



**Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center**  
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## **Mining the Past**

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### **Abstract**

Whenever we hear of an accident elsewhere we are eager to learn what happened and what recommendations have been made to prevent it happening again. However, we can learn as much from past accidents that have been forgotten or were never widely reported. Some such accidents will be described including the collapse of a gasholder and the collapse of a tank of unusual reason. The essential messages from some of these old accidents have been rediscovered in recent years and described as new knowledge.