

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT TABLE



Roofed buildings

This table highlights some of the ways 'roofed buildings' (e.g. including buildings from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and post–Second World War) may be vulnerable to the effects of climate change. It is not intended to be comprehensive and the examples of possible management approaches will not be appropriate in all cases. Qualified and experienced heritage specialists should be consulted in undertaking any climate vulnerability or risk assessment of your place.



EXPOSURE — GENERAL

Climate	change
variable	S

Change in

seasonal rainfall (chronic)



Increase in mean temperature

Key climate change impacts

Increase in rainfall events and their intensity leading to increased frequency and intensity of flooding, erosion and soil degradation

Sensitivity of the place to climate change impacts

Increased frequency and intensity of flooding leading to more frequent and prolonged saturation of foundations and exposed walls and erosion of soils

Examples of impacts on the place and its values

- Types of material (e.g. wood, metal, stone, brick, mortar cement, fibro) will be affected differently by more prolonged and frequent saturation; design and construction techniques will influence the nature and extent of impacts
- Increased water erosion and movement of soils may destabilise structures causing cracking and potential collapse, with associated loss of use

Examples of possible management approaches

- Floods: build defences against flash flooding (e.g. divert water) and reinforce foundations to avoid collapse in a flood
- Re-engineer drainage
- Consider water attenuation away from the building
- Monitor erosion and increase maintenance and repair regime

Increased frequency, duration and intensity of drought events

Loss of ground cover, drying and cracking of soils, and wind erosion

- Drying, cracking or movement of soils may affect the stability of structures
- Types of material (e.g. wood, metal, stone, brick, mortar cement, fibro) will be affected differently by increasing dryness; design and construction techniques will influence the nature and extent of impacts
- Monitor cracking and increase maintenance and repair regime to ensure structural integrity
- Maintenance of roofs, rainwater and drainage infrastructure



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EXPOSURE — **GENERAL** continued

Climate variabl	e change les	Key climate change impacts	Sensitivity of the place to climate change impacts	Examples of impacts on the place and its values	Examples of possible management approaches
	More hotter days (>35°C and >40°C)	Increased frequency and intensity of bushfires	Directly related to proximity and/or connectively to bush	 Types of material and construction will be affected differently by fire Increased erosion following a bushfire event may affect the stability of structures Access routes may be damaged The setting of the building may be impacted 	 Bushfire planning Retreat: plan for site recording and accept loss or relocation of site where feasible, in consultation with local community Ensure there is a vegetation maintenance regime Add defences where possible, such as sprinklers or wrapping against ember attack Undertake post-bushfire risk assessment for cumulative impacts (water run-off and erosion) Undertake post-bushfire remediation action including tree felling, vegetation clearance, firebreaks and grading Install natural ventilation dampers to eliminate smoke penetration
		Heatwaves and extreme temperatures	Construction materials and techniques will be affected differently by heat and soils will be susceptible to drying and cracking	 Impacts will vary for different types of materials (wood, metal, stone, brick, mortar cement, fibro) Drying, cracking and movement of soils may affect the stability of structures 	 Monitor cracking and increase maintenance and repair regime to ensure structural integrity Improve ventilation potential where possible without impact to significant fabric
	More extreme rainfall events (acute)	Flooding, erosion and landslips	Depends on terrain (local conditions)	Structural damage or collapse and damage to access routes	 Floods: build defences against flash flooding (divert water) and reinforce foundations to avoid collapse in a flood Retreat: plan for site recording and accept loss or relocation of site where feasible in consultation with local community





EXPOSURE — COASTAL

Climate change variables	Key climate change impacts	Sensitivity of the place to climate change impacts	Examples of impacts on the place and its values	Examples of possible management approaches
Sea-level rise	Worsened coastal flooding, storm surge and coastal erosion that over time can result in permanent inundation of low-lying areas	Depends on terrain and potential defences (e.g. sea wall) – refer to local information	 Potential for inundation and flooding with damage to and destruction of buildings; depending on the elevation of the building; this may be intermittent during high tide and storm surge events (acute) and eventually permanent The setting of the building may be impacted Salt water may affect construction materials in different ways 	 Retreat: plan for site recording and accept loss or relocation of site where feasible, in consultation with local community Protect: add barriers/diversions where possible Consider early nature-based solutions such as revegetation of mobile coastal dunes
More intense or more frequent storms	Coastal erosion impacts	Depends on terrain and potential defences (e.g. sea wall) – refer to local information	 Potential for storm damage or destruction of buildings (or parts) during storms and through coastal erosion caused by individual and recurring storm events 	 Increase maintenance and structural integrity regime Increase rainwater management and drainage

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EXPOSURE — URBAN

Climate change variables	Key climate change impacts	Sensitivity of the place to climate change impacts	Examples of impacts on the place and its values	Examples of possible management approaches
More hotter days	Heat island effect in urban areas can increase local temperatures by several degrees compared to nearby rural areas	Local 'urban heat island' mapping determines specific micro-climate risks	 Heat stress: types of building material materials will be affected differently by heat; the nature and extent of impacts will depend on the design of the building and the construction techniques used 	 Increase shading (integrated planning) Increase monitoring and repairs regime Increase ventilation Consider thermal gain through windows, walls and roofs, retrofitting glazing and insulating building
	Flash flooding	Depends on the condition of the structure and surrounding terrain and drainage system	 Direct impact on the fabric of the structure Pressure on house gutters and drainage with increased potential for flooding of roofed structures 	 Increase monitoring, repair and/or upgrading of gutters, drains and stormwater infrastructure



EXPOSURE — ALPINE

Clima varia	ite change bles	Key climate change impacts	Sensitivity of the place to climate change impacts	Examples of impacts on the place and its values	Examples of possible management approaches
	Higher daily minimum temperatures and changes in precipitation	Changed freeze-thaw cycles, reduced snow cover and fewer cold days	Water run-off and changing drainage patterns	 Types of materials may be affected differently 	Monitor erosion and increase maintenance and repair regime

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