



Final phase of demolition underway at former Millennium Hotel site

Gateway Arch Park Foundation marks the beginning of the last chapter, honoring the past as downtown St. Louis looks toward its future riverfront landscape

ST. LOUIS (May 21, 2026) – The final chapter in the story of the former Millennium Hotel has begun. Demolition has entered its last and most visible phase, with work now focused on the 28-story north tower at 200 S. 4th Street, the last remaining structure on the 4.2-acre site adjacent to the Gateway Arch.

A large crane is now visible from much of downtown St. Louis, including from inside Busch Stadium, signaling the scale and significance of this final phase. The crane will be used to remove equipment and materials from the upper floors as interior demolition proceeds from the top down, floor by floor. Once interior work is complete, the structure itself will be dismantled level by level. The site is expected to be fully cleared by the end of 2027.

"A large crane demolishing the north tower of the Millennium Hotel will transform a symbol of what's wrong into a message that St. Louis can tackle hard things and make them right," said Ryan McClure, executive director of Gateway Arch Park Foundation. "Visible from Busch Stadium, it marks the skyline with a promise of progress for fans in the seats and watching at home. This is not just clearing a site. It is opening a new gateway to downtown's future."

St. Louis-based Spirtas Wrecking Co. is managing the demolition, and remains on schedule and on budget.

Honoring the past, building toward the future

Originally opened in 1969 as Stouffer's Riverfront Inn, the hotel was once the largest in the city of St. Louis. It welcomed generations of visitors, hosted milestones and celebrations, and was a fixture in the downtown skyline for more than four decades before closing in 2014. The property stood vacant for over a decade, becoming one of the most visible symbols of downtown's struggles, before Gateway Arch Park Foundation stepped in to move it forward.

Even as the physical structure comes down, the Foundation is committed to ensuring the memories and history of this place endure through its [story-collecting initiative](#). The public, historians, libraries, and local news stations are invited to share archival footage and coverage of the hotel from their archives, helping to stitch together the full history of this landmark site.

"We want to preserve the history and memories that made this hotel so meaningful to so many people," McClure said. "Even as the building comes down, we honor its past and the people who made memories here."

A once-in-a-generation opportunity for downtown St. Louis

With the site clearing progressing on schedule, the Foundation is advancing its work with The Cordish Companies on the proposed \$670 million mixed-use redevelopment. [Preliminary plans](#) envision 1.3 million square feet of residential, office, commercial, cultural and public spaces, including upscale housing, Class A office space, an amphitheater, a food hall and pedestrian-friendly streetscapes that will physically reconnect the Arch grounds to the rest of the central corridor and strengthen connections between the Gateway Arch, the Mississippi riverfront, Busch Stadium and Ballpark Village.

"The Millennium Hotel site, vacant for over a decade, is being demolished and reimagined as a development that will physically reconnect the Arch grounds to the rest of the central corridor," McClure said. "When we invest in downtown's public spaces and give people reasons to come, they show up. That's what this is about."

The Millennium Hotel redevelopment continues the legacy of civic vision and sustained public-private partnership that defined the CityArchRiver Project, the largest private investment in a national park in U.S. history. That same spirit of stewardship is driving the future of this site.

Follow along and be part of the story

The north tower demolition is visible from across downtown St. Louis and from inside Busch Stadium, and the Foundation invites the public to watch the transformation unfold in real time. You can catch a glimpse of the progress from the western view from the [Foundation's live-feed webcams](#) situated at the windows of the Gateway Arch.

Did you stay at the hotel? Celebrate a milestone there? Work the front desk or dine at the revolving restaurant? The Foundation wants to hear from you. Share your story, photos and memories at archpark.org/stories. All submissions will be compiled and preserved, with select stories considered for inclusion in future digital exhibits and other commemorative uses as the site's transformation continues.

Every story shared helps ensure that the people and memories that made this place meaningful remain part of what gets built next.

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About Gateway Arch Park Foundation

[Gateway Arch Park Foundation](#) is the official philanthropic partner and nonprofit conservancy for Gateway Arch National Park. Its mission is to ensure the Gateway Arch, its grounds, neighboring public spaces, and attractions are a vital, welcoming, well-supported resource to the community and nation for generations to come. It seeks to fulfill its mission by providing for ongoing conservation, preservation and education at the park, in addition to hosting, facilitating and promoting community programs that bring the park and its surrounding areas in Downtown St. Louis to life. The Foundation is part of an alliance that helps meet this mission, which includes the National Park Service, Bi-State Development, Great Rivers Greenway, Jefferson National Parks Association, and the City of St. Louis. For more information, visit <http://archpark.org>.