Coastal Resiliency in Historical Perspective: Challenges for Historic Communities

Texas Historical Commission, Real Places 2020
Great Galveston Hurricane

Dates: 08/27 - 09/15 1900
Maximum Wind Speed: 145 mph
Minimum Pressure: - mb
US Landfall Category: Category 4 Hurricane
Deaths: 12000
US Damage (Millions US $): 30

Storm Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Wind Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>74-95 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>96-110 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>111-130 mph</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>131-155 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>156+ mph</td>
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</tbody>
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Weather Underground
THE GALVESTON FLOOD

THE FLOOD KEEPS THE AUDITORIUM COOL

The Very Latest Exhibition of the Triumphs of the Electrician, Scenic Artists and Genius of the Stage Mechanic Produced on a TREMENDOUS STAGE 150 Feet Wide by 100 Deep.

It Is, Without Doubt, Coney Island's Most Ingenious and Instructive Amusement Feature.

THE GALVESTON FLOOD

A $300,000 PRODUCTION

S.S.R.V. AVE. Opp. the Old Culver Depot.
The “Tilting Hilton” The floor isn’t on the joists any longer
There is one phrase that comes to mind when people see this “not good, not good at all.”
Pat Sparks, 
Structural Engineer
Name one thing that makes a preservationist nervous? Well, this is one
In 11 years we’ve never had a leak here, otherwise this new Scalamandre fabric would not be on the walls.
Rosewood Cemetery
Historical Forms of Intervention in Coastal Communities

- Raised buildings
- Foundation clips
- Window and door shutters
- Quality building materials
- Sensitivity to climate (sun, wind, etc.)
Forms of Resilience Intervention

- Water barriers
- Clean and Dry
- Elevation
- Relocation
- Retrofit
- Planning and Readiness
Strand Mechanic, National Historic Landmark District
SECTION 2 - GALVESTON CHALLENGES

2.1. Harassing Gulf Storms - Overlay Map of Ike Damage Assessment + 1900 Full & Partial Damage

Over recent decades, when the practices of raising land levels or infilling lower floors have become insurmountable following harassing gulf storms, the convention of raising entire dwellings (be they historic house or new residence) began to dramatically reconfigure the visual character of streetscapes that became evermore cluttered by exterior stairways and eventually handicap ramps of all shapes and sizes.

This map accentuates the destruction zones of two major storms and visually exemplify the continuous reconstruction that the island undertakes.
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