

NFPA[®]

80A

Recommended Practice for Protection of Buildings from Exterior Fire Exposures

2017



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NFPA®80A

Recommended Practice for

Protection of Buildings from Exterior Fire Exposures

2017 Edition

This edition of NFPA 80A, *Recommended Practice for Protection of Buildings from Exterior Fire Exposures*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Exposure Fire Protection. It was issued by the Standards Council on May 13, 2016, with an effective date of June 2, 2016, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 80A was approved as an American National Standard on June 2, 2016.

Origin and Development of NFPA 80A

In 1924, the NFPA Committee on Protection of Openings in Walls and Partitions developed *Suggested Practice for Protection Against Exposure of Openings in Fire-Resistive Walls* to meet the demand for a method of evaluating the severity of exposure and a uniform practice for specifying protection. It was submitted as a tentative recommended practice and adopted by NFPA in 1925 as NFPA 80A.

In 1930, the pamphlet was added to *Standard for the Protection of Openings in Walls and Partitions Against Fire* as an appendix, but it was not published until the 1944 edition of the *National Fire Codes*®, Vol. III, except as part of the “NFPA Proceedings.” It also was summarized in the 9th edition (1941) of the *Handbook of Fire Protection*.

In 1963, the NFPA Committee on Exposure Fire Protection was formed and charged with the task of updating the 1925 edition of NFPA 80A. The committee submitted a complete revision of the 1925 text to the Association for tentative adoption in 1967 and a revision of the tentative text for official adoption in 1970 with the title *Recommended Practice for Protection of Buildings from Exterior Fire Exposures*.

In the 1987 edition, there were substantive and editorial changes. In 1993, revisions continued to examine the effect of fire on an exposed structure and calculative methods to help ensure a reduction in fire impact due to exposure fires.

In the 1996 edition, some editorial changes were made in addition to changes in the example in Appendix B.

Revisions for the 2001 edition were mainly editorial to comply with the 2000 edition of the NFPA *Manual of Style* for technical committee documents. Language was added to recognize new technology, such as listed window sprinklers.

Revisions in the 2007 edition included a change to the definition of *noncombustible material*, which accomplished two objectives. First, it removed technical requirements from the definition in accordance with the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*, and second, it allowed the technical committee responsible for NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*, which owns the definition, to make changes to the technical criteria if and when they deem appropriate, without having the changes “cascade” across other documents. Other changes were made to clarify the committee’s intent in a number of sections.