

Inspectors Statement:

Eye Witness Mr. Dunsmore was interviewed by Inspector Rakestraw and Inspector O’Gorman at 14:17 09/28/2020 at the location of the accident of aircraft N2601Q.

Contact Information:

Mr. Chris Dunsmore

[REDACTED]

Lincolnton, GA 30817

Home: [REDACTED] Work: [REDACTED]

Mr. Dunsmore’s recount of the event:

Mr. Dunsmore was in a tractor in the field off the South-West side of the pond. Mr. Dunsmore observed the 1st straight pass and described it as watching the aircraft “buzz the pond it then pulled up to normal flying altitude”. Mr. Dunsmore could see the aircraft to his left coming back around for a 2nd pass. He described the aircraft’s altitude during the second pass as lower than 50’ AGL and going between the trees. He stated he remembers the aircrafts 2nd pass went between him in the tractor and Mr. Reed’s location in the truck. The view of the aircraft was then obstructed by trees. Mr. Dunsmore recalls was the sound of the engine as a steady RPM sound, then he heard a “thump” when the aircraft hit the ground and a “sploosh” when the aircraft hit the water. Mr. Dunsmore drove around and helped Mr. Garnett pull Mr. Mattison to the edge of the pond.

[REDACTED]

Digitally signed by Juli O’Gorman
Date: 2020.10.01 11:49:48 -04’00’

Inspector Juli O’Gorman

Aviation Safety

AFG-700 Atlanta FSDO-11

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr. Dunsmore's eye witness observation

Write a description for your map.

Legend

- 1st pass
- 1st pass less than 60' AGL
- 2nd pass
- 2nd pass less than 50' AGL
- Initial Impact
- Mr. Dunsmore location



Inspectors Statement:

Eye Witness Mr. Garnett was interviewed by Inspector Rakestraw and Inspector O’Gorman at 13:59 09/28/2020 at the location of the accident of aircraft N2601Q.

Contact Information:

Mr. Thomas Garnett

[REDACTED]

Lincolnton, GA 30817

[REDACTED]

Mr. Garnett’s recount of the event:

Mr. Garnett was slowly cutting grass at the edge of the West side of the pond with a riding lawn mower. The aircraft flew low towards him (indicating from the North-West), then over him and proceeded (indicating, South-East) across the pond in Mr. Mattison’s standard ‘I’m home’ fly-by. The aircraft circled out to the left (North). The aircraft came back around for a second pass. By this time, Mr. Garnett was still on the West side of the pond but further towards the South end. The aircraft came between two groups of trees just off the South-West corner of the pond. Mr. Garnett indicated that the aircraft’s right wing was almost straight up in the air and he “could see the top of the plane”. The aircraft hit the ground, hard, then the aircraft went back up into the air. Mr. Garnett thought Mr. Mattison had made it but then realized the aircraft was doing “all sorts of movements that planes don’t normally do” before landing in the water. Mr. Garnett repositioned the mower to the North side of the pond and went to see if Mr. Mattison was ok. Mr. Garnett saw Mr. Mattison floating in the water and knew Mr. Mattison had not survived. Mr. Garnett pulled Mr. Mattison from the wreckage in the pond onto shore. Mr. Garnett stayed with Mr. Mattison and waited for law enforcement to arrive.

[REDACTED]

Digitally signed by Juli O’Gorman
Date: 2020.10.01 11:51:00 -04’00’

Inspector Juli O’Gorman

Aviation Safety

AFG-700 Atlanta FSDO-11

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr. Garnett's eye witness observation

Legend

- 1st pass
- 2nd pass
- Mr. Garnett's location 1st pass
- Mr. Garnett's location 2nd pass



Inspectors Statement:

Eye Witness Mr. Reed was interviewed by Inspector Rakestraw and Inspector O’Gorman at 14:25 09/28/2020 at the location of the accident of aircraft N2601Q.

Contact Information:

Mr. Tab Reed

[REDACTED]

Lincolnton, GA 30817

[REDACTED]

Mr. Reed’s recount of the event:

Mr. Reed was in his truck driving. He observed the aircraft fly low over the pond on the 1st pass. During the 2nd pass, Mr. Reed reported he was driving away from the pond and looked to his left and saw the top of the plane. He recalls the right wing tip was pointed at the 1 o’clock position. Mr. Reed reported the engine RPM sound was normal.

Juli O’Gorman
[REDACTED]

Digitally signed by Juli O’Gorman
Date: 2020.10.01 11:52:13 -04’00’

Inspector Juli O’Gorman

Aviation Safety

AFG-700 Atlanta FSDO-11

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr. Reed's eye witness observation

Write a description for your map.

Legend

 1st pass

 1st pass less than 60' AGL

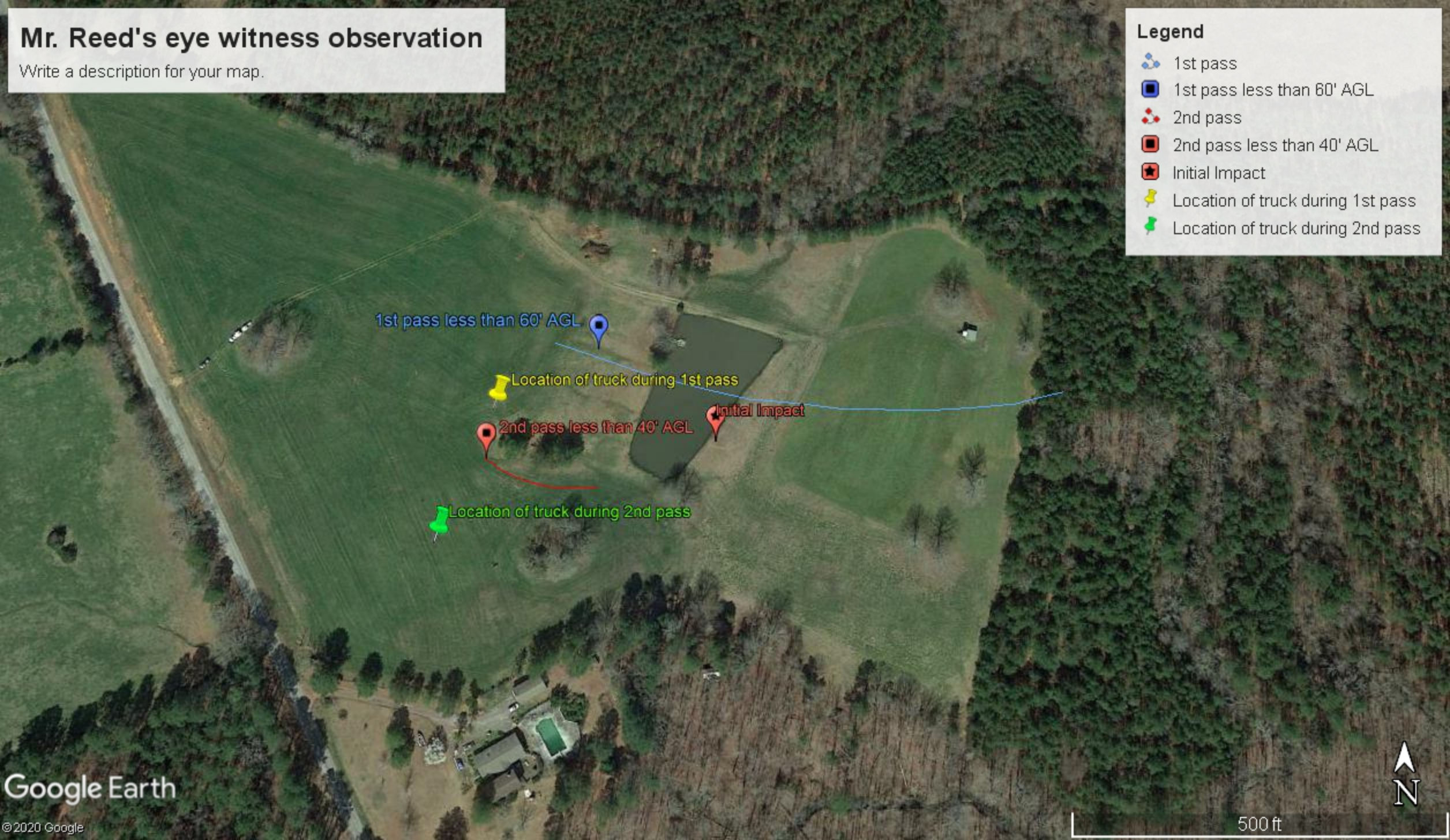
 2nd pass

 2nd pass less than 40' AGL

 Initial Impact

 Location of truck during 1st pass

 Location of truck during 2nd pass



Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

Voluntary Statement

STATEMENT OF: TAB REED

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

White Co

HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]

WORK PHONE: [REDACTED]

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: [REDACTED]

DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]

BEGIN: Saw plane do a fly low over the pond,
saw the plane go high, next I was driving away
from the pond looked to my left saw the
top of plane going to my left side, then
the crash.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

DATE: 9/22/20

TIME: 6:58 pm

OFFICER TAKING STATEMENT: [REDACTED]

BADGE: 05

DEPARTMENT: LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

O.C.G.A 16-10-20 : FALSE STATEMENTS AND WRITINGS; CONCEALMENT OF FACTS. UNDER THIS CODE SECTION, A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY MAKES A FALSE, FICTITIOUS, OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENT COULD FACE CRIMINAL CHARGES WHICH, UPON CONVICTION, MAY BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1,000.00 OR BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 1 YEAR NOR MORE THAN 5 YEARS, OR BOTH.

INITIALS OF PERSON PROVIDING STATEMENT ABOVE ACKNOWLEDGING THEY UNDERSTAND THIS SECTION: [REDACTED]

Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

Voluntary Statement

STATEMENT OF: Chris Dunsmore

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

Lincolnton GA 30817

HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]

WORK PHONE: [REDACTED]

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: [REDACTED]

DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]

BEGIN: I watched the plane on the first pass buzz the pond it then pulled up ~~and~~ to normal flying altitude and circled back around again on the second pass i did not see the plane hit the ground because there was a tree between me + the plane. I heard it hit the ground + go in the water. I dove around to the plane + helped pull the victim to the edge of the pond. ~~we~~ I looked for additional passengers but none were visible.

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

DATE: 9-22-20

TIME: 7:00 pm

OFFICER TAKING STATEMENT: [REDACTED]

BADGE: 05

DEPARTMENT: LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

O.C.G.A 16-10-20 : FALSE STATEMENTS AND WRITINGS; CONCEALMENT OF FACTS. UNDER THIS CODE SECTION, A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY MAKES A FALSE, FICTITIOUS, OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENT COULD FACE CRIMINAL CHARGES WHICH, UPON CONVICTION, MAY BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1,000.00 OR BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 1 YEAR NOR MORE THAN 5 YEARS, OR BOTH.

INITIALS OF PERSON PROVIDING STATEMENT ABOVE ACKNOWLEDGING THEY UNDERSTAND THIS SECTION [REDACTED]

Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

Voluntary Statement

STATEMENT OF: Thomas Garnett

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

Lincolnton, GA 30817

HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]

WORK PHONE: [REDACTED]

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: [REDACTED]

DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]

BEGIN: I was cutting grass around the pond when the plane flew over then circled around. Came back over pond then turned over where I could top of plane then turned downward and crashed into the ground and into the water.

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

DATE: 9/22/20

TIME: 1909

OFFICER TAKING STATEMENT: [REDACTED]

BADGE: 05

DEPARTMENT: LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

O.C.G.A 16-10-20 : FALSE STATEMENTS AND WRITINGS; CONCEALMENT OF FACTS. UNDER THIS CODE SECTION, A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY MAKES A FALSE, FICTITIOUS, OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENT COULD FACE CRIMINAL CHARGES WHICH, UPON CONVICTION, MAY BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1,000.00 OR BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 1 YEAR NOR MORE THAN 5 YEARS, OR BOTH.

INITIALS OF PERSON PROVIDING STATEMENT ABOVE ACKNOWLEDGING THEY UNDERSTAND THIS SECTION [REDACTED]