

2017 Water-Oriented Villages Historic Resources Risk Assessment

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Talbot County, Maryland

PROJECT DETAILS

DIFFICULTY: Medium

COST: \$25,000-\$50,000

TIMEFRAME: Four (4) Months

DELIVERABLES: Risk assessment and mitigation strategy

CORE COMPETENCIES:

- Plan integration
- GIS Analysis
- Risk Assessment
- Hazard Mitigation Planning

RESULTS: The risk assessment and mitigation strategy for Talbot County's historic and cultural resources will be integrated into the County's hazard mitigation plan. This will be the first Hazard Mitigation Plan in the State of Maryland to have a cultural resources element.

PROJECT TEAM

Vision Planning & Consulting
Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative (ESRGC)
WSB

CLIENT CONTACT

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Vision Planning & Consulting was selected by the Historic Preservation Commission of Talbot County, Maryland, to conduct a risk assessment of the historic resources in four Talbot County's villages: Tilghman Island, Neavitt, Newcomb, and Royal Oak. The goal of the project is to enhance the capability of vulnerable historic properties and cultural resources to withstand the impact of natural hazards such as flooding and sea level change, while still maintaining their cultural integrity. The project was funded by a grant from the National Park Service and administered by the Maryland Historical Trust.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Vision Planning & Consulting, in partnership with Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative of Salisbury University, and WSB, delivered a comprehensive look at the flood vulnerability of historic and cultural resources in the County's four villages along the Chesapeake Bay.

An estimated 25-30 properties were identified as high priority, based on the results of the risk assessment. The flood model identifies properties that are most at-risk from the 10%, 5%, 2%, 1%, and 0.2% chance of flood for 2016, as well as from sea level rise for the years 2050 and 2100. Potential dollar losses associated with these properties have been estimated and will be included in the final report.

A comprehensive mitigation strategy to reduce long-term vulnerability to flood damage was developed for 25 representative properties across the four villages. Each of the at-risk properties in the Chesapeake Bay waterfront villages contains mitigation actions as simple as planting trees and vegetation, to such complex actions as elevating a building, constructing a berm or

floodwall, to even relocating the building altogether.

The project team ensured compliance with practices with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (36 CFR 68) to avoid and minimize potential adverse effects to historic properties when proposing alterations of any kind.

The 25 representative properties are sorted by building type, such as: Queen Anne, Bungalow, and Gothic Revival. The goal of the Building chapter of the final assessment is to highlight the fact that most suggested mitigation actions for a specific building type would also be applicable to other buildings of the same type or circumstance in the village, or even across other villages along the Bay.