

0. DESTRUCTION EVERYWHERE - Story Preface

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This image, entitled “Homes Ruined and Families Killed,” is from *The Complete Story of the Galveston Horror, Written by the Survivors*, edited by John Coulter and published, in 1900, by E. E. Sprague. It appears at page 305 of the book which is [online, via Project Gutenberg](#). Click on the image for a better view.

The [Great Storm](#) of 1900—the link is a BBC animation on hurricane formation—was no respecter of persons or buildings. Whether residential or commercial, solidly built [houses](#) and other [structures](#) were wiped away as easily as one pushes paper from a desktop.

The [Grand Hotel](#) was no longer grand in the wake of the storm. The [exterior wall](#) of Trinity Episcopal Church looked as though it had never existed.

How quickly everything happened—within a few hours—made the catastrophe even more terrifying. Yet, there were remarkable survival stories. Twenty-eight people, crammed together in the second-story [room](#) of an otherwise [demolished](#) apartment building, survived.

When the storm passed, and daylight returned, Galveston survivors saw neighborhoods of [flattened](#) homes. The heavily populated area of 23rd Street and Avenue P was a pitiful sight.

What was under the wreckage? Countless bodies, awaiting discovery and identification.

The relentless wind, coupled with the storm surge, guaranteed total destruction of many homes. On October 9, 1900 a report would be filed showing only a small segment of the total losses. They were [staggering](#).

As the storm hit the mainland, its ferocity lessened but it [did not die](#) until days later when it passed over Nova Scotia. It was the deadliest hurricane to ever strike the United States.

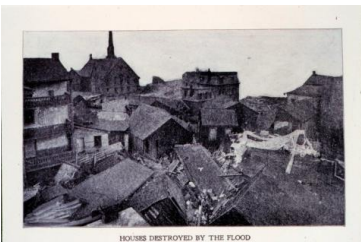
To this day, it remains America's worst natural disaster.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/DESTRUCTION-EVERYWHERE-Galveston-and-the-Great-Storm-of-1900>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/DESTRUCTION-EVERYWHERE-Galveston-and-the-Great-Storm-of-1900>



### Houses Damaged or Destroyed

Image online, courtesy NOAA.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Houses-Damaged-or-Destroyed>



### Destroyed Structures

Image online, courtesy NOAA website.

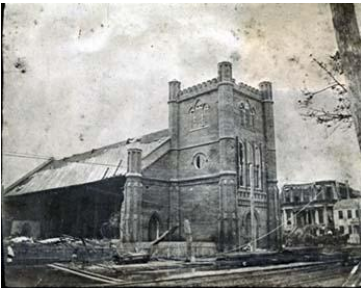
View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Destroyed-Structures>



### Grand Hotel

Image online, courtesy the Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Grand-Hotel>



### Trinity Episcopal Church

Image online, courtesy the viewgoods.com website.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Trinity-Episcopal-Church>



### The Second-Story Room Protected Survivors

Image online, courtesy the [1900storm.com](http://www.1900storm.com) website.

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/The-Second-Story-Room-Protected-Survivors>

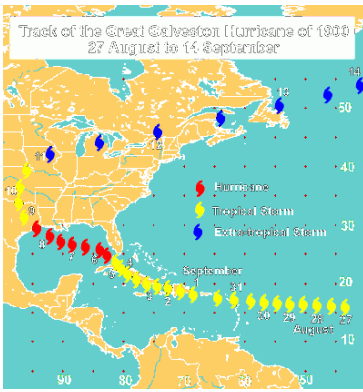


### Demolished Apartment Building

Image online, courtesy the Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

View this asset at:

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## Track of the Great Galveston Hurricane of 1900

Image online, courtesy the [islandnet.com](http://islandnet.com) website.

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## DESTRUCTION EVERYWHERE

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