

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF  
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Northern Goshawk 2. Number 1
3. Location Hickory Hill Park Iowa City
4. Date: November 16, 1982 5. Time Bird Seen: 8:45 am to 8:55 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):  
First seen in flight, large rounded wings long tail, slate gray back and wings. Black crown with white eye strip, black cheek (auricular area). This seen at 20 feet.  
The bird landed with its back to me. The head was observed as noted (black crown, white eye strip...). Also observed was a red eye, strongly hooked yellow beak, chin and throat white. Chin and throat were stained with blood (from recent meal?).  
The back of the head had faint, small white patches that did not join in the center. Back and wings were slate gray tending to a chocolate rust towards the rump. White undertail tufts came up around both sides of the uppertail coverts. The tail was raised once, no marking noted other than the solid white undertail coverts. Legs yellow, breast and belly not seen.
7. Description of voice, if heard: not heard
8. Description of behavior: The bird didn't seem to be concerned by my presence
9. Habitat - general: deciduous valley soon thin stands of conifers.  
specific:
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:  
strong head markings eliminate other accipiters.
11. Distance (how measured)? 30-40 yds estimated 12. Optical equipment: 7x binoculars
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
Partly cloudy, sun to left of bird and myself. Looking north.
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
one sighting of a N. Goshawk NOV. 15, 1981
15. Other observers: John Cordell found a N. Goshawk in HHP, November 20 and 21
16. Did the others agree with your identification?
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: above note
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:  
Peterson's Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies was used to compare similar species
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 1 1/2 hours after sighting. response C  
NOTES WERE TAKEN  
WAS WRITTEN AT THAT TIME.
- Signature: Thomas J. Standt Address: 931 N. Summit
- Date: November 28, 1982 City, State: Iowa City, Ia.