

## **Responding in the cold**

A photograph of  
Denver firefighters  
working to battle the  
blaze in freezing  
temperatures with snow  
falling around them.

**Photograph from  
DFM Permanent  
Collection**



## **Helpful Hint!**

Use your zoom in/out  
feature on your PDF  
reader to read the  
document and make  
the page larger.



## **Containing the blaze**

Denver firefighters  
bravely try to contain  
the fire as the response  
escalates over the  
course of the evening.

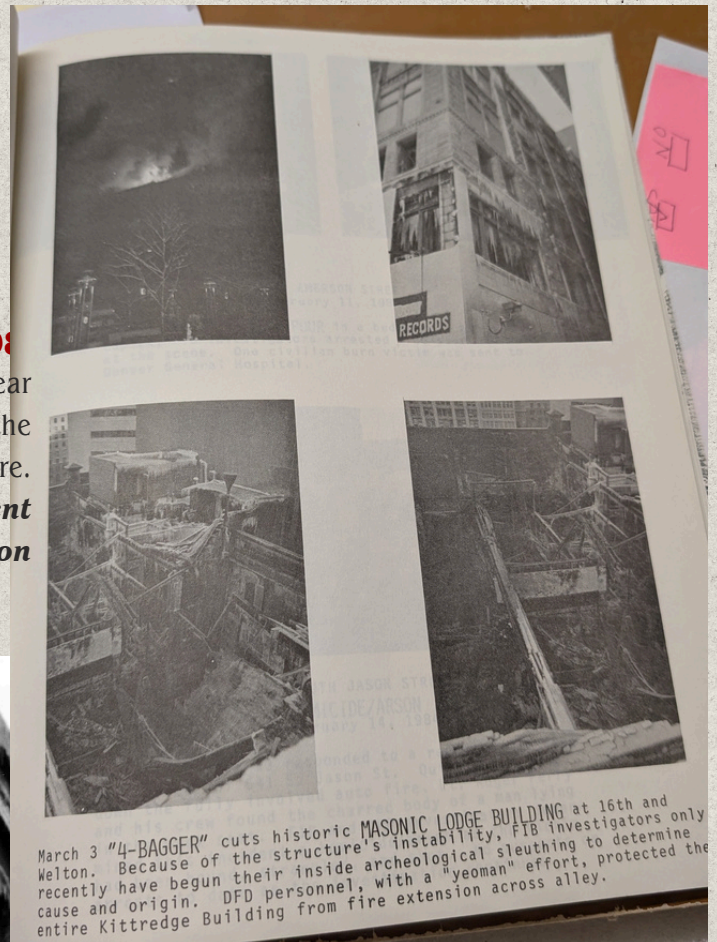
**Photograph from  
DFM Permanent  
Collection**



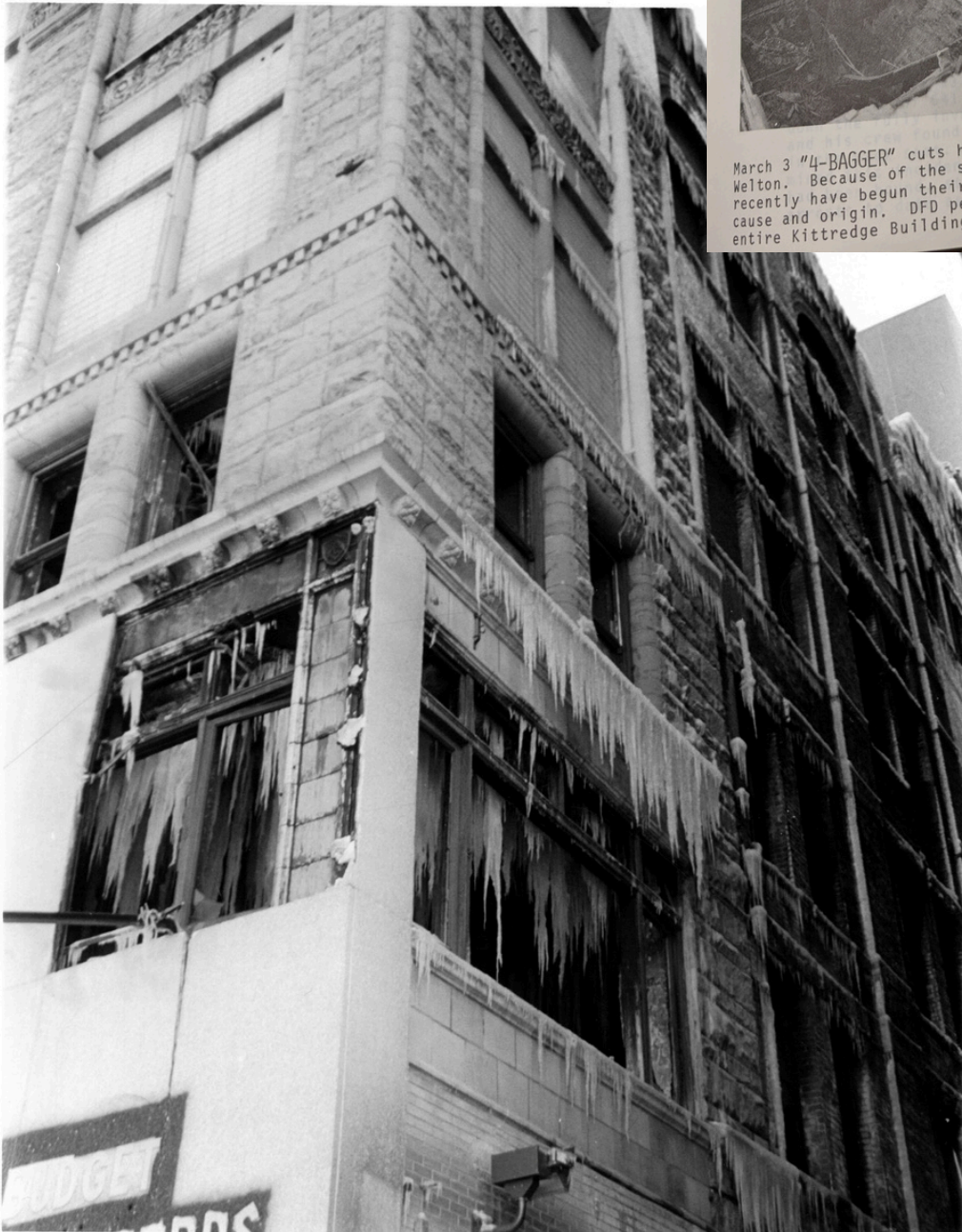
### **Big Hammer 1984**

The second Big Hammer edition of the year in 1984 documented the events of the Masonic Lodge fire.

*Photograph from DFM Permanent Collection*



March 3 "4-BAGGER" cuts historic MASONIC LODGE BUILDING at 16th and Welton. Because of the structure's instability, FIB investigators only recently have begun their inside archeological sleuthing to determine cause and origin. DFD personnel, with a "yeoman" effort, protected the entire Kittredge Building from fire extension across alley.



### **Freezing temperatures**

Photographs from this incident show the frozen water clinging to the Masonic Lodge building after the fire had been extinguished.

*Photograph from DFM Permanent Collection*





## Devastating Destruction

The building and contents suffered heavy damage. The roof and all of the floors pancaked in on the basement. After the fire, only the rock face sandstone front wall facing Welton St. and 16th St. stood mostly undamaged. The red sandstone parapet's triangular wall located on the corner of 16th and Welton had fallen into the basement below. The masonry wall facing the CAC on Welton St. and the masonry wall on the alley partially collapsed. The commercial occupancies on the street sides remained intact other than heavy smoke and water damage. *Photograph from DFM Permanent Collection*

## Masonic Lodge Building Today

The insurance company, the developer, Masonic Lodge #5, and the City and County of Denver agreed to support the remaining exterior walls prior to the investigation of the fire scene. Six weeks went by before the Fire Investigators could actually start digging the scene. Such coordination with all parties involved is why the Masonic Lodge building is still able to be occupied to this date.

*Photograph from DFM Permanent Collection*

