



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Devine, TX	Accident Number:	CEN19LA087
Date & Time:	02/27/2019, 1638 CST	Registration:	N1778
Aircraft:	Warner Aerocraft Space Walker II	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On February 27, 2019, about 1638 central standard time, an amateur-built Warner Aerocraft Space Walker II, N1778, collided with a tree and terrain while maneuvering near Devine, Texas. The commercial pilot sustained serious injuries, and the airplane was substantially damaged. The airplane was owned by a private individual and was being operated under Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)* Part 91 as a personal flight without a flight plan. Day visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the local flight that departed Castroville Municipal Airport (CVB), near Castroville, Texas, about 1630.

The pilot reported that the purpose of the flight was to overfly his private airstrip, located about 5 miles south-southwest of CVB, to evaluate the surface condition of the runway. The pilot remembers an uneventful takeoff from CVB, flying to his airstrip, and maneuvering near the north end of the airstrip as he prepared to make a low pass of the runway. The pilot does not recall the remaining portion of the flight besides having a brief memory of the airplane descending toward trees in a 90° nose-down pitch attitude. The pilot does not recall if the airplane had any mechanical malfunctions during the flight. The pilot stated that his wife and two grand-daughters, who were witnesses to the accident, heard a reduction in engine power before seeing a dust cloud rise above some trees.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Warner Aerocraft	Registration:	N1778
Model/Series:	Space Walker II	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	Yes		
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CVB, 774 ft msl	Observation Time:	1635 CST
Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	26 °C / 16 °C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 160°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.97 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Castroville, TX (CVB)	Destination:	Castroville, TX (CVB)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	29.275000, -98.877500 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Andrew T Fox
Additional Participating Persons:	
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.