



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Eunice, Louisiana	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA18CA244
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 27, 2018, 19:20 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N71261
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Luscombe 8	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Collision during takeoff/land	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot reported that, during approach to land, the airplane struck a tree. Subsequently, the airplane landed hard, and the landing gear collapsed.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage and front windshield.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain clearance from a tree while on approach to land.

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Altitude - Not attained/maintained
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Monitoring environment - Pilot
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Tree(s) - Effect on operation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Approach</b>	Collision during takeoff/land (Defining event)
<b>Landing</b>	Hard landing
<b>Landing</b>	Landing gear collapse

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	69, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Lap only
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Sport pilot Without waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	October 1, 2013
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	September 1, 2017
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated) 1228 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1000 hours (Total, this make and model), 1220 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Luscombe	<b>Registration:</b>	N71261
<b>Model/Series:</b>	8 A	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1946	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	2688
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	November 10, 2017 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1200 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	2496.6 Hrs as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONT MOTOR
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	A&C65 SERIES
<b>Registered Owner:</b>		<b>Rated Power:</b>	65 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KOPL, 76 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	18 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	00:10 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	70°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	3 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	340°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.96 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	22°C / 10°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	Unknown
<b>Destination:</b>	Eunice, LA (4R7 )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	Unknown
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	EUNICE 4R7	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	42 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	34	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	5001 ft / 75 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	30.459722,-92.421943(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Swenson, Eric
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Shaun Crump; FAA; Baton Rouge, LA
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	October 24, 2018
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97141">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97141</a>

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