

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Enstrom 480, G-IGHH	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Allison 250-C20W turboshaft engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1998 (Serial no: 5034)	
Date & Time (UTC):	9 September 2015 at 1600 hrs	
Location:	Church Farm House, Aldbury, Hertfordshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Minor)	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Aircraft destroyed	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	48 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	736 hours (of which 652 were on type) Last 90 days - 13 hours Last 28 days - 3 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot was planning to take off from a private site. Having lifted vertically to about 30 ft agl, to clear a barn that was directly in front, the helicopter was flown forward followed by a right turn. The pilot then descended the helicopter slightly to accelerate. At this point he saw, about 80 m ahead, some power cables which had become visible against the sky as the helicopter descended. The pilot attempted to turn right and climb over the cables but the helicopter's left skid caught the cables, causing the helicopter to roll upright and nose down before the cable snapped.

The pilot managed to regain some control but because the helicopter was still attached to the cable he attempted an emergency landing. As the helicopter landed, its skids dug into the recently ploughed field and it rolled inverted. The pilot vacated the helicopter without assistance having suffered minor injuries.

The pilot commented that he misjudged where the cables crossed the field and lost sight of them against the ploughed field. The low sun may also have been a factor.