

## Local Jurisdictions Emergency Response Advice

1. Activate your local level ***Preservation Disaster Plan***
2. Get out your ***Historic Resources List(s)***
  - Immediately share with first responder agencies and other entities that may impact historic resources
3. Form a team to survey damage to historic resources
  - Report findings to the appropriate building, planning, and elected officials
  - Coordinate your historic resources lists with agency lists of damaged historic properties
  - Understand applicable codes, emergency rescue operations, and protection of the public
4. Actively monitor and ensure the proper assessment, protection, and treatment of historic resources with responders, inspectors, and other activated entities
  - Address why historic preservation should be a post-disaster priority and why historic resources should be saved
  - Understand and distribute information on how buildings are inspected and marked with red, yellow, and green tags
  - Monitor debris removal to reduce the loss of character-defining features and/or materials that can be used to reconstruct damaged property
  - Promote the stabilization, shoring, and weatherproofing of damaged buildings
5. Post and distribute local preservation ordinances with highlights as necessary
  - Have post-disaster response ordinance already in place or one ready to be approved
6. Provide and distribute information on historic preservation tools and financial incentives
7. Distribute names and phone numbers of qualified experts and sources of materials
  - Promote the use of professionals to inspect damage and make repairs
8. Help property owners stay in their buildings
  - Encourage quick repair for continued or early occupancy
  - Expedite review process for minor repairs
  - Encourage a second opinion for demolition requests of a historic resource
9. Keep historic business districts active/open
  - Allow immediate recovery of inventory and records
  - Provide shelter for displaced businesses in a location near their vacated buildings

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The California State Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) offers this advice on the recognition and protection of historic and cultural resources in light of emergency situations.

- This response advice does not preclude the need for emergency preparedness.
- Many response comments are based on timely property maintenance and emergency preparedness measures that can easily be done in advance of any emergency and that may possibly limit or prevent damage to historic properties in emergencies.
  - **Be Prepared!** Keep preservation ordinances, policies, and surveys up to date.
  - **Help Recovery!** See the SHPO Disaster Recovery webpage for additional advice.

### Basics

#### Identify Historic Properties

- *Share information*

#### Protect Historic Properties

- *Stabilize, secure, shore, and weatherproof as necessary and ASAP*
- *Do no additional damage*

#### Maintain Historic Properties

- *Repair, restore, and/or return to use*

### Helpful Tools

- The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties
- The California Historical Building Code

### Helpful Publications

- 20 Tools That Protect Historic Resources After An Earthquake
- Temporary Shoring & Stabilization of Earthquake Damaged Historic Buildings
- National Park Service Preservation Briefs 17, 31, 35, and 43

### Additional Information

- Active Disasters (activated by an event); [www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/activedisasters](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/activedisasters)
- Disasters and Historic Resources; [www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/disasters](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/disasters)

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