



VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Worm-eating Warbler 2. Number 1  
 3. Location 1.5 miles north of Homestead, IA. "Amana Woods"  
 4. Date June 21, 1981 5. Time bird seen: 7:50AM to 8:15AM

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 was actually seen in the field).

Warbler size and shape. Very plain looking. Light olive/greenish back and somewhat light color underside of the same general color as back. Buffy tinge to throat. Top of head (crown) bold dark and light stripes.

7. Description of voice, if heard: A dry rattle or thin trill without much musical quality. Dropped off slightly at end. Occasionally this trill would sound as if the bird was interrupted in mid song. Sudden stop and shorter in duration.

8. Description of behavior: Perching and foraging at mid story in trees. Usually moving away.

9. Habitat--general: Extensive deciduous woodland.  
 specific: Small wooded valley with some clearings and small stream.

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7, & 8. Explain.  
 Other warblers or vireos eliminated by bold striping on crown.  
 Chipping sparrow eliminated by habitat and greenish color and head stripes.

11. Distance (how measured). 50 to 200 ft. estimated.

12. Light conditions (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
 Overcast sky, good light but sun position not a factor.

13. Optical equipment: 7X35 Binos.

14. Previous experience with this and similar species: Heard and seen about 5 times previously in WDSP in Spring 1981.

15. Other observers:  
 Rick Hollis and Lanny Haldy

16. Did other agree with your identification? Yes, but they have no prior experience with this bird.

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations, and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:  
 Did not consult any books until bird was gone. Robbins showed color of body, buffy throat good mark and boldy striped head as good mark. Peterson implied that chippin sparrow type song in deep woods is Worm-eating.

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?

Your Name Carl J. Bendorf Address 825 7th Ave. five hours

Date July 11, 1981 City, State: Iowa City, IA. 52240