FLOOD ADAPTATION AND HISTORIC COMMUNITIES

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Flood is the predominant threat to many historic communities in Maryland.
The only formal guidance available are these two publications from FEMA.
Loss of Neighborhood Character

Individual flood protection of buildings can erode neighborhood character.
The elevated yellow house does not look out of place in this historic streetscape.
Mitigation should be implemented at the community level, rather than piecemeal protection of individual properties.
Flood mitigation should consider how a community has historically adapted to flood.

In Crisfield, houses were constructed on high block foundations after a series of vicious coastal storms in the 1930s.
Many residents of “Maryland’s Lost Islands” moved their houses off-island to the mainland.

Source:
http://www.houseforsaleeasternshore.com/houseforsaleeasternshore/standardave/index.htm
MHT’s Flood Guidance

• How-to guide for planning that addresses all phases of the emergency management cycle and adaptation to a changing climate
• Promotes community-wide mitigation
• Guides communities towards achieving a balance between preservation and protection
• Addresses the potential need for migration away from flood-prone areas
• Available in the Spring of 2018
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