Navigating Uncharted Waters
Disaster Planning for Historic Resources

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WHY NPS?
LEARNING TO PLAY WITH OTHERS

Integrating Historic Property and Cultural Resource Considerations Into Hazard Mitigation Planning
State and Local Mitigation Planning How-To Guide
FEMA 386-6 / May 2005
Getting your ducks in a row
States must have Mitigation Plan as a condition of Federal pre- and post-disaster assistance.

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 93-288), as amended, provides legal basis to undertake a risk-based approach to reducing risks from natural hazards through mitigation planning.

State, Tribal and local gov’ts are required* to develop hazard mitigation plans as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation assistance:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL)
Floods: to get funds under the Flood Mitigation Assistance program from the Flood Insurance Action of 1968, amended, must have a mitigation plan that addresses flood hazards.

Community Rating System (CRS): When communities go beyond the minimum standards for floodplain management, discounts may be available on flood insurance premiums for policy holders in those communities.
Natural and manmade disasters cause devastating impacts to communities and lives nationwide. These events often destroy and severely damage irreplaceable historic resources. When a community plans for a disaster, part of that preparedness should take into account the best methods for cultural resources to be accounted for, protected, and preserved. This Disaster Planning for Preservation Checklist is designed to help a community, historic preservation nonprofit, or an individual take the necessary steps for readying historic resources.

Will your community be ready to protect and repair these vulnerable historic resources when a disaster strikes? Let the enclosed checklist be your guide.
STEP 1: DO YOUR HOMEWORK

KNOW YOUR PARTNERS

NATHPO
National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers

FEMA

NCPTT

NCSHPPO
National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers

AIC
American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works
The greatest danger today facing our historic legacy in all our museums, libraries and archives is the lack of preservation disaster planning. According to John Walsh of the J. Paul Getty Museum, Emergency preparedness and planning is a matter of common sense and responsibility.

During 2013 and 2014, Colorado Collections Connection programs supported disaster planning initiatives by:

- Providing statewide educational opportunities to increase the capacity of organizations and individuals to preserve the collections under...

Muslin jacket, belonged to Short Bull, Lakota leader of the Ghost Dance. Photo credit: Buffalo Bill Museum.

https://collectioncare.auraria.edu/content/programs
Jekyll Island Duck Hunt led to the creation of the Federal Reserve. Senator Nelson Aldrich, a Rhode Island Republican, whose daughter was married to John D. Rockefeller Jr.

See: http://www.bloombergview.com/articles/2012-02-15/the-secret-meeting-that-launched-the-federal-reserve-echoes
In 2014, City of Newport sent in updates to this plan for review and approval by FEMA.
Document this in a systematic way
Make it available to other agencies
Learning to Prioritize

Using NR data that exists

- The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. The National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect historic and archaeological resources. Properties listed include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service, which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

- The Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures is a listing of the state's significant cultural resources worthy of preservation for the future education and enjoyment of Indiana's residents and visitors. Properties listed in the State Register include individual buildings, structures, objects, districts, and historic and archaeological sites.

Table 3.34 lists the properties in Vanderburgh County that are on both the National Register of Historic Places and the Indiana State Register of Historic Sites and Structures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Place And Location</th>
<th>Date of Construction</th>
<th>Date listed on the State or National Register</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alhambra Theatre, 50 Adams Avenue</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>National (10-3-76)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angel Mounds State Memorial</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
<td>National (10-15-80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayard Park Historic District, Roughly bounded by Gum, Kentucky, Blackford and Garvin Streets</td>
<td>1893-1933</td>
<td>National (6-27-85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Bedford, Sr. House, 638 Washington Avenue</td>
<td>1874</td>
<td>National (11-28-78)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnest-Johnson House, 17 Johnson Place</td>
<td>1916</td>
<td>National (6-29-89)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IDENTIFY THE RISK

• Natural disaster: Hurricane, flood, tornado, earthquake, etc.

• Man-made disaster: Fire, terrorism, car accident, etc.

Must include all the risks (natural hazards) as well as estimate. Look for repetitive loss properties within the hazard areas.

http://matthewtrader.com/blog/forney-texas-tornado-aftermath
DO SOME RESEARCH

Community Rating System (CRS)

ABOUT CRS

The National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP’s) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes communities for implementing floodplain management practices that exceed the Federal minimum requirements of the NFIP to provide protection from flooding.

In exchange for a community’s proactive efforts to reduce flood risk, policyholders can...

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Search FloodSmart.gov
Undertakings: Construction, rehab and repair, elevations, relocation, demolition, licenses and permits, loans and loan guarantees, grants through Public Assistance, HMGP, Unmet Needs, Pre-Disaster Mitigation, Federal Assistance to Individuals and households, acquisition. ****Check with SHPO/THPO to see your Programmatic Agreement for historic properties under a disaster declaration.**********
Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

Likely to be SHPO at state level

Could be review board at local level, or city planner as lead.

Conduct disaster training together to be sure all partners understand concerns
STEP 3: LOCAL LEVEL PLANNING

Ways the Landmarks Commission or Planning Board can help.

- Temporary Housing and Infill
- “Improvements” to properties to withstand future disasters: elevations, storm shutters, safe rooms, tie downs, etc.
- Demolitions and salvage protocols
DEBRIS SITES AND STAGING AREAS
ID types of stabilization and repair that can be done without review

Authorize architectural review board staff for certain types of review—if applicable

Accept 106 review in lieu of local review
EXPEDITED REVIEW

Make sure that Programmatic Agreements (PA) are in place in advance of the disaster with QUICK turn around review timelines established:

- Three days or less for life safety needs
- One week for recovery actions by Federal Agencies

- The PAs should address the big questions so you are not trying to sort them out post disaster:
  - Elevations with an elevation protocol or mitigation strategy developed
  - Moving, demolition, and salvage protocols
  - Exemptions for geographic areas, state managed properties, etc.
- Identify historic preservation professionals and organizations
- Designate point person(s)
- Set Teams such as recovery assistance, damage assessment, etc.
- What is process to activate?
- Identify locations for travel and living arrangements?
Integrate HP training, expertise and assistance into the local response team (ask Fire department to help with drills at historic property.)
STEP 4: PROPERTY OWNER RESPONSIBILITY
Help the property owner think beyond just museums, public records, etc.

Identifying repairable material, education

The DISASTER Wheel / APP
GETTING HELP

- Property owner resources and capacity development
- Contractor and craftsman resources
- Elected officials and governmental leaders
- Nonprofit, churches, volunteers, etc.
Flooding in Harpers Ferry, WV

There are at least 82 known floods in Harpers Ferry between 1748 and 2011. During the four years of the Civil War alone, there were 20 floods.

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Help from unlikely source at first glance: WVU Extension Agency
In the days that followed, WVU dispatched experts in structural engineering, law, writing and marketing. A representative of the university’s extension service split his work week between WVU and Harpers Ferry, so he could quickly pair the most urgent needs with university expertise.
Break into 4 groups (7 or 8 folks)
Read exercise (15 minutes)
Identify your team leader/reporter
Review existing documents and look for omissions
Each group reports 2 minutes (total 8)
Review with group experts.