

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199201806**

**Benson  
Gyroplane**

**06 September 1992**

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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**NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at [www.atsb.gov.au](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

**Occurrence Number:** 199201806                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** Primbee  
**State:** NSW    **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Sunday 06 September 1992  
**Time:** 0912 hours                                      **Time Zone** EST  
**Highest Injury Level:** Fatal  
**Injuries:**

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	Total
Crew	1	0	0	0	1
Ground	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Benson  
**Aircraft Model:** Gyroplane  
**Aircraft Registration:** REG\_1992018061                      **Serial Number:**  
**Type of Operation:** Non-commercial Pleasure/Travel  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Destroyed  
**Departure Point:** Albion Park NSW  
**Departure Time:**  
**Destination:** Albion Park NSW

**Approved for Release:** Wednesday, September 14, 1994

The gyrocopter took off from Albion Park aerodrome and was subsequently seen flying very low over local houses before it departed the circuit area on an easterly heading. It was later observed flying low over Lake Illawarra towards a residential area on the eastern shore. After passing low over houses the gyrocopter was seen to enter a steep turn to the left. During the turn it descended and collided with a tree in a nearby reserve. The machine was destroyed by the impact and the pilot was fatally injured.

No defects were found with the gyrocopter that could have contributed to the accident. It is likely that the pilot attempted a manoeuvre beyond his ability on the aircraft type. The reason such a manoeuvre was attempted in the vicinity of a residential area was not determined.