

No: 5/89

Ref: EW/G89/03/02

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type
and Registration:**

Rockwell Commander 112, G-LITE

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-CID6 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1975

Date and Time (UTC): 8 March 1989 at 1200 hrs

Location: Tilney St. Lawrence, King's Lynn

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial to propeller, nose landing gear, cabin, wings and fin

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 54 years

**Commander's Total
Flying Experience:** 703 hours (of which 237 hrs were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

On the evening before the accident, the owner of a farm strip near RAF Marham was contacted for permission to use his strip on the following day. Permission was granted and details of the strip passed including its location as 40 nms on the 018° radial from the Barkway VOR. On the morning of the accident, the aircraft departed Manchester International with enough fuel to return should a landing at the strip prove impractical. On arrival at the position given for the strip, the aircraft orbited at 2000 feet but neither pilot was able to locate the intended landing area. On advice from RAF Marham ATC, a new location 3 nms to the North was explored and a field was located which appeared to meet the description given by the owner. After making a low pass to inspect the strip, a landing was made. At first all seemed normal but after a few seconds, the nose wheel dug into the soft ground and the aircraft pitched over onto its back sustaining substantial damage. None of the occupants, who were all wearing upper-torso restraint, were injured and there was no fire. The aircraft doors could not be opened but after some 5 minutes the occupants were able to escape by breaking a window using their feet.

The aircraft had landed in a farm field which was not the intended landing strip.