

Middlewestern Prairie Region  
(Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio)

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Peregrine Falcon 2. Number: one
3. Location Ames, Story County, Iowa
4. Date: 16 November 1983 5. Time Bird seen: 12:45 to 2½ to 3 minutes(?)
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):  
large falcon - long narrow, pointed wings; long narrow tail. dark gray above; breast light tan with dark markings; underside of wings gray & white; underside of tail ~~is~~ somewhat barred gray & darkish gray. flying quite leisurely; glided some. was closest when first seen, but had to go on because of other cars. stopped three times to get a quick look with binoculars. path drawn on Ames city map - @ver 1½ miles. See map on reverse.  
Is this the same one seen 10 October and 6 November???
7. Description of voice, if heard:
8. Description of behavior: see above
9. Habitat - general: in town  
specific:
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:  
Prairie Falcon is light brown  
Merlin is much smaller  
accipiters have wide wings
11. Distance (how measured)? maybe 200 feet at closest  
at times was 2½ to 3 blocks away. 12. Optical equipment:  
(at times) 7 X 35 bino
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
clear; right after first seen bird flew near sun to south. Later better view
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
seen 2 other times this fall; also last spring
15. Other observers:
16. Did the others agree with your identification?
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 6 hours
- Signature [Handwritten Signature] Address: 1120 Marston
- Date: 16 Nov 1983 City, State: Ames, Iowa

N  
W + E  
S

INVIS Grove  
PARK

last seen  
6  
HOMEWOOD  
GOLF COURSE

flock of ducks flying south

16th

15th

14th

13th ST

GRAND

BURNETT

DUFF

pulled off Duff to get out away from other cars. When bird turned back it went west on 14th. got reasonably close as bird glided some + got out for a quick look with binoculars + noticed some ducks off in west. Bird continued that way then turned north. Went up Burnett - got best look at corner of Burnett + 20th St. A quick look at 16th Street. Last seen flying over ~~the~~ Invis Grove Park.