

So you're performing a search, it's dark, it's hot, and you're getting a little concerned... You ask yourself; how far away am I from finding another way out of this place... You sweep up with your hand, or scan over with the TIC and locate a window... you breath a slight sigh of relief knowing that at least you have that going for you...



John Occhipinti Village of Hempstead Fire sent in these pictures from his downtown area. This occupancy looked like the second picture for well over twenty years.



The second floor was more than likely converted (covered) like this and used for storage, and maybe some

office space for the business. If you look close some of the windows do have plywood covering them from the inside. No harm, no foul, with the plywood in place we would have never even known the windows were there. However, some of the windows were still left "clear" so you could have certainly located them as described above. What if you were outside and you hear the crews inside saying that they need to find another way out and they are going back to a window... what do you do, what can you do?

The only way we would have ever known about this was to get out and know your area. So on those days when it's too hot (cold, wet, or whatever) to train (what ever that means) get out and learn your area.