

Thrown engine piston



Shortly before this picture was taken, the engine 2699 was working under load and experienced what is known in the trade as a "catastrophic uncontained engine failure". The train was passing the town of Independence LA at the time.



Then the engine exploded and one of the 16 cylinder-packs that form the engine was ejected through the engine bay body side and thrown clear of the locomotive.



In addition the piston from that cylinder was thrown free by the force of the failure. It was ejected so violently that it traveled through the air and crashed through the roof of a nearby home where it embedded itself in an interior wall.



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This lends a whole new meaning to a "blown" engine