

# HURRICANE HARVEY, IRMA, MARIA - ESHPF GRANT PROGRAM



## Architecture Center Houston Foundation 1906 Houston • Harris County • Texas

### History

Originally constructed as a warehouse in 1906, the B.A. Riesner Building is a contributing member of the Main Street Market Square Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Its design is attributed to H.C. Cooke and Company, Architects. With related Georgian and late Victorian influences, the three-story brick building incorporates decorative brickwork at the cornice and headers of second-story windows on both street facing elevations.

### Rehabilitation Project

Before construction and prior to the availability of the HIM-ESHPF grant program, the applicant worked with the THC Texas Historic Preservation Tax Credit team regarding design of the exterior and interior rehabilitation. Prior to the space opening, Hurricane Harvey flooded the interior.

To increase building storm resiliency and balance hydrostatic pressure at historic masonry systems, a hybrid, enhanced flood mitigation system was integrated to allow portions of the interior to flood in extreme conditions and retain certain areas as dry rooms. Additional work included flood doors, static pressure devices, water stops, concrete masonry wall systems, mechanical platforms, and plaster systems.

DESIGNATION: Historic District,  
National Register of Historic Places

HISTORIC USE: Warehouse

CURRENT USE: Architecture Center  
Houston

QUALIFIED EXPENSES: \$249,567

CERTIFIED: July 18, 1983

CONTACT: Architecture Center  
Houston Foundation