

Overview of AE911Truth

Summary of the 9/11 World Trade Center Evidence

Issues for the American Institute of Architects

(View document at AE911Truth.org/DenverAIA)

Richard Gage, AIA / AE911Truth:

Richard Gage, AIA, is an architect of 25 years and the founder and CEO of Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth¹ (AE911Truth.org), a 501(c)3 educational charity representing more than [1,900 degreed/licensed architects and engineers](#) who have signed a petition calling for a new, independent investigation, with full subpoena power, into the destruction of the Twin Towers and the 47-story World Trade Center Building 7 on 9/11. The more than 17,000 non-A/E signatories include many scientists, attorneys, and other responsible, educated citizens in the US and abroad.







Official Building Reports Flawed:

The inadequacies of the official “investigations” carried out thus far have been brought to the attention of the media and many members of Congress by individuals and grassroots organizations, dating back to 9/11/01. Former FBI Assistant Director for Counterterrorism, Michael Heimbach, praised the work of AE911Truth, citing that it was “[backed by thorough research and analysis](#).”²

Physics instructor David Chandler, who noted that his analysis forced NIST to correct its flagrant misstatement about the descent rate of WTC Building 7, appears in our [recent documentary film, 9/11: Explosive Evidence – Experts Speak Out](#). So does Bob Bowman, Ph.D., Lt. Col. USAF Ret., former head of the Air Force “Star Wars” Strategic Defense Initiative program, saying “When I saw the Twin towers fall down I knew this could not happen, those airplanes and those fires could not cause the buildings to come down the way they did.”

Technical and Building Professionals:

We are not tin-foil-hat-wearing conspiracy theorists. Here are a few statements from among the 43 building and demolition professionals that we have interviewed in the ESO documentary:

	<p><i>Rick Fowlkes, P.E.</i> 40-Year Civil/Structural Engineer</p>	<p>On Sept. 11 when I saw the Twin Towers coming down, I knew that it had to be controlled demolitions we were witnessing.</p>
	<p><i>Dan Barnum, FAIA</i> High-Rise Architect</p>	<p>The tops of the buildings were basically disintegrated. I have 'known' from day one that the buildings were imploded and that they could not and would not have collapsed from the damage caused by the airplanes that ran into them.</p>
	<p><i>Scott Grainger, P.E.</i> Forensic Fire Protection Engineer</p>	<p>Structural steel frame high-rise buildings simply do not collapse due to fire.</p>
	<p><i>Tom Sullivan</i> Explosives Technician, Formerly with Controlled Demolitions, Inc.</p>	<p>I knew from day one this was a controlled event. What I saw was a classic implosion. The center of the core; the penthouse area [of Building 7] starts to move first, and then the rest of the building follows along with it.</p>
	<p><i>Steve Luce</i> Former US Army Combat Engineer</p>	<p>The ejection of building materials out of the sides of the buildings, and the manner and speed at which they fell, exhibited all the signs of controlled demolition.</p>
	<p><i>Roland Angle, P.E.</i> Civil/Structural Engineer</p>	<p>What really concerns me is we're beginning to live in a society that is rebellious against science. It's important that all of us with the technical expertise speak out on the 9/11 issue.</p>

The controlled demolition theory has been subjected to thousands of hours of consideration by qualified professionals. Peer-reviewed papers have been published, showing why the official account is impossible. We acknowledge that there are other conflicting papers, but when there are conflicting papers on such an important issue then **more investigation is required.**

Quick Summary of WTC 7 Evidence:

WTC Building #7, a 47-story high-rise not hit by an airplane, exhibited all the characteristics of classic controlled demolition with explosives:

1. [Rapid onset](#) of collapse
2. [Sounds of explosions](#) at ground floor – a second before the building's destruction
3. Symmetrical "structural failure" – through the path of greatest resistance – [at free-fall acceleration](#)
4. [Imploded](#), collapsing completely, and landed in its own footprint – [explosives loader, Tom Sullivan](#)
5. Massive volume of expanding [pyroclastic-like clouds](#)
6. [Expert corroboration](#) from the top European controlled demolition professional
7. [Foreknowledge](#) of "collapse" by media, NYPD, FDNY
8. See also the [15-min documentary on WTC 7 by AE911Truth](#) narrated by Ed Asner



In the aftermath of WTC7's destruction, strong evidence of demolition using incendiary devices was discovered:

1. FEMA finds rapid oxidation and [intergranular melting](#) on structural steel samples
2. Several tons of [molten metal](#) reported by numerous highly qualified witnesses
3. Chemical signature of the [incendiary thermite](#) found in solidified molten metal, and dust samples

Quick Summary of WTC 1 & 2 Evidence:

As seen in this revealing photo, the Twin Towers' destruction exhibited all of the characteristics of destruction by explosives:

1. [Destruction](#) proceeds through the path of greatest resistance at [nearly free-fall acceleration](#)
2. [Improbable symmetry](#) of debris distribution
3. Extremely [rapid onset of destruction](#)
4. Over 100 first responders reported [explosions and flashes](#)
5. Multi-ton steel sections [ejected laterally](#)
6. [Mid-air pulverization](#) of 90,000 tons of concrete & metal decking
7. Massive volume of expanding [pyroclastic-like clouds](#)
8. [1200-foot-diameter](#) debris field: no "pancaked" floors found
9. Isolated [explosive ejections](#) 20–40 stories below demolition front
10. [Total building destruction](#): dismemberment of steel frame
11. Several tons of [molten metal](#) found under all 3 high-rises



12. Evidence of [thermite incendiaries](#) found by FEMA in steel samples
13. Evidence of [explosives](#) found in dust samples

The three high-rises exhibited none of the characteristics of destruction by fire:

1. Slow onset with large visible deformations
2. Asymmetrical collapse which follows the path of least resistance (laws of conservation of momentum would cause a falling, intact, from the point of plane impact, to the side most damaged by the fires)
3. [Evidence of fire temperatures](#) capable of softening steel
4. [High-rise buildings](#) with much larger, hotter, and longer-lasting fires have never collapsed

Serious Questions Unaddressed by the American Institute of Architects:

Our 1,900 A/E petition signers ask the difficult questions and document the problematic observations below, which are just a few of many that remain [unanswered or ignored by NIST](#) as well as the AIA, and [obscured by Popular Mechanics](#) – the so called “debunker” of the alternative theories about the catastrophic destruction on 9/11:

- How did the elevated building mass [destroy 80,000 tons of structural steel at nearly free-fall speed](#)?³
- Given that open-air jet fuel fires and normal office fires both burn at a maximum of around 1,500° F., and the melting point of steel is around 2,700° F., what thermal energy source produced the several [tons of molten metal](#)⁴ observed flowing out of the South Tower shortly before its collapse – and also seen for weeks after 9/11/01 in the basements of the Twin Towers and Building 7 by [numerous witnesses](#)⁵, including the WTC structural engineer, Leslie Robertson.
- What explains the [chemical evidence of thermite](#)⁶, an incendiary material found on the ends of so many steel beams and [in the WTC dust](#)⁷? FEMA documented in [Appendix C of its BPAT Report](#)⁸ “evidence of a severe high temperature corrosion attack on the steel, including oxidation and sulfidation with subsequent intergranular melting”. This is clearly not a feature of gravitational collapse, or of hydrocarbon fuel or office fires. NIST summarily dismissed this key evidence when they took over the investigation.
- What is the source of the billions of microspheres consisting of [previously molten iron](#)⁹ in the World Trade Center dust? The United States Geological Survey (USGS), in its “Particle Atlas of World Trade Center Dust Report,” and RJ Lee Group, Inc., an engineering firm, in its December 2003 “WTC Dust Signature Report: Composition and Morphology,” both document these once-molten drops of metal without explanation. These microspheres also contain the chemical signature of thermite, an incendiary material used by the military to cut through structural steel.
- Why did Building 7 start its sudden and uniform collapse at free-fall [acceleration rate](#)¹⁰ for 1/3 of its 7-second collapse time? Video analysis shows the upper portion of the

structure accelerating at the maximum rate gravity allows. Per NIST, this can only mean that the structure below offered no resistance. It therefore must have been “removed”.

- What mechanism can account for the simultaneous failure of the critical number and distribution of columns required to produce this rate of acceleration? NIST now attributes the catastrophic collapse of Building 7 to a new phenomenon called “thermal expansion” due to “normal office fires” with little to no contribution from falling debris or diesel fuel. At this suggestion by NIST, are we to suddenly accept that our understanding of fire science, materials and structural behavior has been deeply flawed all along? The American Institute of Architects (AIA) has steadfastly resisted changes to building codes that have been proposed after 9/11. Here is the potent 5-minute AE911Truth [executive summary testimony](#)¹¹ delivered to NIST on December 18, 2007.
- Why did more than 100 FDNY first responders describe, in great detail, the sounds of explosions and flashes of light that they saw and heard just before and during each tower’s collapse? Why did we not know about these thousands of pages of FDNY “oral history” evidence until August, 2005 – and only then after a court order for their release? FDNY’s own Chief of Safety, Albert Turi, and FDNY’s chief, Ray Downey, the “premiere collapse expert in the country” according to a fellow chief, both spoke of the presence of explosives in the Towers prior to their failures. [More than 100 testimonies](#)¹² referring to multiple, violent explosions were ignored and unreported by the 9/11 Commission, NIST and FEMA.
- What was the energy source, and through what mechanism was it applied, that [pulverized 40,000 cubic yards of concrete into powder](#)¹³ in mid-air that blanketed Manhattan? [Calculations](#)¹⁴ show that the energy requirement for this pulverization and the rapid expansion of the subsequent dust clouds was far greater than the available gravitational potential energy of the structures. This simple energy imbalance alone proves the official explanation impossible. Is this the same energy source that is responsible for the vaporization of more than 10,000 steel file cabinets and 1,100 human bodies that were never found, not even the smallest traces of DNA?
- How were [4 ton steel members ejected](#)¹⁵ from the Twin Towers at 70 miles per hour – and landing 600 feet away? A simple gravitational collapse would only allow up to 100 feet of “drift”, so what provided the energy required?
- Why were [virtually no floors found](#)¹⁶ at the base of either Twin Tower? There were originally 110 floors in each Tower – each of them one acre in size. What explains the disappearance of 220 acres of four-inch thick concrete (180,000 tons) and the steel decking and trusses?
- What caused the [explosive ejections of pulverized building materials](#)¹⁷ as many as 60 stories below the rapidly descending “collapse” of each Tower? These so-called “squibs” can be seen in many publicly available videos and show materials being ejected at over 160 feet per second.

- Why were most windows in other buildings within 400 feet of each Twin Tower [blown out](#)¹⁸? This has never been observed following other gravitational collapses. What was the energy source here?
- An international team of scientists has found [nanothermitic explosives residue](#)¹⁹ (not ordinary thermite) in the World Trade Center dust. NIST has refused to test for explosives residue, saying that such tests “[would not necessarily have been conclusive](#).”²⁰ This was clearly nonsense, even before others found the residue, especially since NIST did not test for ANY kind of explosives residue. NFPA 921 requires such testing when there is “high order damage,” as there obviously was at the World Trade Center, and it mentions ordinary thermite by name. Even if NFPA 921 is considered a guideline and not a law, the failure to follow it in this case is inexcusable, and might very well have helped allow as-yet unknown perpetrators to escape justice. Surely the FBI also has investigators who are aware of NFPA 921 and could have ordered such tests long before NIST was ever tasked with investigating the WTC’s destruction.
- Finally, how can we let the following September, 2007 [admission by NIST](#) remain unexplained:

“...we are unable to provide a full explanation of the total collapse [of the Towers].”²¹ They did not even attempt to “analyze the structural behavior after the initiation of collapse”.

Long Term Implications for the AIA’s Head Current Strategy:

We now ask a few poignant questions:

- Are we as Architects, as we so often say, the leaders of the design/construction process – or not? Is not the theme of this year’s convention “Building Leaders”?
- Why has the AIA not convened its own rigorously independent investigation into *all* of the evidence in the catastrophic destruction on September 11, 2001. There are a number of AIA and FAIA members who are willing to serve on such a committee.
- If the Official Reports are to be believed, then tall buildings are not safe and many may be vulnerable to collapse with out-of-control fires. NIST has not responded adequately to these concerns; nor has the ICBO; nor has the AIA. There are no substantial structural changes adopted in the IBC as a result of 9/11. So how does the AIA adequately respond to the issue of the public’s post-911 perceived failure on the part of design professionals to adequately design tall buildings?
- What has the AIA done to insure that such a catastrophic failure does not occur again? The published works from the AIA on this subject also ignore the explosive evidence

cited above and blindly support the untenable NIST theories without substantial questioning.

These are critical issues and need to be seriously addressed by the AIA now that the evidence is carefully documented and supported by 1,900 architects and engineers calling for a new investigation. It is hoped that the AIA leadership would be keenly interested in finding out why they are doing so.

Increasing numbers of AIA members are joining the courageous six FAIA members who count themselves as leaders among the 1,900. It is hoped that the leadership of the AIA follow them before further and irreparable loss of its credibility is suffered

References

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