

In the Years Following the Great Flood: Lessons and Benefits

M. J. Miller – Queens College - A presentation for:

Emergency Preparedness in Libraries:
Concepts and Experiences

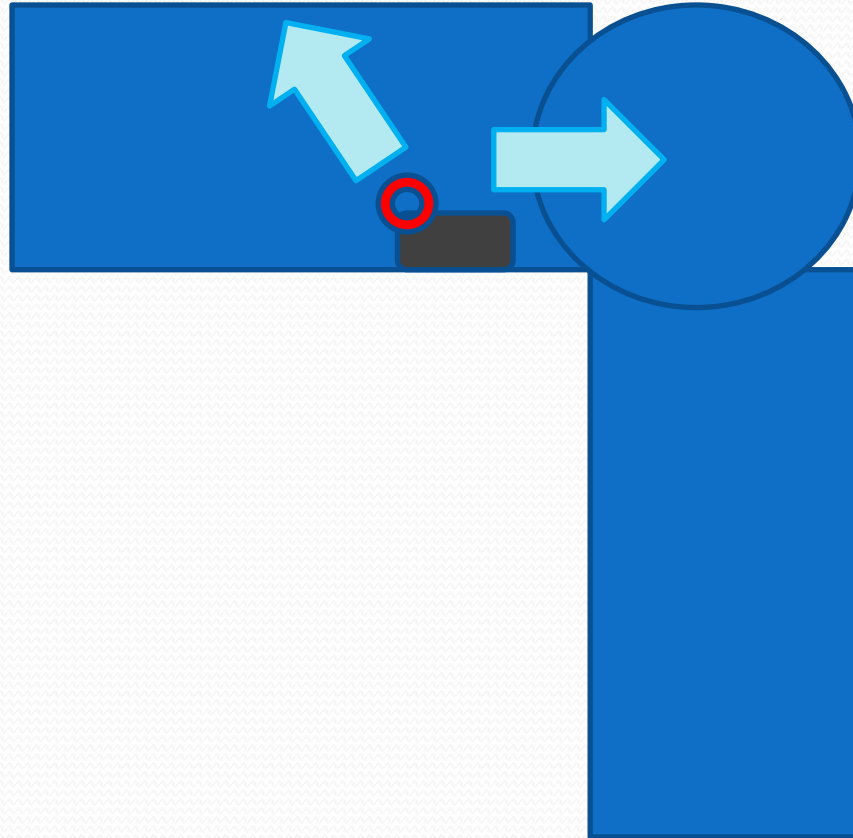
AJL-NYMA Fall 2011 Conference, December 5, 2011

Telling the story

- Event
- Considerations
- Lessons
- Opportunities & Benefits

Event & Area/Location

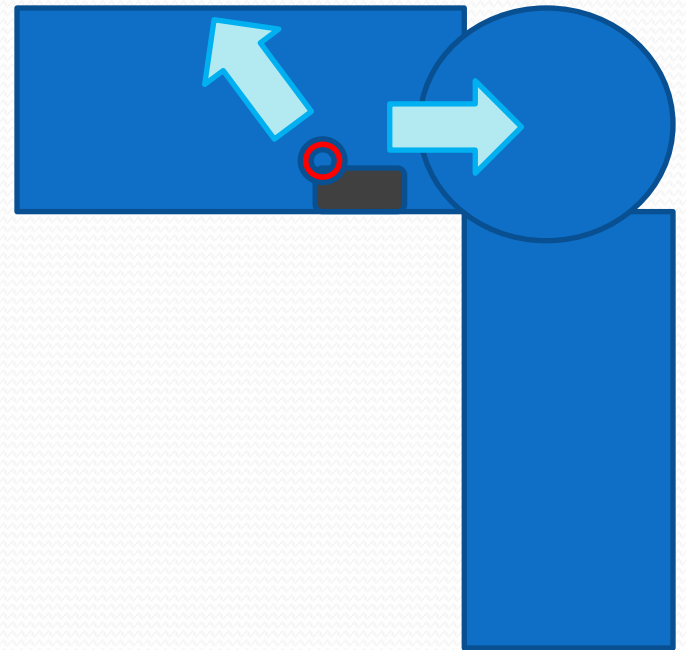
- Water heater on 2nd floor office area



Areas Affected

2nd Floor – Cataloging

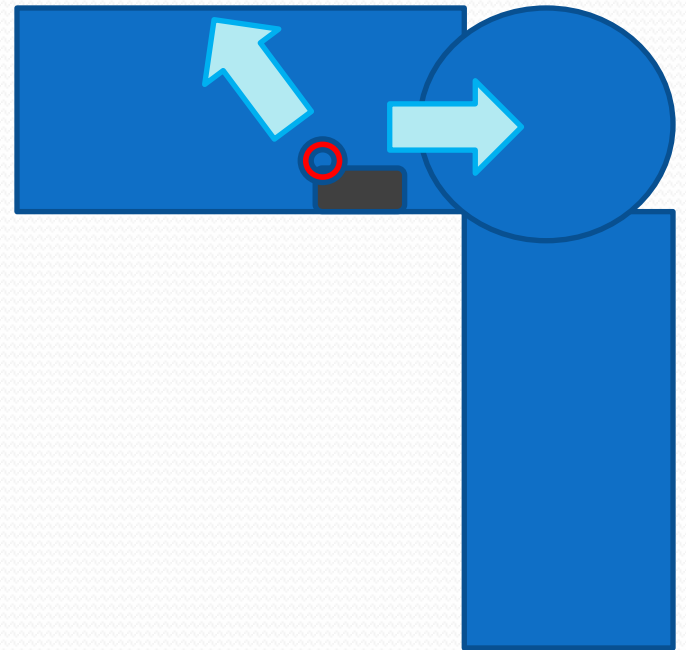
- Office area @ 10 employees
- Compact shelving
- Outside lobby



Areas Affected

1st Floor – Periodicals,
Classroom

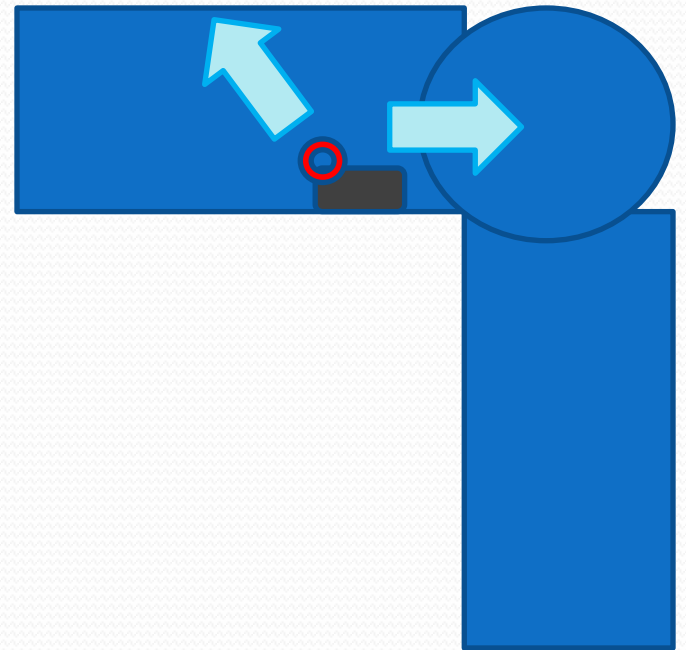
- Science Journals
- Classroom computers
- Microforms center



Other Effects

Facility

- Electrical
- Floors
- Ceilings



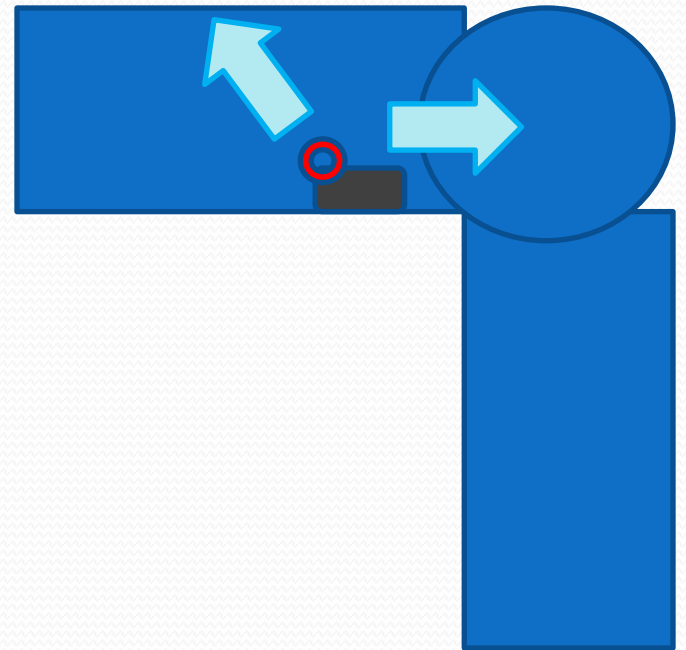
Paramount Considerations

People

- Employees – safety
- Facilities – water, air
- Admin. – comm./support

Objects

- Materials
- Equipment
- Furnishings



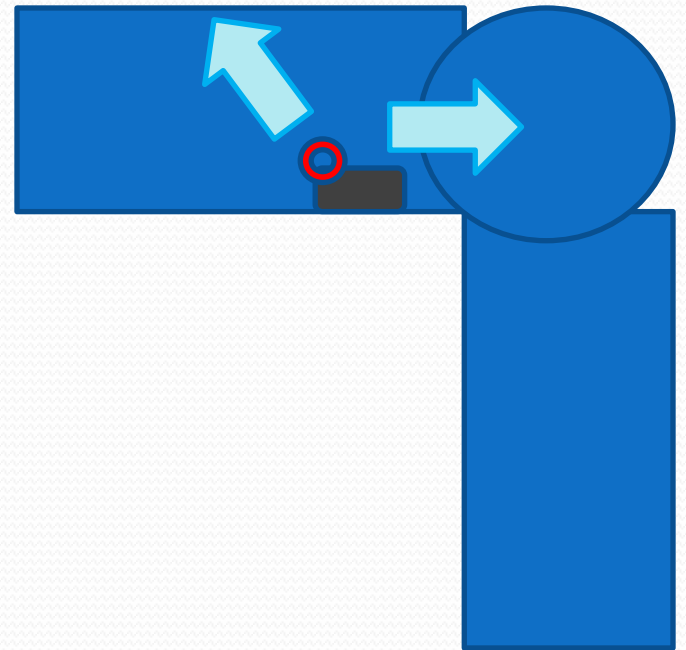
Paramount Actions

People

- Employees – move
- Facilities – correct
- Admin. – expenditures/costs

Objects

- Materials - Save
- Equipment – Salvage/Sink
- Furnishings - Stabilize



Questions Upon Immediate Reflection

- Emergency preparedness plan?
- Everyone's roles?
- Time frames? (24-48 hours!)
- Insurance / deductibles?

- more...

Questions Upon Immediate Reflection

- Facilities Personnel / Equipment?
- Phone numbers?
- Extra space / Extra workstations ?
- Lingering issues...mold?

Lessons Learned

- Positive regard -> good will
- Leadership -> respect
- Situations -> Opportunities

Opportunities

- Insurance -> ceilings, carpets, computers, materials
- Reorganization -> spaces , services
- Microforms -> Multimedia Commons
- Relationships -> support

Telling the story: recap

- Event
- Considerations
- Lessons
- Opportunities & Benefits

Questions and Thanks!

Michael Miller

<http://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/~mmiller>

michael.miller@qc.cuny.edu