No: 6/89 Ref: EW/G89/04/07 Category: 1c

Aircraft Type

and Registration: Cessna F150L, G-GBLR

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rolls-Royce Continental O-200-A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1974

Date and Time (UTC): 12 April 1989 at 1045 hrs

Location: Ipswich Airport

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial damage to airframe, engine mountings and propeller

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC, Night and Full Instructor Rating

Commander's Age: 44 years

Commander's Total

Flying Experience: 618 hours (of which 420 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was on a training flight of circuits and landings on runway 14 at Ipswich aerodrome, with a qualified flying instructor and a student pilot on board. Following several circuits the instructor reports that he asked the student to maintain height along the normal base leg and final approach, until he considered he could glide so that the mid point of runway 14 could be reached without the use of flap. The declared landing distance available on this runway is 760 metres.

The point chosen was judged to be too high by the instructor and the flaps were progressively selected to fully down. As he still considered the aircraft to be too high, the instructor states that he took control, lowered the nose and made gentle turns in order to demonstrate height reduction whilst remaining within the flap limiting speed. Whilst carrying out this demonstration the instructor noted the windsock indicating zero wind. In view of this, the aircraft configuration and the fact that there were trees beyond the up wind threshold, the instructor considered it to be safer to continue rather than initiate a go around. The aircraft touched down at about 75 knots, braking action was poor as the grass surface was damp, and it over-ran the runway end before the nose landing gear entered a ditch and the aircraft came to rest inverted. Both occupants escaped without injury.