



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Aaron McCarter
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Eastern Region Aviation

Date: June 1, 2021
Person Contacted: Pilot; Terry Hand
NTSB Accident Number: ERA21LA236

Narrative:

The pilot and owner (Hand) was flying with another builder of the same aircraft; it was a familiarization flight so he (other pilot/builder) could see how the airplane flew. Hand was operating from the right seat as the PIC, but during the approach the other pilot was flying.

They entered the downwind for the runway and were preparing for a low approach, but after they made the turn, the airplane began a fairly rapid descent. There was nothing wrong with the airplane, the pilot pulled out too much power during the approach and the airplane sink rate increased quickly. They "simply got behind the power curve." Hand took control of the airplane, added power and attempted to recover and stop the high rate of descent, but they were too low and unable to climb out before striking a light causing them to lose directional control. They struck the roof of a structure, then came to rest inverted. The engine was only 120 horsepower and there wasn't enough altitude and power to stop the descent and climb out.

There were no mechanical malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal operation. They just let it get too slow on approach and did not react in time to recover. He allowed a pilot who was unfamiliar with the flight and performance characteristics of the airplane to operate it and get them into a situation; it happened so quick; he just did not react fast enough.

[END]