

Aircraft type and registration: Quicksilver MX1 G-MJIR (single-engined microlight aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1981

Date and time (GMT): 14 August 1983 at 1215 hrs

Location: Little London, near Andover

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — Nil

Injuries: Crew — 1 (serious) Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Substantial damage to aircraft and extensive damage to house roof

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence (Group D)

Commander's Age: 54 years

Commander's total flying experience: 55 hours (of which 48 were on type)

The pilot intended to land in a field on the upper slopes of a valley. Having circled the field twice, progressively losing height, he began an approach to land. The surface temperature was 30°C, with significant thermal activity in the area and the wind was blowing from the other side of the crest of the ridge on which the selected landing area lay. The aircraft's approach path was into wind, directly towards the crest of the ridge and over a village which lay farther down the slope. On the final stage of the approach the aircraft sank rapidly and, even though the pilot applied full power, he was unable to arrest the descent and the aircraft struck the roof of a house that lay beneath the approach path.