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£500 Blaze Sweeps City Workshop

By a staff reporter



Firemen clear up the debris in the gutted workshop.

TIMBER stocks worth £500 were destroyed when fire turned a Sheffield woodyard into an inferno today.

Joiner Don Fearn, aged 32, and a passer-by tackled the blaze with portable fire extinguishers as it threatened houses a garden's length away.

The fire gutted a 40ft. by 30ft. workshop behind Mr. George Cliff's "do-it-yourself" store in Staniforth Road, Darnall.

Smoke

Piles of loose wood cuttings fed the flames and the fire engulfed stacks of wood mouldings, hardboard and plywood.

Mr. Fearn, of Youlgreave Drive, Frecheville, raced to the yard from the firm's showroom in nearby Balfour Road after seeing clouds of smoke. He said later: "The workshop was just an inferno - flames were rolling end to end. We emptied three extinguishers into it, but it was hopeless." Mr. Fearn and his helper groped their way out through dense smoke.

The smoke drifting out on to Staniforth Road was so thick that traffic was reduced to a crawl. Twelve firemen with two appliances fought the blaze. The cause of the blaze is not yet known.