Although the world has more than 1,300 buildings of 200 meters or higher, no tall building of more than 187 meters has ever been demolished, with the exception of the World Trade Center attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. However, JP Morgan Chase Bank currently plans to demolish the former Union Carbide Building (1960) in New York to make way for a taller headquarters building. At 215.5 meters, this would become the tallest building in history to have been peacefully demolished. This report examines the 100 tallest buildings in history to have been dismantled by their owners, and some of the reasons for doing so.

**World’s Tallest Demolished Buildings**

The UAP Tower in Lyon, France (73 meters) was “quietly” demolished in four months, using the Despe TopDownWay self-contained system.

The average life span of the 100 tallest demolished buildings is 42 years.

The Greater Hudson Store, Detroit (125 meters) was the tallest building ever to be imploded via controlled demolition (explosives).
The Red Road Flats, Glasgow, (80–89 meters) were to be imploded as part of the entertainment at the 2014 Commonwealth Games, but the plan was stopped after public outcry.

The Kajima Corporation demolished its own headquarters buildings in Tokyo (65 and 75 meters tall, respectively) using its “Cut and Take Down Method”, making the building appear to “shrink” over nine months.

The Franklin National Bank Building, Philadelphia, (1916–1926) is the shortest-lived building in the 100 Tallest list (that was completed in the first place).