The Hot Springy Dingy Landslide Site

On Saturday November, 11, 1995 at about 2:30 PM, a landslide occurred behind a group of buildings located in the 100 block of Central Avenue. The slide burst through the rear wall of two buildings and part of a third, killing one person and injuring two other people inside the Hot Springy Dingy novelty shop. The landslide appeared to be a rock slide from a near vertical highwall exposure. The failed mass was estimated to have been 43 feet long, 30 feet high and about 2 to 3 feet thick (McFarland and Stone, 1995). These dimensions suggest that over 200 tons of rock were involved in the slide. A large amount of brick from the back wall of the buildings fell on the slide debris. A minor amount of other cultural objects from the slope above added many more tons of material to the talus accumulation. Those who witnessed the landslide recalled hearing what sounded like a bomb detonating inside the shop. Reporters described the scene as being “somewhat macabre.”

Onlookers came to take pictures of the site, and several Halloween-themed, plastic foam tombstones were placed on the sidewalk outside the novelty shop. One read “Will E Makeit” (Wolfe, 1995). The Hot Spring Dingy Landslide remains yet another tragic reminder of the hazards faced by this city.
References
