

Proposed Demolition of 16 Nonhistoric Structures

FACT SHEET

Proposed Action

This project will demolish 16 nonhistoric excess structures across New River Gorge National Park and Preserve. Following demolition, the National Park Service will dispose of all associated building debris and restore sites to a condition consistent with their natural surroundings.



Background and Justifications

The National Park Service owns many buildings and structures within its established boundaries. However, many of the structures were never intended for occupation or use and are now abandoned, dilapidated, overgrown by vegetation, and pose safety hazards. Several structures within these developed areas that the park acquired are no longer necessary and have become an additional burden to maintain.

Removing these structures will reduce public hazards and eyesores. Returning the sites to a natural condition will improve the local environment and the visitor’s experience. Several structures located within the park’s facility-use areas have been deemed surplus and will be demolished, thereby reducing the

park’s footprint and the costs to maintain these buildings. This undertaking will allow the National Park Service to better focus its resources on maintaining its many other facilities and resources. Sites will be maintained as turfgrass or returned to native forest via active planting and seeding.

In deciding whether to demolish these structures, the National Park Service considered many different factors. Major factors of consideration were operational efficiency and costs of removing the structures compared with rehabilitating and maintaining them over a long period of time. Estimated costs for these two alternatives are provided below:

	Component	Component Cost	Total Cost
Alternative 1: Retain Structures	Repairs and Deferred Maintenance (10 years)	\$4,432,938	\$5,232,938
	Operations (10 years)	\$800,000	
Alternative 2: Demolish Structures and Restore Area	Demolition and Restoration	\$850,713	\$850,713



Structures

The structures to be removed through this project are:

1. Ajax Mines Grounds (items to be removed include large pipes, mechanical apparatus, and fences)
2. Ajax Pump Station Building
3. Billy Jo Adkins House
4. Burnwood Maintenance Storage Building
5. Burnwood Ranger Storage Building
6. Burnwood Ranger Storage Shed
7. Clarence Plumley House, Meadow Creek
8. Dun Glen Boat Storage/Emergency Cache (constructed by the National Park Service)
9. Glade Creek Restroom
10. Glenwood Corp River Road Cabins (structures have been removed; next phase of work will include remediating old septic systems and revegetating area)
11. Grandview Resource Stewardship Office
12. Jonny and Brenda Adkins House
13. Julian Mark Richmond House
14. Julian Mark Richmond Shed
15. Samuel Ames Garage
16. Samuel Ames House



Billy Jo Adkins House



Jonny and Brenda Adkins House

Project Schedule

The National Park Service plans to complete its environmental and cultural review process for this project in early 2023. Demolitions will be implemented starting as early as summer 2023 and working into the fall.

More Information

The National Park Service is hosting a public open house at the Glen Jean Bank on Thursday, December 8, 2022, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. to provide more information related to the project. The public materials and additional information are also available on the National Park Service's planning website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/GAOANon-HistoricDemolition>.



Nonhistoric Building Locations

