

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Yellow Rail How many? 1Location? west side of AmesType of habitat? on lawn of apartment complex - brought to my houseWhen? date(s): 13 April 1983 time: 6:00 AM to \_\_\_\_\_Who? your name and address: James Dinsmoreothers with you: Kraig Downs, Steve Dinsmore, Mark Dinsmore

others before or after you: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Small rail - approx Sora size, had long gangly legs and unwebbed feet,  
Short bill

Basic coloration was light yellowish tan with some dark markings  
scattered across back.

I immediately checked wing and found white wing patch on secondaries,  
firming up my identification. wing patch was evident but not as obvious  
as shown in Robbins field guide

Similar species and how eliminated: Sora - white wing patchDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:  
held in hand, 2 photos takenPrevious experience with species and similar ones: NoneReferences and persons consulted before writing description: NoneHow long before field notes made? \_\_\_\_\_ this form completed? 24 hours

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240