

Adopted: 8/21/18

Ord#: 2029

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING THE CHARLESTON COUNTY ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ORDINANCE, NUMBER 1202, AS AMENDED: VARIOUS CHAPTERS REGARDING HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994, Section 6-29-310 et seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, authorizes the County of Charleston to enact or amend its zoning and land development regulations to guide development in accordance with existing and future needs and in order to protect, promote and improve the public health, safety, and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Charleston County Planning Commission has reviewed the proposed amendments of the text of Section 3.7.1 of Article 3.7, Section 8.1.2 of Article 8.1, Article 9.8, and Article 12.1 of the Charleston County Zoning and Land Development Regulations Ordinance (ZLDR) in accordance with the procedures established in South Carolina law and the ZLDR and has recommended that the Charleston County Council (County Council) adopt the proposed amendments of the text of the ZLDR as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, upon receipt of the recommendation of the Planning Commission, County Council held at least one public hearing, and after close of the public hearing, County Council approved the proposed text amendments based on the Approval Criteria of Section 3.3.6 of Article 3.3 of the ZLDR; and

WHEREAS, County Council has determined the proposed text amendments meet the following criteria:

- A. The proposed amendment corrects an error or inconsistency or meets the challenge of a changing condition;
- B. The proposed amendment is consistent with the adopted Charleston County Comprehensive Plan and goals as stated in Article 1.5; and
- C. The proposed amendment is to further the public welfare in any other regard specified by County Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, be ordained it by the Charleston County Council in meeting duly assembled as follows:

SECTION I. FINDINGS INCORPORATED

The above recitals and findings are incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Ordinance.

SECTION II. AMENDMENTS OF THE TEXT OF THE ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ORDINANCE

The Charleston County Zoning and Land Development Regulations Ordinance is hereby amended to include the text amendments attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and made part of this Ordinance by reference.

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY

If, for any reason, any part of this Ordinance is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately following third reading by County Council.

ADOPTED and APPROVED in meeting duly assembled this 21st day of August, 2018.

CHARLESTON COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____

A. Victor Rawl
Chairman of Charleston County Council

ATTEST:

By: _____
Kristen L. Salisbury
Clerk to Charleston County Council

First Reading: June 5, 2018
Second Reading: July 24, 2018
Third Reading: August 21, 2018

EXHIBIT “A”

AMENDING THE CHARLESTON COUNTY ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ORDINANCE, NUMBER 1202, AS AMENDED: VARIOUS CHAPTERS REGARDING HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

CHAPTER 3, DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCEDURES: ARTICLE 3.7, SITE PLAN REVIEW

§3.7.1 Applicability

Except as expressly exempted in Section 3.7.4, the Site Plan Review procedures shall apply to any of the following: (A) new development, redevelopment and property improvements that increase by more than 25 percent the area devoted to vehicular use, or the gross floor area of buildings; (b) any change in use to a more intensive use, as determined by the Planning Director; and (c) any earth disturbing activity greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet. The entire site shall be brought into compliance with all applicable Ordinance standards at the time of Site Plan Review.

Prior to Site Plan Review approval for properties located within 300 feet of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listed Historic Property or Historic District, or a locally designated Historic Property or Historic District, a Certificate of Historic Appropriateness must be obtained pursuant to the procedures of [Reference to HP Ordinance in County Code of Ordinances here]. This requirement shall also apply to Site Plan Review approval for: NRHP listed Historic Properties; properties within NRHP listed Historic Districts; locally designated Historic Properties; and properties located within locally designated Historic Districts.

CHAPTER 8, SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS: ARTICLE 8.1, GENERAL

§8.1.2 Applicability

E. Prior to Subdivision Plat approval for properties located within 300 feet of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listed Historic Property or Historic District, or a locally designated Historic Property or Historic District, a Certificate of Historic Appropriateness must be obtained pursuant to the procedures of [Reference to HP Ordinance in County Code of Ordinances here]. This requirement shall also apply to Subdivision Plat approval for: NRHP listed Historic Properties; properties within NRHP listed Historic Districts; locally designated Historic Properties; and properties located within locally designated Historic Districts.

CHAPTER 9, DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS: ARTICLE 9.8, HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Charleston County Historic Preservation Ordinance is located in Chapter 21 of the *County Code of Ordinances*.

CHAPTER 12, DEFINITIONS: ARTICLE 12.1, TERMS AND USES DEFINED

A

Archaeological Site. A place (or group of physical sites) in which evidence of past activity is preserved (prehistoric, historic, or contemporary), and which has been, or may be, investigated using the discipline of archaeology and represents a part of the archaeological record. A site may range from one with few or no remains visible above ground, to a building or other structure still in use.

H

Historic Building. A "building", such as a house, barn, church, hotel, or similar construction, that is created principally to shelter any form of human activity. "Building" may also be used to refer to a historically and functionally related unit, such as a courthouse and jail or a house and barn. Buildings must include all of their basic structural elements; parts of buildings, such as interiors, facades, or wings, are not eligible independent of the rest of the existing building. Examples may include, but are not limited to: administration building; carriage house; church; city or town hall; courthouse; detached kitchen, barn, and privy; dormitory; fort; garage; hotel; house; library; mill building; office building; post office; school; shed; social hall; stable; store; theater; or train station.

Historic District. A Historic District possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. It means a geographically definable area, urban or rural, which contains sites, buildings, structures, objects, works of art, or a combination thereof which:

- Have a special character or special historical or ethnic heritage or aesthetic interest or value;
- Represent one or more periods or styles of architecture typical of one or more eras in the history of Charleston County or the state or region; and
- Cause such area, by reason of these factors, to constitute a visibly perceptible section of Charleston County, which may either be locally-designated or NRHP-listed.

A Historic District derives its importance from being a unified entity, even though it is often composed of a wide variety of resources. The identity of a district results from the interrelationship of its resources, which can convey a visual sense of the overall historic environment or be an arrangement of historically or functionally related properties. For example, a district can reflect one principal activity, such as a mill or a ranch, or it can encompass several interrelated activities, such as an area that includes industrial, residential, or commercial buildings, sites, structures, or objects. A Historic Preservation Overlay District can also be a grouping of archeological sites related primarily by their common components; these types of districts often will not visually represent a specific historic environment.

A Historic District can comprise both features that lack individual distinction and individually distinctive features that serve as focal points. It may even be considered eligible if all of the components lack individual distinction, provided that the grouping achieves significance as a whole within its historic context. In either case, the majority of the components that add to the district's historic character, even if they are individually undistinguished, must possess integrity, as must the district as a whole.

A Historic District can contain buildings, structures, sites, objects, or open spaces that do not contribute to the significance of the Historic Preservation Overlay District. The number of noncontributing properties a Historic Preservation Overlay District can contain yet still convey its

sense of time and place and historical development depends on how these properties affect the Historic Preservation Overlay District's integrity. In archeological districts, the primary factor to be considered is the effect of any disturbances on the information potential of the district as a whole.

Historic Object. The term "Historic Object" is used to distinguish from buildings and structures those constructions that are primarily artistic in nature or are relatively small in scale and simply constructed. Although it may be, by nature or design, movable, an object is associated with a specific setting or environment. Small objects not designed for a specific location are normally not included in this definition. Such works include a transportable sculpture, furniture, and other decorative arts that, unlike a fixed outdoor sculpture, do not possess association with a specific place. Objects should be in a setting appropriate to their significant historic use, roles, or character. Objects relocated to a museum are inappropriate for designation. Examples may include, but are not limited to: boundary marker; monument; milepost fountain; sculpture; or statuary.

Historic Property. A Historic Site, Historic Building, Historic Structure, or Historic Object that is fixed in location, which reflects historic, cultural or architectural significance.

Historic Site. The location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure. A site need not be marked by physical remains if it is the location of a prehistoric or historic event or pattern of events and if no buildings, structures, or objects marked it at the time of the events. However, when the location of a prehistoric or historic event cannot be conclusively determined because no other cultural materials were present or survive, documentation must be carefully evaluated to determine whether the traditionally recognized or identified site is accurate. A site may be a natural landmark strongly associated with significant prehistoric or historic events or patterns of events, if the significance of the natural feature is well-documented through scholarly research. Generally, though, the definition of "site" excludes natural waterways or bodies of water that served as determinants in the location of communities or were significant in the locality's subsequent economic development. While they may have been "avenues of exploration," the features most appropriate to document this significance are the properties built in association with the waterways. Examples may include, but are not limited to: battlefield; campsite; cemeteries significant for information potential or historic association; ceremonial site; designed landscape; habitation site; natural feature (such as a rock formation) having cultural significance; petroglyph; rock carving; rock shelter; ruins of a building or structure; shipwreck; trail; or a village site.

Historic Structure. The term "Historic Structure" is used to distinguish from buildings those functional constructions made usually for purposes other than creating human shelter. Structures must include all of the extant basic structural elements; parts of structures cannot be considered eligible if the whole structure remains. For example, a truss bridge is composed of the metal or wooden truss, the abutments, and supporting piers, all of which, if extant, must be included when considering the property for eligibility. If a structure has lost its historic configuration or pattern of organization through deterioration or demolition, it is considered a "ruin" and is categorized as a site.