

ART AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (AARB)

Project Data Sheet

Revised February 6, 2025

(Due by 3:00 p.m. on the Friday two weeks before the meeting to AARB@dgs.virginia.gov)

Date Submitted: November 20, 2025, for the December 5, 2025 meeting

Agency Name: Virginia Tech

Project Name, Number, and Location [** must include the project number*]

Dispositions of University Buildings – Center Woods

Blacksburg, Virginia

Project Number: Disposition in preparation for capital project 229-18699-000

Representatives for the Agency and the Architect/Engineer

Agency Representative:

Sandra P. Graham, AIA

Director of Design

Division of Facilities

Virginia Tech

540-231-4961

spowell@vt.edu

Current Project Status/Phase and Schedule [** must select one of the following*]

- Preliminary Design Submission: ☐
- Final Design Submission: ☒

Disposition activities are anticipated to begin in 2026 following receipt of all required approvals.

Request for Consent Agenda: Yes: ☒ No: ☐

* Please refer to the [AARB Agency Project Submission and Presentation Guidelines](#) – Project Submission Section for additional information and guidance on the Consent Agenda versus Regular Agenda.

PLEASE NOTE: If you did not check the box for Consent Agenda, your project will be posted on the Regular Agenda and the agency will be required to attend the meeting to make a presentation to the board on the day of the meeting. ***Presentations are not to exceed 15 minutes.***

Project Description

The university proposes the disposition of eight small storage and research sheds located in the Center Woods area of the Blacksburg campus. These modest, utilitarian structures have provided long-term support for forestry, fish and wildlife, and aquaculture programs but no longer align with current operational or facility standards. The sheds will be surplus through the university process prior to site preparation for the Improve Center Woods capital project.

- Shed #1: 285-square-foot wood-frame shed along Inventive Lane adjacent to the mollusk research building. The structure is weathered from age but remains in generally fair condition.
- Shed #2: 300-square-foot, two-door wood-frame shed along Inventive Lane adjacent to the mollusk research building. The building is serviceable but outdated for university storage and maintenance needs.

- Shed #3: 115-square-foot storage shed along Inventive Lane near the mollusk research building. The structure is small, aged, and no longer efficient for its intended use.
- Shed #4: 115-square-foot storage shed adjacent to Shed #3 along Inventive Lane. The shed remains stable but is functionally obsolete for current program requirements.
- Shed #5: 55-square-foot premanufactured plastic shed near the Aquaculture Facility at 756 Inventive Lane. The unit is temporary in nature and not suitable for long-term university use.
- Shed #6: 195-square-foot wood-frame shed along Inventive Lane. The building is in fair condition but outdated and no longer meets space or maintenance standards.
- Shed #7: 243-square-foot wood-frame shed along Inventive Lane. The structure shows signs of age but remains intact; it is no longer needed for active research operations.
- Shed #8: 64-square-foot storage shed along Inventive Lane. The small, wood-frame structure is in visibly poor condition and will be surplus accordingly.

Together, the dispositions will prepare the Center Woods area for future reinvestment and environmental improvements under the Improve Center Woods project, supporting the College of Natural Resources and Environment's long-term teaching, research, and outreach mission.

Architectural Aesthetic:

The Center Woods area is rural in character, comprised of utilitarian research and storage facilities that have supported forestry, fish and wildlife, and aquaculture programs. The structures identified for disposition are small in scale, constructed of wood framing or are premanufactured. They are outdated, deteriorated, and no longer aligned with programmatic needs. Their removal will enable reinvestment in modern facilities through the forthcoming Improve Center Woods project.

Relationship to Approved Master Plan [** this section must contain information for Board review, do not leave blank*]

The project is consistent with the adopted 2018 Master Plan, Beyond Boundaries 2047: The Campus Plan, which identifies Center Woods as a strategic research and teaching area. The removal of outdated and deteriorated structures aligns with the plan's emphasis on modernizing obsolete facilities, improving site efficiency, and creating capacity for new capital investment. This disposition effort supports Virginia Tech's long-term goal of enhancing its field-based research infrastructure and reinforces the strategic vision for the College of Natural Resources and Environment.

Existing Architectural Context

Center Woods lies on the western edge of the Blacksburg campus, adjacent to a mature forest and a network of field-based research facilities. The area contains a collection of utilitarian structures in varying states of condition. The eight facilities proposed for disposition have exceeded their useful lifespans and no longer meet programmatic or operational requirements. Their removal will clear the area for future reinvestment and environmental restoration under the Improve Center Woods capital project.

AARB History (for return presentations on the same project): [** this section must contain information for Board review, do not leave blank / if this section does not apply to your project, please indicate with N/A*]

- State when previous presentation(s) were made to the Board on the project. N/A

- Restate previous Board comments. N/A
- Show actions taken to address Board comments; use visuals to compare previous renderings with updates. N/A

DISPOSITION of UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS - **CENTER WOODS**

ART AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

December 5, 2025

PROJECT LOCATION



PROJECT SITE



Center Woods

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SHED #1



VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST



VIEW TO THE WEST

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SHED #2



VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST



VIEW TO THE SOUTHWEST

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SHED #3 & #4



VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST



VIEW TO THE SOUTHEAST

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SHED #5



VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST



VIEW TO THE SOUTHEAST

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SHED #6 & #7



VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST



VIEW TO THE WEST

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SHED #8



VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST



VIEW TO THE WEST