

Main Street Memo

Collapse

- Sagging Floors, Ceilings, Roofs
- Walls out of plumb, bulging and/or leaning
- Smoke/water leaking/escaping from cracks
- Heavy amount of water applied over course of defensive/offensive operations
- Significant burn time
- Tie Plates protruding from walls
- Cracks
- Separation of stucco/plaster overcoat
- Accumulation of Ice

Noteworthy events to study:

Hotel Vendome Collapse-Boston 1972

Worcester Street Collapse FDNY 1958

Kansas City Missouri Collapse- 2015

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- Use flanking positions
- As soon as collapse zones are established shut down all handlines and maintain STRICT collapse zone adherence!
- Anyone on fire ground can alert all to collapse indicators
- Collapse Zones tend to “shrink” over time so start out with largest area possible
- Secondary collapses often occur after primary collapse, never let your guard down
- Be extremely cautious in overhaul stage, collapses have occurred many times during overhaul.

