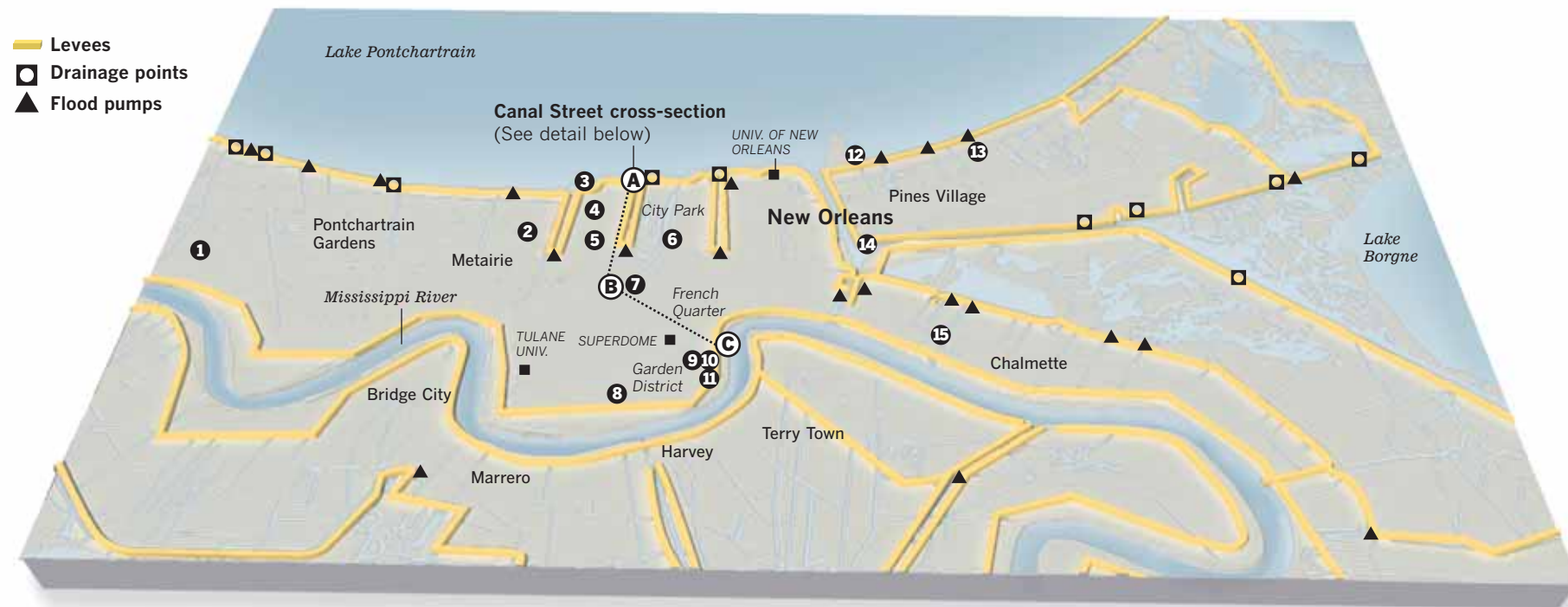


New Orleans inundated

After a hard but glancing blow from Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans suffered widespread flooding as levees failed. Water levels continued to rise throughout the city.

Hurricane effects

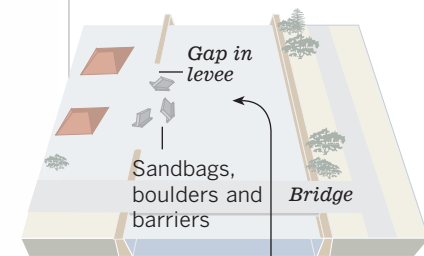
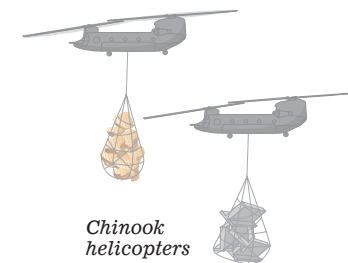
- Officials hope to open a runway at flooded Louis Armstrong airport for relief flights.
- Homes nearly underwater in Bucktown neighborhood.
- Municipal Yacht Harbor burns down.
- Floodwaters gush through 200-foot breach in 17th Street Canal.
- Water reaches 10 feet deep in Lakeview neighborhood.
- Break in 50-inch water main under City Park renders drinking water unusable.
- Floodwaters 13 feet deep inundate Jesuit High School drinking water gymnasium.
- Flood levels reach 5 feet near Memorial Medical Center in Garden District.



- Water levels rise to 3 feet around the Superdome, where 20,000 evacuees are housed.
- Water 6 feet deep surrounds Tulane University Hospital.
- Looters sash through hip-deep water along Canal Street, targeting clothing and jewelry stores.
- Lakefront Airport under water and closed to commercial traffic.
- Houses up to roofs in water near Lakeland Medical Center.
- Industrial Canal levee overflows into Lower 9th Ward with 8-10 feet of water.
- Large sections of Chalmette under water.

Blocking the breach

The Army Corps of Engineers employed military helicopters Tuesday in an attempt to repair a two-block-long levee breach that flooded nearby neighborhoods.



Water flows south along 17th Street Canal from Lake Pontchartrain

Flooding: Water from Lake Pontchartrain is flowing from a 200-foot-long gap in the levee, submerging homes.

First attempt: Helicopters dropped 3,000-pound gravel-filled sandbags and then 600-pound boulders, but failed to stop the intruding water.

Second try: Officials change tactics, trying a combination of concrete barriers and sandbags to block the flow.

Drying out: After the levee is repaired, floodwaters will be pumped back into Lake Pontchartrain.

Below sea level

A cross-section of New Orleans, known as "The Bowl."

(Elevations compared to sea level)

