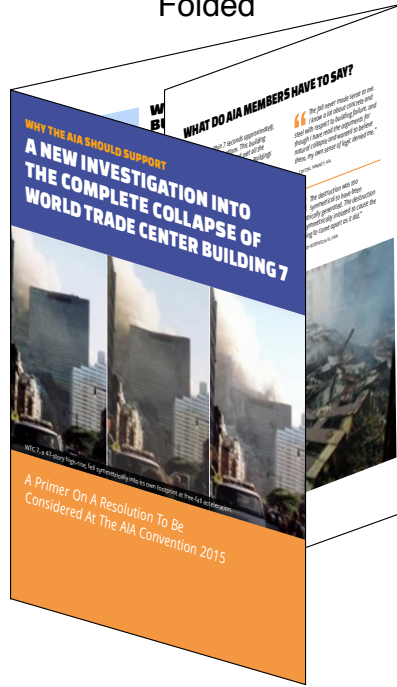
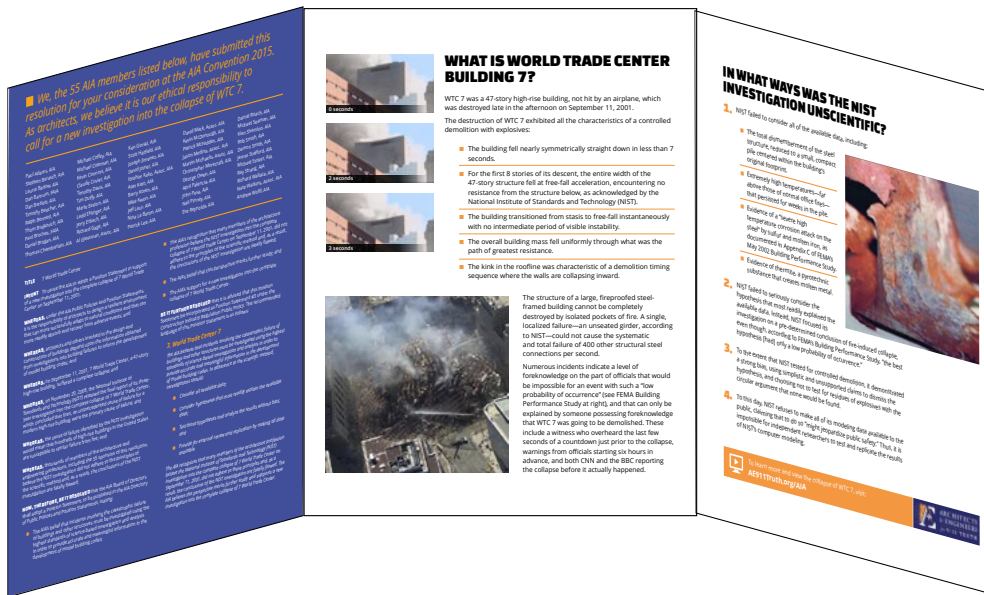


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Inside



Back



**WHY THE AIA SHOULD SUPPORT**

# **A NEW INVESTIGATION INTO THE COMPLETE COLLAPSE OF WORLD TRADE CENTER BUILDING 7**



WTC 7, a 47-story high-rise, fell symmetrically into its own footprint at free-fall acceleration.

*A Primer On A Resolution To Be  
Considered At The AIA Convention 2015*

# WHAT DO AIA MEMBERS HAVE TO SAY?

“ It fell within 7 seconds approximately, from top to bottom. This building was built in the mid-80s and met all the known building codes at the time. Buildings just don't behave like that—if floors fall, they tend to fall and are braced by the floor directly beneath it.”

— STEPHEN BARASCH, AIA

“ Clearly, from the visual evidence and information acquired to date, 7 WTC was demolished on purpose, not as an accident due to collateral damage resulting from the WTC collapses.”

— PAUL BROCHES, FAIA

“ The fall never made sense to me. I know a lot about concrete and steel with respect to building failure, and though I have read the arguments for natural collapse and wanted to believe them, my own sense of logic denied me.”

— CRYSTAL NANNEY, AIA

“ The destruction was too symmetrical to have been eccentrically generated. The destruction was symmetrically initiated to cause the building to come apart as it did.”

— HARRY ROBINSON III, FAIA



■ *We, the 55 AIA members listed below, have submitted this resolution for your consideration at the AIA Convention 2015. As architects, we believe it is our ethical responsibility to call for a new investigation into the collapse of WTC 7.*

Paul Adams, AIA	Michael Coffey, AIA	Ken Gorski, AIA	David Mack, Assoc. AIA	Daniel Roach, AIA
Stephen Barasch, AIA	Michael Coleman, AIA	Scott Hatfield, AIA	Kevin McDonough, AIA	Michael Seaman, AIA
Laurie Barlow, AIA	Kevin Connors, AIA	Joseph Jimenez, AIA	Patrick McFadden, AIA	Kian Shamloo, AIA
Dan Barnum, FAIA	Claude Cuvier, AIA	David Joiner, AIA	Jason Medina, Assoc. AIA	Rob Smith, AIA
Dan Bartlett, AIA	Timothy Davis, AIA	Ibrahim Kako, Assoc. AIA	Martin Michaelis, Assoc. AIA	Damon Smith, AIA
Timothy Beecher, AIA	Tim Duffy, AIA	Alan Kato, AIA	Christopher Morecraft, AIA	James Stafford, AIA
Ralph Bennett, AIA	Merle Easton, AIA	Barry Koren, AIA	George Owen, AIA	Michael Stoker, AIA
Thom Brajkovich, AIA	Ladd Ehlinger, AIA	Mike Kwon, AIA	April Palencia, AIA	Ray Strang, AIA
Paul Broches, FAIA	Jerry Erbach, AIA	Jeff Laur, AIA	John Pesa, AIA	Richard Wallace, AIA
Daniel Brogan, AIA	Richard Gage, AIA	Nina La Baron, AIA	Neil Pinney, AIA	Nate Watkins, Assoc. AIA
Thomas Chamberlain, AIA	Al Glassman, Assoc. AIA	Patrick Lee, AIA	Eve Reynolds, AIA	Andrew Wolff, AIA

**TITLE** 7 World Trade Center

**INTENT** To cause the AIA to adopt a Position Statement in support of a new investigation into the complete collapse of 7 World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

**WHEREAS**, under the AIA Public Policies and Position Statements, it is the responsibility of architects to design a resilient environment that can more successfully adapt to natural conditions and that can more readily absorb and recover from adverse events; and

**WHEREAS**, architects and others involved in the design and construction of buildings depend upon the information obtained from investigations into building failures to inform the development of model building codes; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 11, 2001, 7 World Trade Center, a 47-story high-rise building, suffered a complete collapse; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 20, 2008, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) released the final report of its three-year investigation into the complete collapse of 7 World Trade Center, which concluded that fires, an unprecedented cause of failure for a modern high-rise building, were the primary cause of failure; and

**WHEREAS**, the cause of failure identified by the NIST investigation would mean that hundreds of high-rise buildings in the United States are susceptible to similar failure from fire; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of members of the architecture and engineering professions, including the 55 sponsors of this resolution, believe the NIST investigation did not adhere to the principles of the scientific method and, as a result, the conclusions of the NIST investigation are fatally flawed;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the AIA Board of Directors shall adopt a Position Statement, to be published in the AIA Directory of Public Policies and Position Statements, stating:

- The AIA's belief that incidents involving the catastrophic failure of buildings and other structures must be investigated using the highest standards of science-based investigation and analysis in order to provide accurate and meaningful information in the development of model building codes;

- The AIA's recognition that many members of the architecture profession believe the NIST investigation into the complete collapse of 7 World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, did not adhere to the principles of the scientific method and, as a result, the conclusions of the NIST investigation are fatally flawed;

- The AIA's belief that this perspective merits further study; and

- The AIA's support for a new investigation into the complete collapse of 7 World Trade Center.

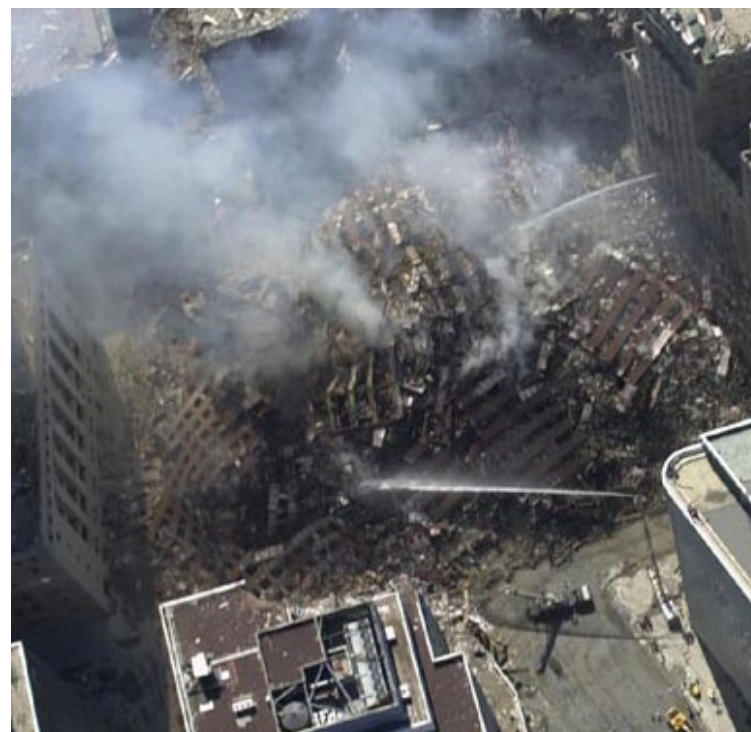
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that it is advised that this Position Statement be incorporated as Position Statement #3 under the Construction Industry Regulation Public Policy. The recommended language of this Position Statement is as follows:

### 3. *World Trade Center 7*

*The AIA believes that incidents involving the catastrophic failure of buildings and other structures must be investigated using the highest standards of science-based investigation and analysis in order to provide accurate and meaningful information in the development of model building codes. In adherence to the scientific method, investigations should:*

- *Consider all available data;*
- *Consider hypotheses that most readily explain the available data;*
- *Test those hypotheses and analyze the results without bias; and*
- *Provide for external review and replication by making all data available.*

*The AIA recognizes that many members of the architecture profession believe the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) investigation into the complete collapse of 7 World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, did not adhere to these principles and, as a result, the conclusions of the NIST investigation are fatally flawed. The AIA believes this perspective merits further study and supports a new investigation into the complete collapse of 7 World Trade Center.*



## WHAT IS WORLD TRADE CENTER BUILDING 7?

WTC 7 was a 47-story high-rise building, not hit by an airplane, which was destroyed late in the afternoon on September 11, 2001.

The destruction of WTC 7 exhibited all the characteristics of a controlled demolition with explosives:

- The building fell nearly symmetrically straight down in less than 7 seconds.
- For the first 8 stories of its descent, the entire width of the 47-story structure fell at free-fall acceleration, encountering no resistance from the structure below, as acknowledged by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
- The building transitioned from stasis to free-fall instantaneously with no intermediate period of visible instability.
- The overall building mass fell uniformly through what was the path of greatest resistance.
- The kink in the roofline was characteristic of a demolition timing sequence where the walls are collapsing inward.

The structure of a large, fireproofed steel-framed building cannot be completely destroyed by isolated pockets of fire. A single, localized failure—an unseated girder, according to NIST—could not cause the systematic and total failure of 400 other structural steel connections per second.

Numerous incidents indicate a level of foreknowledge on the part of officials that would be impossible for an event with such a “low probability of occurrence” (see FEMA Building Performance Study at right), and that can only be explained by someone possessing foreknowledge that WTC 7 was going to be demolished. These include a witness who overheard the last few seconds of a countdown just prior to the collapse, warnings from officials starting six hours in advance, and both CNN and the BBC reporting the collapse before it actually happened.

## IN WHAT WAYS WAS THE NIST INVESTIGATION UNSCIENTIFIC?

1. NIST failed to consider all of the available data, including:

- The total dismemberment of the steel structure, reduced to a small, compact pile centered within the building's original footprint.
- Extremely high temperatures—far above those of normal office fires—that persisted for weeks in the pile.
- Evidence of a “severe high temperature corrosion attack on the steel” by sulfur and molten iron, as documented in Appendix C of FEMA's May 2002 Building Performance Study.
- Evidence of thermite, a pyrotechnic substance that creates molten metal.



2. NIST failed to seriously consider the hypothesis that most readily explained the available data. Instead, NIST focused its investigation on a pre-determined conclusion of fire-induced collapse, even though, according to FEMA's Building Performance Study, “the best hypothesis [had] only a low probability of occurrence.”

3. To the extent that NIST tested for controlled demolition, it demonstrated a strong bias, using simplistic and unsupported claims to dismiss the hypothesis, and choosing not to test for residues of explosives with the circular argument that none would be found.

4. To this day, NIST refuses to make all of its modeling data available to the public, claiming that to do so “might jeopardize public safety.” Thus, it is impossible for independent researchers to test and replicate the results of NIST's computer modeling.



To learn more and view the collapse of WTC 7, visit:  
**AE911Truth.org/AIA**



*Do we, the members of the AIA, believe that catastrophic building failures must be investigated using the highest standards of science-based investigation and analysis?*

If so, then it is incumbent upon us as architects to call for a new investigation into the complete collapse of World Trade Center Building 7.



**Please vote YES on May 16<sup>th</sup>.  
It's our ethical responsibility.**



To learn more and view the collapse of WTC 7, visit:  
[AE911Truth.org/AIA](http://AE911Truth.org/AIA)



**ARCHITECTS  
& ENGINEERS**  
for 9/11 TRUTH