No: 12/89

Ref: EW/G89/10/2

Category: 2c

Aircraft Type

and Registration:

Robinson R22 Beta, G-PREM

No & Type of Engines:

1 Avco Lycoming O-320-B2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture:

1989

Date and Time (UTC):

18 October 1989 at 1145 hrs

Location:

Cold Ash, Berkshire

Type of Flight:

Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board:

Crew - 1

Passengers - 1

Injuries:

Crew - None

Passengers - None

Nature of Damage:

Beyond economical repair

Commander's Licence:

Private Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)

Commander's Age:

40 years

Commander's Total

Flying Experience:

146 hours (of which 109 were on type)

Information Source:

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The helicopter was flying at 500 feet when there was a sudden deterioration in the visibility. As the pilot had no qualifications or experience of flying in IMC, he decided to land as soon as possible and selected a suitable site.

At about 50 feet, whilst approaching to land, the visibility was again reduced by fog patches. The pilot lost contact with the ground and inadvertently landed on the sloping roof of a barn adjacent to his proposed landing site. Despite his attempt to control the helicopter, it rolled over and fell to the ground.

There was no fire and both occupants unfastened their safety harnesses and vacated the aircraft without further incident.