



Hood House Floodproofing Project

Full Mitigation Best Practice Story

Strafford County, New Hampshire

Durham, NH - In October of 1996 the Hood House on the campus of the University of New Hampshire (UNH) at Durham flooded, causing \$11,848 in damages. Damages were held to a minimum because of the swift action of the University Building and Grounds personnel. If the event occurred during off hours potential for damage would have exceeded \$118,000. In addition, there have been numerous minor flooding incidents at the facility.



The floodproofing project consisted of upgrading a perimeter footing and rain leader drainage system around the building. Previously, a clay tile drainage system in place did not have the proper capacity to carry ground water due to a storm event away from the perimeter of the foundation and basement areas. FEMA Region I partnered with the State of New Hampshire, Local Contractors, UNH Building and Grounds personnel, professors and students to complete the project. The Hood House (which is listed the National Register of Historic Places) is now floodproofed and re-landscaped.

The project was complete in September 1998 and has survived rains and storm events which in the past would have caused flooding. The appurtenant landscaping that was designed by University professors and completed by University students has enhanced the features of this historic structure.

Activity/Project Location

Geographical Area: **Single County in a State**

FEMA Region: **Region I**

State: **New Hampshire**

County: **Strafford County**

City/Community: **Durham**

Key Activity/Project Information

Sector: **Public**

Hazard Type: **Severe Storm; Flooding**

Activity/Project Type: **Flood-proofing**

Structure Type: **Wood Frame**

Activity/Project Start Date: **12/1997**

Activity/Project End Date: **09/1998**

Funding Source: **Local Sources; Private funds; State sources**

Funding Recipient: **Cultural Facility**

Funding Recipient Name: **University of New Hampshire**

Activity/Project Economic Analysis

Cost: **\$87,600.00 (Actual)**

Activity/Project Disaster Information

Mitigation Resulted From Federal
Disaster? **Yes**

Federal Disaster #: **1144 , 10/29/1996**

Value Tested By Disaster? **No**

Repetitive Loss Property? **Unknown**

Reference URLs

Reference URL 1: <http://www.floodsmart.gov/>

Reference URL 2: <http://www.nhoem.state.nh.us/>

Main Points

- The floodproofing project consisted of upgrading a perimeter footing and rain leader drainage system around the building.
- FEMA Region I partnered with the State of New Hampshire, Local Contractors, University of NH Building and Grounds personnel, professors and students to complete the project.
- The project was complete in September 1998 and has survived rains and storm events which in the past would have caused flooding.