

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 2. Number 1
3. Location Hickory Hill Park, Iowa City
4. Date: 5-17-79 5. Time Bird Seen: 7⁰⁰ to 7⁰⁵ Approx
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):
Small Flycatcher with eye ring and wing bars. Seen twice from the front - bright yellowish belly and gray throat. Throat appeared grayer than least flycatcher. Bird active and flew faster than least usually, fly. Note heard many times - Tu Wee with Wee rising in pitch.
7. Description of voice, if heard: see above
8. Description of behavior: flycatcher-like, 10-30 ft above ground
9. Habitat - general: under brush and scattered trees to deep woods
specific: main valley at Hickory Hill Park and woods to north
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
Least, alder, willow flycatchers
11. Distance (how measured)? 30 feet (est).
12. Optical equipment: 80x40 Leitz trinocular binocs
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Sunny, light behind me
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Seen and heard only a few times
15. Other observers:
none
16. Did the others agree with your identification?
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:
none
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Petersen records for song - 45 min after hearing bird. Good match with record
Robbins + Petersen books - consulted after writing description
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 1 hour
- Signature: Thomas A Kent Address: 211 Richards St
- Date: 5-17-79 City, State: Iowa City Ia