A TALE OF TWO GRAFTONS

Grafton, New South Wales, Australia

Grafton, Illinois, USA
Our Hero

The Duke of Grafton
History
Grafton, NSW

- Escaped convict, Richard Craig, 'discovered' the district in 1831.
- 'red gold' cedar just waiting for exploitation.
- given a pardon and one hundred pounds to bring a party of cedar-getters.
- Proclaimed a City in 1885
- Called “City of Trees” (what’s left of them!)
- Not very smart when it comes to picking a town location.
History
Grafton, Illinois

- 1817 purchase from the Kickapoo Indians.
- Settled by five army soldiers in 1832.
- Limestone quarry and commercial fishing.
- Not very smart when it comes to picking a town location.
Geography & Catchment
Grafton, NSW

Largest coastal catchment in NSW = 22,700km²
OR 9,000 square miles
Average Rainfall = 1500mm or 60in yearly
Geography & Watershed
Grafton, IL
Significant Floods
Grafton NSW

15 Floods over 7m
since 1839
1876, 1887, 1890,
1893 (x2), 1946,
1948, 1950, 1954,
1963, 1967, 1974,
GRAFTON ROWING CLUB

- Great rowing weather!
## Significant Floods
**Grafton, IL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flooded levee overtopped at 35.5 ft.</td>
<td>3/31/1973</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grafton: East side along harbor wall @ foundation</td>
<td>3/31/1973</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water treatment plant inundated at 31.0 ft.</td>
<td>3/31/1973</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 floods over river stage 24 since 1903</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;MAJOR FLOOD STAGE 26.0&quot; (NWFS)</td>
<td>2/5/2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;MODERATE FLOOD STAGE 24.0&quot; (NWFS)</td>
<td>5/12/2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential flooding in Grafton @ 26.4 ft.</td>
<td>6/2/1996</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grafton: Loading dock Marion impacted @ 26.1 ft.</td>
<td>4/18/1998</td>
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<td>Water distribution system begins inundation, emergency measures begin @ 26.0 ft.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Grafton closes Rio 100 @ 24.7 ft.</td>
<td>5/12/2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grafton, 1 house water on foundation, Marins low entrance impacted @ 24.1 ft.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rio 100 inundated at Chalaska &amp; Brain @ 24.0 ft.</td>
<td>4/18/1998</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main St (Rio, 100) inundated @ 23.9 ft.</td>
<td>5/12/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brussel Ferry closed - roadway inundated @ 23.6 ft.</td>
<td>4/18/1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grafton: Clausseveld Boat Stop, 1 house had a water on foundation, Water S inundated @ 23.1 ft.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Stage 18.0&quot;</td>
<td>5/05/2004</td>
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</tbody>
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**ELEVATION ZERO: 4037 ft.**

**NGVD 1929:**
Main Street Grafton, IL
Floodplain Management Strategies
Grafton, NSW

Strategy No1 = LEVEES

McDonalds “Before & After”
OTHER STRATEGIES

• Floodgates and Drains
• Voluntary house raising
• Better land use planning (FDM Process)
• Public Awareness
• Evacuation Plans
EVACUATION PLANS?

Our husbands tell us when it’s time to evacuate!!
THE HUSBANDS

WHAT Evacuation Plan????
Floodplain Management Strategies
Grafton, IL

Strategy #1 = No Levees

Why don’t we have an evacuation plan?

The Crows Nest – Before and After
Floodplain Management Strategies
Grafton, IL

After a hard fight…
Made use of Federal and State Mitigation funding
150 structures bought out of the floodplain

New Grafton built on the bluff
Strong regulations prevent new floodplain development
Grafton
Before and After Buyout Photos
Crowds panic as floodwaters rise in Grafton, NSW

The Flag of Grafton, NSW

The most common flag in Grafton, IL
The Future
Grafton, NSW

- Levee failure....!!??
- Structural improvements to levees
- Voluntary house raising
- Better land use planning
- Community awareness/education
- FRM Plan
PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Community awareness is on-going **NOT** “one-off”
The Future
Grafton, IL

- New marina
- Popular riverside bike trail
- New visitors centre
- New commercial developments
- New school, waterplant, sewers, etc.
A great View! Look at all that GREEN in Grafton!
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