No: 3/90 Ref: EW/G90/01/07 Category: 1c

Aircraft Type

and Registration: Piper PA-18-150, G-BGPN

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-A2B piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date and Time (UTC): 27 January 1990 at 1530 hrs

Location: Nayland, Suffolk

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - 1 (Minor) Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Serious damage, beyond economical repair

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Assistant Instructor Ratings

Commander's Age: 39 years

Commander's Total
Flying Experience: 792 hours (of which 116 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Whilst landing, the wind was reported by the pilot to have been 180°/15-25 kt and it was drizzling. The pilot elected to use the downwind runway 31, which was 500 m long and had a significant upwards slope.

The pilot stated that the approach to land was normal, aiming just into the runway threshold, until late on the final approach when "the aiming point moved fairly rapidly up the hill as we hit an updraft". He continued the approach, landed near the top of the hill and bounced. The pilot, realising that the aircraft would not stop within the runway length, applied full throttle to initiate a go-around, but the aircraft failed to achieve flying speed within the runway remaining and crashed into the hedge at the end of the runway.