

## 25 YEARS OF TWIN TOWER COLLAPSE MISREPRESENTATIONS, 2001-2026

There are 7 types of recognized key sources on the collapse modes of the Twin Towers:

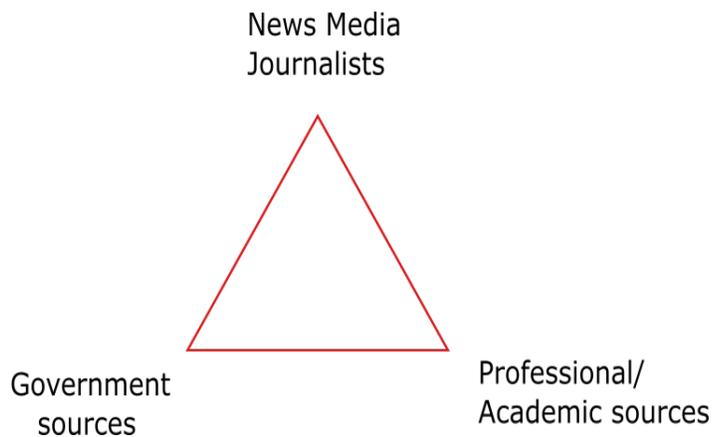
- 1) News archives
- 2) Archives of investigative news outlets
- 3) Professional technical journal records
- 4) Academic papers
- 5) U.S. Court records
- 6) The NIST reports
- 7) Congressional records
  
- 8) Other sources (not recognized)

1, 2 are **private news** sources

3, 4 are **professional and academic** sources

5, 6, 7 are **U.S. Government** sources from the judicial, executive, and legislative branches.

On technical issues related to the Twin Towers journalists used these same sources for technical knowledge. Journalists are dependent on a relationship for technical information on the Twin Towers that looks like this:



Concerning the collapse modes of the Twin Towers, journalists were dependent on these two technical sources to understand what they were seeing. But the NIST reports included nothing on the collapse progressions. All NIST comments on the Twin Towers collapse progressions are highlighted in yellow at the top of [this link](#). That left journalists and media **completely dependent on professional and academic sources only**.

But journalists didn't have the skills to read these academic and professional journals. The evidence presented here shows from 2007 onward there wasn't a single journalist that understood or could read the technical literature on the Twin Towers collapses that they were apparently defending.

## TWIN TOWERS COLLAPSE PROGRESSION MAPPINGS

### EVIDENCE OF UNIQUENESS, DISTINCTIVENESS OF TWIN TOWER COLLAPSE PROGRESSION MODES (DIRECTLY RELATED TO UNIQUE STRUCTURAL DESIGN)

The collapse progression modes of the Twin Towers are [mapped here](#). It is very important to understand these were not 'generic' buildings. They were of a highly unique architecture and as a result they underwent highly specific modes of collapse progression which were unique to these structures. The collapses were incredibly unique events with unique, distinct, recognizable features that would not have been observed in buildings of a different structural design. There was nothing 'generic' about it.

The single most unique feature of the collapses is how the three building components (perimeter, core, flooring) moved in highly specific, distinct ways relative to each other. It was a very unique, specific type of collapse progression which was directly related to the unique structural designs. All the global features witnessed were a direct result of this uniqueness.

Twin Towers collapse progression modes were the opposite of unknowable or general in every way:

All 8 perimeter walls (4 on each building) were mappable

The temporarily surviving cores of each building were mappable.

Collapse fronts down all building perimeters were mappable

They are mapped [here](#). The processes of collapse can be understood to be highly organized, as all 3 key structural components were found to fall in well-ordered, highly predictable ways. Not surprisingly, the highly unique and distinct collapse progression modes were directly related to the unique structural designs of the Twin Towers.

The collapse progression modes were remarkably controlled processes due to the nature of how the collapse fronts propagated down the structures trapped within confining outer walls. The collapse progressions were also highly regulated processes, moving at a near constant 8 floors per second downward through the structures. This means a steady state acceleration near zero.

The qualities of strong confinement, terminal velocity, and zero steady state acceleration means that the Twin Towers collapse progression modes were effectively highly regulated, very controllable, and very predictable processes. They are knowable and mappable processes. This can be observed and understood if one knows what to look for.

## THE CHIEF CHARACTERISTICS OF MISREPRESENTATIONS OF THE TWIN TOWERS COLLAPSE MODES:

- 1) That they are vague, general, generic, unknowable, obscured, uncertain
- 2) The mention of 'blocks', images of 'blocks' taken literally (see [these images](#) as examples)
- 3) Misrepresentations of the collapse progressions are presented without the slightest skepticism or critique, as 'matter-of-fact' truth.
- 4) The chief (and only) reference of comparison: 'truthers'. Critique of truther misrepresentations while being completely blind to professional/academic journal misrepresentations or Wikipedia misrepresentations.
- 5) NIST never acts as a reference of comparison. No critique of NIST. In fact, many of the same news sources will give direct links to the NIST studies with no critique. The articles are effectively extensions of NIST claims.

## EVIDENCE OF IGNORANCE OF THE UNIQUE AND HIGHLY DISTINCTIVE TWIN TOWERS COLLAPSE MODES FROM 2001 to 2021

A strange situation arose where the mappings were available since 2010, but the ignorance of the actual collapse progression modes continued freely unchecked for more than a decade since.

What follows is an outline of the elements of the written record of the Twin Towers collapse progression modes from key sources. I wrote out all links directly so patterns can be seen of where this information is stored online.

### **2001**

Eagar:

<https://www.tms.org/pubs/journals/JOM/0112/Eagar/Eagar-0112.html>

<https://news.stanford.edu/pr/01/wtcpostmortem125.html>

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/when-the-twin-towers-fell/>

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%290733-9399%282002%29128%3A1%282%29>

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/nation-world/sns-worldtrade-collapse-ct-story.html>

University of Sidney:

[https://www.lafire.com/famous\\_fires/2001-0911\\_WTC/UniversityofSidney/100801\\_UofSidney\\_EngineeringAspects.htm](https://www.lafire.com/famous_fires/2001-0911_WTC/UniversityofSidney/100801_UofSidney_EngineeringAspects.htm)

## 2002

FEMA Building Performance Study:

[https://www.fema.gov/pdf/library/fema403\\_cover-toc.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/pdf/library/fema403_cover-toc.pdf)

U.S Congress oversight hearing:

part 1: [http://www.youtube.com/v/qSanaMFSDTE?version=3&hl=en\\_US](http://www.youtube.com/v/qSanaMFSDTE?version=3&hl=en_US)

part 2: [http://www.youtube.com/v/bPzl\\_gzEhFg?version=3&hl=en\\_US](http://www.youtube.com/v/bPzl_gzEhFg?version=3&hl=en_US)

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%290733-9399%282002%29128%3A3%28369%29>

## 2003

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%290733-9399%282003%29129%3A7%28839.2%29>

Abboud:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/40692%28241%2936>

## 2005

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/military/a49/1227842/>

NIST reports on Twin Towers:

<https://www.nist.gov/el/final-reports-nist-world-trade-center-disaster-investigation>

U.S Congress oversight hearing

## 2006

<https://www.counterpunch.org/2006/09/25/flying-saucers-and-the-decline-of-the-left/>

<https://www.rollingstone.com/movies/movie-news/the-hopeless-stupidity-of-9-11-conspiracy-theories-65858/>

## 2007

Bazant:

<https://www.thestructuralengineer.info/index.php/publications/online-library?keywords=M.%20Verdure>

## 2008

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/world-news/robert-fisk-even-i-question-the-truth-about-911-28461961.html>

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%290733-9399%282008%29134%3A10%28892%29>

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%290733-9399%282008%29134%3A10%28917%29>

Noam Chomsky: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwZ-vIaW6Bc>

<http://www.journalof911studies.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/2008MacQueenSzamboti.pdf>

## 2010

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%29EM.1943-7889.0000139>

<http://www.journalof911studies.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/2010-Article-Chandler.pdf>

## 2011

Usmani, Chung, Torero:

<https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.490.2176&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%29EM.1943-7889.0000198>

<https://www.consortiumnews.com/2011/011211.html>

<http://www.consortiumnews.com/2011/011511.html>

<https://globalpublicsquare.blogs.cnn.com/2011/08/30/conspiracy-theories-are-for-losers/>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-14665953>

<https://www.jpost.com/International/ADL-Anti-Semitic-911-theories-still-strong-10-years-on>

<https://newrepublic.com/article/94546/middle-east-radical-conspiracy-theories>

<https://www.commondreams.org/views/2011/09/12/truth-about-911-truthers>

<https://montrealgazette.com/news/sept-11-anniversary-clinging-to-conspiracies>

<https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/sept-11-conspiracy-theories-thrive/>

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/from-jfk-to-sept-11-conspiracy-theories-thrive>

<https://www.post-gazette.com/local/region/2011/09/04/Sept-11-conspiracy-theories-thrive-despite-all-the-evidence/stories/201109040260>

[http://www.slate.com/articles/news\\_and\\_politics/trutherism/2011/09/the\\_theory\\_vs\\_the\\_facts.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/trutherism/2011/09/the_theory_vs_the_facts.html)

## 2012

Bazant:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%29EM.1943-7889.0000362>

Pesce:

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/%28ASCE%29EM.1943-7889.0000453>

Kotsovinos, P., Usmani, A. The World Trade Center 9/11 Disaster and Progressive Collapse of Tall Buildings. *Fire Technol* **49**, 741–765 (2013). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10694-012-0283-8>

## 2013

Rachael Maddow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTaWfsWTt14&t=1s>

## 2016

<https://www.europhysicsnews.org/articles/e pn/abs/2016/04/e pn2016474p21/e pn2016474p21.html>

<https://www.europhysicsnews.org/articles/e pn/pdf/2016/04/e pn2016474p21.pdf>

## 2017

Bazant:

<https://www.europhysicsnews.org/articles/e pn/abs/2017/01/e pn2017481p18/e pn2017481p18.html>

Bazant:

<https://www.europhysicsnews.org/articles/e pn/pdf/2017/01/e pn2017481p18.pdf>

<https://www.worldscientific.com/doi/abs/10.1142/S0219455417710110>

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/design/a3524/4278874/>

## 2020

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/military/a6384/debunking-911-myths-world-trade-center/>

## 2021

An additional long list of academic papers on the WTC collapse modes with critique can be found in the following link:

[World Trade Center Collapse Memes in Technical Literature](#)

### Ongoing

[http://www.911myths.com/html/progressive\\_collapse.html](http://www.911myths.com/html/progressive_collapse.html)

### Ongoing misrepresentations for children

[http://www.academickids.com/encyclopedia/index.php/September\\_11%2C\\_2001\\_attacks](http://www.academickids.com/encyclopedia/index.php/September_11%2C_2001_attacks)

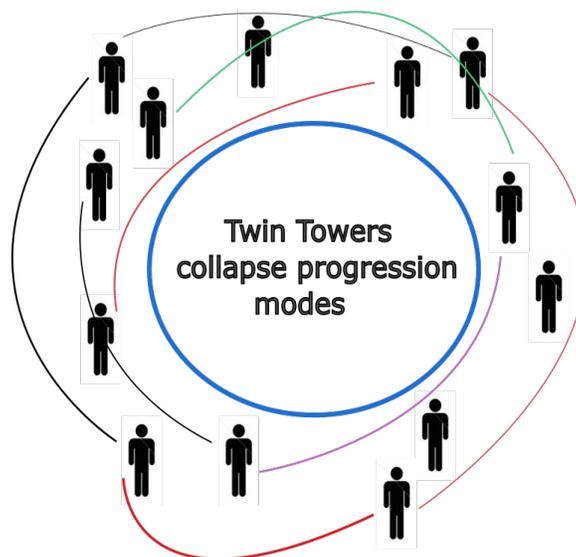
**A much larger collection of articles** on the Twin Towers collapses from the spectrum of conventional and alternative news sources is at [this link](#).

An interactive graphic of **all professional/academic papers** on the Twin Towers collapse modes with links to all the papers is at [this link](#).

### OBSERVATIONS:

#### 1) EVIDENCE OF IGNORANCE OF THE ACTUAL COLLAPSE MODES OF THE TWIN TOWERS FROM ALL SOURCES

There is overwhelming evidence that no linked source from 2001 to 2021 understood the unique, highly distinct and knowable collapse progression modes of the Twin Towers.



Within the entire field of professional/academic published papers and in all articles by journalists, there is not a single correct identification of the actual collapse progression modes of the Twin Towers. Papers and articles talked around the Twin Towers collapse progression modes without ever identifying them. This is the single most important characteristic of all published papers and articles on the Twin Towers. Not a single participant in the field of literature on the Twin Tower collapses seemed to know what the collapse modes actually were.

The graphics which were cited by authors are highly revealing as to how the authors perceived the collapse progression modes of the Twin Towers.

Quotes by David Benson (a coauthor on one JEM publication) on the Twin Towers collapse modes collected near the end of [this link](#) represented the way others thought, too.

Both graphics and direct quotes give overwhelming evidence of this.

The collected misrepresentations of the Twin Towers collapse modes by Wikipedia from 2004 to 2021 [linked here](#) and [analyzed here](#) show the same pattern of confusion.

## 2) THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY (NIST) ISSUED A TOTAL OF 3 PHRASES USING A TOTAL OF 5 WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE COLLAPSE MODES OF THE TWIN TOWERS IN THEIR FINAL REPORTS

All NIST quotes on the collapse progression modes of the Twin Towers are given at the top of [this link](#).

The NIST decided to make no comment on any specifics of the collapse progression modes of each of the Twin Towers from 2002 onward. All reasons given for the decision are highlighted in yellow at the same link.

The NIST has not commented on the collapse modes since 2002 and Dr Bazant has been misrepresenting the collapse modes in ASCE publications since 2007.

## 3) MISREPRESENTATIONS PUBLISHED IN ENGINEERING JOURNALS FORMED THE BASIS OF ALL MISTAKES WHICH FOLLOWED

Overwhelming evidence points to American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and professional publications as the original source a “crush down, then crush up” collapse progression model applied to the Twin Towers. They are the prime source of key literature that continued to support this misrepresentation for the last 20 years.

‘Blocks’ in ideas of how the Twin Towers collapsed came from the professional engineering community. From 2008 it was treated as a ‘normal’ way to see the collapses primarily in engineering journals and other professional publications.

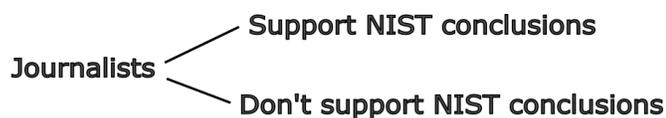
‘Block’ descriptions were later used in Wikipedia using the journal articles as sources. Wikipedia continues to describe the Twin Towers collapse progression modes as ‘crush-down’ followed by ‘crush-up’.

The same descriptions were used in mass media. A 2011 New York Magazine article, which was later censored by the magazine, described the Twin Towers collapse modes as ‘crushing down’ before the ‘upper block’ ‘crushed up’ from below.

These misrepresentations have only one original source: Professional and academic publications. This is explained in more detail at [this link](#).

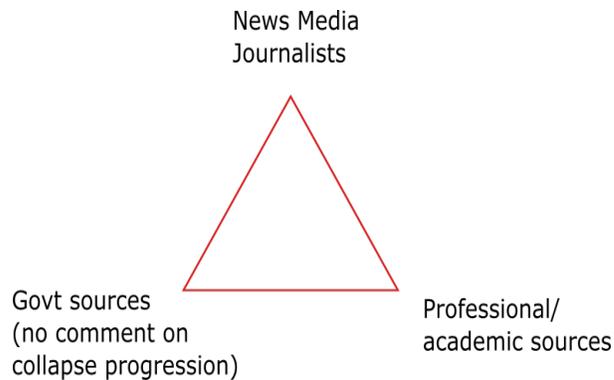
4) ON THE TWIN TOWERS COLLAPSE PROGRESSIONS, NEWS SOURCES DID NOT KNOW WHAT THEY SUPPORTED BECAUSE THEY COULDN’T READ THE TECHNICAL JOURNALS THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE DEFENDING.

A very large collection of articles on the Twin Towers collapses from the spectrum of conventional and alternative news sources is at [this link](#). Journalists roughly fall into two groups in their attitudes toward the Twin Towers collapses:



The news sources that supported the NIST conclusions had been moving in a different direction than the professional/academic sources since 2007. They didn’t know this because they couldn’t read the academic/professional literature.

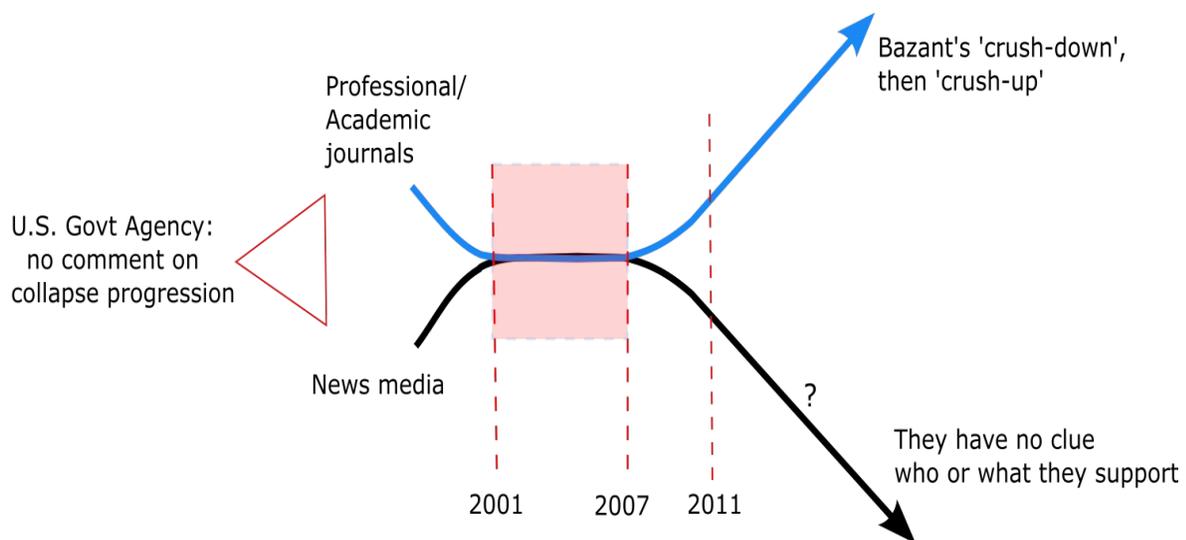
News sources have been entirely dependent on government or professional/academic sources for technical information on the collapses since 2001. But the NIST made no comment on the collapse progression modes in 2005, so **journalists were dependent on academic and professional sources only.**



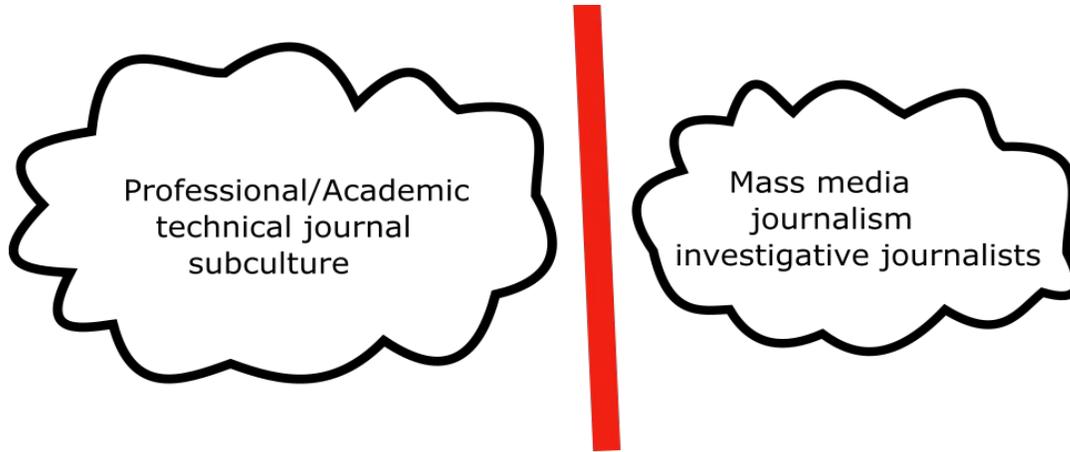
There is overwhelming evidence that they could not read these sources.

The history shows that published material in ASCE journals since 2007 openly spoke of the collapse progression modes of the Twin Towers as two blocks that ‘crush down completely’ before ‘crushing-up’. This left journalists dependent on the NIST in an awkward situation from 2007 onward. But since they couldn’t read the source material, they had no idea what it was they were defending.

The chronological record posted above shows that news sources and academic/professional sources lived in two different worlds and wrote as if the other world didn’t exist. Nobody in the news world seemed able to read any of these technical papers. This becomes more and more obvious after 2007.



Journalists that supported the NIST conclusions have been supporting ‘crush-down, then crush-up’ since 2007 by default. Wikipedia explicitly stated ‘crush-down, then ‘crush-up as true since 2010. Journalists were not aware of it because they couldn’t read the technical literature. The vulnerability of these journalists couldn’t be more stark.



There is overwhelming proof that journalists that supported the NIST:

- 1) Never understood the actual collapse modes of the Twin Towers. Still don't.
- 2) Couldn't read the technical literature they claimed to support (especially since 2007)
- 3) Spent no time examining NIST claims critically
- 4) Had no idea what they were defending by 2007 because they had no idea what was being written in professional/academic journals at that time or after.

As for the journalists that did not support the NIST conclusions, they were also dependent on others for technical information on the Twin Towers collapse modes and just as vulnerable.

The situation of journalists is described in greater detail at [this link](#).

5) A MISREPRESENTATION WAS CENSORED OUT OF NEW YORK MAGAZINE, BUT THE SAME MISREPRESENTATION IS STILL TREATED AS 'NORMAL' IN ASCE PUBLICATIONS.

A perfect example of the situation journalists were in by 2011 could be seen in a New York Magazine article. This is the image that led the article when it was published in 2011:

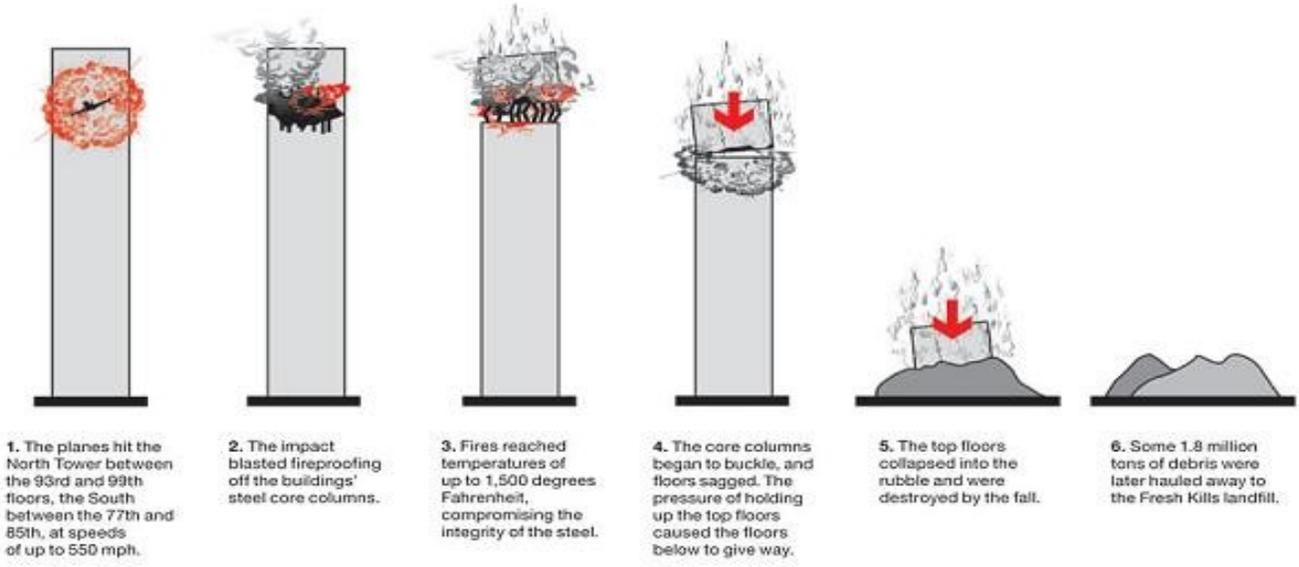
**T3**

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**ANATOMY OF A FALL**

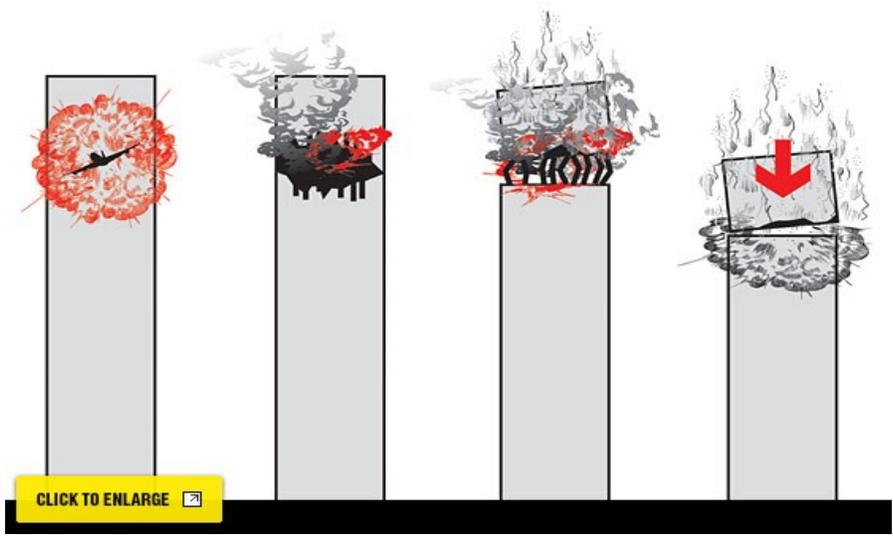
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The first plane hit at 8:46 a.m. By 10:29 a.m., the Twin Towers had collapsed. What happened next:



This image emerged from an ASCE publication as can be seen in the comparison of graphics [linked here](#). It is the same idea, using the same graphics, as can be seen in the Journal of Engineering Mechanics (JEM) from 2007 onward.

If a person returns to the same article in 2021 the image has been altered to this:



This example shows that a Twin Towers collapse progression model that has been accepted in professional/academic publications since 2007 couldn't appear in New York Magazine without causing embarrassment so it was censored (without informing their readers).

The 'crush up' part of the ASCE journal articles was removed (the last 2 graphics) and the descriptions at the bottom of each graphic is being censored from current readers (without informing them).

The irony in this example couldn't be more stark. In was an article from 2011 that claimed to "explain, precisely, how the towers fell". They later had to censor their own graphic from their own readers in 2021 to cover up their own contradictions and the obvious absurdity of 'crush-down', then 'crush-up'. ASCE professional publications, on the other hand, were the main source of these misrepresentations from 2007 to the present. That is where the journalist was copying his work from. And the article still claims to 'expain, precisely how the towers fell' 10 years later. This is a total insult to their own readers, who appear to be no more than manipulatable 'toys' to the New York Magazine.

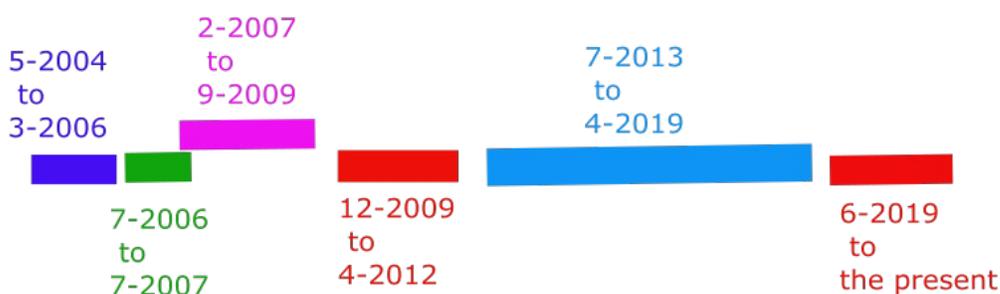
Special note: Since this information first appeared on this website at the end of July, 2021, the article has been further edited to remove the comment that claimed to "explain, precisely, how the towers fell". It disappeared sometime between August 1 and August 24, 2021. The editor of that article is clearly aware of what is being written here.

## 6) THE SPECIAL PLACE OF WIKIPEDIA IN THE FIELD OF MISREPRESENTATIONS

The edits of Wikipedia are all recorded and public, so it is a great place to see how Twin Tower collapse misrepresentations changed from 2004 to 2021.

Wikipedia descriptions of the Twin Towers collapse progression modes from 2004 to the present time are collected at [this link](#).

Wikipedia descriptions of Twin Towers collapse progressions came in 6 different (contradictory) phases



The 6 phases are analyzed [at this link](#).

In none of the 6 phases are the Twin Tower collapse progression modes described correctly.

In the two red phases the collapses are described as ‘crushing down’, before ‘crushing up’. This is the same as the model in JEM from 2007 onward.

The first 3 phases until September, 2009, describe the Twin Towers collapse progressions in generic and general terms. They were unknowable, obscured and chaotic.

The first time the collapse descriptions took on any specific, distinct form was when they were described as crushing blocks, ‘crushing down’ before ‘crushing up’.

The main characteristics of misrepresentations of the Twin Towers collapses mentioned earlier describes the Wikipedia misrepresentations precisely:

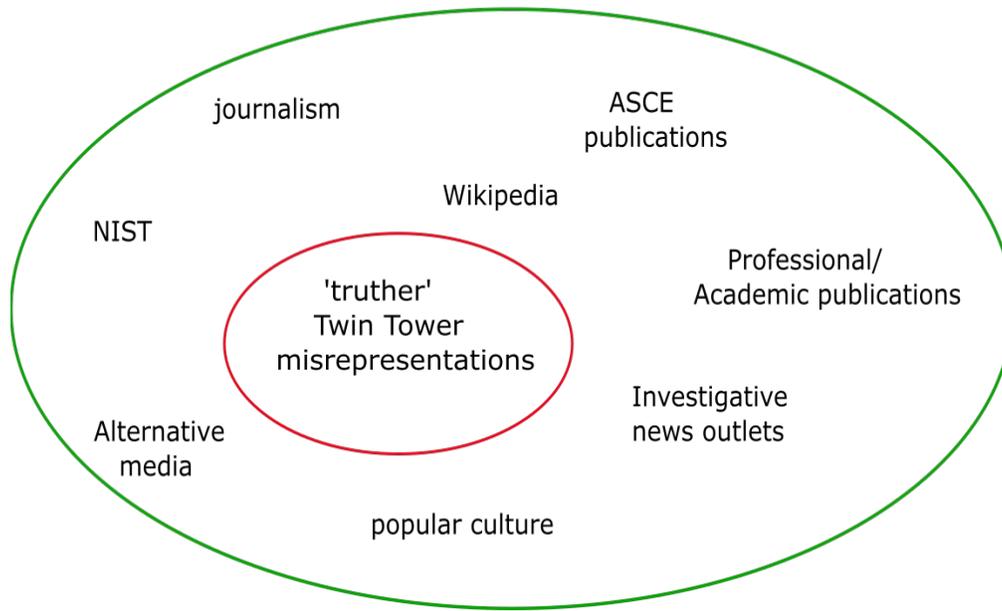
- 1) they are vague, general, generic, unknowable, obscured, uncertain (until 2009)
- 2) mention of ‘blocks’, images of ‘blocks’ (see [these images](#) as examples) (from 2009 to 2021)
- 3) They mystify the collapse progression modes rather than clarify them. (2004 to 2021)

**7) A SERIES OF NEWS ARTICLES APPEARED IN 2006 AND AGAIN IN 2011 WHICH DEMONSTRATES THE DEPENDENCY OF JOURNALISTS ON GOVERNMENT SOURCES.**

The same dynamic formed in every article. Journalists that supported the NIST conclusions were focused entirely on ‘truthier’ claims. There was no similar capacity to see NIST claims critically. The journalist couldn’t read the technical claims being made in professional/academic journals since 2007. And, of course, they had no idea the Twin Towers collapsed through a highly unique mappable and knowable process.

In this dynamic the journalist was reduced to complete dependency government, professional and academic claims. The helpless dependency became more and more absurd after 2007 as ‘crush down’, then ‘crush-up’ was being taken quite literally as the way the Twin Towers actually fell in an ASCE publication.

SOURCES OF TWIN TOWERS COLLAPSE MODE MISREPRESENTATIONS, 2001-2021



The collection of linked news articles shows that the large majority of journalists seemed only to notice misrepresentations of the Twin Towers collapse modes in the red circle.

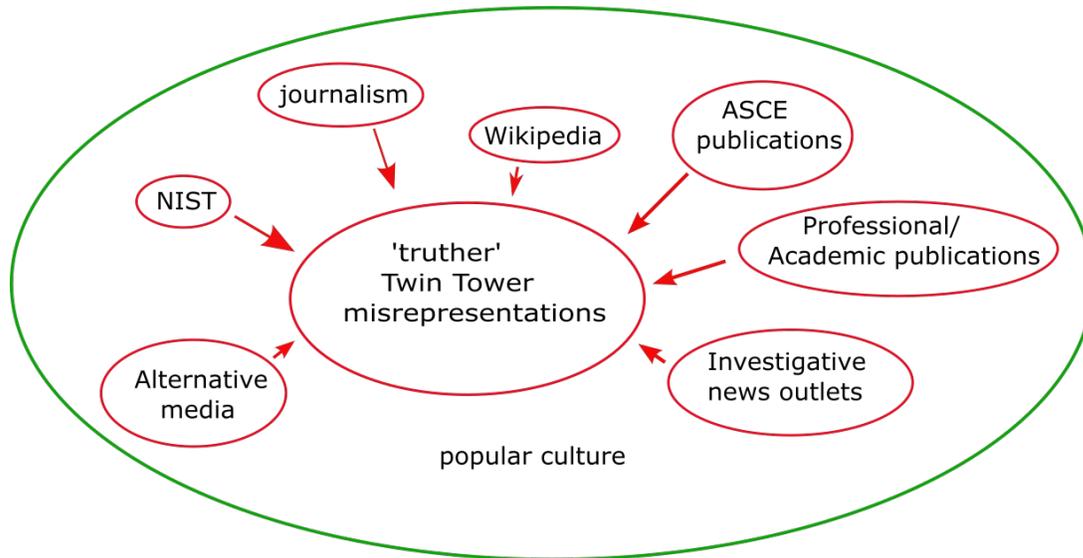
By 2011 the state of helpless dependency was complete and total. The journalists linked had no idea of the actual collapse progression modes and didn't seem to care. Only misrepresentations in the red circle mattered. They couldn't have known what they were looking at and they had no clue what they were supporting anymore. It could have been 'crush down, then crush up' blocks or something they couldn't read (which actually was the model of fashion at the time), but that didn't matter. Only 'truther' claims mattered. Like Captain Ahab focused on the white whale, that was the only problem they seemed capable of seeing.



Every article in support of the NIST conclusions linked without exception expressed the same relationships and the same focus on 'truthers' only.

That was 10 years ago and 10 years after the collapses. It has now been two decades and a limited field of awareness represented in red below is even more entrenched.

## DEATH OF INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM, 2001-2021



Everyone in the green circle was a source of misrepresenting the collapse modes of the Twin Towers to the general public. Yet each source is documented as supporting their own misrepresentations of the collapse modes by comparing them to 'truther beliefs'. This act somehow made it acceptable to claim the Twin Towers 'crushed down' before 'crushing up' to the public for years.

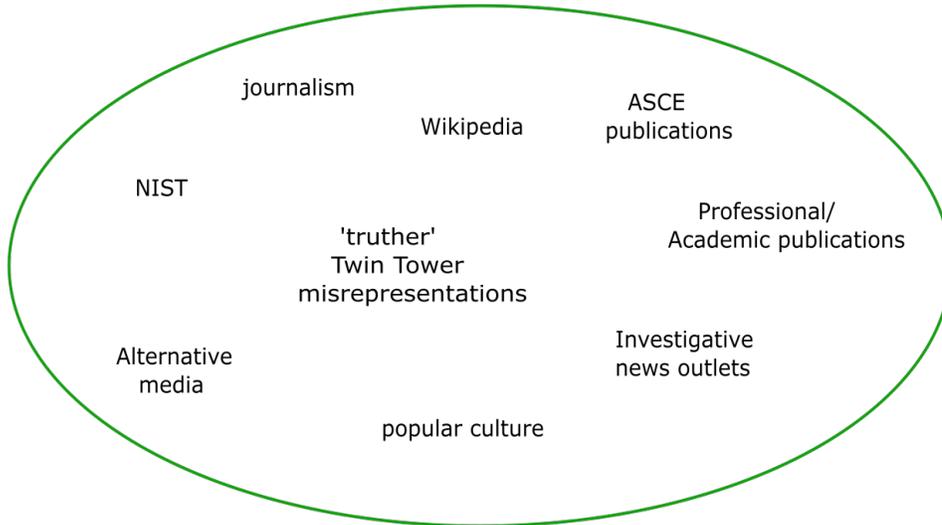
Each source in the green circle justified their own misrepresentations of the Twin Towers collapse modes. Each did so by contrasting them to 'truther' misrepresentations. This somehow 'cleansed' each source in their own eyes of responsibility. Apparently there were 'bad' misrepresentations and 'good' misrepresentations. The 'good' misrepresentations were needed to protect the unwashed masses from 'bad' misrepresentations.

The red lines don't help to understand how the Twin Towers collapses are misrepresented. They just create more confusion and distraction. Seeing this way means the true collapse progression modes are even more unclear.

The Twin Towers actually fell in a highly predictable, mappable and knowable way. The collapse modes were completely connected to their original unique designs. The red lines hide the real, knowable collapse modes even more. They incorrectly assign blame for misrepresenting the collapses of the Twin Towers to the general public to one group alone.

If we sincerely wish to understand why misrepresentations of the Twin Towers collapses are so prevalent in U.S. society in 2021, we need to see all these false claims as a whole.

A FIELD OF MISREPRESENTATIONS OF THE TWIN TOWER COLLAPSE MODES, 2001-2021  
(MULTIPLE SOURCES OF MISREPRESENTATIONS CREATING A FIELD OF INCORRECT BELIEFS)



The field has to be seen as a whole. A paper in JEM published in 2007 referred to the Twin Towers as collapsing in 2 stages, 'crushing down', before the 'top part' becomes crushed from the 'bottom up'. Journalists continued to support this without reading the papers. The same claim is on Wikipedia from 2010. It appeared explicitly in news media in 2011. Alternative media noticed none of this.

It should be obvious that one cannot see what was happening by focusing on 'truthers' alone. It is far too narrow a viewpoint.

All these sources of misrepresentations are looked at as an interacting field in the next section:

[Patterns of Twin Towers Misrepresentations, 2001-2021](#)

[Back to website](#)