



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Hollywood, Maryland	Accident Number:	ERA22LA408
Date & Time:	August 19, 2022, 17:01 Local	Registration:	N7154U
Aircraft:	Mooney M20E	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Landing gear not configured	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot, while entering the airport's traffic pattern to land on runway 11, he started the before landing checklist procedure but did not lower the landing gear because the airspeed was too fast. Then, on the final leg of the traffic pattern, he was focusing on maintaining a slip in the crosswind and he did not extend the landing gear. The airplane touched down with the landing gear retracted, which resulted in substantial damage to the fuselage. The pilot reported no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation. Around the time of the accident, the wind was reported from 140° at 9 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's failure to extend the landing gear before landing.

Findings	
Personnel issues	Forgotten action/omission - Pilot
Aircraft	Gear extension and retract sys - Not used/operated

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing

Landing gear not configured (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	62,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 22, 2021
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 19, 2022
Flight Time:	746 hours (Total, all aircraft), 435.8 hours (Total, this make and model), 628 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 35.8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5.6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0.5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Mooney	Registration:	N7154U
Model/Series:	M20E	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1964	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	393
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 14, 2021 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2575 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4626 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-A1A
Registered Owner:	WALLS OF TIME INC	Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
Operator:	WALLS OF TIME INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	NHK,39 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	6 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:52 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	98°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 4800 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 28000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ Light
Altimeter Setting:	30.07 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	30°C / 19°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Essex, MD (W48)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Halifax, NC (IXA)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:29 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	St Mary's County 2W6	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	142 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	11	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4150 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	38.315337,-76.550029(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Freeze, Christopher
Additional Participating Persons:	Norman Allen; FAA; Herndon, VA
Original Publish Date:	November 1, 2022
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=105906

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The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b) is available here.