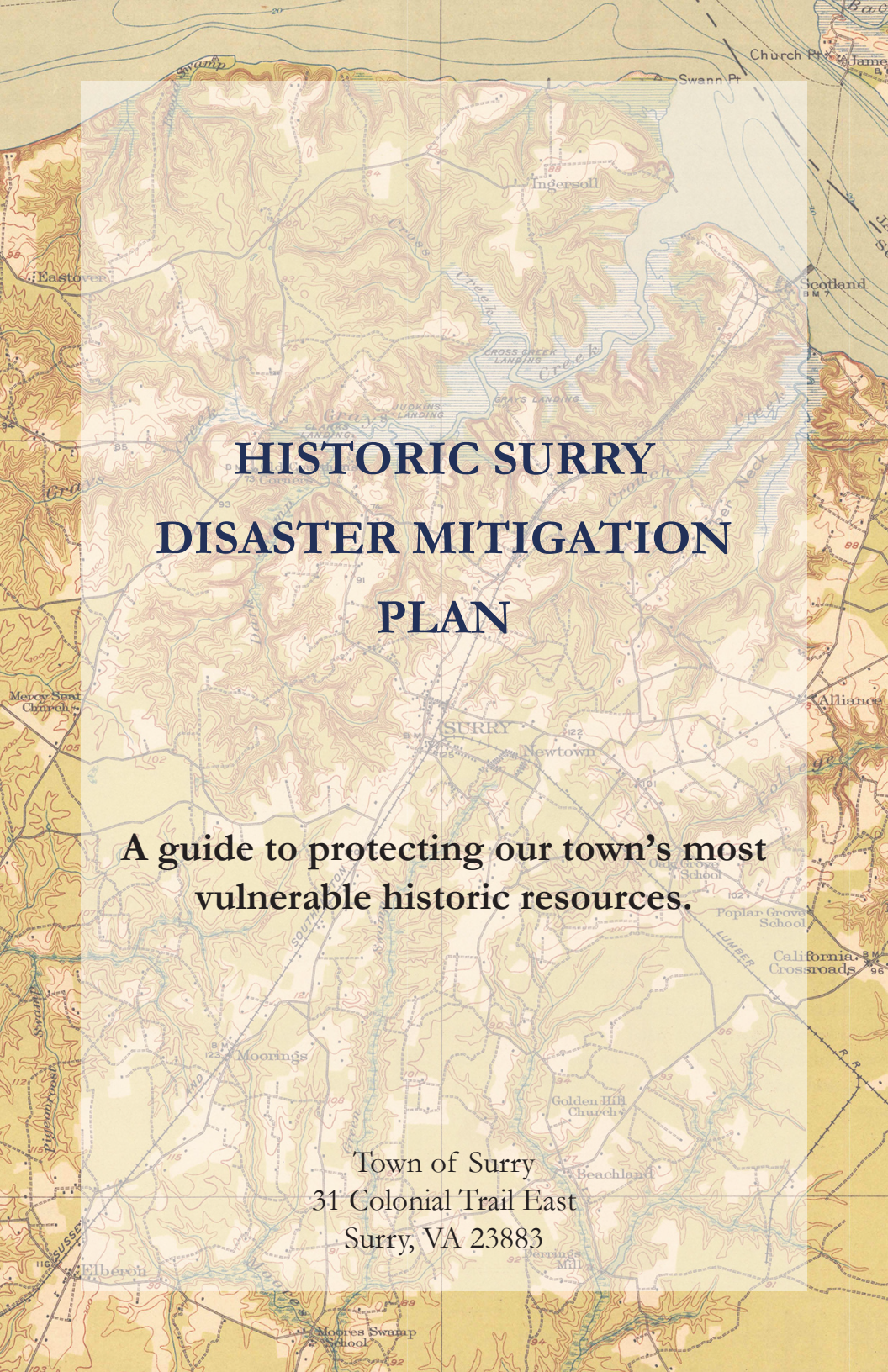

HISTORIC SURRY DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

A guide to protecting our town's most vulnerable historic resources.

Town of Surry
31 Colonial Trail East
Surry, VA 23883

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INTRODUCTION

The Historic Surry Disaster Mitigation Plan was created in 2016 as part of a grant administered by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and supported by the Historic Preservation Fund Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Assistance Grant Program of the National Park Service.

The purpose of the Historic Surry Disaster Mitigation Plan is to provide the Town of Surry and its residents the tools with which to prepare for and recover from natural and man-made disasters, specifically with regards to the treatment of historic properties. Settled in the 18th century, Surry contains a myriad of historic resources ranging in age, architectural style, and historical significance. These irreplaceable buildings and places provide important information about our past and must be protected.

Preparedness and recovery plans are essential to minimizing and mitigating the effects of a potential disaster. Having a disaster mitigation plan in place will allow the Town of Surry and its residents to minimize the potential resource losses that can be associated with these disasters by implementing specific pre-disaster preparation and post-disaster recovery strategies. The plan also helps to prioritize historic resource protection and prevent demolishing buildings that can instead be rehabilitated and restored. The faster the town recovers from disaster, the sooner the economy can rebound.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has prepared several disaster management documents, including county-wide, regional, and local management plans. The Town of Surry is covered by the Richmond-Crater Multi-Regional Hazard

1930s wood-frame storefront on Colonial Trail East

Mitigation Plan. Additionally, Virginia has a statewide Historic Preservation Plan which was recently updated. "Virginia's Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan 2016-2021" can be accessed online and provides valuable details about the state's historic properties. The "Additional Resources" section at the end of this document provides links to that document as well as other sources of relevant information.

The Historic Surry Disaster Mitigation Plan is divided into the following sections:

- The **Pre-Disaster Organization** section describes the roles and responsibilities of those involved in man-made and natural disasters as well as specific guidance for preparing historic resources in advance of such disasters.

- The **Post-Disaster Recovery** section outlines procedures for documenting affected resources and provides practical guidance on clean-up of such resources after a disaster which has affected historic resources, as well as guidance for engaging with State and Federal Agencies following an event.

- The **Improving Disaster Management Protocol** section provides recommendations for improvements which could be made to Surry's Disaster Management Protocol.

- The **Tools and Resources** section provides checklists and sources of additional relevant information.

The plan was developed based on the four phases of Emergency Management, as defined by FEMA:

- **Mitigation** (defined as preventing future emergencies or minimizing their effects). The Mitigation Phase includes any activities that could potentially prevent or reduce the chance of an emergency occurring, as well as other preparedness measures such as obtaining flood or fire insurance. Mitigation activities can occur both before and after an emergency occurs.

- **Preparedness** (defined as preparing to handle an emergency). The Preparedness Phase includes making plans or preparations to save lives and property when an emergency occurs. Preparedness Phase activities occur prior to an emergency, and include activities like

creating evacuation plans and maintaining a stock of emergency food and water, as well as preparing a property to withstand flooding or wind damage.

- **Response** (defined as responding safely to an emergency). The Response Phase includes actions taken to save lives and to prevent property damage while an emergency is underway. Response activities occur during an emergency and could include seeking shelter or turning off gas or electricity to a property during an emergency.

- **Recovery** (defined as recovering from an emergency). The Recovery Phase occurs after an emergency has ended, and includes any actions taken to return to normalcy. Recovery activities include documenting damage, cleanup efforts, and filing an insurance claim for damage to a property affected by an emergency.

Folk Victorian-style dwelling at 144 Church Street, constructed ca. 1890

BACKGROUND

Context on Regional Disasters

Surry Town Office, constructed ca. 1915 as the Bank of Surry County

Storms are growing in size and frequency and it is becoming increasingly important for communities to prepare for these events. A disaster can have a catastrophic effect not only on the health and well-being of residents, it can significantly impact the historic character and the economy of a place.

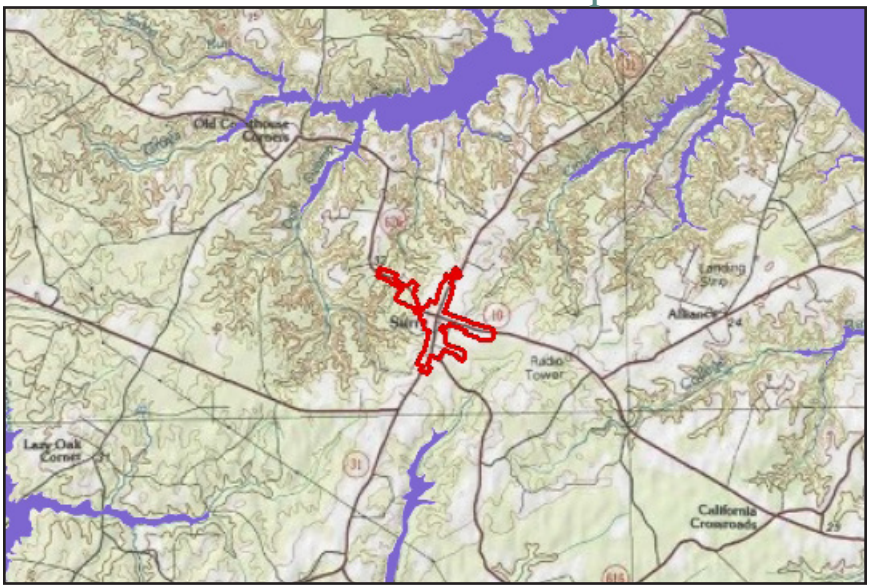
Hurricane winds and rain present the greatest threat to Surry's historic properties. The town sits on a small plateau in the north-central part of Surry County where there is little protection from major gusts of wind. Furthermore, major past storms have knocked down older trees, further reducing natural protection from the wind. Surry is not located within a FEMA floodplain and does not contain a body of water or swamp/marsh. However, in instances of high regional flooding, town officials have noted that Surry becomes isolated. The main roads leading in and out of town (County Road T-626, Rolfe Highway, and Colonial Trail East) become impassible. Gray's Creek and the James River are less than 2 miles and 5 miles to the north, respectively, and the Blackwater River and its many tributaries are located less than 8 miles to the south and west. Numerous smaller creeks travel throughout the region. Heavy rainfall has historically caused these various waterways to flood, thereby isolating Surry. As the effects of climate change and sea level rise continue to become apparent, the frequency of flooding in the area is likely to increase.

Not all disasters are weather related – some are man-made. A fire devastated the Edwards Virginia Smokehouse, which burned to the ground on January 19, 2016. The fire, which started while workers were having lunch, caused the Smokehouse to close indefinitely. The early twentieth-century, family run business was one of the biggest employers in Surry County.

Surry Historic District

Surry Historic District

Overview of Surry Historic District in Relation to FEMA 100 Year Floodplain



Surry Historic District 100 Year Floodplain (FEMA)

History and Significance of Surry

The Burroughs, one of the Town's oldest dwellings, constructed ca. 1830

The Town of Surry encompasses a concentration of residential, commercial, institutional, and governmental buildings in Surry County, Virginia. The town boundary generally extends outwards from the intersection of Colonial Trail East (Route 10), Lebanon Road and Rolfe Highway (Route 31). The town is located approximately 4 miles south from the James River and approximately 38 miles east of the city of Petersburg. The surrounding area is heavily forested or agricultural, with limited historic or recent development scattered in the rural areas that surround the town. Because of its historical and architectural significance, the Town of Surry Historic District has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Town of Surry has been a small crossroads community since it was first settled in the mid-eighteenth century. Surrounded by agricultural and forested land, the community functioned primarily as an area where regional residents could meet, trade, and attend to municipal matters related to the town or county. Surry was slow to develop and most early growth expanded from the Surry County Courthouse Complex (listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986). It experienced a small boom during the decades surrounding the turn of the twentieth century due to the growth of the regional lumber industry and construction of the railroad that ran through town. Another small boom occurred after World War II, following the growth of agricultural processing plants in town and a nuclear plant nearby.

The core of the town retains the historic courthouse complex, early twentieth-century commercial buildings, and several historic churches. Twentieth-century residential construction has largely occurred on the main thoroughfares as they lead into and out of town, with the Historic District's oldest buildings located closest to the center of town. The historic street pattern also remains largely the same since the nineteenth century. A number of buildings were altered or updated with additions and modern materials,

but distinct building forms remain. These changes reflect the evolution of the small crossroads community.

The majority of the buildings in town are residential. The oldest dwellings are located on Church Street opposite the Courthouse, or along Colonial Trail East and Rolfe Highway. Those nearest to the center of town are located along the roadway while those further afar are typically set back and shielded with vegetation. The older, larger buildings were originally located on larger pieces of land, but as the town grew, particularly in the twentieth century, those larger lots were divided and newer dwellings were constructed. The result is a dense and diverse population of residential dwellings, reflective of the growth of Surry during the late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth centuries.

Ca. 1890 dwelling at 11563 Rolfe Highway

North or south from town along Rolfe Highway, a pattern is visible where distinct, nineteenth- or early twentieth-century dwellings are separated by a contiguous row of mid-twentieth-century, Minimal Traditional or cottage-style dwellings. The same can be observed traveling east along Colonial Trail East, though the infill consists of commercial development more so than residential. This pattern of infill development extends in almost equal distances, about 3,000 feet or just over 0.5 miles, from the center of town. After that distance, the land use generally remains agricultural with some scattered residential development.

The town's religious buildings are scattered throughout the historic district. Two are located adjacent to the courthouse complex: the 1885 St. Paul's Episcopal Church and the 1886 Surry Baptist Church. Two are located east of the town center: the 1880 Bibleways Baptist Church and the ca. 1940 Surry United Methodist Church. The 1882 Lebanon Baptist Church is located west of town. The schools that previously existed were located south of the courthouse complex but still near the center of town. The municipal building was originally built as an elementary school and the high school was

formerly located on the vacant lot opposite the municipal building to the south. These schools served the town's white population, while the African American population attended the Lebanon School and the former Lebanon Elementary School in the Davis Town community west of town.

Surry Baptist Church, constructed ca. 1886 and expanded in 1925 and 1962

Historic Resource Documentation in Surry

There have been several documentation efforts of Surry's historic resources. The Surry County Courthouse Complex is located in the center of town and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in April of 1985. The complex includes the Courthouse, the Old Clerk's office, the Commissioner of Revenue's office, a Confederate memorial, and the General District Court building.

A reconnaissance level survey was conducted in November 2013. One or more photographs and a brief physical description was produced for each property. Three properties within the Town of Surry Historic District were also surveyed at the intensive level in early 2016: the Burroughs, the Surry Town Office, and Surry Town Hall. The intensive level survey included additional exterior and interior photographs, historic research, a detailed physical description, and approximate floor plans.

The Town of Surry Historic District was determined eligible for the National Register following the reconnaissance survey, and was the subject of a National Register Nomination in late 2016. The Town of Surry Historic District is eligible under Criterion A (association with events that have made

a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history) for the role it played as county seat in the settlement of the region, and under National Register Criterion C (embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction) for the range of nineteenth and twentieth-century building styles reflective of the growth of the town. It is significant on the local level in the areas of architecture, commerce, settlement, politics and government, African American ethnic heritage, and military. The period of significance for the Town of Surry Historic District extends from 1820, the approximate date of construction of the oldest extant building, to 1965, when development in Surry ceased.

Contributing resources in the Town of Surry Historic District are considered to be those built within the period of significance, 1820-1965, and which retain architectural integrity sufficient to illustrate the original design of the building. Many buildings within the historic district have undergone alterations or additions, particularly with respect to the integrity of materials and workmanship, but most still retain their original form and some details that are original to the building. The inventory of historic resources and their status as contributing or non-contributing is available from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

Historic dwellings in "Davis Town" on Lebanon Road, constructed in the mid-20th century

PRE-DISASTER ORGANIZATION

Roles and Responsibilities

Pre-disaster organization requires coordination among many different local entities. The Town of Surry and the Surry County Local Emergency Managers must work in coordination with local and County Officials, residents, and business owners to successfully prepare for a disaster. The roles of these entities are further discussed in the following section, however, much of the pre-disaster organization work, when it comes to protecting historic buildings, falls to the property owners. Proper maintenance of a building prior to a disaster is critical to withstanding damage from storms and flooding.

Resource Documentation

Historic resources within the Town of Surry Historic District were documented most recently in 2013 and 2016. Historic resource surveys provide only a snapshot in time. Photographic and brief descriptive records are kept by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. However, they typically consist of a cursory overview of the primary elevation of the building. Owners of historic properties should update documentation of their properties annually. Such documentation should include abundant photographs of general exterior and interior conditions, as well as detailed photographs of important historic elements including decorative wood or plasterwork, finishes, including paints and wallpapers, and anything else of note. Be sure to photograph and document areas or details that may be particularly subject to damage.

1930s wood-frame and 1950s brick commercial buildings on Colonial Trail East

Preparing Historic Resources Before a Disaster

Preparing for a potential disaster can be broken down into four general categories.

1. **Increase awareness.** It is crucial that information is made available to both property owners and municipalities regarding the maintenance and protection of historic properties during a natural disaster. Resources in the National Register of Historic Places, such as the Town of Surry Historic District, are afforded particular attention when federal assistance from FEMA is administered. Local advocates, however, are still needed to help prioritize recovery strategies and to ensure that historic buildings are identified and protected.

    - The Town of Surry and the Surry County Local Emergency Manager should be familiar with and have on file a copy of the comprehensive survey for the Surry Historic District. Contributing and non-contributing resources in the Historic District should be identified and the survey should be referenced when developing the post-disaster recovery plan. This allows town officials to focus preservation efforts on vulnerable historically significant properties.

    - City and County officials and the Local Emergency Manager should understand how historic buildings are specifically considered during FEMA-funded post-disaster mitigation. FEMA provides federal funding to state and local agencies for disaster response and, as such, state and federal agencies are required by law to consider the protection of historic resources in their recovery strategy. Because the Town of Surry Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, any action involving FEMA funding on a property that contributes to the Historic District will undergo careful consideration by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to ensure that the historic property is protected to the extent possible.

    - Develop a list of local volunteers who have preservation expertise and are willing to help in the case of an emergency. Include a structural engineer who has experience working

with historic homes. At the end of this publication is a list of phone numbers for municipal, state, and federal agencies and organizations.

2. **Establish benchmark conditions.** In order to accurately file a claim for damages, it is important to have before and after documentation so that damage can be attributed to the disaster.

    - Photograph and otherwise document the existing interior and exterior condition of your property and develop an inventory of your belongings. Keep a copy in your own records and file a copy with your insurance company.

    - The town should keep the comprehensive survey up-to-date as new construction or demolition occurs.

3. **Maintain your property.** Keeping your property in good working order protects it in the long run from large-scale repair and spending, which can be financially stressful and can compromise the integrity of your building. It also helps you be prepared for disasters that may arrive with little warning. Particular items to maintain:

    - Roof shingles should be secure and flashing in place.

    - Keep gutters and downspouts clear of debris. Purchase downspout extensions if your downspouts empty near your foundation – they will move water away from your building and prevent structural damage and flooding.

    - Ensure that your exterior siding is securely attached and free of cracks and spalls.

    - Properly maintain your historic windows and doors by periodic cleaning, repainting, and glazing. Fix and replace caulking and weather stripping as needed to keep the windows watertight.

- Regularly check your smoke detectors and replace batteries every six months.
- Trim tree limbs that could cause damage to adjacent buildings or utilities.
- In case of disaster, keep an emergency supply of towels, blankets, or rags for water clean-up; a roll of plastic, spare tarps and rope for covering objects or roof repair; and plywood or lumber for temporary window and door protection and roof patching.

4. **Secure your property**. In the event of an upcoming disaster, the following measures should be taken before the storm to help mitigate potential catastrophe and protect the integrity of your historic property. No matter the measures you take to secure your property, remember that you must also protect the historic architectural features of your building. Secure rather than remove features and understand the construction of your building to make sure you are choosing the correct mitigation method. Talk to a preservation specialist at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources or a structural engineer with experience working on historic buildings.
    - Check the condition of your roof and siding, fixing and securing any areas that may lead to water infiltration.
    - Ensure that your porch is securely attached to the building; use hurricane straps or bolts if needed, but be careful not to damage historic features such as decorative spandrels.
    - Clear gutters and downspouts, installing downspout extensions if necessary.
    - Seal doors and window with caulking; secure and protect doors and windows with shutters, plywood, or storm panels (purchase ahead of time to ensure proper fit). Be sure to ask the manufacturer or a preservation specialist about selecting the appropriate product as the construction of your window or

door will determine the correct selection. Additionally, be sure that the product does not adversely impact any architectural details that surround the window or door openings.

- Seal the cap and base of your chimney.
- Store or secure all loose objects, including trash cans, hoses, furniture, and toys
- Inside your building, consider moving valuable items away from windows and into safe containers, chests, or boxes.
- Coordinate with utility companies and follow their recommendations for shutting off services

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, constructed ca 1886 in the Gothic Revival style

POST-DISASTER RECOVERY

Resource Documentation

Documenting historic resources following a disaster is similar to documenting a historic resource prior to a disaster, however, post-disaster documentation will focus on documenting changes and damages that were caused by the disaster. Collecting a variety of information, including overall and detail photographs of the interior and exterior of a damage property is key in determining the severity of the damage.

Working with Historic Resources after a Disaster

It is important that the officials orchestrating the recovery efforts are aware of the historic integrity of the buildings and district affected by the disaster. The Town of Surry is most susceptible to high wind and rain damage caused by hurricane-like events and the action items presented here address this type of disaster. Additional reference information about other disaster recovery strategies can be found in the Additional References section of this document.

- Prior to cleaning or repairing your property, carefully document all damage caused by the disaster. This will help when you file insurance claims and is used to document damages and alterations to the integrity of your historic building.
- Enlist the help of the volunteers identified during Pre-Disaster Mitigation. Those with preservation experience can help identify significant features that should be saved; those with structural engineering experience can inspect historic buildings for structural damage and help to identify components in need of repair or replacement.
- The staging area used for recovery efforts should be carefully selected in order to avoid potential impacts to historic buildings or archaeological sites.
- Implement a debris removal and salvage strategy that preserves historic features and materials to the greatest extent possible. Store

these materials in a dry area for re-installation. An unfortunate but common mistake occurs when building features are inaccurately assessed as unsalvageable and hastily removed by unknowing personnel. Consult the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for guidance and education as to which features are significant and potentially salvageable.

- Full or partial demolition permits should include criteria relating to historic properties. Approval should consider the potential impacts to the overall significance and integrity of the property or historic district.

- *Wind damage.* Damage caused by strong and destructive winds can include missing roof shingles, exterior siding, or broken windows or doors. If inclement weather is forecasted, holes should be covered with tarps or exterior grade wood to prevent further damage to the structure's interior.

    - Use tarps to cover damaged roofs until repairs can be made. Exterior grade plywood can be used to patch sheathing and roofing felt.

    - Secure loose gutters and downspouts.

    - Use temporary wood or plastic covers for broken window and door openings

    - Install temporary bracing where necessary.

- *Water infiltration.* One of the most damaging elements to historic buildings is water. It can expand wood, crack mortar, promote mold and mildew, and otherwise damage structural and historic features of your building and endanger the safety and wellbeing of its inhabitants.

    - Ventilate your building by opening doors, windows, and vents and use fans only if the electrical system is safe. Remove the skirting around porches to aid in the ventilation of the foundation. Dehumidifiers should be used only after natural ventilation no longer produces results as they can cause damage to historic materials by drying too quickly.

    - Masonry and concrete should be inspected regularly following

a major rain storm. Check for missing mortar and cracks, as they can indicate water inundation, soil erosion (around the foundation), wood expansion, or joist problems.

- Insulation should be inspected to determine whether removal is necessary. If it is water saturated, the insulation should be removed as it can impede ventilation, collapse under its own weight, or be rendered ineffective.

- Interior walls should be inspected for signs of water infiltration, particularly around window and door openings. Look for discoloration or bubbling or peeling paint. Damaged drywall will likely need to be replaced while plaster will need to be carefully inspected to determine whether repair or replacement is needed. Brace sagging ceilings and puncture drain holes where water is being held. Plaster will need to be dry before it is inspected for soundness. Sound plaster, especially decorative plaster, should be retained.

- Floors should be cleaned and dried. Wood warping may take several months to even out and settle, so repairs to tile, grout, or other laminates should occur after the wood has fully dried. Wood subfloors may need to be inspected depending on the extent of water infiltration.

- Interior and exterior painting should occur after the surfaces have completely dried to avoid bubbling and peeling of the new paint.

- Tin ceilings and cornices will rust and should be scraped and repainted with rust-resistant primer and paint. Cast iron should also be scraped and repainted. Copper, bronze, brass, and aluminum will resist rust but should be checked for dents and punctures.

Engaging with State and Federal Agencies

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding is available to municipalities, homeowners, and renters following a natural disaster, but only if the Commonwealth of Virginia has declared a state of emergency. The locality would determine the amount of damage incurred by residences, businesses, and infrastructure and submit an initial assessment to the Virginia Emergency Operations Center. An additional assessment by state and federal personnel may be performed and if the damage appears to meet federal criteria, a state of emergency may be declared by the governor and, if recovery efforts exceed the capability of the Commonwealth, a request is sent to the president of the United States for FEMA aid.

If the disaster results in a state of emergency and the president approves assistance, property owners should register with FEMA in order to apply for federal disaster assistance. Check www.disasterassistance.gov to find FEMA disaster recovery centers that can address immediate needs following the declaration of a state of emergency. Contact information for the regional FEMA office and the Virginia local Emergency Manager is provided at the end of this booklet.

In the past, FEMA funding has also been made available to state agencies, such as the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, to administer via grant programs. In the case of Hurricane Sandy, funding was made available in 2014 to applicants in FEMA-approved localities, for "the preservation, stabilization, rehabilitation, and repair of historic properties." The Town of Surry Historic District nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and this Disaster Mitigation Plan was funded in part by the Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Assistance Grant for Historic Properties, which was overseen by the National Park Service and administered by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Through this grant, municipalities could apply for funding to survey and assess historic properties as part of a plan to mitigate damage from future storms, or for funding for a development or construction project.

CHECKLISTS

Checklist for Pre-Disaster Efforts:

Establish benchmark conditions

- ☐ Photograph and otherwise document the existing interior and exterior condition of your property and develop an inventory of your belongings.
- ☐ Keep a copy of your property documentation in your own records.
- ☐ File a copy of your documentation with your insurance company.
- ☐ Store valuable documents in a flood- and fire-resistant home safe.

Maintain your property

- ☐ Keep roof shingles secure and strip flashing in place.
- ☐ Keep gutters and downspouts clear of debris.
- ☐ Be sure that downspouts direct storm water away from foundations.
- ☐ Ensure that your exterior siding is securely attached and free of cracks and damage.
- ☐ Maintain existing historic windows: clean, repaint, and reglaze as necessary.
- ☐ Fix and replace window caulking and weather stripping as needed to keep the windows watertight.
- ☐ Regularly check your smoke detectors and replace batteries every six months.
- ☐ Trim tree limbs that could cause damage to adjacent buildings or utilities.
- ☐ Keep and maintain an emergency supply of towels, blankets, or rags for water clean-up; a roll of plastic, spare tarps and rope for covering objects or roof repair; and plywood or lumber for temporary window and door protection and roof patching.

Secure your property

- ☐ Check the condition of your roof and siding, fixing and securing any areas that may lead to water infiltration.
- ☐ Ensure that your porch is securely attached to the building; use hurricane straps or bolts if needed, but be careful not to damage historic features such as decorative spandrels.
- ☐ Clear gutters and downspouts, installing downspout extensions if necessary.
- ☐ Seal doors and window with caulking; secure and protect doors and windows with shutters, plywood, or storm panels.
- ☐ Seal the cap and base of your chimney.
- ☐ Store or secure all loose outdoor objects, including trash cans, hoses, furniture, and toys
- ☐ Inside your building, consider moving valuable items away from windows and into safe containers, chests, or boxes.
- ☐ Coordinate with utility companies and follow their recommendations for shutting off services

City Officials

- ☐ The town should maintain the existing comprehensive survey, and update it as new construction or demolition occurs.
- ☐ Develop a GIS dataset for the Town of Surry Historic District that identifies whether buildings are contributing or non-contributing.
- ☐ Identify several areas throughout the town that could be used as staging areas in the case of an emergency. Additionally, identify areas that should be avoided due to their sensitive historical and/or architectural significance.
- ☐ Know who to contact at the Virginia Division of Historic Resources and the local FEMA office in the case of an emergency.

Checklist for Post-Disaster Efforts:

Before Clean-up and Repair Efforts Begin

- ☐ Document all damage to the exterior and interior of the property caused by the disaster using photographs and written descriptions.
- ☐ Contact your insurance agent to determine to what damage is covered by your policy.
- ☐ Use tarps to cover damaged roofs until repairs can be made. Exterior grade plywood can be used to patch sheathing and roofing felt.
- ☐ Secure loose gutters and downspouts.
- ☐ Use temporary wood or plastic covers for broken window and door openings.
- ☐ Install temporary bracing where necessary.

During Clean-up

- ☐ Ventilate your building by opening doors, windows, and vents. Use fans only if the electrical system is safe.
- ☐ Remove skirting around porches to ventilate the foundation.
- ☐ Use dehumidifiers to further dry a structure after natural ventilation no longer produces results, but not before, as they can cause damage to historic materials by drying too quickly.
- ☐ Inspect masonry and concrete for cracks, missing mortar, and other damage.
- ☐ Inspect and evaluate insulation to determine whether removal is necessary. Saturated insulation can cause damage to structures and should be removed.
- ☐ Inspect interior walls for signs of water infiltration: look for discoloration or bubbling or peeling paint.
- ☐ Salvage historic materials to the greatest extent possible. Store these materials in a dry area for re-installation.

- ☐ Damaged drywall will likely need to be replaced while plaster will need to be carefully inspected to determine whether repair or replacement is needed. Brace sagging ceilings and puncture drain holes where water is being held. Plaster will need to be dry before it is inspected for soundness. Sound plaster, especially decorative plaster, should be retained.

- ☐ Floors should be cleaned and dried. Wood warping may take several months to even out and settle, so repairs to tile, grout, or other laminates should occur after the wood has fully dried. Wood subfloors may need to be inspected depending on the extent of water infiltration.

- ☐ Interior and exterior painting should occur after the surfaces have completely dried to avoid bubbling and peeling of the new paint.

- ☐ Tin ceilings and cornices will rust and should be scraped and repainted with rust-resistant primer and paint. Cast iron should also be scraped and repainted. Copper, bronze, brass, and aluminum will resist rust but should be checked for dents and punctures.

City Officials

- ☐ Ensure that the Local Emergency Manager has an up-to-date copy of the historic resource survey. Recommend to disaster response teams the areas previously identified as appropriate for staging, and inform them of the areas that should be protected.

- ☐ Contact the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for guidance.

IMPROVING DISASTER MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL

The following are recommendations for improvements to Surry's Disaster Management Protocol.

- Assign specific roles and responsibilities to key members of local government.
    - Concrete duties and responsibilities should be assigned to key personnel.
- Establish a GIS layer for historic properties to be included in local and county datasets.
    - Including important historic resources in GIS layers will allow key personnel to identify threatened resources.
- Incorporate disaster management procedures into city planning.
    - Methods for minimizing potential damage to important historic resources should be considered during planning phases for new projects.

View of the Italianate-style Surry County Treasurer's Office, part of the Surry County Courthouse complex

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Surry County Emergency Services

Surry County Local Emergency Manager: 757-294-3044

http://www.surrycountyva.gov/departments/emergency-services/

Virginia Department of Emergency Management

Headquarters: 804-897-6500

http://www.vaemergency.gov/

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FEMA Region III Office (incl. VA): 215-931-5608

http://www.fema.gov

American Red Cross

http://www.redcross.org/find-help

Virginia Division of Historic Resources

Director, Eastern Region Preservation Office: 804-482-6099

http://dhr.virginia.gov/

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- *Virginia's Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan 2016-2021* (Virginia Department of Historic Resources, 2016-2021 Historic Preservation Plan) http://dhr.virginia.gov/pdf_files/2015compPlanHigherRes.pdf

- "The Case for Planning" (National Trust for Historic Preservation.) http://forum.savingplaces.org/learn/issues/sustainability/disaster-relief/disaster-planning

- *Come High Water – Seven Tips for Preparing for a Disaster* (National Trust for Historic Preservation) http://forum.savingplaces.org/blogs/forum-online/2014/08/18/come-high-water-seven-tips-for-preparing-for-a-disaster

- *Floodplain Management Bulletin on Historic Structures* (FEMA). For properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, there is an exemption opportunity in the National Flood Insurance Program that allows buildings within the 100-year flood plain not to be forced to elevate occupied floors above that level. If properly implemented, such an exemption still enables the property owner to obtain Federal Flood Insurance. https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/13411?id=3282

- *Holding the Line: Controlling Unwanted Moisture in Historic Buildings* (National Park Service, Preservation Brief 39). https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/39-control-unwanted-moisture.htm

- *Home Builder's Guide to Coastal Construction Technical Fact Sheet Series* (FEMA). A series of 31 technical fact sheets detailing such things as Using a Flood Insurance Rate Map, Moisture Barrier Systems, Coastal Building Materials, and more. https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/6131

- *Repair or Demolish: Protecting the investment in your older home* (National Trust for Historic Preservation). A fact-sheet on the benefits of restoring a flood-damaged home, created by the National Trust's Midwest Office in response to the 2008 flooding in Iowa. http://www.preservationiowa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/RepairDemolish_Iowa_Jul08.pdf

- *Treatment of Flood-Damaged Older and Historic Buildings* (National Trust for

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- *Fire Safety Retrofitting Guidelines for Historic Buildings* (General Services Administration). https://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/112794

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- "Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction." (Congressional Research Survey.) https://fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/R42845.pdf

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