

Stunning Video of WTC 7's Damaged South Face Discovered on a 9/11 Truth Debunking Website

A short ABC News video from 9/11 reveals shocking new details about the damage World Trade Center Building 7 allegedly sustained from the collapse of the North Tower.

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(May 8, 2008) A short video clip from ABC News recently discovered on a 9/11 Truth debunking website provides the best view yet of the damage WTC 7 allegedly sustained from the collapse of the North Tower on 9/11.



(Fig. 1) A composite photo captured from the ABC News video shows no fire whatsoever in WTC 7. It also shows an enormous gash (arrows) that extends from the building's roof line all the way to the ground.

Incredibly, this video clearly shows an enormous gash that extends down the center of WTC 7's facade from its roofline all the way to the ground. Authorities have always attributed the damage on Building 7's south face to heavy debris impact from the collapse of the North Tower at 10:28 AM on 9/11. But facts recorded since the attacks strongly challenge this assertion.

Even more startling is the fact that absolutely no fire can be seen anywhere in the building. Also absent are the thick black columns of smoke typically seen pouring out of burning

buildings. The authorities claim that debris from the collapse of the North Tower ignited expansive fires that spread throughout the entire building. The debris damage and fires are the official explanation for WTC 7's inexplicable collapse.

Some theorists postulate that most of the smoke we do see in the video is from fires that gutted the low-rise building WTC 6 (fig. 2) standing at the base of Building 7. Wind from the northwest made the smoke from this fire rise in front of WTC 7 and cling to its face. To some, this may have created the impression that the smoke was actually coming from Building 7.

The ABC News video was clearly shot after the enormous debris cloud that smothered lower Manhattan (fig. 3) had finally dissipated. This means that

what we see in the short clip took place long after WTC 7 was allegedly struck by debris. If, as the authorities claim, debris did spark fires that built to a crescendo throughout the day, surely they would have been visible by the time this video was shot.

The only photos that do show fire in the building were taken later that afternoon. Some show small, barely visible pockets of fire burning on 2 or 3 floors of the 47 storey building (fig. 4). But these are photos of the north side of the building; oddly, no photos or video of the south face have been seen by the public until now. The origin of these fires is still unclear.

The fact that photos and video of WTC 7's south face have been unavailable to the public is intriguing when you consider how central this evidence is to the official story. If fire did bring WTC 7 down, it had to have been one of the most intense high-rise fires in history. It was also the last act in the most dramatic and shocking television spectacle of all time. Certainly this enormous building being gutted by fire would have attracted TV cameras and photographers by the score.



(Fig. 2) Smoke poured out of the low-rise building WTC 6 and rose up in front of the much taller WTC 7 all day long.



(Fig. 3) The enormous debris cloud that slowly rose over Manhattan had entirely dissipated by the time the ABC News video was recorded.

In addition, 9/11 truth researchers have all but proven that, given its distance from the North Tower (one full city block), WTC 7 could not have been heavily impacted by wreckage. This point is supported by the fact that two buildings flanking WTC 7 (fig. 5) suffered little or no damage at all by the same wave of destruction that authorities claim had caused catastrophic structural damage and fires to WTC 7—damage that ultimately caused it to collapse seven hours later.

Several stray girders hurled laterally from the collapses of the Twin Towers struck other buildings that morning, but the damage they caused was minimal. It was also rough and irregular (fig. 6). The gouge in WTC 7 was long, straight and clean—a narrow, even channel that runs all the way up the building. The force required to gouge this enormous gash in Building 7's side represents a source of destructive power far greater than anything

that was present that day and simply could not have been caused by falling debris.

An exhaustive study by NIST (the National Institute of Standards and Technology), which has yet to release its final report on WTC 7, briefly mentioned the gash in their “current working collapse hypothesis for WTC 7. NIST describes the gash—in highly technical jargon and unaccompanied by photos—as an “initial local failure” that occurred “below floor thirteen” that “(progressed) up to the east penthouse,” or roof; confirmation that it does indeed run up the entire building’s face.

The World Trade Center Task Force debriefed hundreds of firefighters and rescue workers after the attacks and posted these interviews on the web. Some of these eyewitnesses described WTC 7 as being “completely involved in fire, all forty seven stories,” having “heavy fire and smoke” on “nearly all floors” and that “everybody was expecting (WTC 7) to come down.” These comments seem incredible when you compare them to photos like the one in figure 4, not to mention the *ABC News* video. But could it be that what these witnesses actually saw was *smoke*, lots of smoke, clinging to the entire expanse of WTC 7’s leeward south face?



(Fig. 4) A photo of WTC 7's north face taken at 3 PM shows fires so small they are barely visible from outside of the enormous building.



(Fig. 5) The Verizon Building and the U.S. Post Office Building (off camera to the upper right) should have been decimated by the same wave of debris that allegedly struck WTC 7. Instead, both buildings stand in near pristine condition.

It's easy to understand how even trained professionals might make this mistake when you examine photos like the one in figure 7. WTC 6's fires grew more intense throughout the day and produced most of the thick black smoke we see in the photo. WTC 7 had begun to contribute some smoke of its own from the miniscule fires that appeared in the building later that afternoon but remember, it was practically a mantra from defenders of the official account that intense, catastrophic fires were raging in the upper floors of the Twin Towers, but all

we ever really saw was smoke; some minor pockets of fire, yes, but mostly lots and lots of thick, black smoke.

It's also understandable that talk of WTC 7 being in danger of "imminent collapse" was common in these accounts. Rumors of this highly unlikely "inevitability" were circulating down from FDNY brass to rescue personnel all day long. Firefighters and rescue workers repeating what they'd been told by their superiors isn't surprising.

The revelations revealed in the ABC News video—1) the lack of fire in the building, 2) the absence of catastrophic debris damage and 3) the mystery of the dramatic gouge running up the building's south face—are certainly the priority issues in this story. Points 1 and 2 seem significant enough as dramatic refutations of the official account, but speculation as to what may have caused the hollowed out shaft on WTC 7's face is another matter altogether. Here is one possible explanation for this extremely bizarre phenomenon:



(Fig. 6) An example of girder damage to The Bankers Trust Building. It stood much closer to the South Tower than WTC 7 did to the North Tower, but it wasn't "scooped out" by debris.

Few points have reached greater consensus among 9/11 truth researchers than the belief that WTC 7 was brought down in a carefully prepared explosive demolition. Some think that the 9/11 conspirators first pushed the button on the building just after the collapse of the North Tower when WTC 7 was well hidden under a thick cloud of debris. When the explosive sequence failed, WTC 7 remained standing. Finally, late in the day, the problem was resolved and Building 7 was brought down in an obvious controlled demolition.

Could the straight, clean gouge in WTC 7's south face be an indication that a line of explosives running up the center of the building detonated but then stalled? Buildings typically have their centers blown out first when they are being demolished and this kind of failure is certainly not without precedent. Though this theory is surely speculative, is it unreasonable to ask the question: *What else could have caused such a bizarre wound in the south face of WTC 7?*

In figure 8, we see a photo of the remains of the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City. Many newscasts reported and authorities confirmed that,

after the attack, two unexploded bombs had been found strapped to key core columns in the building, Timothy McVeigh's crude fertilizer bomb having been just the cover story for the real cause of the building's destruction, pre-planted explosives.

In the photo mentioned above, the arrow indicates a hollowed out shaft eerily similar in appearance to the one we see on the face of WTC 7 in the



(Fig. 7) WTC 7 did produce some smoke towards the end of the day, but most of it came from WTC 6. Smoke hugging the face of WTC 7 creates the illusion that the building was fully involved.

ABC News video. Although the Murrah Building was not nearly as tall as WTC 7 and therefore cannot provide a perfect comparison, the gouge left in its carcass does seem to loan credence to speculation that the incomplete detonation of an explosive sequence in a steel-framed building might very well leave a vertical shaft of destruction much like the one we see on the face of WTC 7.

Listen to this live, first hand account by a CNN reporter on the scene at Ground Zero: "...at a quarter to 11:00 (just minutes after the collapse of the North Tower) there was another collapse or explosion...a firefighter who rushed by us estimated that fifty stories (WTC 7 was 47 stories) went down. The street filled with smoke. It was like a forest fire roaring down a canyon."

Could this uncanny description from a firefighter be a hasty reference to the botched *attempt* to demolish Building 7? The time frame is perfect. The few explosives that did detonate would certainly have sounded like a "collapse or explosion" or a "forest fire roaring down a canyon." A vertical column of explosives blasting out the full height of the building could very well have given someone the impression that "fifty stories" were going down and would certainly have filled the street with smoke. *What else was going on at the time that fits this very detailed description?*

NIST's official collapse hypothesis—that debris falling from the North Tower kicked out central vertical supports that caused a cascade reaction that hollowed out a narrow shaft that ran straight up the entire face of the building that ultimately compromised the structure to the point of



(Fig. 8) An aerial photo of the Murrah Building bombing shows a hollowed out vertical shaft (arrow) that runs up the entire height of the building, much like the gouge in WTC 7's south face.

collapse seven hours later—seems, at best, implausible. NIST also fully acknowledges that this hypothesis is pure speculation. But when contrasted with many other facts in evidence that appear to support a very different collapse scenario for Building 7, these assertions from NIST quickly lose what little credibility they may have had to begin with.

As if all this weren't enough, in a speech in the spring of 2008, Larry Silverstein—the Manhattan developer who owned Building 7 since the '80's and who took control of the entire WTC complex just six weeks before 9/11—stated as fact that the antenna that stood atop the North Tower caused the gash in WTC 7! According to Silverstein, as the North Tower fell, the antenna sliced through Building 7 and severed fuel lines that caused diesel fuel to leak, catch fire and consume the building.

Of course, this ridiculous claim stands in direct contradiction to NIST's collapse hypothesis and is easily refuted by video evidence. Despite his own astounding assertions to the contrary, Silverstein considers NIST's voluminous studies to be conclusive and disparages those who do not. Amazingly, this kind of disagreement among various defenders of the official account on key issues regarding the attacks is not uncommon.

Photographic evidence that WTC 7 was not heavily impacted by debris or ravaged by fire but was instead destroyed with explosives would contradict everything the government has told us about its unlikely collapse and open up a Pandora's Box of other disturbing questions. It's understandable that photos and video disproving the authority's claims might be strictly suppressed. Is it an exaggeration to say that the lack of video evidence in regard to the strange collapse of WTC 7 is almost as disturbing a 9/11 anomaly as the lack of video surveillance footage from the Pentagon strike—a visual resource one would think must exist in abundance considering the high security status of one the most monitored military buildings in the world?



(Fig. 9) An NYPD photo indicates the point where the enormous gouge on WTC 7's south face meets its roof line.

Whatever the case may be, the video from ABC News—discovered, ironically, on a 9/11 truth *debunking* website—raises many troubling questions about the veracity of the official account. Those who have pursued the issue of insider complicity in the attacks will undoubtedly

scrutinize this bizarre new development and try to decipher its connection to broader theories about what may or may not have happened at the World Trade Center on the morning of September 11th 2001.

(In the spring of 2003, Jeremy Baker wrote the original story about WTC 7 controller Larry Silverstein and his comments about 'pulling' WTC 7 broadcasted on a PBS documentary. He has also organized 9/11 events in Denver, Boulder and Seattle and his articles have appeared in Global Outlook magazine and on many popular 9/11 websites. He lives in Seattle.)

For much more on this topic, read "Last Building Standing, New perspectives on the strange last hours of WTC 7's dark life." Find it at:

[microsoft-word-last-building-standing-comp](#)

Find the ABC News video at:

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=6186921835292416413&hl=en-CA>

Find still photos and the composite photo captured from the ABC News video on the 9/11 debunking website where they were originally discovered:

<http://www.debunking911.com/WTC7.htm>

The NIST report's "current working collapse hypothesis for WTC 7" can be found at:

http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/releases/wtc_062907.html

A video of WeAreChange's confrontation of Larry Silverstein is at:

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=EtPC0W4HII8>

Thanks to David Ray Griffin

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