

The combustible fuel load² for these open landscaped floors was dominated by the workstations. The architectural drawings showed densities of workstations similar to those on most of the fire floors in the WTC towers. The estimated combustible fuel load for these floors was about 20 kg/m² (4 lb/ft²). Simulations of the fires with a higher combusted fuel load (NIST NCSTAR 1-9, Chapter 9) resulted in poor agreement with the observed fire spread rates.

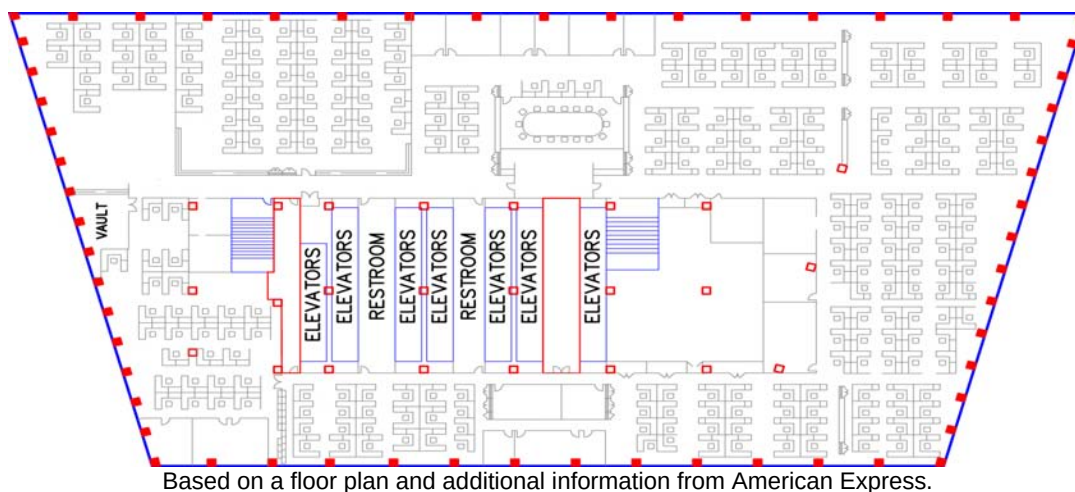


Figure 1–8. Schematic of Floor 8.

On a number of other floors, the space was almost completely subdivided into individual offices. A typical layout is depicted in Figure 1–9.

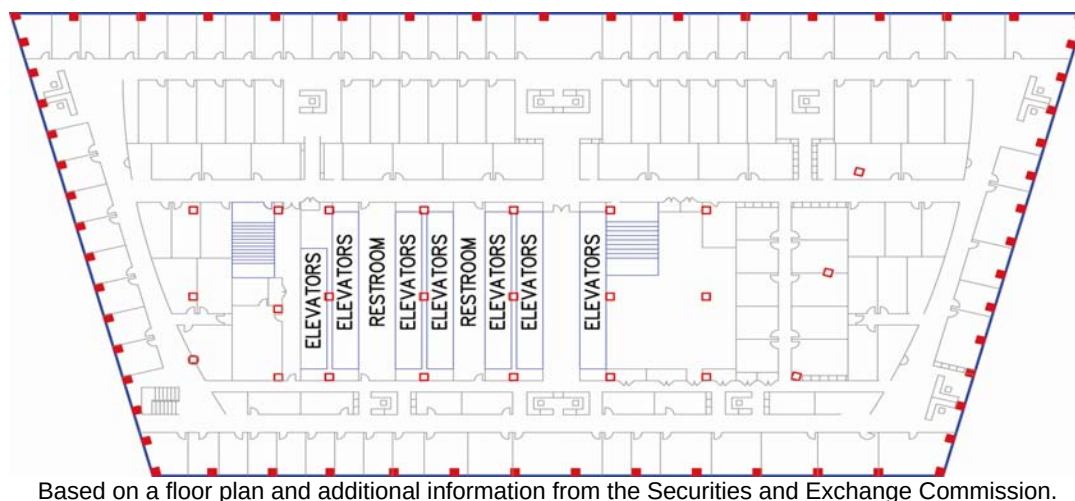


Figure 1–9. Schematic of Floor 11.

On the 11th and 12th floors, which will be seen later to have been the sites of significant and sustained fires, the mass of additional paper materials was described as very high. As indicated in NIST NCSTAR 1-9, Chapter 3, the Investigation Team estimated a combustible fuel load of approximately 32 kg/m³

² In the fire simulations, the entire combustible fuel load can be burned. In actuality, not all of, e.g., a wood desk is consumed. Thus, the combusted fuel loads estimated for these simulations are somewhat lower than the actual fuel loads in prior surveys of office buildings. (See NIST NCSTAR 1-5.)