DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? __Northern Goshawk__   *How many?* __1__

Location? __115 Lakeview Drive, Mason City Iowa__

Type of Habitat? __a backyard with trees in between a wooded park and a wooded private lot__

When? date(s): __Nov 27 - 1994__   *time:* __2:15 pm__ to __1 min at most__

Who? your name and address: __Rita Goranson, 115 Lakeview Dr, Mason City__

Others with you: __My whole family__

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

He flew across our backyard and landed in a neighbor's tree. He was crow size and flew low - swooping not flaping. He was mottled brown on back with a heavy white eye stripe and a darker cap developing. He was heavier like a hawk, with a stockier head. He flew off low between houses in a swoop.

tail was thick + slightly round.

He sat with his back to me.

Similar species; how eliminated:

Redtailed hawks live close here - I've had them in my backyard also - this one hunted different - acted different.

Cooper hawks come through here quite often - this one was larger, thicker, tail was equal to wings not longer.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? __NO__
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.
    45 ft away - sunny day, 7X35 NIKON

Previous experience with species and similar ones:
    Over the last 5 years I have seen several.

References and persons consulted before writing description:
    Nat'l Geographic Guide - Peterson's Eastern Guide
How long before field notes made? __Right away__ *this form completed?* __month__   p. 127 (8c)

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).

HAWKS - Peterson Field Guide