

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BULLOCH

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
BULLOCH COUNTY, GEORGIA**

RESOLUTION # 2020 - ____

WHEREAS, representatives of the Willow Hill Heritage and Renaissance Center have requested that a contextual marker be installed adjacent to the Confederate Memorial Monument at the Bulloch County Courthouse Square in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2017, the Bulloch County Board of Commissioners adopted a policy for the use of the Courthouse Square which provides that on or after April 18, 2017, no monuments, signs or other structures intended to be of a permanent or long-term nature shall be permitted to be constructed or installed on the Courthouse Square other than those deemed necessary for the official functioning of the Bulloch County Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, in light of the extraordinary recent events in our nation regarding race relations, the Bulloch County Board of Commissioners wishes to make an exception to this policy and allow the installation of this contextual marker;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bulloch County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the installation of a contextual marker adjacent to the Confederate Memorial Monument on the Bulloch County Courthouse Square in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this contextual marker is allowed as an exception to the policy for use of the Courthouse Square that was adopted on April 18, 2017, and that said policy shall in all other respects remain in full force and effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall remain in effect until repealed or superseded by further action of the Board of Commissioners.

RESOLUTION APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of July, 2020.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
BULLOCH COUNTY, GEORGIA

By: _____
Roy Thompson, Chairman

(SEAL)

Attest: _____
Olympia Gaines, Clerk

EXHIBIT A

In 1909, this monument was erected at the Bulloch County Courthouse to glorify and honor the “lost cause” of the Confederacy and the Confederate soldiers of Bulloch County who fought for it. It was privately funded by the Statesboro Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Located in a prominent public space, its presence bolstered white supremacy and faulty history, suggesting that the cause for the Civil War rested on southern honor, inequitable taxation, and states’ rights rhetoric—instead of its real catalyst—African-American slavery. This monument and similar ones also were created to intimidate African-Americans and limit their full participation in the social and political life of their communities. It fostered a culture of segregation by implying that public spaces and public memory belonged to Whites. Since State law prohibited local governments from removing Confederate statues and monuments, Bulloch County contextualized this monument in 2020. Bulloch County officials and citizens believe that public history can be of service when it challenges us to broaden our sense of boundaries and includes community discussions of the victories and shortcomings of our shared histories.