

# Main Street Memo

## The Parapet Lintel

A parapet lintel is a beam placed across a large opening such as a “Main Street” front window to support the load from the structure above. The width of lintel beam is equal to the width of wall, and the ends of it are built into the wall. During fire conditions, the steel may warp or bend, causing collapse of the parapet wall. Collapse zones must be established early and adhered to.



**SCAN ME**

Parapet Collapse in Indianapolis Video taken from the Indianapolis FD Facebook Page



*Photo by City of Plainview, Texas*

By: Lexi Shady, Joe Pronesti, & Chris Tobin

**Fire Engineering**

Photos by Chris Tobin, Lexi Shady, and Joe Pronesti



A neighboring building was torn down, exposing a steel parapet lintel of structure remaining next door. Photo by author.