction monitoring
 - Reporting
- Analysis of human remains and grave artifacts
 - Available facilities and material preparation
 - Artifact examination
 - Analysis of remains



CEMETERY/BURIAL GROUND LAND DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

Approve or deny permit based on:

1. Presumption in favor of leaving the cemetery/burial ground undisturbed;
2. Concerns/comments of any descendants of those buried in the burial ground/cemetery and any other interested parties;
3. Economic and other costs of mitigation;
4. Adequacy of the applicant's plans for disinterment and proper disposition of any human remains/burial objects;
5. Balancing of applicant's interest in disinterment with the public's and any descendant's interest in the value of the undisturbed cultural and natural environment; and
6. Any other compelling factors Mayor and Aldermen deem relevant



NEXT STEPS

- Conduct Public Hearing
- Approve or deny permit
- If approved, applicant must obtain a Permit for the Disposition of Human Remains with the Chatham County Registrar
- If denied, the applicant may file an appeal in Superior Court
- Need to:
 - Develop and adopt archeology ordinance by the end of the year
 - Convene public meetings (July-August 2019)

