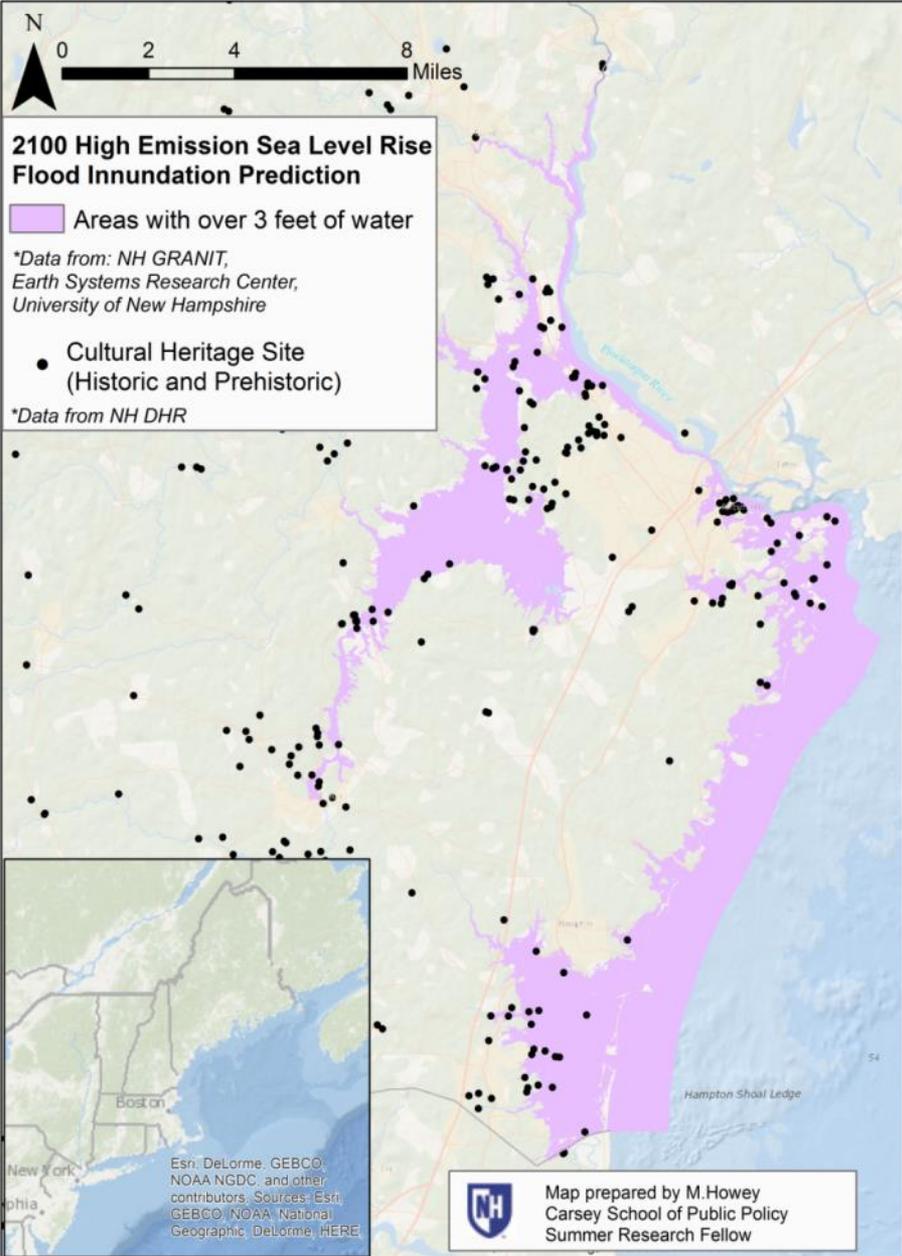


# ARE YOU PREPARED FOR DISASTER?

• Shorelands Workshop  
• 30 July 2015





# How Might Climate Change Affect Cultural Resources?

- Sea level rise
- Extreme precipitation events
- Drought
- High winds
- Tornados/hurricanes
- Increase in freeze and thaw cycles
- Extreme temperature swings and energy use
- Changes in seasons – agriculture, plantings, recreation, tourism

It's not just  
natural  
disasters...

we should BE  
PREPARED  
regardless of climate.





# What Is a Cultural Resource?



A district, site, landscape, building, structure or object that is significant in the history, architecture, engineering, archaeology or culture of this state, its communities, or the nation.



# How Might Climate Change Affect Cultural Resources?

- Sea level rise
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- Drought
- High winds
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- Increase in freeze and thaw cycles
- Extreme temperature swings and energy use
- Changes in seasons – agriculture, plantings, recreation, tourism
- Erosion
- Flooding
- Rain and wind damage
- Building damage
- Landscape changes
- Destruction of archaeological sites
- Economy – local businesses, tourism, importance of economy to resilience

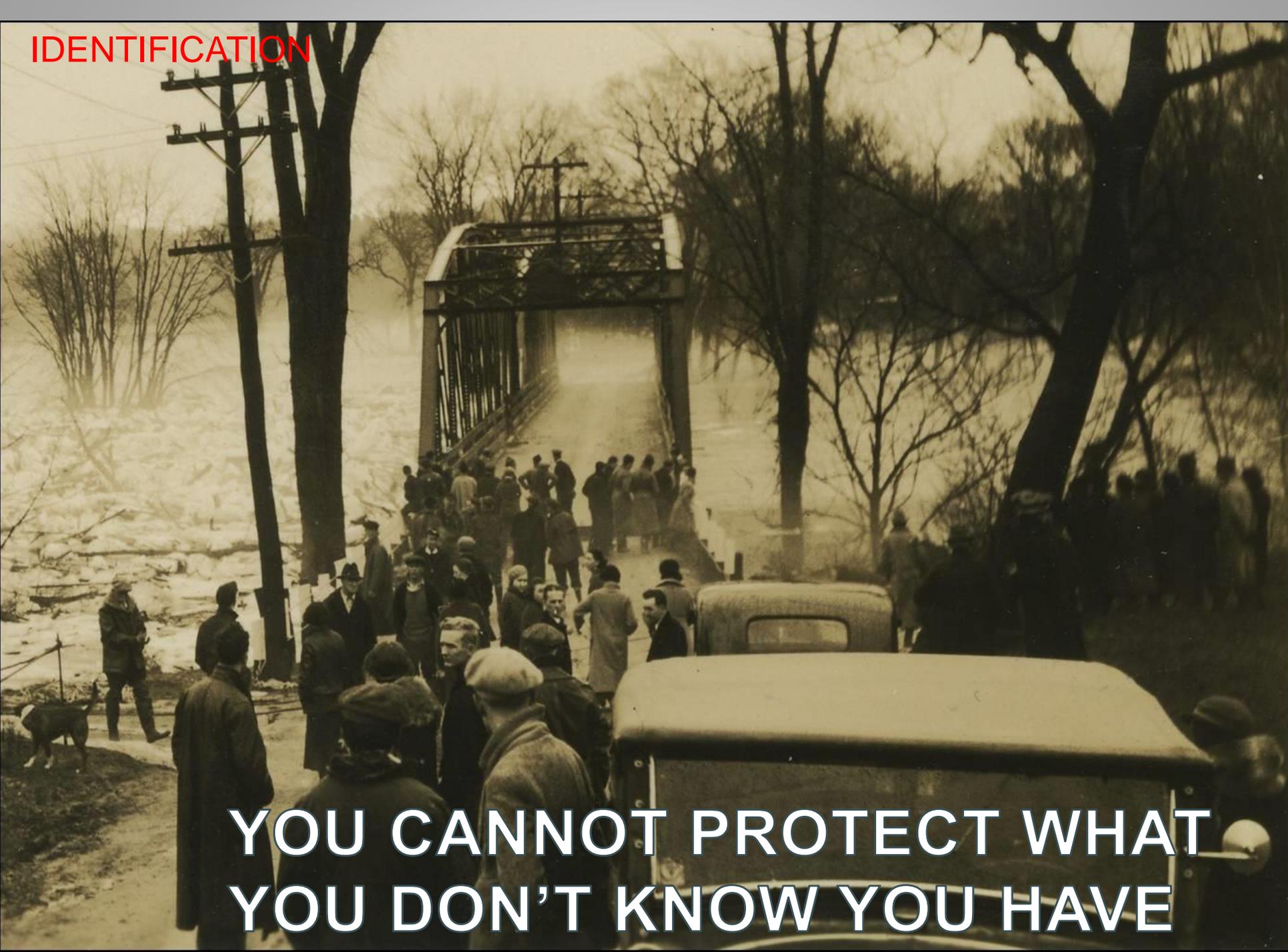
# Earthquakes ? In NH?







IDENTIFICATION

A black and white photograph showing a large crowd of people gathered on a bridge over a river. The bridge has a metal truss structure. In the foreground, the backs of several vintage cars are visible. The scene is set in a wooded area with bare trees, suggesting a winter or late autumn setting. A utility pole is visible on the left side of the bridge. The overall atmosphere is one of a significant public event or gathering.

YOU CANNOT PROTECT WHAT  
YOU DON'T KNOW YOU HAVE

# What defines your community?

- History
- Heritage
- Landscape
- Culture
- Buildings
- Sites
- Cultural Institutions
- Do you know what your resources are?
- Are they documented in a way that future generations will also know what you have?
- Don't rely too heavily on things "everyone knows." This isn't planning, and it's definitely not disaster planning.

# What can you do?

- Nothing. Not by yourself. But as a community? You can plan ahead to minimize damage and know what to do *when, not if*, disaster strikes.
- Start with community conversations.

# WHO SHOULD BE INVOLVED?

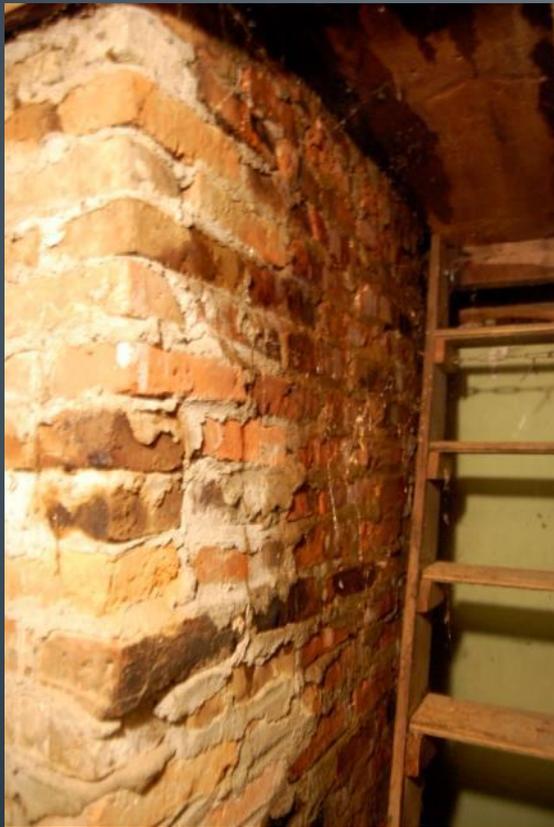
- Existing Commissions: Heritage, Historic District, Agricultural, Cemetery, Conservation, Local Energy, Planning
- Town or City staff, code officials
- Emergency managers, police and fire departments
- Libraries and museums and historical societies.  
Neighborhoods. School groups, senior groups – everyone who is concerned about your community.
- **Your town has an Emergency Management plan. Do you know what's in it? Are cultural resources part of it?**
- Partnerships are everything.

# Case Study: Tuscaloosa, AL



# Gilman Garrison Storm Damage 2010

Wind driven rains causing  
leak around chimney



Water damage to 18<sup>th</sup>  
century plaques



# Wind Damage to Archaeological Sites

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## Hurricane Sandy – Tree Blow Down



TECHNOLOGY SERVING THE  
FUTURE OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE

# Hurricane Sandy Coastal Damage on Block Island, RI



# Storm damage to coastal archaeological sites

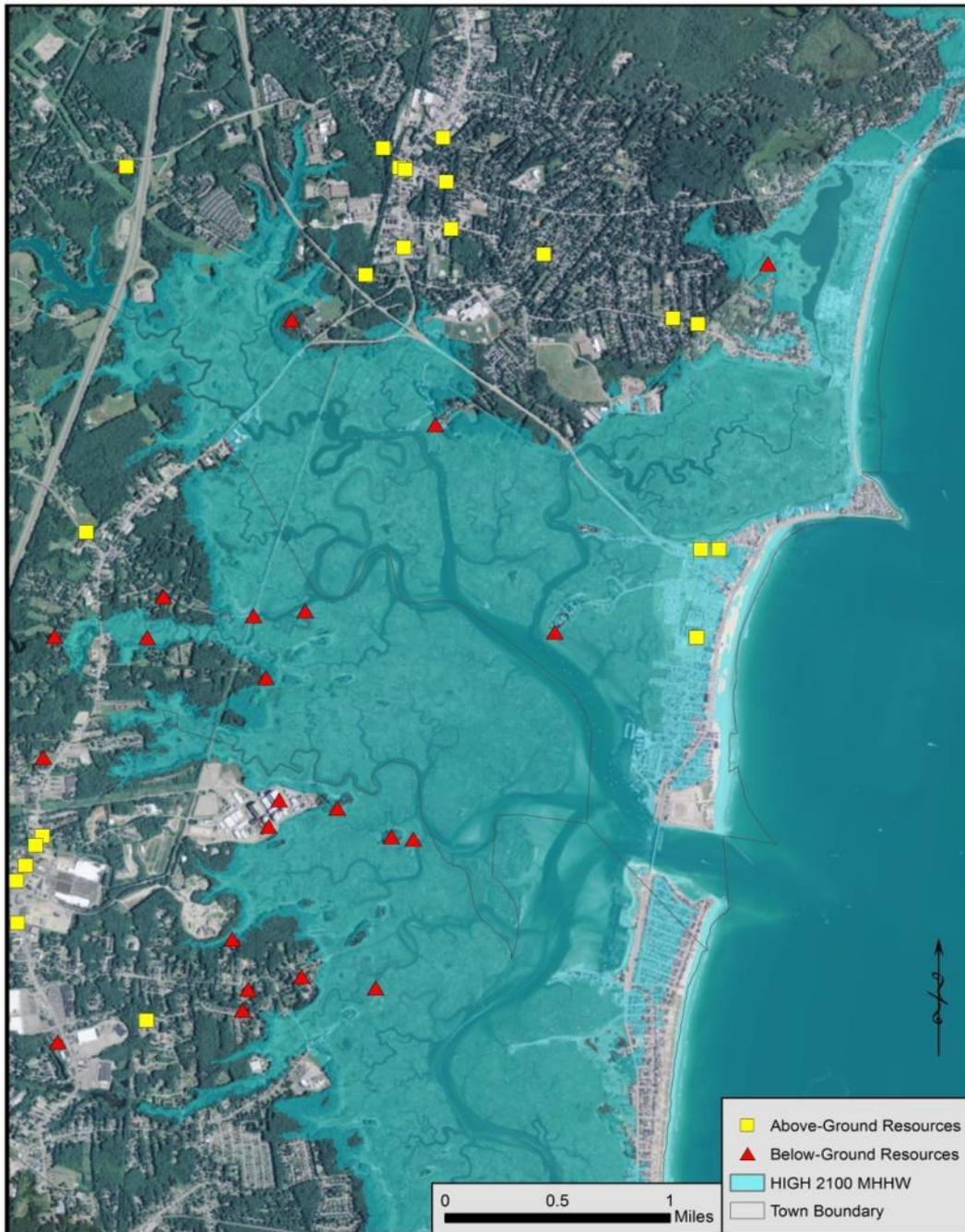
before and after



# Historic mill site lost to heavy rains and flooding







# Why Cultural Resources Matter

- People are attached to the places in their lives that facilitate relationships and give a sense of group identity or belonging.
- Attachment to place helps facilitate reconstruction after a disaster.
- Place is *specific*, not general.
- Communities are dynamic. Change is inevitable. Which places seem to remain, imbued with meaning, that might help promote resilience – the ability to move forward after a disaster in a place that people feel connected to and protective of?
- These decisions about *what defines a community* must come from *within the community*

# What can you do about it?

- GRANTS!
- Pre-Disaster Planning Grants for Communities in Belknap, Carroll, Coos, Grafton, Rockingham and Sullivan Counties
- Priorities include:
  - Identification and inventory of particularly vulnerable or significant historic and archaeological sites
  - Townwide, district or neighborhood inventories, or inventories that benefit the greatest number of resources
  - Updates to previous historic inventories
  - Listing eligible properties or districts to the National Register
  - Disaster mitigation plans for properties or districts
  - Other innovative projects that can serve as a model for other communities or property owners

# What can you do about it?

Grant materials are available on the DHR website.

Applications are due August 10, 2015.

When a resource is lost...it is lost forever



**CLIMATE CHANGE  
WILL BE OUR  
HERITAGE  
OF THE FUTURE**

603.271.3483

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