

over the entire distance between the Pedestrian Bridge and the Promenade, there are no indications of large openings on the 1st and 2nd floors in this area.

On the right in Figure 5–71, at least 15 similar columns are visible at the level of and above the Pedestrian Bridge. A wide band is visible running horizontally across the face above the bridge. Based on the façade drawing for the south face in Figure 5–20 and photographs in Figure 5–15 and Figure 5–16, this band is the granite spandrel covers that separated the glass enclosed atrium from the louvers located on the 5th and 6th floors. As evident from the drawing and photograph, these louvers were supported by non structural columns that lined up with those in the lobby area. Columns are visible on either side of the Pedestrian Bridge below the granite spandrel cover indicating that the atrium glass support system was intact on the 3rd and 4th floors at these locations.

The area visible above the granite in Figure 5–71 starts just to the left of the Pedestrian Bridge and extends towards the west at least as far as the fifteenth support column from the east edge. As can be seen in Figure 5–20, these columns nearly span the distance from the east edge of the face to the Promenade. Structural steel Columns 23 to 28 were located on this section of the face (see Figure 5–20). Since these columns were located behind the glass and louver support systems, these observations indicate that there was likely no structural damage to these columns on the 1st through 6th floors.

A second view of Vesey Street and the Promenade taken from a short video clip is shown in Figure 5–72. The dark area at the top of the image is the bottom of the Pedestrian Bridge. In the unaltered left view, large amounts of smoke are visible on the far side of the Promenade. In the right view, the intensity levels have been adjusted to emphasize the darker areas in the image. A number of steel panel sections are visible on the left side of the street between the Pedestrian Bridge and the Promenade. It is also possible to see that several panel sections landed on or near the south end of the Promenade, and this end may be partially collapsed. The portion of a panel section near the center of the street is visible, but is not as easily identified as in Figure 5–70. A part of the large piece of debris observed earlier leaning up against the south face of WTC 7 is visible at the far right of the image. The size and shape of the object suggest that it was a steel column or beam. In all, the main portion of the east side of the Promenade, with the possible exception of the far south end, was not collapsed by the steel from WTC 1, although the raised side structures had suffered considerable damage.



Figure 5–72. Two versions of a frame from a video taken from the corner of Vesey Street and West Broadway in the early afternoon.

Left: the frame as captured; Right: the image with intensities adjusted to emphasize the darker areas.