

CHAPTER 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 3 provides an overview of the project setting and location, and describes existing conditions associated with the impact topics for analysis that were presented in Chapter 1. A summary of Johnstown Flood National Memorial's annual visitation estimates, as well as a socioeconomic profile of the area are also presented. Potential impacts to impact topics within the affected area will be assessed by alternative in Chapter 4-Environmental Consequences.

LOCATION AND SETTING

The South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club is located at 186 Main Street, St. Michael, Pennsylvania. All four historic structures under evaluation in this environmental assessment are located in the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District in the village of St. Michael. St. Michael lies within Adams Township in Cambria County, Pennsylvania (**Figure 3-1**).

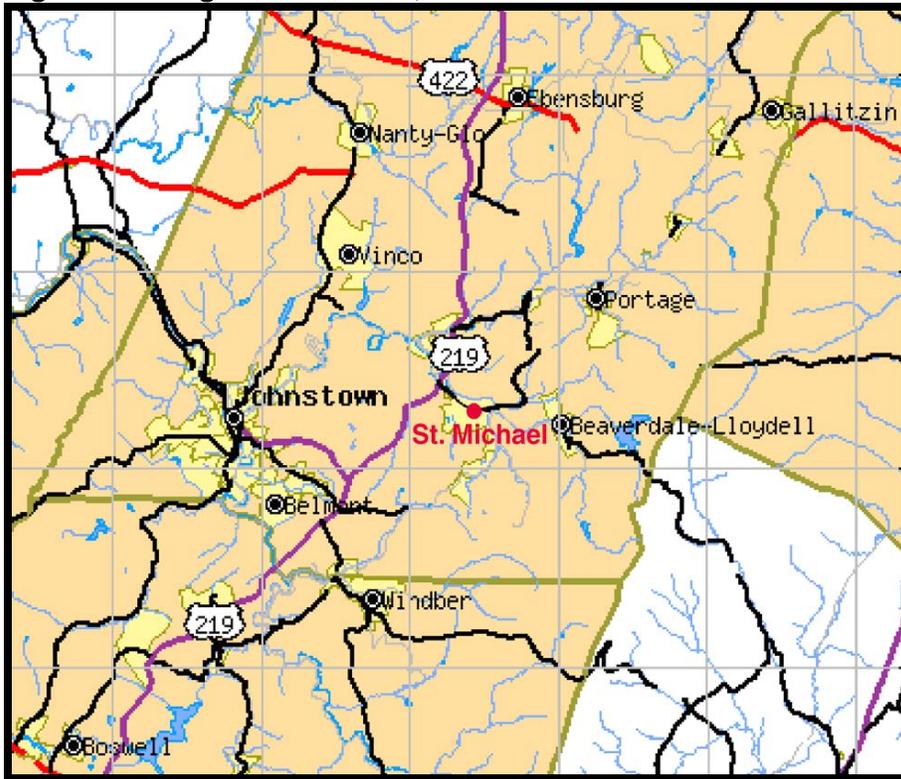
Figure 3-1: Location Map



Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

Cambria County is situated in south-central Pennsylvania, approximately 90 minutes east of Greater Pittsburgh and 2 1/2 hours west of Harrisburg. The largest metropolitan city in Cambria County is Johnstown. The county seat is Ebensburg, which is located in Cambria Township. This area is included in the Johnstown Metropolitan Statistical Area. **Figure 3-2** shows the regional location of this area.

Figure 3-2: Regional Location, St. Michael-Sidman



Source: City-Data.com <http://www.city-data.com/city/St.-Michael-Sidman-Pennsylvania.html>

Johnstown Flood National Memorial

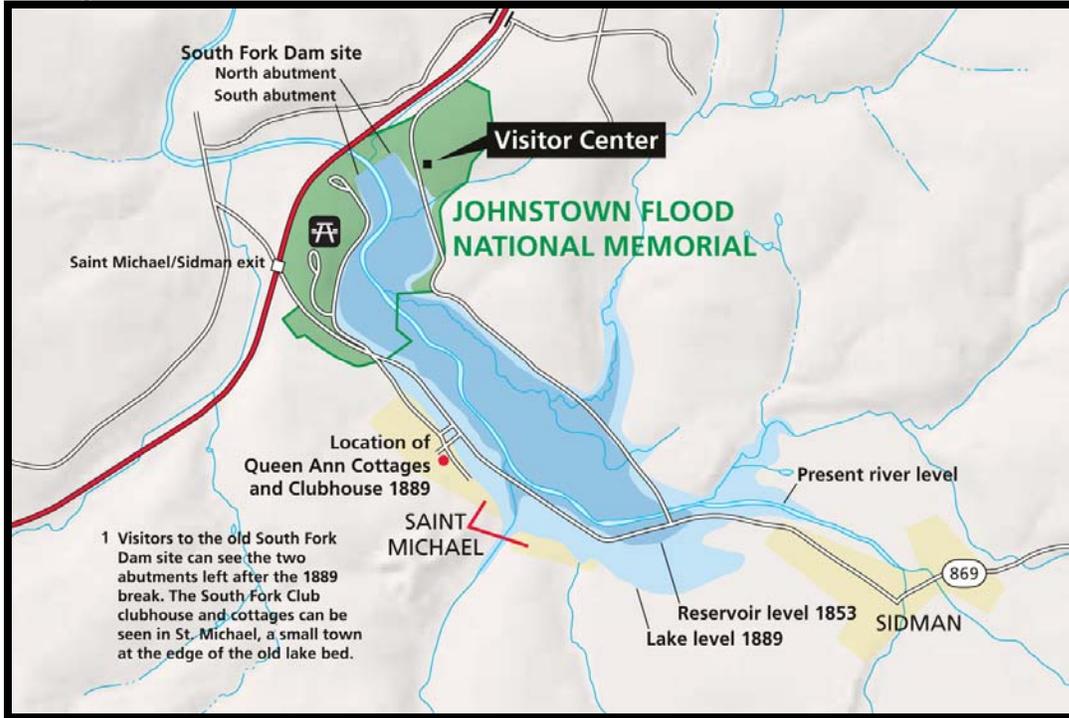
In 1964, Congress enacted legislation to establish the Johnstown Flood National Memorial and designated the National Park Service as the managing agency. The core of this national park unit lies approximately 3 miles north of the village of St. Michael and the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District in which the four historic structures are located. As of September 30, 2006, the memorial encompasses approximately 178.11 acres¹ and includes two large earthen remnants of the abutments to the South Fork Dam and portions of the former Lake Conemaugh lakebed.

The memorial offers a Visitor Center which features multimedia exhibits including a fiber-optic map that describes the path of the Flood and handicapped-accessible walking trails to the north and south abutments of the South Fork Dam. Other facilities include a parking area, restrooms; a bookstore, and a picnic area.

Figure 3-3 shows the connection between the core portion of the park and the Clubhouse and cottages in St. Michael. It also illustrates the historic levels of Lake Conemaugh for reference to existing facilities.

¹ National Park Service Public Use Statistics Office. September 2006. <http://www2.nature.nps.gov/stats/>

Figure 3-3: Relationship of Johnstown Flood National Memorial to Clubhouse and Cottages



Source: National Park Service. <http://home.nps.gov/applications/hafe/hfc/carto-detail.cfm?Alpha=JOFL>

The four structures under evaluation are located within the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District, which extends from the intersection of Station Street and Main Street to the end of Cottage Street. The entire district is about 4 blocks in length. This historic district was listed in the *National Register of Historic Places* in 1986. Through enactment of Public Law 108-313 on October 5, 2004, the four structures under evaluation were included within the boundary of the Johnstown Flood NM, which lies approximately 3 miles to the north of the historic district (Figure 3-4). The four parcels assessed in this document comprise approximately 1.78 acres.²

As of September 2006, 96,852 visitors visited Johnstown Flood National Memorial, a slight decline from September 2005 visitation estimates. Table 3-1 shows the annual number of recreation visits at the memorial between 2000 and 2005.

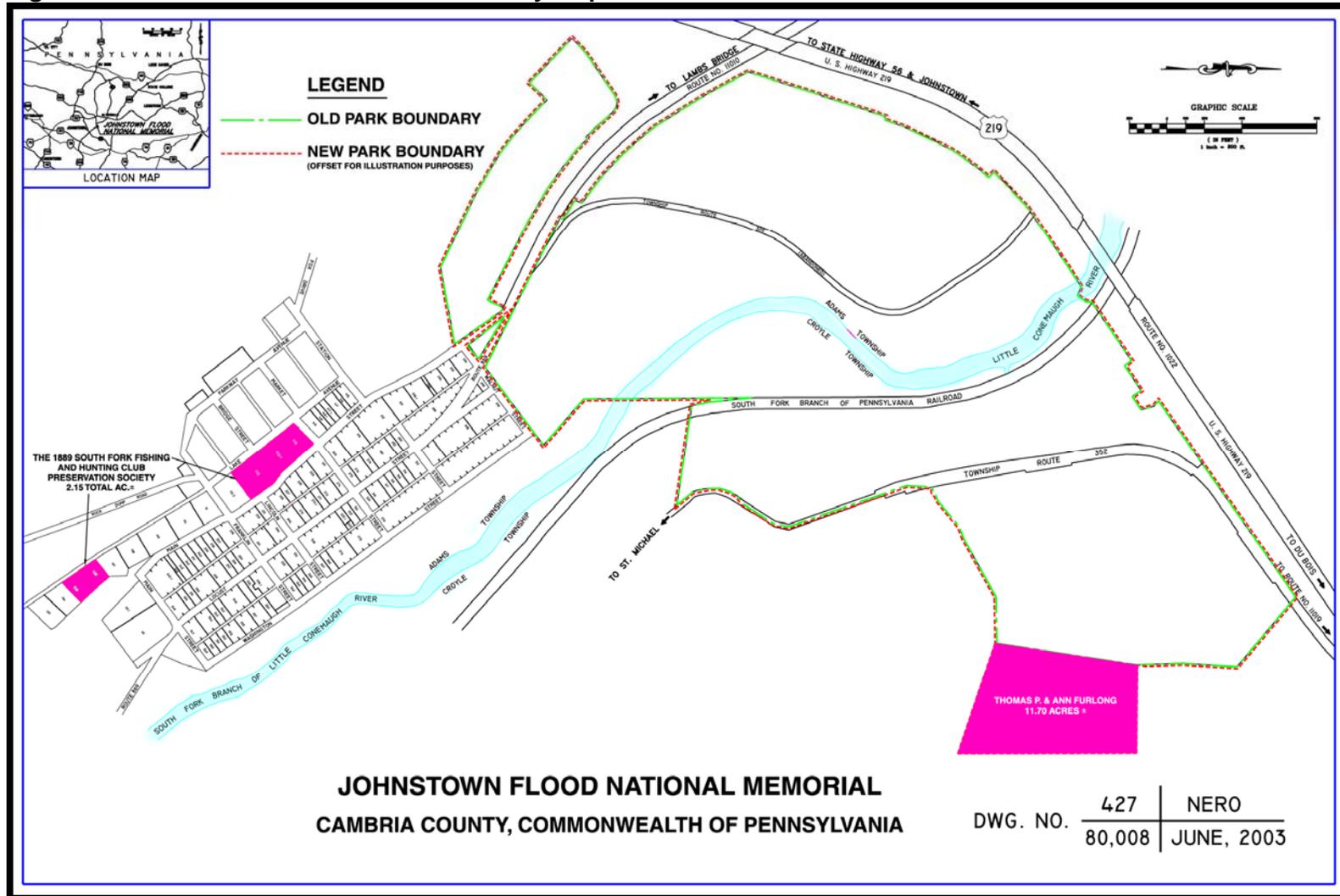
Table 3-1: Johnstown Flood NM Annual Visitation, 2000-2005

Year	Total Recreation Visits
2000	122,323
2001	119,462
2002	136,135
2003	105,361
2004	115,020
2005	111,987

Source: National Park Service Visitor Report. <http://www2.nature.nps.gov/NPstats/dspAnnualVisits.cfm>

² National Park Service. July 2001. *Draft Boundary Study and Environmental Assessment*, p. 5.

Figure 3-4: Johnstown Flood NMem Boundary Map



Source: National Park Service, 2006.

Other Area Attractions

There is no lodging in the villages of St. Michael or Sidman, although there are six B&Bs within easy driving distance in the area: two in Cresson, and one each in Dilltown, Patton, Ebensburg, and Gallitzin. Several chain motels also exist in Duncansville, Ebensburg and Johnstown. There is one food establishment, a pub, located on Locust Street. Sidman offers a family-style restaurant, as well as pubs and pizza eateries.

Interpretive sites related to the Johnstown Flood NMem include:

- Johnstown Flood Museum
- Stone Bridge and Point Park
- Grandview Cemetery
- Path of the flood Trail
- Johnstown Inclined Plane

In addition to Johnstown Flood NMem, which lies about 3 miles north of the historic district, the Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site is located in Gallitzin about 23 miles from the site. **Table 3-2** lists some of the area's most popular attractions.

Table 3-2: Cambria County Regional Tourist Attractions, 2006

Tourist Attraction	Location
Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site	Gallitzin
Allegheny Ridge Heritage Area	Altoona
Blue Knob State Park	Altoona
Bottle Works Ethnic Arts Center	Johnstown
Cambria County Court House	Ebensburg
Cambria County Historical Society & Museum	Ebensburg
Citizen's Cemetery	Johnstown
DelGrosso's Amusement Park	Tipton
Duman Lake County Park	Ebensburg
Eureka Mine 40 and Scalp Level Overlook	North of Windber
Fallingwater	Mill Run
Faranda Farm	Hollsopple
Flight 93 National Memorial	3 miles north of Shanksville
Fort Ligonier	Ligonier
Gallitzin Tunnels Park, Caboose & Museum	Gallitzin
Ghost Town Trail	Ebensburg
Grandview Cemetery/Plot of the Unknown	Johnstown
Inclined Plane	Johnstown
Jennerstown Speedway	Jennerstown
Johnstown Flood Museum	Johnstown
Johnstown Flood National Memorial	South Fork
Johnstown Heritage Discovery Center	Johnstown
Kentuck Knob	Chalk Hill
Lakemont Park & The Island Waterpark	Altoona
Laurel Highlands Historical Village	Johnstown

Tourist Attraction	Location
Miners Memorial Museum	Sidman
Mount Assisi Sunken Garden	Loretto
Mountain Playhouse & Green Gables	Jennerstown
Old Cambria County Jail	Ebensburg
Path of Progress National Heritage Tour Route	Hollidaysburg
Point Park and the Stone Arch Bridge	Johnstown
Portage Station Museum	Portage
Prince Gallitzin Chapel House, Tomb & St. Michael's Basilica; Mount Assisi Monastery	Loretto
Prince Gallitzin State Park	Patton
Railroaders Memorial Museum & Horseshoe Curve National Historic Landmark	Altoona
Santa's Place	Sidman
Seldom Seen Valley Coal Mine	Patton
Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art	Loretto
South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District & South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse	St. Michael
Staple Bend Tunnel	North of Johnstown
Windber Coal Heritage Museum	Windber

Sources: Johnstown & Cambria County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Johnstown Chamber of Commerce, Johnstown Area Heritage Association, National Park Service, 2006.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Historic Structures

A total of 14 cottages, plus the Clubhouse and Clubhouse Annex, were once located within the area that is now a historic district. Of the total cottages, 10 were constructed along the lakeshore to the south of the Clubhouse and four cottages were built north of the Clubhouse Annex. Boathouses, bridges, a boardwalk and numerous docks also that lined the lake in front of the cottages were once a major part of the community.

The historic structures under evaluation are within the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District. This historic district, located in the village of St. Michael, is bounded by Main and Lake Streets, and extends to the end of Cottage Street on the east and to Station Street on the west (**Figure 3-4**). The historic district was included in the *National Register of Historic Places* in 1986 and its period of significance was between 1875 and 1899. The historic district's significance was based on the events of the Johnstown Flood and the architectural significance of the buildings, which were constructed of Queen Anne, Stick/Eastlake and Gothic architectural styles. A complete listing of National Register sites and districts in Cambria County is in **Appendix C**. This section describes the four historic structures under evaluation.

South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse

Although the exact dates of construction for the different Clubhouse structures and additions are uncertain, the *Historic Structures Report (HSR)* states that the Clubhouse was established in 1879.³ The chronology of occupancy for the Club appears to have occurred between 1881 and 1889. The existing South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse is a three-story wood frame structure that is L-shaped with a gray asphalt shingle, hipped roof and a wide covered front porch (**Figure 3-5**).

Figure 3-5: South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse



Source: National Park Service, 2006.

³ National Park Service. *Historic Structures Report, Architectural & Historical Data Section. Clubhouse, Brown Cottage, Moorhead Cottage and Clubhouse Annex. South Fork Fishing & Hunting Club*, Vol. 1, p. 37.

The 12,525-square-foot⁴ building sits on a gently sloping lot, encompassing about 1.65 acres⁵. A bay window projects into the porch at the northeast corner of the first floor near the existing entrance to the building. The pent roof wraps the perimeter of the building between the second and third floors, with the exception of the southern elevation. Two modest one-story frame additions were attached to the southwest corner of the building.⁶ One of the additions was removed by NPS personnel in 2003.⁷

The original Clubhouse was constructed as two adjoining structures: one was the existing structure that exists today and the second was a smaller 2-1/2 story frame building located to the east. In fact, the 2-1/2 story southern wing of the existing Clubhouse is believed to have been the original Clubhouse.⁸ The principal entry is through the original pair of four panel double doors. The distinctive front porch, which was reconstructed in 1991, wraps partially around the building. The reconstructed porch was funded by the Friends of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial (formerly 1889 South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historical Preservation Society).⁹

The interior of the Clubhouse is organized around a central hall that extends north-south through the building. The first floor has been significantly modified from the original floor plan. With the exception of the large room in the northeast corner of the building, little of the original floor plan and original finishes remain. The principal historic features which remain are two brick fireplaces, two stairs leading to the upper levels, and the windows and door trim in the existing dining room. Fragments of the original walls and transom door openings are still visible in places where ceiling panels have been removed. The first floor of the Clubhouse is currently used for meetings and special events. The Friends group formerly operated a gift shop inside the entrance, but this shop no longer is open.

The existing dining room, which once could seat up to 150 persons for dinner, retains many original features, including a massive fireplace, staircase, wood wainscot, and window and door trim.¹⁰ The major alteration to the dining was the removal of the walls between the dining room and a smaller room at the southeast corner. The wall separating the current bar and the kitchen is original framed construction with wood lath and plaster on both sides. The kitchen has a lowered acoustical ceiling and marlite wall covering the upper sections of the original walls.¹¹

Compared to the first floor, the second and third floors of the Clubhouse remain relatively unaltered. The two upper floors follow the L-shaped plan with a center hall, extending from the south staircase to a set of windows on the north wall, and an intersecting hall, running past the interior northern stair to the set of

⁴ National Park Service. Keith Newlin, Superintendent, Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site/Johnstown Flood National Memorial.

⁵ Weston Solutions, Inc. Oct. 2005. *Level I Pre-Acquisition Environmental Site Assessment Survey*, Tract 02-100.

⁶ National Park Service. *Historic Structures Report, Architectural & Historical Data Section. Clubhouse, Brown Cottage, Moorhead Cottage and Clubhouse Annex. South Fork Fishing & Hunting Club*, Vol. 1.

⁷ Keith Newlin, Superintendent. Email, dated Nov. 29, 2006.

⁸ Archaeological Services, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Sept. 30, 2006. *Draft Report Phase I, II, and III Archaeological Investigations of the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse and Phase I Investigations at the Moorhead Cottage, St. Michael, Pennsylvania*.

⁹ National Park Service. *Historic Structures Report, Architectural & Historical Data Section. Clubhouse, Brown Cottage, Moorhead Cottage and Clubhouse Annex. South Fork Fishing & Hunting Club*, Vol. 1.

¹⁰ National Park Service. "The South Fork Fishing & Hunting Club: A Guided Walk through the 1889 Historic District."

¹¹ National Park Service. *Historic Structures Report, Architectural & Historical Data Section. Clubhouse, Brown Cottage, Moorhead Cottage and Clubhouse Annex. South Fork Fishing & Hunting Club*, Vol. 1.

windows on the west wall of the western extension. The rooms on the second floor have been altered by the addition of modern veneer paneling and dropped acoustical ceilings. However, original doors, solid paneled transoms, window and door casings, and baseboards are intact in most locations throughout the building.

The third floor is almost identical to the second floor, both in original floor plan design and in its alterations. The difference on the third floor is the addition of a drywall clad wall across the west end of the east-west hall to provide a private suite of three rooms in this area. A rectangular opening in the third floor rear wing hallway ceiling and a simple wood ladder at the wall provides access to the attic.¹²

The basement has been partially excavated at the southern end, though most of the basement is unexcavated crawl space. Portions of the existing basement floor are concrete and the remainder is dirt. Stone and brick infill foundation walls, perimeter stone piers, and central stone piers supporting the central columns of the building are visible.

A chronology of ownership of the Clubhouse covered five major periods:

The South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Era	1881-1889
The Flood Survivor or “Johnstown Colony” Era	1889-c.1907
The Mining Company Era	1907-1955
The Private Ownership Era	1955-1985
The 1889 South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historical Preservation Society	1985-2006
National Park Service	September 2006

Clubhouse Annex

The Clubhouse Annex is a two-story structure with a basement that is approximately 4,498 square feet¹³ in size. Previously, this structure was used for guest rooms between 1921 and 1950. The exterior of the building was resided with vinyl during the mid-1990s, and the interior has been renovated for rental units. This building is currently divided into four apartments, of which three were leased as of December 2006 (**Figure 3-6**).

The grade at the rear (western end) of the structure has been altered so that it is now level with the top course of the concrete block. Block retaining walls provide the transition between the natural grade of the site and this raised level at the back of the building. The structure’s four corners have 30-inch brick piers, suggesting that they may have been used to raise the structure.¹⁴

The scalloped edge of wood shingles is visible beneath the bottom course of hexagonal existing asphalt shingles at the south gable. Double hung windows with simple 5-inch flat wood trim are regularly spaced on all four levels of the building. A number of historic sashes were retained and stored in the basement; however, these are wood and double hung. The rear or west window would have been the connection point for the second level of the outhouse. The smaller rear porch sits on a concrete pad at grade and has plywood soffits. The front porch rests on a full story high concrete block foundation with vinyl siding cladding above and a garage door entry. The porch is full width of the building and divided into five bays.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ National Park Service. July 2001. *Draft Boundary Study and Environmental Assessment*, p. 5.

¹⁴ National Park Service. *Historic Structures Survey*, p. 231.

Figure 3-6: Clubhouse Annex



Source: National Park Service, 2006.

Brown Cottage

Brown Cottage, sometimes referred to as Knox Cottage, is a 3,542-square-foot, 2-1/2-story Stick Style frame structure with a hipped and gabled roof (**Figure 3-7**). This cottage is believed to have been built in 1888 by the James W. Brown Family and later became the property of the Maryland Coal Company in 1907. Brown Cottage features a wraparound front porch and a one-story rear wing with porches. The northeast corner of the cottage is angled and features a bay window on the first floor. The cottage was configured into two side by side duplex units in 1921 by the Maryland Coal Company and has separate entrances from the front porch. As shown in **Figure 3-7**, this structure is situated with very little set-back from the road.

The eaves of the roof have been fully enclosed and two decorative wood brackets span the eave of the roof at the northeast corner of the second story.¹⁵

No original exterior doors exist. The entrance to the north unit on the north façade is a horizontal five panel wood door with a transom that replaces the original paneled double entry doors. A horizontal five panel wood door was also inserted on the east façade to provide entry to the southern unit when the building was converted into duplexes.

¹⁵ National Park Service. *Historic Structures Survey*, pp. 121-132.

Figure 3-7: Brown Cottage



Source: National Park Service, 2006.

A double hung window has replaced an earlier door on the south façade of the ell as evidenced by patched siding below the window sill. A wood screen door and wood and glass French door provide entrance to the rear of the cottage.

The northwest enclosed porch is sided with 5-1/4 inches coved siding. Upper sections of the gables are match board sheathing still in good condition except for lower boards on the rear southwest sides of the house. There are two chimneys rising from the main roof of the house and one chimney at the rear ell.

Significant modifications occurred when the building was converted into a duplex. Radiator heat is still used on the first and second floors of the north unit. The second floor is currently divided in half with a crude east-west partition wall in the west stair to allow for two bedrooms for each of the units. The south third floor hall is original and has well-preserved, unvarnished wood trim and baseboard, as well as early wallpaper.

Brown Cottage was purchased by the 1889 South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historical Preservation Society in 1985 and was acquired by the National Park Service in September 2006.

Moorhead Cottage

Moorhead Cottage is a 2,447-square-foot, 3-story frame Queen Anne/Shingle Style house that was believed to have been one of seven earlier cottages completed by 1883 (**Figure 3-8**). The structure was constructed with hipped and gabled roof, dormers, a distinctive octagonal tower, and first and second floor porches. The existing main porch is only a fragment of the original porch that wrapped the east and south elevations of the building. Portions of the original front porch and the polygonal roof of the tower were removed. The small porch attached to the south side of the rear ell of the cottage has been enclosed with siding and fixed multi-pane windows.¹⁶

The building is situated on a steeply sloping site, the front of which has been extended and regraded to incorporate a modern access road that extends to Brown Cottage. The building was configured into a side by side duplex by the Maryland Coal Company.

The existing visible foundation is a product of renovations made throughout the mid-twentieth century. The foundation is a series of masonry piers with masonry block or glass block infill. The masonry materials include concrete block and two types of yellow construction block.

Figure 3-8: Moorhead Cottage



Source: National Park Service, 2006.

¹⁶ The HSR states that the porch was removed c. 1931-1947, based upon an interview with Woodrow Wingard, and analyses of maps and photos. HRS, pp. 175-179.

The roof of the house and ell are covered with asphalt shingles. Stabilization of the cottage, including waterproofing the roof, began in 2005. The original exposed stick style eaves with visible ornamental rafters are in tact at all principal eave lines. Simpler chamfered rafters are used at the gables. The original polygonal roof over the southeast bay was truncated above the main ridge line some time between 1931 and 1947. The cottage currently does not have rain gutters or downspouts of any kind. A poured concrete gutter at grade parallels the foundation on the north side of the house.

The cottage has three brick chimneys that extend above the roof line. Currently, the chimneys on the north and south slopes of the main roof have been truncated at approximately 4 feet above the roof line. The chimney on the north slope of the main roof and the chimney on the rear ell have been rebuilt with the yellow brick used on the mining company houses.

On the interior, the northern duplex is composed of rooms facing the north elevation on the first and second floors. The entrance to the northern duplex is from the northern front porch and a rear door through the enclosed porch of the rear ell. The northern unit has been remodeled and contains a c. 1970-80s kitchen and bath.

The southern duplex encompasses the rest of the house including the entire third floor. The entrance to the southern duplex is from the southern front porch and has a rear door in the south elevation. The southern unit is in deteriorating condition with limited plumbing.

The original walls of the house are half inch thick plaster (containing animal hair) on lath. Alternations are noted by a harder, whiter plaster on wood lath dating from the coal company period and post-1940 gypsum board installation. Wallpaper remains in the house and vivid deep colors of paint and occasionally some traces of stenciled borders exist under layers of wallpaper in most of the primary rooms.

The existing woodwork is a combination of original woodwork and trim introduced in subsequent years. An analysis of the woodwork identified the different periods of woodwork. All of the original wood floors in the house are exposed except the kitchen and bath floors of the north unit which are covered with sheet vinyl.

No original exterior doors remain. New doors were introduced to provide additional entries for the duplexes. A modern sliding glass door has been installed at the rear ell. A steel door is located at the basement level at the front of the building. The foundation is a series of masonry piers with masonry block or glass block infill. The existing wood siding and portions of the original wood shingles have been covered with wood grained embossed aluminum. Most of the window and door trim consists of broad, flat wood boards dating primarily from the original construction.

Most of the windows on the main portion of the house are the original double-hung 1/1 sashes. The windows of the north façade of the rear ell have 2/2 sashes. The five windows opening onto the first floor front porches are tall, double-hung windows with sills at floor level. The windows on the second floor above the main entry contain one similar tall sash. The existing lower sash is original, and the upper sash has been replaced. Windows in the second floor octagonal room and the second floor bay are 12/1 with the upper sash containing panes of colored glass. The windows in the third floor octagonal room are fixed eight-pane casements.

National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks

A total of 29 sites in Cambria County are listed in the *National Register of Historic Places* (see **Appendix C**). Johnstown Flood National Memorial and the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse and Historic District are sites listed in the National Register that are directly related to the structures under evaluation. Johnstown Flood National Memorial was listed in the *National Register of Historic Places* on October 15, 1966, and the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District and its related structures were listed in the *National Register* on July 31, 1986.

Two National Historic Landmarks are located in Cambria County: Allegheny Portage Railroad of the Pennsylvania Canal and Cambria Iron Company.¹⁷

Archaeological Resources

In 1992, John Milner Associates conducted archaeological investigations at the Clubhouse and at Moorhead Cottage. These investigations resulted in the recovery of artifacts possibly dating from the 1880s to the 20th century, though they could not be definitely associated with the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse during the Club's occupation period. Outbuildings and supporting features, such as brick footers, wood posts and postholes from the razed eastern wing were discovered. The traces of possible terraces in the backyard of the Clubhouse were also observed (Balicki and Stevens, 1993). Features such as two stone walls, two depressions, a concrete box (believed to be for the privy) and an earthen mound were also identified.¹⁸

During the fall of 2005, Archaeological Services, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, was contracted by the NPS to conduct archaeological investigations of the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse and Moorhead Cottage. From these investigations, intact cultural features were discovered at the Clubhouse, and data recovery operations were conducted at the Clubhouse during the summer of 2006.

In October 2005, Phase I excavations of the Clubhouse were conducted of an area where a drainage system was proposed. This proposed drainage system had potential for affecting an area where cultural resources may occur. The area investigated was within an 8-foot area of potential effect (APE) where a proposed drainage system could be constructed.

During these investigations, a total of 5,556 artifacts were recovered from 18 excavation units at the Clubhouse. These artifacts date from the year the Clubhouse was constructed and its earliest use, ca. 1879 to the present.¹⁹ Most of the artifacts recovered were associated with kitchen uses and utensils, followed by architectural features. Many were earthenware, porcelain and pottery sherds; glass fragments and other items associated with a kitchen. Other items discovered were pieces of ceramic, brick, tile and items relating to the architecture of the building.

Phase II and III archaeological surveys were conducted of the Clubhouse during the summer of 2006. These surveys involved subsurface investigations within and beyond the 8-foot APE. The geophysical survey was used to provide complete coverage of the backyard of the Clubhouse to identify any potential features, such as the location of the former 2-story outhouse and the icehouse in the yard. There is no photographic or narrative documentation of the Club's backyard other than one photograph of the 2-story

¹⁷ National Park Service. "Listing of National Historic Landmarks by State."

¹⁸ Archaeological Services, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Sept. 30, 2006. pp. 5-6.

¹⁹ Ibid. pp. 119-121.

privy in a deteriorated condition. This privy was believed to be located in the vicinity of the backyard and accessed by an elevated walkway or a bridge that led from the Clubhouse.

Based on oral interviews with local residents and with members of the Friends group, recollections of the exact location of the 2-story privy vary from being behind the Clubhouse to being attached to the Annex. The privy was estimated to have been razed during the 1970s. In addition to the 2-story privy, former residents recall that there was also a 2-story icehouse behind the Clubhouse and a second story lattice balcony located at the west side of the rear wall of the Clubhouse.

A total of 291 artifacts were recovered from archaeological investigations conducted on the west and south sides of Moorhead Cottage. The artifacts recovered date from the 1880s to present time, and included glass, ceramic, metal, bone, brick, coal, concrete, fabric, paper, plaster, plastic, slag, wood, and mortar. About 50 percent of the artifacts recovered were architectural remnants. Others were classified as miscellaneous, such as coal, slag, metal, glass and plastic, and others were categorized as kitchen items. There appeared to be intact soils near the northwestern portion of the Moorhead Cottage in the patio area. These soils contain possible cultural features that may contribute information concerning the construction and use of the Moorhead Cottage.²⁰

DESIGN OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Originally, there were 16 buildings situated along the lake during the Club era. Of these, the Clubhouse, Clubhouse Annex and seven cottages remain today. The designs of each of the four historic structures under evaluation in this EA differ strikingly from the surrounding mid-20th century context in which these structures are situated. Most of the structures in the Historic District today are contemporary residences that were constructed between the 1920s and the 1970s. These contemporary homes were mostly mining company housing that are either duplexes or single-family residences. Their architectural style and construction techniques differ from the unique historic structures under study. Detailed descriptions of these structures are provided in the preceding section on Historic Structures.

South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse

The existing South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse is a large three-story, L-shaped structure, with a hipped roof and a wide covered front porch. The Clubhouse is the most notable structure in the neighborhood mainly because of its size and close proximity to the road. A distinctive front porch was reconstructed in 1992 by the Club's historical society. The Clubhouse is situated on a large, gently sloping lot with a gravel parking lot located on the side.

Clubhouse Annex

The Clubhouse Annex is adjacent to the Clubhouse and is a utilitarian building that was re-sided with vinyl in the mid-1990s. The roof is gabled with a jerkinhead section at both the east and west ends. The building is situated on a large lot and is compatible with the adjacent structures.

Brown Cottage

As previously described under Historic Structures, Brown Cottage is a modest, Stick Style, 2-1/2 story frame structure with a hipped and gabled roof, wraparound front porch and a bay window. Brown Cottage is situated on a site that rises steeply to the west with little setback from the road. Brown Cottage is located adjacent to Moorhead Cottage at the end of Cottage Street.

²⁰ Ibid. pp. 18-23.

Moorhead Cottage

The Moorhead Cottage is a three-story, Queen Anne/Shingle Style frame house of the early 1880s with hipped and gabled roof, dormers, a distinctive octagonal tower and front porches. Similar to Brown Cottage, Moorhead Cottage has interesting architectural features, such as lattice work on multiple porches, hipped and gabled roofs, an octagonal tower on the Moorhead Cottage, and bay and octagonal windows. Similar to Brown Cottage, Moorhead Cottage have minimal setback from the roadway.

SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILE

Local Demographic and Economic Characteristics

The 2005 population estimate for Cambria County is 148,073, which is down by about 4,525 residents from 2000.²¹ **Table 3-3** presents a comparison of the population and racial characteristics of St. Michael-Sidman, Adams Township and Cambria County, based on 2000 Census statistics.

Table 3-3: Population and Racial Characteristics of Regional Jurisdictions, 2000

Characteristic	St. Michael-Sidman	Adams Township	Cambria County ¹
Population (2000)	973	6,495	152,598
White	98.8 %	98.9%	95.8%
African-American	0.2%	.05%	3.1%
Hispanic	0.6%	0.75%	1.0%
Two or more races	0.7%	0.52%	0.5%
Native American	0.0%	0.18%	0.1%
Asian	0.0%	0.12%	0.4%

¹The racial percentages for Cambria County are based on 2004 estimates.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American FactFinder, 2000.

The Johnstown Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) was considered to be the likely economic impact area that would be directly affected by this study and Cambria County was determined to be the impact area. With more than 150,000 residents and 688 square miles of area, the county is moderately urban. The economy of Cambria County is fairly strong, with more than 68,000 people employed in industries providing over \$3 billion of value-added benefits to the regional economy (MIG 2002). Key components of the economy include manufacturing supporting almost 5,000 jobs and \$250 million of value-added impacts, health and social services (11,000 jobs and \$429 million of value-added), and retail trade (9,000 jobs and \$339 million of value-added).²²

A comparison of the economic characteristics of St. Michael-Sidman and Cambria County is shown in **Table 3-4**. Of the 436 houses in St. Michael-Sidman, a total of 416 were occupied in 2000: Of those occupied homes, 272 were owner occupied and 144 were renter occupied. The median gross rent for St. Michael-Sidman in 2000 was \$300/month.²³

²¹ *FedStats*. <http://www.fedstats.gov/qf/states/42/42021.html>

²² Lord, Bruce, Ph.D. "Johnstown Flood National Memorial Economic Cost/Benefit Analysis Prepared for the Adaptive Re-use of the 1889 South Fork Clubhouse and Associated Structures." July 31, 2006.

²³ St. Michael-Sidman, Pennsylvania. <http://www.city-data.com/city/St.-Michael-Sidman-Pennsylvania.html>

Table 3-4: Comparison of Economic Characteristics for St. Michael-Sidman and Cambria County, 2000

Economic Characteristic	St. Michael-Sidman	Cambria County
Percentage of Persons Employed	55.2%	53.8%
Median household income (1999)	\$30,673	\$30,175
Per capita income (1999)	\$13,914	\$16,058
Persons below poverty level	16.2%	12.5%
Median value of single-family home	\$53,400	\$62,700

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, American FactFinder. <http://factfinder.census.gov>

Johnstown remains a regional medical, educational and communications center. Healthcare now provides the bulk of employment opportunities within the city. The top five private employers in Cambria County²⁴ in 2006 are:

- Conemaugh Health System
- Concurrent Technologies Corp.
- Saint Francis University
- DRS World Technologies
- Freightcar America Corp.

Table 3-5 summarizes the employment and economic profile for Cambria County based on the 2002 Economic Census. **Table 3-6** shows the percentage of employment growth for Cambria County from 2002 to 2005.

Table 3-5: Cambria County Employment and Economic Statistics, 2002

Description	Establishments (Number)	Sales/Receipts or Shipments (\$1,000)	Annual Payroll (\$1,000)	Paid Employees (Number)
Manufacturing	151	\$1,010,977	\$135,489	4,186
Wholesale trade	130	\$516,088	\$41,321	1,416
Retail trade	613	\$1,403,524	\$124,108	7,639
Information	65	NA	\$30,696	1,097
Real estate & rental & leasing	98	\$61,508	\$12,671	573
Professional, scientific, & technical services	218	\$251,802	\$89,122	2,433
Administrative & support & waste management & remediation service	113	\$105,931	\$40,243	2,463
Educational services	11	D	D	(100-249)
Health care & social assistance	523	\$746,797	\$321,357	10,832
Arts, entertainment, & recreation	56	\$25,208	\$6,840	680
Accommodation & food services	295	\$129,340	\$34,906	4,040

²⁴ Telephone call to Pennsylvania Business Central. Information updated Nov. 24, 2006.

Description	Establishments (Number)	Sales/Receipts or Shipments (\$1,000)	Annual Payroll (\$1,000)	Paid Employees (Number)
Other services (except public administration)	319	\$78,767	\$22,566	1,624

D= Withheld to avoid disclosing data of individual companies. NA = Not Available.
 Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2002 Economic Census, revised October 7, 2005.

Table 3-6: Total Employment Growth (Percentage) for Cambria County, 2002-2005

Year	Percentage
2002	-0.8%
2003	0.9%
2004	0.8%
2005	1.0%

Source: FDIC. Report for County Overview, Sept. 11, 2006.

LAND USE

Figure 3-9 shows an aerial photograph of the St. Michael-Sidman area. St. Michael lies to the left and Sidman stretches to the right. As shown, land use surrounding the village of St. Michael is mostly agricultural and reclaimed mining sites. Within the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District, land use is principally residential interspersed with some business and small institutions such as a church and the Rose of Sharon, a private personal care home, which is located on the corner of Main Street and Lincoln Street, before Cottage Street.

Figure 3-9: Aerial Photograph of St. Michael-Sidman, PA



Source: St. Michael-Sidman, <http://www.city-data.com/city/St.-Michael-Sidman-Pennsylvania.html>

Much of the residential neighborhood is single-family residences with scattered duplexes and multi-family units. Zoning exists in the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District. The district itself is zoned “Historic District,” and the area surrounding the district is zoned principally Agriculture/Residential (A-R1). These zoning designations are compatible with the historic structures under consideration for adaptable re-use.

In 1978, Adams Township prepared a comprehensive plan for the township. **Figure 3-10** shows a land use map for St. Michael as presented in the 1978 Adams Township Comprehensive Plan. Based on the information provided in this plan, forested areas are the largest land use classification in Adams Township with about 55 percent remaining in woodlands when the township’s comprehensive plan was prepared. The most densely forested areas are located in the southeastern section of the township where large watershed protection areas and State game lands are located.

Vacant land, primarily vacant lots and open fields that are not used for agricultural purposes, account for about 19.6 percent of the total land area. Agriculture is the largest single developed land use in Adams Township, with 3,180.6 acres dedicated to agricultural land use purposes. Agricultural lands are scattered mainly throughout the northern, western and central sections of the township.

Single-family residential use is the second largest developed land use category with about 1,597.8 acres dedicated to this use. Multi-family residential land use accounted for only 154 acres at the time of the publication of the township comprehensive plan.²⁵ Public and semi-public land uses, which include community facilities, comprise about 1,054 acres, or 3.4 percent of the township’s land area. Again, as growth occurs in the county and township, available open land will most likely be consumed for facilities such as schools, police and fire station, parks, civic uses and parking. Other land uses identified in the township comprehensive plan include water (266 acres), mining (396 acres), commercial (12.9 acres), and service (3.6 acres).

Community recreation and park facilities in the immediate St. Michael area include:

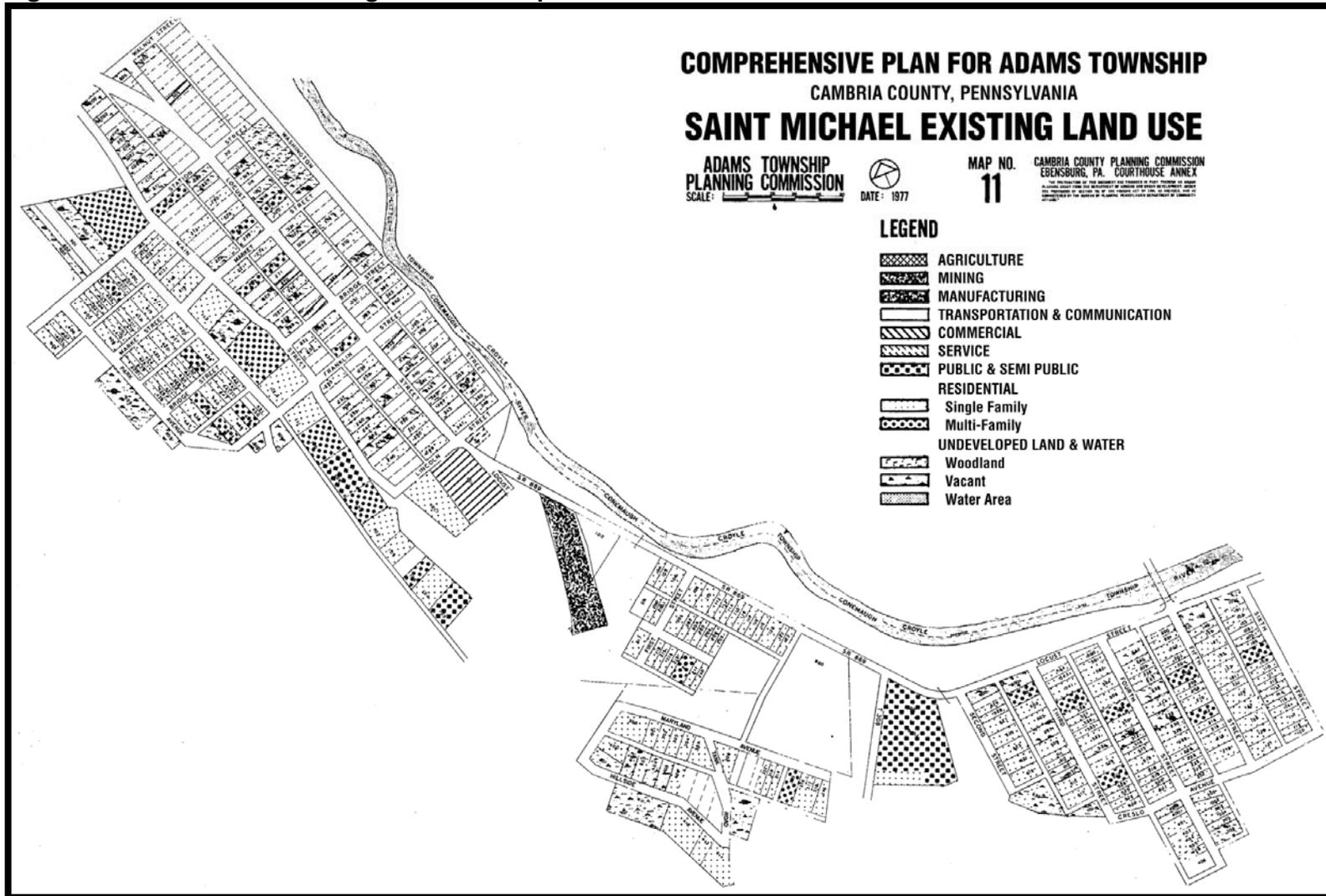
- Johnstown Flood National Memorial
- Liberty Park
- Park of 1889
- St. Michael War Memorial Park
- St. Michael Sportsman’s Club
- Forest Hills School Complex

In 2006, the Forest Hills Regional Alliance initiated planning for Phase 1 of the Johnstown Flood Trail, which will be a pedestrian trail extending from Sidman through the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District in St. Michael and will eventually link to the Path of the Flood Trail near South Fork.

Transportation uses, including streets, highways, rights-of-way and parking, account for about 3.7 percent of the total land area in the township. As growth continues, transportation usage will continue to consume vacant and open areas. By 2010, the overall predominant land use (60.1%) in this portion of Cambria County, which includes Adams Township, is expected to still be undeveloped land (54,308 acres). The predominant developed land use will continue to be residential, representing 14 percent of the total land area.

²⁵ Adams Township Comprehensive Plan, Part 1: Inventory and Analysis of Existing Conditions. 1978.

Figure 3-10: St. Michael Existing Land Use Map



Source: Adams Township Comprehensive Plan, Part I, 1978.

Future land use increases in the residential, commercial and industrial landscape will be based upon the development of supportive infrastructure. Sewage, water, and public utilities will become more available in this region’s larger townships. Future land use changes in this portion of Cambria County will most likely be based upon economic development at the airport, industrial park, and Galleria Mall areas. The completion of the South Fork Regional Sewage Treatment System, which extends through the park and into Richland and Adams Townships, will also result in changes to the land use and development.²⁶

Table 3-7 compares existing (2000) and future (2010) land uses for Adams Township and Cambria County by land area.

Table 3-7: Comparison of Existing and Future Land Uses by Acreage for Region 1, Cambria County, 2000 and 2010 and Adams Township, 2000

Land Use	Adams Township	Cambria County (Planning Region 1) ¹	
	2000	2000	2010
Agriculture	3,085	6,929	5,949
Mining	396	NA	NA
Commercial	29	1,161	1,571
Industrial	18	1,391	1,701
Residential	1,896	10,621	12,661
Public/Semi-Public	1,045	7,230	7,230
Transportation	1,139	6,338	6,968
Developed	7,205	33,670	36,080
Undeveloped	22,305	56,718	54,308
Total Acres	29,510	90,388	90,388
% Undeveloped	75.6%	60.1%	12.4%

Source: 2004 Comprehensive Plan Update, Cambria County Planning Commission. Table 6.

¹Planning Region 1 includes Adams Township, the City of Johnstown and 20 other municipalities that comprise the southern portion of Cambria County.

Local Land Use Plans

As discussed in the preceding section on Land Use, there are two local land use plans: the 2004 *Comprehensive Plan Update* for Cambria County and the 1978 *Adams Township Comprehensive Plan*. The proposed action would not involved conflict with either of these plans. Adams Township has also published a Future Transportation Plan as part of the township’s comprehensive plan.

2006 *Comprehensive Plan*—Development of a multi-municipal comprehensive plan that would identify issues and concerns to establish priorities and goals for the Forest Hills Region over a five-year planning period is currently underway. This plan could set forth goals that affect the park and the historic district.

TRANSPORTATION

Highways

US Route 22 (east/west) and US Route 219 (north and south) are the primary access routes to this region. The main highway connection between Johnstown and the Pennsylvania Turnpike is US 219. US 219 is proposed to eventually extend from the Buffalo, New York area southward into southern West Virginia.

²⁶ 2000 *Comprehensive Plan Update*. Cambria County Planning Commission, p. 10.

In 2002-2003, NPS conducted an interpretive tour of the Johnstown Flood that began at the park's Visitor Center, located about 3 miles from the historic district. The goal of this tour was to present a comprehensive story of the Johnstown Flood disaster. To conduct this tour, NPS rented a small 15-passenger van and ran the tours five days a week. Local partners who participated in supporting this tour included the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club, the Johnstown Area Heritage Association, Grandview Cemetery and staff at the Inclined Plane. This was a successful joint venture. In addition to the interpretive van tour, NPS also promoted an independent auto tour between the park and Johnstown. In fact, the park's current GMP recommends implementation of an auto tour between the park and Johnstown to interpret the complete story of the flood.

An Alternative Transportation Study conducted for Johnstown Flood National Memorial in 2004 recommended the following actions²⁷:

- Continue the 15-Passenger Van Tour during the summer
- Establish a Motor Carrier Tour
- Implement a Self-Guided Auto Tour
- Promote Lakebed and Path of the Flood Trail Bicycle Routes
- Develop Cycling the Southern Alleghenies Bicycle Route
- Construct Internal Pedestrian Connection with reconstruction of the former boardwalk

Trails

The Forest Hills Regional Alliance (FHRA), an intergovernmental organization comprised of seven local municipalities, was organized to discuss, plan and undertake mutually beneficial activities in the Forest Hills area of Cambria County. Recently, the FHRA has forged a number of private/public partnerships to create a regional trail system from Sidman to St. Michael within the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District and subsequently to connect with the new Path of the Flood Trail near South Fork. In support of the Johnstown Flood Trail Project, the FHRA is receiving technical assistance from the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program.

Ultimately, this regional trail system, referred to as the Johnstown Flood Trail Project, will extend into the City of Johnstown. The Johnstown Flood Trail Project would consist of the following segments²⁸:

- Path of the Flood Trail from Ehrenfeld to the Staple Bend Tunnel, which is under construction and scheduled for dedication in May 2007;
- Sidman-Saint Michael Historic District Trail, for which an engineering study is currently underway; and
- Path of the Flood Trail to the St. Michael Historic District, extending through Johnstown Flood National Memorial. A feasibility study has been proposed to evaluate this trail segment.

Airports

Cambria County offers two airports. Local air carrier service is provided by the John Murtha Johnstown-Cambria County Airport. The Johnstown-Cambria County Airport is located just 3 miles from Johnstown and has three runways, including a precision approach, paved runway extending 7,000 feet for commercial aircraft. Ebensburg Airport is the second airport, and has a 3,204-foot runway, which can serve single- and light twin-engine aircraft.

²⁷ Clough, Harbour & Associates LLP, September 2004. *Johnstown Flood National Memorial Alternative Transportation Study*. Final Report. Prepared for the National Park Service.

²⁸ David Knepper, Executive Director, Forest Hills Regional Alliance. Email to Eileen Carlton, dated Jan. 22, 2007.

Mass Transit

CamTran operates the local bus service and Greyhound Bus Lines provides bus service to Johnstown.

Rail

Passenger rail service is provided by Amtrak. The station is located at 47 Walnut Street in Johnstown. Norfolk Southern operates freight service on a line about 3 miles from the historic district.

Parking

Parking areas within the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District are limited. Currently, there is a vehicle parking lot on the west side of the Clubhouse that can accommodate about 15-20 vehicles. The Clubhouse Annex has parking for four vehicles, Brown Cottage has spaces for two vehicles and Moorhead Cottage has space for only one vehicle on the lot. The NPS owns land between the Clubhouse and the Annex where overflow parking might be permitted.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND UTILITIES

In addition to the Pennsylvania State Police, Adams Township also has its own police department, RD#1, as well as Adams Township Volunteer Fire Company #2, which is located in the village of St. Michael a short distance from the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Historic District. The Forest Hills Area Ambulance Associates is located in St. Michael. About 15 emergency rescue services are within a 15-minute response time or a 10-mile radius of the Historic District. These rescue services are located in Johnstown, Portage, Beaverdale and Ebensburg. Fire and police response services are also provided by Johnstown, Richland and Westmont.

Hospitals that serve the Adams Township/St. Michael area are—

- Conemaugh Memorial Hospital/Memorial Medical Center
- Good Samaritan, part of Conemaugh Health System
- Conemaugh Health System's Lee Campus

Cambria County is home to four colleges:

- St. Francis University
- Mount Aloysius College
- University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown
- Pennsylvania Highlands Community College

The following is a listing of the major utility providers in Cambria County²⁹:

Electric

- PENELEC-A FirstEnergy Company

Gas

- Dominion Peoples
- Ferrellgas

Water/Sewage

²⁹ Johnstown Chamber of Commerce. <http://www.johnstownchamber.com/community/newcomer.asp>

- Highland Sewer and Water Authority
- Greater Johnstown Water Authority (RDM)
- City of Johnstown/Bureau of Sewage

Telephone

- Verizon

Cable

- Atlantic Broadband
- Adelphia Cable

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Structural stabilization and bearing line reinforcement is needed for all four structures. Some reinforcing of the first floor loading capacities is required for Brown Cottage and reinforcement of the first floor of Moorhead Cottage is required for any use. Comprehensive supplemental fire suppression systems are absent in most of the structures.

Certain conditions in the structures relating to hazardous materials, could potentially affect human health and safety. In 2005, a Level I Pre-Acquisition Environmental Site Assessment Survey was conducted for the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club Clubhouse and the Clubhouse Annex. This survey was conducted as part of the Federal requirements for acquiring the structures. The Level 1 Site Assessment Survey included a site inspection, conducted on September 8, 2005, interviews with property owners and a review of government records and historical uses of the property.

Two potential conditions were identified in connection with the Clubhouse and Clubhouse Annex: 1) lead-based paint and 2) asbestos. Lead-based paint was found in the Clubhouse and in the Clubhouse Annex, especially around doors, windows, plaster walls, wood floors and wood walls in the Clubhouse, and on the interior window casings and basement concrete columns and doors in the Clubhouse Annex. Friable and nonfriable asbestos was detected in building materials and on a radiator steam pipe on the first floor of the Clubhouse. Nonfriable asbestos was found in linoleum, floor tile and cove base at various locations within the Clubhouse.

Several hazardous materials were found in the basement of the Clubhouse Annex. These included motor oil, lead paint, auto body primer and paint remover. No staining on the floor or ground was seen. Accumulations of solid waste were found in the basement and under the front porch of the Annex. This solid waste included water-damaged furniture, household items left by former tenants, toys, used tires and surplus building material from previous renovation projects. Areas of mold were observed on plaster walls and ceiling in the main stairwell and in the vicinity of the chimney flue on the south side of the roof. Mold was also observed on the basement walls of the Clubhouse Annex. This mold condition appeared to be the result of long-term water seepage through the foundation on the west side of the building. Floor drains were found in both the Clubhouse and the Clubhouse Annex.³⁰

³⁰ Weston Solutions, Inc. Oct. 2005. *Level I Pre-Acquisition Environmental Site Assessment Survey. Johnstown Flood National Memorial. Tract 02-100. St. Michael, PA*

ENERGY REQUIREMENTS

Based on the HSR, the interior plaster of the Clubhouse and Brown Cottage require additional exterior insulation. There is little to no attic or exterior wall insulation in the Clubhouse or Moorhead Cottage and the windows and doors are in poor condition. There is currently no HVAC system in Moorhead Cottage or in the Clubhouse beyond the first floor. Plumbing is only connected on the first floor in the Clubhouse. The Clubhouse Annex has plumbing, electricity and heat, and is currently leased to tenants. The windows and doors in the Clubhouse Annex and Moorhead Cottage are in poor condition and need replacing.