

50 also appear to have opened. On the 12th floor additional windows around Column 51 have opened, and fire has appeared in window 12-52A. On the 13th floor the fire between Columns 44 and 45 has become less intense at the same time that the fire to the west of Column 45 appears more intense.

Around the time when the photograph in Figure 5–130 was taken, a news crew managed to reach Barclay Street by way of the building at 123 Barclay Street and filmed the fires in WTC 7 from several vantage points. This video was not time stamped, so it proved difficult to obtain accurate times for all of the clips. However, as discussed below, by comparison with other images taken at relatively well known times, it was possible to estimate times for this video.

Even though 123 Barclay Street was a full block north of the south face of WTC 7 and was nearly completely shielded from the WTC site by WTC 7 and the Verizon Building (see Figure 5–2), all of the windows in the main lobby facing Barclay Street were broken, and the lobby was covered by a thick layer of dust. This observation provides another example of the potential of the dust clouds created by the collapses of the towers to break windows and distribute material. There was no indication that fires ignited in the lobby. Initial views of WTC 7 shot by this news crew were taken through the broken windows in the lobby. Figure 5–132 shows a view of the northwest corner of WTC 7 taken from a video clip shot through the open windows. The time assigned for this video clip is estimated relative to that for Figure 5–134 provided below. Figure 5–132 reveals a great deal about the recent fire behavior. Consider the west face. Flames are visible coming from window 8-6 on the 8th floor, and heavy smoke is flowing from multiple windows starting at the northwest corner and extending at least as far south as window 8-8. Several video clips were shot from near the same location as Figure 5–132. A frame from one of the clips recorded slightly earlier showing a much closer view of the west face is reproduced in Figure 5–133. In this image, flames are visible in windows 8-3 to 8-5, with heavy flames coming from window 8-3. In a longer distance view from the same clip, flames can also be seen coming from windows 8-1A, 8-1B, and 8-2.

Taken together, these video clips indicate that an intense fire spanning at least half the west side of the 8th floor was burning at this time. Conversely, even though there was heavy blackening of the façade above open windows 7-1A, 7-1B, 7-3, and 7-4 visible in the clips, indicating the earlier presence of a fire, no



Figure 5–131. This frame from a video shot from a building to the northwest of WTC 7 was taken around 3:50:13 p.m. with an uncertainty of ± 3 min. The intensities have been adjusted and column and floor numbers added.