

Flood Event of 10/13/1893 - 10/14/1893

James

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Buchanan	17.00	10/13/1893	-9999.00	-9,999	Missing	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt
Buena Vista	17.00	10/14/1893	-9999.00	-9,999	Missing	James	Maury River	Rockbridge	Independent City
Lick Run	16.00	10/13/1893	-9999.00	-9,999	Missing	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt

Weather Summary

Source unknown: October 13-14, 1893: While the previous system was moving across North Carolina, another hurricane lurked east of the Leeward Islands. This hurricane of large size tracked east of Florida to the Carolinas. High winds and tides were seen from Florida northward to New England (Barnes II). At Richmond, winds became a "perfect gale" as rain fell in torrents. Homes were partially unroofed, and trees fell in the capital squares. Between Richmond and Danville, a passenger train struck a fallen tree while a freight train struck another tree. Many lines fell across Petersburg. Dwellings in town rocked to the wind gusts. Barns and outhouses were razed to the ground. Roanoke watched as their river rose to levels unseen since 1853. Washouts occurred along the Norfolk & Western railroad, delaying traffic from twelve to fourteen hours. The town of Elliston was submerged by the Roanoke River, sweeping away houses. During this storm, 2.98" of rain fell at Stone Gap, setting a 24 hour rainfall record for the month of October. Alexandria saw its wharves crumble before the high waters (\$25,000). The James River eclipsed the level attained during the Johnstown Flood of 1889 by twelve inches. A fire in Baltimore burned down its electric light plant, giving the city more of the look of a "country town." Hyattsville saw a terrific gale by 5 p.m., putting its windmills briefly out of commission. Bladensburg saw winds level fences and partially unroofed homes. In Washington, D.C., the Calvary Baptist church's side wall blew down (\$3000). Associate justice of the Supreme Court Henry B. Brown was seriously injured when a plate glass window shattered at his new home at the northwest corner of 16th street and Riggs at 7:30 p.m. Trees and their limbs were strewn throughout the city. Rainfall began in the morning and increased throughout the afternoon. Sewers were flooded by this downpour. By 6 p.m., gale force winds swept through the Federal City. Damage to police and fire wires was "greater than ever before been experienced." Waters on the Potomac rose six feet above the high tide, which was three feet below the high water mark. The Anacostia Bridge became submerged.

Source: Roth, David and Hugh Cobb. "Virginia Hurricane History" <http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/research/roth/vahur.htm>

Crest Statistics and Flood Information

First flood of 1 that occurred in Oct, 1893
 Second flood of 2 that occurred in 1893
 Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 3

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 0
 Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 0
 Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 0
 Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 3