

Guide to the **Natural Disasters Collection**

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COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

This collection contains materials relating to local natural disasters, mainly floods but also earthquake, hurricanes and high winds. Because of its geography, Ithaca is subject to flooding; an especially destructive flood occurred in 1935.

A torrential rainfall started on Sunday July 7th that year, and fell throughout the day and into the night. By 3:00 AM Monday morning devastating effects were felt throughout the county. Trumansburg was hit especially badly as Trumansburg Creek swelled to terrifying proportions. An angry wall of water 12 feet high roared through the village, smashing buildings and carrying off five people to their deaths.

Losses throughout the county amounted to about \$5 million in damages, and state and federal relief agencies were needed to restore many roads, bridges, and train lines that were undermined or demolished altogether.

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