FLOOD HAZARDS

Impacts and Responses for the Built Environment

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Edited by

Jessica Lamond Colin Booth Felix Hammond David Proverbs



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Preface

As recent flooding events show worldwide, the impact of flooding on the built environment can cause widespread chaos. These flood events form part of a wider pattern of increasing flood frequency coupled with increased vulnerability of the built environment to flood hazard. Arguably, in the developed world there exists the technology to handle the vast majority of flood events, either through built-in resilience, prevention of small-scale regular flooding, or prediction and evacuation during large-scale disasters. However, events in the United Kingdom (UK) during the summers of 2007 and 2009 have revealed that, while agencies are well prepared and briefed for the majority of circumstances, flood victims remain unconvinced that the best actions have been taken. The debate surrounding the role of government, insurer, property professional, NGO (nongovernmental organization), coastal engineer, and flood victim has been played out in the media.

The idea for this book stemmed from the synergy developed within the EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council)-funded international network of experts in flood repair (www.floodrepair.net), which is led by the University of Wolverhampton. This unique network of academics, property stakeholders, and restoration specialists, together with the involvement of international experts, provided a forum for exchange of ideas that has proved highly valuable. It emerged that flood management is constantly evolving, and valuable experience has been gained in the emergency management, recovery, and restoration processes in recent years. Some of this experience has yet to be captured in the literature. The aim of this book is to disseminate these discussions to a wider audience. In this book, practitioners, researchers, restorers, insurers, and policy makers discuss their perspectives on the wide issues surrounding flood risk management in one unique volume.

About the Editors

Jessica Lamond, B.Sc. (Honors), M.Sc., Ph.D., is a research fellow in the Construction and Infrastructure Department at the University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom. Her areas of research specialism are in the field of flood risk management and property valuation studies. She has conducted research projects for research councils, government departments, the Environment Agency, private industry, and the RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors), and has published twelve peer-reviewed journal and conference articles in the field. Recent projects include a strategic review of the impact of climate change on the risk of flooding for individual developments, guidance for the drying of buildings following flooding, and availability and cost of property-level flood risk information. She has a particular interest in structural and nonstructural flood resilience, flood insurance, the long-term financial impacts of flooding, information asymmetry in property valuation, the barriers and incentives for adaptation of the built environment to meet the challenges of climate change, and the measurement of environmental impacts within the built environment.

Colin Booth, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D., PGCE, is a senior lecturer in the Environmental Engineering Department at the University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom, with a background in geology and environmental modeling. Booth has an international research profile and, as such, he has authored or coauthored approximately 80 scientific publications (articles and chapters) in international peer-reviewed journals and books. The themes of these works are reflected in those areas of his research interests, which include environmental magnetism and urban pollution, water engineering and resource management, sustainable development and waste management, soil erosion and conservation management, and coastal and estuarine engineering.

Felix Hammond, B.Sc., PGCE, MBA, LLM, Ph.D., MGIS, FHEA, is a senior lecturer and a member of the Surveying and Property Research Group at the University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom. He is a real estate economics and finance specialist with considerable experience in real estate policy and development economics—related research and analysis. Hammond has published widely in these specialized areas. He has served on various international development projects that impinge on land and real estate dating back to 1995. An example of such is the Ghana Environmental Resource Management Project (GERMP), which closed in (1995–1998) under the auspices of the World Bank and the Danish International Development Association (DANIDA). Hammond served as a real estate specialist on the 15-year, World Bank—led, \$US55.0 million Ghana Land Administration Project, which is aimed at reorganizing the land sector of that country as a way of facilitating poverty reduction.

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