

6 *Bankers Trust Building*

6.1 Introduction

The Bankers Trust building at 130 Liberty Street, also referred to as the Deutsche Bank building, withstood the impact of one or more pieces of column-tree debris raining down from the collapsing south tower (WTC 2). Although the debris sliced through the exterior façade, fracturing spandrel beam connections and exterior columns for a height of approximately 15 stories, the building sustained only localized damage in the immediate path of the debris from WTC 2 (hereafter referred to as the impact debris) (Figures 6-1 and 6-2). There were no fires in this building. The ability of this building to sustain significant structural damage yet arrest the progression of collapse is worthy of thorough study. Unlike WTC 1, 2, and 7, which collapsed completely, the Bankers Trust building provided an opportunity to analyze a structure that suffered a moderate

level of damage, to explain the structural behavior, and to verify the analytical methods used. The following sections describe the building structure, the extent of damage, and the computational methods that were used to analyze the structure.



6.2 Building Description

The Bankers Trust building is a steel-frame commercial office structure, designed and constructed circa 1971. Bankers Trust was designed by Shreve, Lamb & Harmon Associates P. C. Architects; Peterson and Brickbauer Associated Architects; the Office of James Rudderaman Structural Engineers, and Jaros Baum and Bolles Mechanical and Electrical Engineers. The building measures 560 feet in height with 40 stories above grade and 2 below. It is located directly across Liberty Street from the former site of WTC 2, about 600 feet due south of the southeast corner of WTC 2.

*Figure 6-1
North face of Bankers Trust building with impact damage
between floors 8 and 23.*