Rapid Building and Site Condition Assessment Definitions

Residential Units: the # of times a structure has been divided for a family living unit. E.g., a common house is 1 unit, a duplex is 2 units, and apartment buildings may be divided into any number.

Foundation: what connects a structure to the ground; this can be done in many different ways. For Example.:

- Pier
- Slab
- Chain Wall
- Basement

Roof type: the general shape of a roof. For example:

- Hipped
- Gable
- Mansard
- Pyramid
- Flat

Historic designation: when a structure or site is deemed important by a governing body because of its place in history or culture (may be an individual landmark or “background” in a district)

Depth of water measured from the main floor: defined as the level that the storm waters rose in relation to the main living or business level of the structure (may be a positive or negative number)

Sediment deposited: mud, sediment, or chemical sludge left by the flood.

Parapet: an exterior wall that continues above the roof line.

Abbreviations used:

Nat’l Hist. Landmark(s): nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States.

Nat’l Reg / District: the National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of cultural resources (individual sites or whole districts) worthy of preservation.

SHPO: State Historic Preservation Office.

Detailed evaluations recommended:

Structural: there is some question as to the overall stability of the building due to storm damage; this could include the ground being washed out from beneath it.

Environmental: there is concern about the safety or condition of the structure due to overwhelming environmental conditions. This may include chemical or waste spills, broken or leaking sewage or gas lines, or large amounts of decaying materials.

Archaeological: survey needs to be done if there is evidence of artifact deposits present that have or could be disturbed due to the storm or storm recovery.

Historic Significance: refers to the importance of a structure due to its age, unique style or as a possible place of importance to history.

Collections: evaluation must be done if obvious gatherings of historic materials are present. This may include libraries, museums, or archives (records).