

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species? Peregrine Falcon

How Many? 1

Location? marina of the Saylorville Reservoir, Polk Co.

Habitat? sitting on top of a large tower

Date? 20 March, 1986

Time? 4 p.m.

Observers Name and address: Steve Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Drive  
Ames, IA 50010

Others who saw bird: none

Description of bird: bird seen at close range sitting on top of tower for several minutes. The black hood, dark back, and light underside with dark spots was easily seen. Faint barring on the tail was also evident. After sitting for several minutes, the bird flew off to the northwest. In flight, the pointed wings and long, narrow tail confirmed my identification of the bird as a falcon. The underwings were white and showed no dark axillaries.

Similar species and how eliminated: Merlin eliminated by size and lack of a dark hood. Prairie Falcon eliminated by lack of dark axillaries.

Viewing conditions and equipment: sky was cloudy and light was ok. Estimated viewing distance was 40-50 yards. I used Nikon 8x23 binoculars and a 20x spotting scope.

Previous experience with species: I have seen numerous Peregrine Falcons in Iowa.

References consulted: none

How long before field notes were made? none

How long before this form was completed? 2 weeks