Symposium on Flooding & Pennsylvania’s Historic River Towns
The Final Day of the 2016 Pennsylvania Statewide Conference on Heritage

Wednesday, June 8, 2016
9:00am – 4:00pm

The Campus Theatre
413 Market Street
Historic Downtown Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
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Program Background

Throughout Pennsylvania’s early periods of development, its older communities settled along the banks of the state’s more than 86,000 miles of streams, during a time when rivers and creeks functioned as not only a vital source of human sustenance, but as sources of industrial power and the backbone of the Keystone State’s first transportation and commerce networks.

Pennsylvania’s early settlement patterns have led the state to become one of the most flood vulnerable and flood-damaged states in the nation. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency has identified flooding as the single greatest natural threat to life and property in each of the state’s 67 counties; a threat which is only expected to become more severe in future years as a result of more intense and frequent heavy rainfall events. Since 1978, Pennsylvania communities have received nearly $1.2 billion in payments from the National Flood Insurance Program, covering damages from flood events.

While Pennsylvania’s historic river towns have been mostly resilient in the wake of several catastrophic floods, these communities may not fare as well in the future, following the federal government’s recent reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program which have already led to drastic increases in flood insurance premiums for a vast majority of the owners of flood-prone properties. These drastic increases in premiums are making it infeasible for many residents and business owners in historic river towns—where property values and incomes are modest—to remain in their homes and places of business. This change threatens the building stock and community fabric of historic districts throughout the state.

Today’s event is convening in beautiful Lewisburg, where nearly 40% of the borough’s charming historic district is in the floodplain of the Susquehanna River. We’ll explore not only the implications of federal flood insurance reform on towns like Lewisburg and their historic districts, but also the complex issue of how to sensitively retrofit these towns’ historic buildings for flood mitigation purposes in a manner that preserves their character and integrity and will not preclude their historical designation.

This first-of-its-kind Symposium on Flooding and Pennsylvania’s Historic River Towns has attracted a diverse audience of preservationists, emergency managers, engineers, architects, floodplain managers, planners, concerned citizens and property owners, and elected officials, and seeks to foster a common understanding of this critical issue and its challenges, as well as facilitate the creation of new interdisciplinary alliances to address them. It is also intended to be the first conversation of many on this critical topic. Let’s continue this conversation!

Questions related to today’s program and topics may be directed to:
Jeremy R. Young | Project Manager, Disaster Planning for Historic Properties Initiative
Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office
jereyoung@pa.gov

Thank you for attending! We welcome your feedback.
Reducing Risk, Lowering Flood Insurance Premiums, and Balancing Preservation

1:00 PM—3:00 PM

Roderick Scott, CFM | Roderick has been involved in historic preservation for over 15 years serving as preservation commission chair at the county and community level and as a Governor appointed Trustee of the Iowa State Historic Society and as board member and chair of Preservation Iowa. In 2008 the massive flooding in Iowa led Rod into the disaster recovery field where he pioneered the use of federal and state income tax credits for the rebuilding of multiple historic properties for tens of millions of dollars of work. Rod was a flood and historic restoration contractor for 25 years and transitioned into structure elevation for flood hazard mitigation in 2009 in Louisiana. Rod helped start a $5 million elevation company to help service the needs of over 1,500 property owners elevate their homes in Louisiana. In 2010, he project managed the National Czech and Slovak Museum relocation in Cedar Rapids and the elevation of the three historic Santa Fe Railroad Historic District buildings along the Mississippi River in 2010. In 2011 Rod pioneered a public education outreach program on how elevation works in upstate New York after Hurricane Irene and redeploys the program in New Jersey/New York area after Sandy. The program was presented at 29 venues to over 4,000 people and the YouTube posts are at around 13,000 views. This program, sponsored by the elevation industry, was awarded the 2014 Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Floodproofing award. Rod was awarded his Certified Flood Plain Manager certificate in 2014 and is currently providing CEU flood hazard mitigation education to architects, engineers and code officials.

Jenny Parker, LEED AP | Jenny is an architectural historian in the Technical Preservation Services branch of the National Park Service. Since joining NPS in 2006 she has been working on guidance related to incorporating green and sustainable features into historic preservation projects. In 2009 she published Interpreting the Standards Bulletin 52: “Incorporating Solar Panels in a Rehabilitation Project,” and followed that in 2011 with the launch of a website dedicated to the topic of sustainability and historic preservation. Ms. Parker is also responsible for the review of Federal Historic Tax Credit projects for compliance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and has published two versions of an “Introduction to Federal Tax Credits for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings” focusing on Rowhouses and Wood Frame Houses. Ms. Parker holds a Master of Fine Arts in Historic Preservation from Savannah College of Art & Design and a Bachelor of Science in Building Science from Auburn University.

Jennifer Eggleston | Jennifer came to the National Park Service in 2007 to serve as the primary grants manager and team lead for the Hurricane Katrina and Rita Recovery Grant program and the Hurricane Sandy Recovery Grant program. Jennifer deployed in 2012 under the National Response Framework to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to assist in the Hurricane Isaac recovery efforts. Additionally, she served on a historic preservation response team to New Orleans, Louisiana post Hurricane Katrina. She now serves as management assistant to the Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science. Before coming to the National Park Service Jennifer worked at an education nonprofit and the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Community Revitalization Department in a real estate development program.

Agenda

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic and Speakers</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM—9:10 AM</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introductory Remarks&lt;br&gt;Jeremy R. Young, Project Manager, Disaster Planning for Historic Properties Initiative, Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office</td>
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<td>9:10 AM—10:30 AM</td>
<td>Framing the Discussion&lt;br&gt;Overview of Pennsylvania’s historic river towns including a discussion of their historical and cultural significance, as well as their settlement patterns and resulting vulnerability to flooding, the Keystone State’s greatest natural threat.&lt;br&gt;Speakers&lt;br&gt;Silas Chamberlin, Ph.D., Executive Director, Schuylkill River National Heritage Area; &lt;br&gt;Daniel Fitzpatrick, CFM, PA’s National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator, Governor’s Center for Local Government Services; Pennsylvania Department of Community &amp; Economic Development</td>
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<td>10:30 AM—12:00 Noon</td>
<td>Federal Flood Insurance Reform: Threat to Community Resilience?&lt;br&gt;A discussion on the implications of recent reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program and rising flood insurance premiums on Pennsylvania’s historic river towns and districts.&lt;br&gt;Speakers&lt;br&gt;J. Lara Fowler, J.D., Pennsylvania State University, and L. Donald Duke, Ph.D., P.E., Florida Gulf Coast University, researchers from a team selected by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania to research the impacts of The Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 on Pennsylvania communities; Samantha Pearson, Executive Director/Elm Street Manager, Lewsburg Neighborhoods Corporation; Frances McJunkin, CFM, Deputy Director, and Joshua Schnitzlein, CFM, Hazard Reduction Planner, Lycoming County Planning &amp; Community Development</td>
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<td>12:00 Noon—1:00 PM</td>
<td>Networking Lunch&lt;br&gt;Lunch will be provided and is included in the cost of registration.</td>
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<td>1:00 PM—3:00 PM</td>
<td>Reducing Risk, Lowering Flood Insurance Premiums, and Balancing Preservation&lt;br&gt;Exploring sensitive mitigation options and the challenges of balancing risk reduction and the preservation of integrity and historic character.&lt;br&gt;Speakers&lt;br&gt;Jenny Parker, LEED AP, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services; Jennifer Eggleston, Management Assistant, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Office of the Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science; Roderick Scott, CFM, Flood Mitigation/Historic Resources Specialist, L&amp;R Resources, LLC, New Orleans Metropolitan Area</td>
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<td>3:00 PM—4:00 PM</td>
<td>Next Steps&lt;br&gt;What the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office and its partners (PEMA, FEMA, and others) are doing in the short-term to address the critical issue of flooding in Pennsylvania’s historic rivers and communities.&lt;br&gt;Speakers&lt;br&gt;Jeremy R. Young, Project Manager, Disaster Planning for Historic Properties Initiative, Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office; Amanda Ciampolillo, Regional Environmental Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region III</td>
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Speaker Biographies

Framing the Discussion

9:10 AM—10:30 AM

Silas Chamberlin, Ph.D. | Dr. Chamberlin is the executive director of the Schuylkill River National Heritage Area, an organization that uses conservation, education, trail development, and cultural resource management to promote community revitalization and economic development across five counties of southeastern Pennsylvania. The heritage area’s most high-profile projects are developing and promoting the 130-mile Schuylkill River Trail, which will link Philadelphia to Pottsville, and working in riverfront communities to better connect with the Schuylkill River. Previously, Silas was a regional advisor in the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources and senior director at the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor. Silas holds a PhD in environmental history from Lehigh University (2014), a MA in history from Lehigh (2008), and a BA in history from Temple University (2006). His book, “On the Trail: A History of American Hiking,” will be available from Yale University Press in October 2016. Silas’s writing about history and the environment have also appeared in Landscape Architecture Magazine, Pennsylvania History, and elsewhere. His research and advocacy work have received awards from the International Trails Symposium, the Association of Environmental Studies & Sciences, and the American Society for Environmental History.

Daniel Fitzpatrick, CFM | Mr. Fitzpatrick came to work for the Governor’s Center for Local Government Services within the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) in 2003 after a private sector career in the real estate and franchising industries. In his current position as State Coordinator for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), he provides technical assistance, training and outreach to over 2,450 Pennsylvania municipalities who participate in the NFIP on wide variety of topics related to floodplain management, ordinance adoption, administration and enforcement, hazard mitigation, interpretation of regulations, the Community Rating System and PEMA’s Map Modernization and Risk Map Program. He is a participant in the Susquehanna River Basin Commission’s Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee, Delaware River Basin Commission Flood Mitigation Task Force and PEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project Review Panel among others and is co-chair of the Training and Outreach Subcommittee for the PA Association of Flood Plain Managers. He is a Certified Flood Plain Manager by the national organization Association of State Flood Plain Managers and also is DCED’s Lead Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer to the State Emergency Management Council.

Federal Flood Insurance Reform: Threat to Historic Communities’ Resilience?

10:30 AM—12:00 Noon

Lara Fowler, J.D. | Dr. Fowler is a mediator and an attorney who focuses on environmental and natural resource law, including all things water. Prior to joining Penn State in 2012, she worked on public policy issues for the Oregon Water Resources Department, attended the University of Washington School of Law, and served as a mediator and an attorney with a law firm in Seattle, Washington. As a private practitioner, she mediated issues such groundwater storage rights in the greater Los Angeles area; chronic flooding issues in Washington State’s second largest river basin; and reallocation of water supplies in Oregon’s Deschutes River Basin. In addition, she counseled private clients on various regulatory matters, both water and energy related. She now holds a joint appointment as a Senior Lecturer at Penn State Law and a Research Fellow with the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment where she is researching how water and conflict play out in a region that includes Marcellus Shale development, the Chesapeake Bay, and flood prone rivers. Lara is also a member of the Chesapeake Bay

L. Donald Duke, Ph.D., P.E. | Don Duke is a Professor of Environmental Studies at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU). He earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering along with a B.A. in English at the University of Pennsylvania; and M.S. and Ph.D. at Stanford University in Civil and Environmental Engineering with a concentration in Resources Planning. Prof. Duke taught for eight years at UCLA School of Public Health; worked for two years with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles region; moved to the University of South Florida in 2002; and since 2007 has been at Florida Gulf Coast University. Prof. Duke is a Visiting Scholar of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Bucknell University in Lewisburg PA. In 2012 he spent a year as Visiting Professor, and since that time has spent three summers at Bucknell conducting research on flood management policies of small towns in central Pennsylvania. During Summer 2016 he will again be in residence at Bucknell working on research for the Center for Rural Pennsylvania investigating effects of federal programs, including the Biggert-Waters Act and the National Flood Insurance Program, on the flood mitigation, management, and response programs of rural communities throughout Pennsylvania.

Frances McJunkin, CFM | Mrs. McJunkin joined the Lycoming County Department of Planning and Community Development in 2005. In her capacity as Hazard Reduction Planner, Mrs. McJunkin managed the aftermath of the 2004 Ivan floods, secured three million dollars of FEMA HMGP grants to acquire 20 properties located in the floodplain including a 40 pad mobile home park which was in the regulatory floodway. In 2007 she was promoted to GIS Supervisor overseeing the GIS and Land Records staff. In 2011 she was promoted to Deputy Director. Lycoming County is currently finalizing a RISK Map Project with maps effective June 2016. Major initiatives includes housing mitigation and rezoning in the floodplain as well as integrating mitigation plans into the broader county comprehensive plan. Mrs. McJunkin graduated for Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science (Government and Public Service) and Economics in 1980 and completed a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in GIS in 2009. Mrs. McJunkin became a Certified Floodplain Manager in 2006.

Joshua Schnitzlein, CFM | Josh joined the Lycoming County Planning Department in January 2016 to serve as the Hazard Mitigation Planner. Previously, he worked at the Howard County Department of Planning in Maryland as the graduate assistant to the Director of Special Projects. In that capacity he oversaw a market analysis and business inventory survey of the MD Route 1 corridor to facilitate economic revitalization. Prior to that, he was a research assistant at the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education. In this position he conducted transit and land use planning studies in and around the D.C. metro region, including an analysis of the popular D.C. Capital Bikeshare ridership trends, a firm relocation analysis of WMATA transit stations, and a station-type typology of economic potential for the upcoming Maryland Purple Line. Before transitioning to a career in community planning, Josh also worked for the U.S. Department of Justice at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Baltimore, MD. Josh holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government and a Masters in Community Planning from the University of Maryland, College Park, and currently serves as a combat medic in the Army National Guard.

Samantha Pearson | Samantha is the Director of the Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation and the Elm Street Manager in Lewisburg Borough. The Elm Street Program is a state program complementing the national Main Street Program by focusing on neighborhood revitalization in historic, walkable neighborhoods in close proximity to historic economic centers. She works on a variety of neighborhood revitalization projects,