

discrepancies from written report
 BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Little blue heron, ad 2. Number: 1
3. Location Cone Marsh, Louisa Co, Iowa
4. Date: 15 April 1978 5. Time Bird seen: ~10 AM to ~10:05 AM
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):
 medium-sized heron (between size of great blue & black-crown night) - long neck folded back on shoulders, long slender tapering bill, uniform slate-blue coloration, long dark legs trailing out behind. Wingbeats more rapid than those of great blue.
7. Description of voice, if heard: —
8. Description of behavior: flew in from east, came almost directly overhead, circled once or twice, flew off to south
9. Habitat - general:
 specific: large marsh, bordered by wooded river bottoms, woods, cropland.
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:
uniform coloration Rules out other herons; neck folded back on shoulders indicates dark-blue that this bird was a heron.
11. Distance (how measured)? 50 → 500 yds (est) 12. Optical equipment: 8x40 binocs
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
dull grey day with no direct sunlight
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
have seen this sp in MD, VA, Mass, Fla; have seen all sp. of US herons.
15. Other observers:
C+B Knight, C.S. Newton
16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: —
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
None
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? & he (on return here) (this is copy)

Michael C Newton
 Signature

Address: 908 Wales St

Date: 7 May 1978

City, State: Iowa City IA 52240