

THE IMPACT OF HURRICANE HUGO ON THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE
ARCHITECTURAL PERSPECTIVE

PAPER TO BE PRESENTED BY T.M. OGRODNIK, M.ARCH., OAA, MRAIC, Ariba., AT THE UCLA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS - AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE. JULY 10 - 12, 1991, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, USA.

INTRODUCTION

EVERY YEAR TROPICAL CYCLONES DEVELOP WITHIN THE SIX MAIN TROPICAL REGIONS OF THE EARTH. THE NORTH ATLANTIC, WEST OF THE AFRICAN COAST IS ONE OF THOSE REGIONS. THIS IS, ALSO, WHERE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS ARE LOCATED.

THE 1989 HURRICANE NAMED HUGO, WAS BORNE OUT OF A TROPICAL DEPRESSION ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, APPROX. 2200 MILES EAST OF BARBADOS-ITS WINDS WERE CLOCKED AT A RELATIVELY BRISK 35 MPH.. AS THE SYSTEM MOVED WEST, IT GAINED IN STRENGTH, QUICKLY REACHING STORM AND THEN HURRICANE CLASSIFICATION (75 MPH WIND VELOCITY) ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13. ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, THE WIND SPEED REACHED 150 MPH AND THE LOWEST BAROMETRIC PRESSURE OF 918 MB. WAS RECORDED.

THIS VICIOUS WEATHER SYSTEM, MOST POWERFUL IN THE PAST DECADE, AFTER PASSING NORTH OF DOMINICA AND BATTERING GUADALOUPE, SKIRTED SOUTH OF ANTIGUA, AND EARLY SUNDAY MORNING SMASHED INTO MONTSERRAT, AND AT NOON INTO ST. KITTS - NEVIS. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER